



May 2026

# Library News & Events

Providing Access to Information...for Life!



## Congratulations, Winners!

The top winners of the Kendallville Public Library's 28th Annual Kleiman Creative Writing Contest were announced during an Awards Ceremony at the Community Learning Center on Tuesday, April 14. Nearly 150 students entered books for the contest in the categories of Fiction, Non-Fiction, Graphic Novel, Chapter Books, Alphabet Books and Poetry. Books were judged, bound, and returned to the students during the awards ceremony.

The first place winners are listed below. They each received a \$50 gift card and will have their books placed in the KPL collection for all to read!

### 4th Grade:

- Non-Fiction: **Ten Most Popular Types of Cats** by Savannah Cass (St. Mary's)
- Chapter Book: **Beyond the Event Horizon & Back** by Mercy Hayden (St. Johns)
- Fiction: **The Graveyard** by Jasmine Vosburgh (Wayne Center)
- Graphic Novel: **The Last, Lost Penny** By Callum Smart (Home school)
- Alphabet Book: **ABC Animal Book for Kids** by Brielle Perkins (Wayne Center)
- Poetry: **Sports Poem & Many More** by Cash Conley (Oak Farm)

### 5th Grade:

- Non-fiction: **The Life of My Savior** by Cecilia Warner (St. Mary's)
- Fiction: **Moving On** by Ainsley Perry (St. Mary's)
- Graphic Novel: **Squeakers The Spy Mouse and the Big Cheese Festival** by Karalynn Vanderpool (Avilla)
- Alphabet Book: **Asher's ABC** by Delaney Owen (Home school)

### 6th Grade:

- Fiction: **Slowly Withering Away** by Hadley Becker (Oak Farm)
- Alphabet Book: **ABC's of Animals** by Olivia Barton (St. Marys)
- Graphic Novel: **The Life of a Chicken** by Hazel Anne Quarry (Home school)
- Poetry: **Clear Skies** by Catalina Mendez (Oak Farm)
- Chapter Book: **Qwack Qwack** by Caston Berkes (Oak Farm)

David Kleiman, son of Isadore and Pearl Kleiman, who started the contest in his parents' honor, continues to be involved today, along with his own children and grandchildren. The library is grateful for their continued support. View a full list of winners on our website at [www.kendallvillelibrary.org](http://www.kendallvillelibrary.org).

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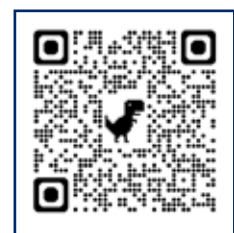


**Both library branches will be closed Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day.**

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



[info@kendallvillelibrary.org](mailto:info@kendallvillelibrary.org)





## Construction Updates



Exciting progress is happening all throughout the library as construction continues!

Our Teen Area is nearly complete and now features brand-new furniture, creating a fresh and welcoming space just for teens. The Youth Activity Room at KPL is also coming together beautifully and already looking great!

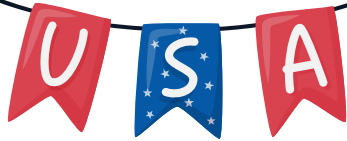
We're getting close to opening even more new spaces, too. The Youth Study Room and Sensory Room are both nearing completion and will be opening soon—offering more opportunities for learning, creativity, and quiet time.

You'll notice some temporary changes as construction continues. Our Circulation Desk has been moved to Rooms A & B just inside the entrance while work is underway in the Circulation Office. Even though things may look a little different, our staff is still here and happy to help!



Outside, our new maintenance shed is complete, and exciting progress continues at our Limberlost Branch. LB is getting closer to reopening and now features a new outdoor sign and two new study rooms.

Thank you for your continued patience and support as we improve your library spaces—we can't wait for you to enjoy all the updates!



Way to go to **Levi Curley** for reading 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and to **Sophie Curley** for reading 500 books!



## Program Spotlight

### Limberlost

Our Limberlost Branch offers a variety of engaging programs for both youth and adults. From hands-on crafts and interactive activities for kids to creative and relaxing programs for adults, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Stop in and see what's happening each week!



Some LB programs are being held at OTFD during construction.



