



## Celebrate NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 19-25, 2026



### Stop by during National Library Week to celebrate with us!

Share with us how the library helps you find your joy! We will have a display for you to tell us your thoughts and then join us for fun activities and contests all week long.

**Monday, April 20 - Right To Read Day**

**Tuesday, April 21 - Library Workers Day**

**Wednesday, April 22 - Library Outreach Day**

Library outreach day showcases library professionals who provide services outside traditional library walls. We wanted to take this opportunity to highlight our amazing outreach staff:

- Amanda, the Youth Services Manager, goes to 3 early learning centers each month to share stories and songs with children ages 0-5. Each year, we rent a costume character of a well known book character and take them on the road to all the early learning centers and schools in Freeport. We also attend Trick or Treat Trail, Bunny Trail, YMCA Healthy Kids Night, National Night Out, and various other events. Last year, we met 5,897 people at 69 youth outreach events!
- Dianne, the Adult Services Manager, goes to 5 senior living communities every month to deliver books or have programs. She also co-facilitates the Senior Resource Center book group at the resource center every month. There are special outreach occasions that happen once a year, such as the Senior Expo at the Eagles Club, Tutty Baker Days, and the Pride event at St. John UCC, that Dianne goes to in order to spread awareness of what the library has to offer. These outreaches allow the library to come into contact with hundreds of people who might not be regular library users!

**Thursday, April 23 - Take Action for Libraries Day**

### Ask Erin!

Erin is the Librarian's Assistant for the Youth Department. This month Erin wanted to highlight National Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month.

James Catchpole



Karen George

### What Happened to YOU?

In the United States, over 5 million people live with a limb difference or missing limb. Some people are born with their limb difference, other experience limb loss from accidents or disease. You can never tell by looking at an individual. When a boy named Joe is bombarded with questions about his missing leg from his peers on the playground, he feels a little out of place. When they realize that his difference doesn't change his ability to play, Joe asks his own question, "Do you still need to know what happened?" Told with his own childhood experience in mind, playful illustrations, and a few helpful suggestions about how to engage with your curious kids, "What Happened to You?" by James Catchpole is a simple introduction to the kind of conversation kids have surrounding limb difference.

# YOUTH

For Babies & Toddlers!

## **Babies & Books**

**Every Monday**  
**10:15am - 11:00am**

Join us for a weekly storytime for babies and toddlers under 2 with a caregiver!

## **PRESCHOOL STORYTIME**

**Every Wednesday**  
**10:30am - 11:00am**

Join us for a weekly storytime for children ages 2-5 with a caregiver!

## **Perler Bead, Diamond Art, & Button Making**

**Wednesday, April 1 | 2:00pm - 4:00pm**

**Meeting Room** - Join us for a creative afternoon where you can design your own Perler Bead art, Diamond Art, and buttons! Make your own personalized projects you can take home.

## **SENSORY PLAY DAY**

**Friday, April 3 | 10:00am - 11:00am**

**Meeting Room** - Join us for a morning of sensory fun and making new friends! Children will have the opportunity to play at several different stations in this engaging sensory playtime. Some stations may be messy, so wear appropriate clothing. Ages 0-5.

## **SLIME MAKING**

### **Glow in the Dark Slime**

**Tuesday, April 7 | 3:30pm - 5:30pm**

**Youth Program Room** - Join us each month to make a different kind of slime you can take home!

## **POKÉMON CLUB**

**Thursday, April 9 | 5:30pm - 6:30pm**

**Youth Program Room** - Meet to play and talk Pokémon with other trainers! Players can bring their own cards, or use decks provided by the library. Trade cards, battle each other, or just talk strategy – this club is for elementary-age novice and expert trainers.

## **PAWS to Read**

**Saturday, April 11 | 11:00am - 12:00pm**

Bring your little ones to practice reading with the sweet pups from Therapy Dogs International!

