



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025



# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

[www.pekinpubliclibrary.org](http://www.pekinpubliclibrary.org)

309-347-7111

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Featured Books
- Upcoming Programs
- Save the Date

## *From the Friends of the Library:*

The Winter Book Sale will be held January 4-11, 2025, in the library lobby. All items will be 0.25 cents or 5 items for \$1.00. On Saturday, January 11, all items are 0.10 cents or 10 items for \$1.00. A few extra volunteers for set up on January 3, and clean up on January 13, would be helpful!

The Friends Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 7, at 4:00 p.m. in the library's Conference Room.

If you would like to be a volunteer for the Friends of the Library organization, please email Sharon at [folpekin1973@gmail.com](mailto:folpekin1973@gmail.com).



# What's New in the Stacks?

## ***More or Less Maddy* by Lisa Genova**

Maddy Banks is just like any other stressed-out freshman at NYU. Between schoolwork, exams, and a recent breakup, it's normal to be feeling overwhelmed. She soon spirals high into a wild and terrifying mania that culminates in a diagnosis of bipolar disorder. Maddy will have to figure out how to manage being both too much and not enough. Harvard-trained neuroscientist Lisa Genova has crafted a profoundly moving novel that makes complicated mental health issues accessible and human.

## ***Memorial Days: A Memoir* by Geraldine Brooks**

Many cultural and religious traditions expect those who are grieving to step away from the world. In contemporary life, we are more often met with red tape and to-do lists. Geraldine had no time to grieve when her husband died, and sudden loss became a yawning gulf. Three years later, she booked a flight to a remote island off the coast of Australia with the intention of finally giving herself the time to mourn. There, she pondered the various ways in which cultures grieve and what rituals of her own might help to rebuild a life around the void of Tony's death.

## ***We All Live Here* by JoJo Moyes**

Lila Kennedy has a lot on her plate. A broken marriage, two wayward daughters, a house that is falling apart, and her career is in freefall. So when her real dad—a man she has barely seen since he ran off to Hollywood thirty-five years ago—suddenly appears on her doorstep, it feels like the final straw. But it turns out even the family you thought you could never forgive might have something to teach you: about love, and what it actually means to be family.

## ***Witchcraft for Wayward Girls* by Grady Hendrix**

They call them wayward girls. They're sent to Wellwood House in St. Augustine, Florida, where unwed mothers are hidden by their families to have their babies in secret. Everything the girls eat, every moment of their waking day, and everything they're allowed to talk about is strictly controlled by adults who claim they know what's best for them. Then Fern meets a librarian who gives her an occult book about witchcraft. But power can destroy as easily as it creates, and it's never given freely. There's always a price to be paid...and it's usually paid in blood.

PEKIN PUBLIC LIBRARY'S

**STITCH &  
CHAT**

THURSDAY, JAN. 2: 6:00 P.M.






# Wildlife Prairie Park's

## BRINGING THE WILD TO THE LIBRARY

Saturday, January 18  
2:00 p.m.



We're bringing the wild to the library!



## FAMILY READ ALLOUD CLUB

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

6:30 P.M.

PEKIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
(ALL AGES!)



OUR MONTHLY FAMILY READ ALOUD CLUB FEATURES ENGAGING STORIES, FOLLOWED BY FUN ACTIVITIES THAT ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION AND COMPREHENSION.



## LAWYERS

AT THE LIBRARY

Wednesday, Feb. 19

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Speak Out Illinois LLC has partnered with Butler, Giraudo & Meister, P.C., Giraudo Law Inc., and Cusack & Gilfillian, Attorneys at Law to provide free consultations for Family & Criminal Law, medical malpractice, car accidents, personal injury claims, and workers compensation matters.

Appointments required.

2025

READING

CHALLENGE



January 1 - December 30, 2025  
Pekin Public Library  
Earn Monthly prizes!

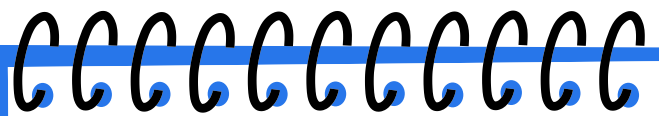
Pick up a  
Reading Log  
at the Lobby Desk!

**PEKIN BICENTENNIAL**  
1824-2024

**200 YEARS**

**Bicentennial Books  
For Sale**

**\$20 cash or check!**



## Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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Tuesday, January 1  
*Library Closed - New Year's Day*

Monday, January 20  
*Library Closed - MLK Day*

Monday, February 17  
*Library Closed - Presidents Day*

# READING CHALLENGE

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**Sept:** Get ready for the coziest season by reading a cozy mystery.

**October:** Embrace the scary with a ghost story!

*Return your reading log for a reading reward when you complete the challenge!*



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