# All Ages & Family Events

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## Slime Day



**Monday, May 4  
4:00 p.m. • OTFD**

Join us for a fun, hands-on slime-making activity the whole family can enjoy! Kids will love creating their own slime, and an adult must be present during the program.

## Mix & Match Bracelet

**Saturday, May 23 at 10:00 a.m.  
Kendallville**



All ages are invited as Katie teaches participants how to make a variety of bracelets.

### Sensory Friendly Hour

**Wednesdays, May 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 8:00 a.m. • KPL**

Join us for a Sensory Friendly Hour, a special time dedicated to creating a calm and welcoming environment for individuals with sensory sensitivities. Registration is required to enter the building for this event.



### Doggy Tales

**Tuesday, May 12 at 4:00 p.m. • KPL**

All ages are invited to practice their reading skills with Sunny Boy, a therapy dog.



### All Ages Canvas Paint

**Friday, May 15 at 5:00 p.m. • OTFD**

Join us for a fun and relaxing evening as we paint a pre-drawn canvas together! This program is perfect for all skill levels, and all ages are welcome to attend.



# Fairy, Gnome and Troll Festival

**Saturday, May 16**

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

**Main Street, Kendallville**

Step into a world of wonder at the annual Fairy, Gnome & Troll Festival in downtown Kendallville! Enjoy live entertainment, explore the whimsical fairy village, sip tea at the fairy tea party, and even try your luck at dunking a troll. There will be crafts, activities, and unique vendors for all ages—and don't forget to visit the Kendallville Library's booth! This magical, family-friendly event welcomes everyone, and costumes are strongly encouraged!

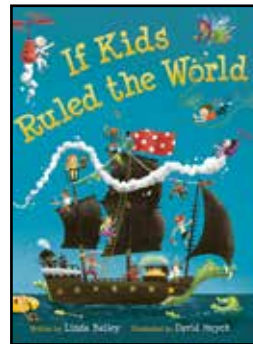
### All Ages BINGO

**Saturday, May 23 at 1:00 p.m. • KPL**

Join KPL for an exciting game of All Ages Bingo! It's a fun-filled event for everyone—win awesome prizes and enjoy a great time together!



## ADVENTURE WALK



Our Adventure Walk invites families to enjoy a story while exploring the outdoors—pages are placed along the path so you can read together as you walk, move, and take in your surroundings. It's a fun, interactive way to combine reading, fresh air, and family time. In **If Kids Ruled the World** by Linda Bailey, readers step into a hilarious, imaginative world where kids make all the rules—

birthday cake is healthy, bedtime disappears, and schools can be anything from Circus School to Recess School. Filled with playful ideas and bright, energetic illustrations, the story celebrates creativity, curiosity, and the joy of seeing the world through a child's eyes.

The Walk in Rome City starts at Grant Park and goes along the Kelly Park. In Kendallville, the walk starts at the front of KPL and then continues in a loop around the library through the west side of Bixler Lake Park. Maps are available here: <http://kplib.org/AdventureWalk>.

## Support the library while you shop!



**You can use your Kroger Plus Card to donate to the Kendallville Public Library.**

**\*At no additional cost to you!\***

To participate, just go online to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards), and sign in or create an account.