## **HOMESCHOOL HAPPENINGS**

### **Let's Give Back**

**Monday, April 13 | 2:00pm - 3:00pm**

**Meeting Room** - Come connect with fellow homeschoolers and discover new ways to enrich your learning journey!

## **Messy Masterpieces**

**Friday, April 17 | 10:00am - 11:00am**

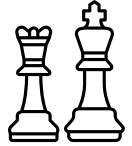
**Youth Program Room** - Join us for a morning full of creativity. Come dressed to make a mess! This program is for ages 5 and under.



## **join chessport!**

**Wednesday, April 1 | 6:00pm - 7:00pm**

Whether you're a beginner eager to learn the basics or a seasoned player looking to sharpen your strategy, this is the perfect opportunity to engage in friendly competition and make new friends. Chess sets are provided. Meet on the second floor. All ages welcome.



# TEEN

## **TEEN TUESDAYS**

### **Teen Advisory Board**

**Tuesday, April 14 | 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Teen Room** - Calling all teens! Want more teen activities and social events? Need to fulfill volunteer hours? Get involved with this planning team to help improve library services for 7th - 12th graders. All ideas welcome!

## **Edible Cookie Dough**

**Tuesday, April 21 | 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Youth Program Room** - It's edible cookie dough! Together we'll follow a simple recipe and create our own sugar cookie base. Make it your own with customized toppings and complete it with a custom name!

## **Life-Sized Clue**

**Tuesday, April 28 | 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Teen Room** - This time, you aren't just playing the game – you ARE the game! Join us for an afternoon of mystery and fun.



## **Pigeon at the Library!**

Pigeon came to the library in March and had so much fun visiting with all our little friends! We read stories, made Pigeon hats, had a Pigeon party, and got tons of high fives and hugs. Pigeon also got to stop by some of the locals schools and the children were thrilled to meet their beloved storybook character in person!

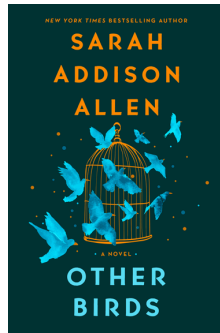


# ADULT

## Senior Resource Center Book Discussion

Thursday, April 2 | 10:30am - 11:30am

**Senior Resource Center** - Join us at the Senior Resource Center in Freeport to discuss this month's selection, *Other Birds*, by Sarah Addison Allen. No registration required, all are welcome!  
Between the real and the imaginary, there are stories that take flight in the most extraordinary ways.



## Good Climate Policy, Real Savings: What Illinois Has Done & What We Can Do Next

Wednesday, April 8 | 6:30pm - 7:45pm

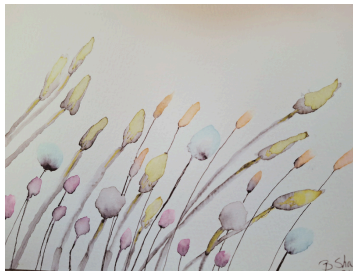
**Meeting Room** - The speakers will provide data-driven information about the effects of climate change in Northwest Illinois and what federal, state, and community leaders and organizations are doing to address or prepare for climate change in our country, state, and region.

## Watercolor Flowers with Fountain Pens

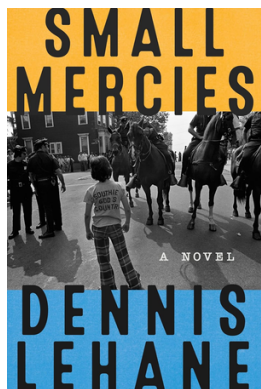
Wednesday, April 8 | 6:30pm - 7:45pm

**Learning Lab** - Dive into the world of fountain pens and watercolors to craft charming masterpieces with Bobby's guidance.

**Registration Required.** Please register each person separately.



## MONDAY MURDERS BOOK GROUP



Monday, April 13 | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

**Boardroom** - Everyone welcome for this book group. No registration! Pick up a copy of the book on the 2nd floor of the library.

This month we will be talking about the book *Small Mercies*, by Dennis Lehane.

An all-consuming tale of revenge, family love, festering hate, and insidious power, set against one of the most tumultuous episodes in Boston's history.

## IT'S A WEIRD WORLD...

Wednesday, April 15 | 6:30pm - 7:30pm

**Boardroom** - Do you like podcasts or shows or books about creepy things, cryptids, hauntings, or howls in the night? Join us for It's a Weird World...

This month we will discuss serial killers! Join us for this fun discussion group.



Illinois Libraries Present:  
Voice, Culture, and Human Connection with

**Cristina Henríquez**  
in conversation with Carmen Alvarez

**VIRTUAL EVENT & WATCH PARTY**

Thursday, April 16 | 7:00pm - 7:45pm

Henríquez's newest book, *The Great Divide*, is a moving exploration of the people who lived, loved, and labored during the construction of the Panama Canal.



## Earth Day Plant Swap

Saturday, April 18 | 11:00am - 2:00pm

**Meeting Room** - Celebrate Earth Day by getting a new houseplant and giving away a spare houseplant from your own home. Why buy when you can adopt for free? Donate plants starting Monday, April 13, or bring them with you the day of the plant swap.

POTTED HOUSEPLANTS ONLY, or water starts with visible roots. NO outside plants, please. Limit of 5 plants per donation.

## Learning from Lincoln: A Live, Online Road Scholar Lecture

Monday, April 20 | 12:00pm - 1:30pm

**Boardroom** - Abraham Lincoln's approach to leadership remains a rich source of wisdom today. He blended humor with poignant storytelling and knew when to engage — and when to remain silent. His strategic patience, persuasive skill and commitment to honesty set him apart, as did his willingness to reconsider his own views. Join esteemed author and professor Louis Masur for an exploration of Lincoln's leadership style and enduring legacy.

## Capiz Shell Art Craft

Monday, April 20 | 6:15pm - 7:45pm

**Meeting Room** - We are going to use capiz shells, white and colored, to make a piece of wall art, a wind chime or you can decorate a lampshade with shells (bring your OWN lampshade!).

**Registration Required.**

## Albert Einstein Visits the Library: A Duffy Hudson Production

Wednesday, April 22 | 6:30pm - 7:30pm

**Meeting Room** - "The Relativity of Einstein"

Duffy Hudson, previously in Freeport as all of the characters in *A Christmas Carol*, and Edgar Allen Poe, and Audie Murphy, and Houdini, brings us Albert Einstein. Even if physics isn't your thing, this is sure to be an entertaining live portrayal by our favorite actor.

## Therapeutic Recreation for

## Folks with I.D.D.

Tuesday, April 28 | 10:30am - 11:30am

**Meeting Room** - No registration required! Join our therapeutic recreation program designed especially for individuals with disabilities. Engage in crafting, chatting, and fun activities!

# STAY CONNECTED

MONDAY - THURSDAY 9:00AM - 8:00PM | FRIDAY 9:00AM - 6:00PM | SATURDAY 10:00AM - 3:00PM | CLOSED SUNDAY

EMILY SCHAUB	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	815.233.3000 EXT 216
DANIELLE BAZAREK	LEAD CLERK	815.233.3000 EXT. 246
KY ECKERT	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	815.233.3000 EXT. 215
DIANNE LUDWIG	ADULT SERVICES MANAGER	815.233.3000 EXT. 221
AMANDA MEYERS	YOUTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR	815.233.3000 EXT. 238
KATY WIEGERT HARNISH	CIRCULATION & MARKETING MANAGER	815.233.3000 EXT. 229

**THE FREEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEET THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:00PM IN THE BOARDROOM.**

## Digital Collections



Download the Libby, Hoopla, Kanopy, and The Palace Project apps for instant access to our digital collections!

eBooks & Audiobooks

Movies, Music, TV & More!

## Reserve a Room

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Conference Rooms

Meeting Room

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Library of Things

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Public Computers

STEM & Literacy Kits