# May 2026

at the Kendallville Public Library and its Limberlost

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
3	<p>4 <b>Glow Stick Light Saber</b> May 4 - 9</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 10:00 a.m. • KPL &amp; OTFD</p> <p>Home School Adventures • Blue Blocks • 1:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Slime Day • 4:00 p.m. • OTFD</p> <p>Yoga with Brittany • 5:15 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 10:00 &amp; 11:30 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>After School Explorers • Mother's Day Craft • 4:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Anime Club • 5:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Make it with Leah J. • Ladybug Flower Pot 5:30 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Sensory Hour • 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Make it with Leah J. • Ladybug Flower Pot 10:00 a.m. • KPL</p>
10	<p>11 <b>Q-Tip Dandelion</b> • May 11 - 16</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 10:00 a.m. • KPL &amp; OTFD</p> <p>Adopt a Book Buddy 5:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Yoga with Brittany • 5:15 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Preschool Story Time • 10:00 &amp; 11:30 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>Barre with Brittany • 10:15 a.m. • OTFD</p> <p>Yoga with Brittany • 11:00 a.m. • OTFD</p> <p>Limberlost Book Club • 1:00 p.m. • OTFD</p> <p>After School Explorers • Popsicles &amp; Chalk 4:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Doggy Tales • 4:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Anime Club • 5:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Board Meeting • 7:00 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Sensory Hour • 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Kendallville Public Library 1:00 p.m. • KPL</p>
17	<p>18 <b>Chalk Stars</b> • May 18 - 23</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 10:00 a.m. • KPL &amp; OTFD</p> <p>Outdoor Coloring • 5:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Yoga with Brittany • 5:15 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 10:00 &amp; 11:30 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>Barre with Brittany • 10:15 a.m. • OTFD</p> <p>Yoga with Brittany • 11:00 a.m. • OTFD</p> <p>After School Explorers • Super Mario Kart 4:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Book Club with Leah &amp; Leah • 5:30 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Anime Club • 5:00 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Sensory Hour • 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p>
24	<p>25 <b>LIBRARIES CLOSED</b></p> 	<p>26</p> <p><b>Patriotic Popsicle Craft</b> May 26 - 30</p> <p>Barre with Brittany 10:15 a.m. • OTFD</p> <p>Yoga with Brittany 11:00 a.m. • OTFD</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Sensory Hour • 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p>

st Branch

**Preschool Programs**  
**Elementary Programs (K-5)**  
**Teen Programs**  
**Youth Programs (K-12)**  
**Adult Programs**  
**All Ages / Family Programs**

\*The age categories of the programs below represent a majority of the ages for which the event is intended. For specific age ranges for each event, please refer to the more detailed information found on the individual flyers.

**KPL: Kendallville Public Library    LB: Limberlost Branch**  
**OTFD: Orange Township Fire Department    UMC: United Methodist Church**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1 Marcy's To Go Craft - Pony Beads May 1 - 30</p> <p>Little Learners Play Date 10:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>Barre with Brittany 11:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>BINGO • 1:30 p.m. • KPL</p>	2
<p>3:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>with Leah J. Lower Pot n. • KPL</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 6:00 p.m. • KPL</p>	8	9
<p>8:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>Book Club n. • KPL</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Make it with Bethany Bee Watering Stand • 12:00 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Dirt Pudding Cups • 4:00 p.m. • LB</p> <p>Make it with Katie Coloring &amp; Cookies • 5:30 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Little Learners Play Date 6:00 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Little Learners Play Date 10:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>Barre with Brittany 11:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>All Ages Canvas Paint 5:00 p.m. • OTFD</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Fairy Festival 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Downtown Kendallville</p>
<p>3:00 a.m. • KPL</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Thumb Print Garden Painting 4:00 p.m. • LB</p> <p>Decades Music Trivia 5:30 p.m. • KPL</p> <p>Preschool Story Time 6:00 p.m. • KPL</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Barre with Brittany 11:00 a.m. • KPL</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Mix &amp; Match Bracelet 10:00 a.m. • KPL</p> <p>All Ages BINGO 1:00 p.m. • KPL</p>
<p>3:00 a.m. • KPL</p>	28	29	<p>30</p> <p>Literary Luncheon 11:00 a.m. • CLC</p> 



## Little Learners Play Date

Birth - Age 5

Fridays, May 1 & 15 at 10:00 a.m. • KPL

Thursday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m. • KPL

Our play date offers a nurturing environment for preschoolers to engage in imaginative play, hands-on activities, and social interaction.



## Glow Stick Light Saber

May 4 - 9 • All Branches

Stop in to make a light saber out of a glow stick.



## Preschool Story Time

Birth - Age 5

Mondays, May 4, 11 & 18 at 10:00 a.m. • OTFD

Mondays, May 4, 11 & 18 at 10:00 a.m. • KPL

Tuesdays, May 5, 12 & 19 at 10:00 & 11:30 a.m. • KPL

Thursdays, May 7 & 21 at 6:00 p.m. • KPL

Join us for stories, crafts, activities and more!



## Home School Adventures - Big Blue Blocks

Grade K - 12

Monday, May 4 at 1:00 p.m. • KPL

Homeschoolers of all ages are invited to join us for a hands on learning activity. This month we'll be use our imaginations and create with our big, foam, blue blocks



## After School Explorers - Mother's Day Craft

Grades K - 5

Tuesday, May 5 at 4:00 p.m. • KPL

Kids in grades K-5 are invited to join us for a Mothers Day Craft where we make heart shaped sun catchers!



## Q-Tip Dandelion

May 11 - 16 • All Branches

Stop in to create a cute dandelion craft to take home and enjoy!



## After School Explorers - Popsicles and Chalk

Grades K - 5

Tuesday, May 12 at 4:00 p.m. • KPL

Kids in grades K-5 are invited to join us for a good time coloring outside while eating popsicles!



## Dirt Pudding Cup Dessert

Grades K - 12

Thursday, May 14 at 4:00 p.m. • LB

Make a fun dirt pudding cup dessert with chocolate pudding, crushed cookies, and gummy worms!



## After School Explorers - Super Mario Kart

Grades K - 5

Tuesday, May 19 at 4:00 p.m. • KPL

Kids in grades K-5 are invited to join us for a fun gathering to play Mario Kart on the Nintendo Switch!



## Chalk Stars

May 18 - 23 • All Branches

Stop in to create a star-themed picture to take home and enjoy!



## Thumb Print Garden Painting

Grades K - 12

Thursday, May 21 at 4:00 p.m. • LB

Create a charming thumbprint garden painting to take home and enjoy!



## Patriotic Popsicle Craft

May 26 - 30 • All Branches

Stop in to make a cute red, white and blue popsicle craft.

## Programs for Teens



## Anime Club

Grades 6 - 12

Tuesdays, May 5, 12 & 19 at 5:00 p.m. • KPL

Join our anime club as we watch anime, read manga, draw and more.



## Adopt a Book Buddy (stuffed animal)

Grades 6 - 12

Monday, May 11 at 5:00 p.m. • KPL

Adopt a reading buddy to keep you engaged and inspired this summer!



## Outdoor Coloring

Grades 6 - 12

Monday, May 18 at 5:00 p.m. • KPL

Spend some time outdoors with us coloring and enjoying nature! Meet inside the library first, then head out on library grounds.



# Adult Programs

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## Marcy's May To Go Craft - Pony Bead Craft

May 1 - 30 • All Branches  
Pick up an crafting kit in the Adult Department while supplies last.



## Barre with Brittany

Fridays, May 1, 15 & 22 at 11:00 a.m. • KPL  
Tuesdays, May 12, 19 & 26 at 10:15 a.m. • OTFD  
Move with Brittany, a certified barre instructor, for a workout that focuses on low-impact, high intensity movements to improve strength, agility and flexibility for anyone.



## BINGO

Friday, May 1 at 1:30 p.m. • KPL  
Enjoy the excitement as participants compete for awesome prizes, including swag, candy, books, and more!



## Yoga with Brittany

Mondays, May 4, 11 & 18 at 5:15 p.m. • KPL  
Tuesdays, May 12, 19 & 26 at 11:00 a.m. • OTFD  
Brittany, a certified yoga teacher, will teach an all-levels Flow Yoga class. Please bring a mat.



## Make it with Leah J. - Ladybug Flower Pot

Tuesday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m. • KPL  
Wednesday, May 6 at 10:00 a.m. • KPL  
All you need is your fingertips to create an adorable Ladybug Flower Pot! Just in time for the planting season!



## Limberlost Book Club

*The Astral Library* by Kate Quinn  
Tuesday, May 12 at 1:00 p.m. • OTFD  
Read this month's book and join Brittany and Leah for a lively discussion.



## Kendallville Book Club

*Anatomy of an Alibi* by Ashley Elston  
Wednesday, May 13 at 1:00 p.m. • KPL  
Read this month's book and join Brittany and Leah for a lively discussion.



## Make it with Bethany - Bee Watering Stand

Thursday, May 14 at 12:00 p.m. • KPL  
Join Bethany to learn about Indiana's native pollinators and create a small watering station for your home.



## Make it with Katie - Cozy Cryptids Coloring & Cookies

Thursday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m. • KPL  
Enjoy a cozy time with coloring, cookies, and a fun cryptid theme with Katie.



## Book Club with Leah & Leah

*It's Not Her* by Mary Kubica  
Tuesday, May 19 at 5:30 p.m. • KPL  
Read this month's book and join both Leahs for a lively discussion.



## Make it with Katie - Decades Music Trivia

Thursday, May 21 at 5:30 p.m. • KPL  
Join Katie for a fun and engaging decades music trivia session, featuring hits from across the years!



# Literary Luncheon with Shelby Van Pelt

Saturday, May 30 • 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

## Community Learning Center

Join KPL, NCPL, and the CLC for an engaging and memorable discussion of Remarkably Bright Creatures—featuring special guest author Shelby Van Pelt! Connect with fellow readers as we explore this unforgettable story, hear insights from the author herself, and share in thoughtful conversation. Enjoy great food, community, and a warm, relaxed atmosphere for this exciting literary event.

**If you'd like to enjoy the lunch portion of the event, please register through the CLC website (this portion has a cost). If you would like to attend just the discussion portion for FREE, you can register through the library. There are a limited number of tickets available, so don't wait—secure your spot today!**



Registration is required for all events. Register by visiting our website at [www.kendallvillibrary.org](http://www.kendallvillibrary.org). If you have questions, please call KPL at 343-2010, LB at 854-2775 or email [ldresser@kendallvillibrary.org](mailto:ldresser@kendallvillibrary.org).



## FICTION

**26 Beauties: A Women's Murder Club Thriller** by James Patterson  
**The Brothers McKay: A Longmire Mystery** by Craig Johnson  
**The Calamity Club Caller Unknown** by Gillian McAllister  
**The Daisy Chain Flower Shop Fever Dream** by Elsie Silver  
**The Final Target** by Nora Roberts  
**The Fourth Option** by Jack Carr  
**Ironwood: A Catalina Novel** by Michael Connelly  
**The Last Mandarin** by Louise Penny  
**The Midnight Train** by Matt Haig  
**The Moonlight Runner** by Karen Robards  
**The One Day You Were My Husband** by Rosie Walsh  
**Our Perfect Storm** by Carley Fortune  
**The Paris Match** by Kate Clayborn  
**Platform Decay** by Martha Wells  
**Rampage of the Desert Wolf** by William W. Johnstone  
**Robert B. Parker's Booked** by Alison Gaylin  
**Rules for the Summer** by Meghan Quinn  
**Seek the Traitor's Son** by Veronica Roth  
**The Shippers** by Katherine Center  
**Stranger Things Have Happened** by Kasie West

**Summer State of Mind**

by Kristy Woodson Harvey  
**The Things We Never Say** by Elizabeth Strout  
**Tom Clancy Rules of Engagement** by Ward Larsen

## LARGE PRINT FICTION

**26 Beauties: A Women's Murder Club Thriller** by James Patterson  
**The Brothers McKay: A Longmire Mystery** by Craig Johnson  
**The Calamity Club Caller Unknown** by Gillian McAllister  
**The Final Target** by Nora Roberts  
**Ironwood: A Catalina Novel** by Michael Connelly  
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**The One Day You Were My Husband** by Rosie Walsh  
**Our Perfect Storm** by Carley Fortune  
**The Shippers** by Katherine Center  
**Tom Clancy Rules of Engagement** by Ward Larsen

## NONFICTION

**Give Them Their Flowers: Reflections on Women, Film, and Friendship** by Octavia Spencer  
**Homeschool Bible: Everything You Need to Build a Thriving Home Education** by Mandy Davis  
**The Land and Its People: Essays** by David Sedaris  
**Make Believe: On Telling Stories to Children** by Mac Barnett  
**Stronger Than You Think: Building Lifelong Resilience** by Sherry Hamby  
**Walk: Rediscover the Most Natural Way to Boost Your Health and Longevity** by Courtney Conley

## LARGE PRINT NONFICTION

**The Land and Its People: Essays** by David Sedaris

## Wireless Printing Update

We hear you! After listening to feedback, we understand that our current wireless printing service hasn't been meeting expectations. We've decided to remove it for now as we explore better options to serve you.

Thank you for your patience—we'll keep you updated as we work on a new solution!



**Kendallville Public Library**  
 221 S. Park Avenue  
 Kendallville, IN 46755  
 260-343-2010 Fax: 260-343-2011

**Hours:**

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 Closed Sunday

**Limberlost Branch Library**  
 164 Kelly St., PO Box 447  
 Rome City, IN 46784  
 260-854-2775 Fax: 260-854-3382

**Hours:**

Monday & Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday & Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
 Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
 Closed Sunday