

Keeping Curbside and Remote Services through Jan. 31

Peoria Public Library will remain open for curbside pickups and remote services only through Jan. 31. Staff will be on site, available to help by phone or email with research, but public entry will not be allowed. Meanwhile, curbside pickup of materials will continue at all five locations until 5 p.m., with the exception of McClure Branch, which is closed from 1 to 2 p.m. daily.

Additionally, Peoria Public Library has an extensive digital library with more than a million titles – everything from ebooks, audio books, newspapers, movies and music – which can be accessed from home anytime with a computer or mobile device and library card.

"Continuing to find that balance between safety and access means we have to be willing to be flexible, and that means continuing to be closed for now," said Peoria Public Library Executive Director Randall Yelverton. "We hope to open our doors Feb. 1, but, as we've always said, we will look at the situation then and always make the decision in the best interests of our patrons and staff. I'm extremely proud, however, that our staff continues to find ways to connect with our patrons whether that's taking the time to do personalized book recommendations or having Storytime on YouTube or helping students with online school. Life is complicated right now, but our patrons know we're doing our best to meet their needs within the constraints of COVID-19."

With curbside pickup, patrons can place holds online anytime or call in their order to the branch they prefer to pick up at. They'll be notified once their materials are ready.

Take-home craft kits can also be requested through curbside pickup. Visit our website or social media for details.



Flipping Out for Flipster in 2021

Peoria Public Library is starting 2021 off with a gift for you.

Starting Jan. 11, visit our website or download the Flipster app and access more than 100 popular and niche magazines from your computer, mobile device or tablet. Scroll through the pages of your favorite magazines, enjoying the colorful design and ads as if you were reading it from the newsstand. With Flipster, you can also access back issues, search by keyword and, depending on the publisher, even print pages from your favorite publication.

We have chosen a variety of magazines to appeal to all ages and interests. For our news junkies, we have *The Atlantic, National Review, The New Yorker, Newsweek* and *TIME* to name a few. For our foodies, we have *Bon Appetit, Eating Well, Food & Wine* and others. For our Do-It-Yourselfers and hobbyists, you can explore *American Craft, Do-It-Yourself, Family Handyman, Fine Gardening* and *This Old House*.

Flipster also allows us to bring you dozens of popular mainstream magazines such as *Better Homes & Gardens, Entertainment Weekly, Esquire, Health, People, Vanity Fair, Vogue, Woman's Day* and more. And, unlike the real thing, you never have to wait in line to read it. Enjoy!

Virtual Mayoral Forum on Jan. 21



Peoria Public Library has partnered with the League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria and WCBU- Public Radio to host an online forum featuring the candidates running for Peoria mayor.

Join us at 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21 for this live Facebook event or listen live on WCBU, 89.9 FM. Submit your questions now



JANUARY-FEBRUARY

Cozy up with some new reads during the winter months to complete the Winter Reading Challenge! Visit peoriapubliclibrary.beanstack.org to register virtually or pick up a paper log at one of the Peoria Public Library Locations to get started! Complete your log by February 28th for your chance to win a Barnes & Noble gift card or an Amazon Kindle Fire! All ages welcome.

New Book Clubs for 2021

Peoria Public Library is adding two new book clubs for 2021 – one tailored to tweens and the other for those interested in reading diverse voices. Like all our book clubs, these are currently on Zoom.

The Take Out Book Club (for ages 9-12) includes a take out box, which features a library copy of that month's title, a take home craft and a coupon for take out food. You must register in advance for the box, but tweens can participate without registering in advance. <u>Sign up here.</u> The first meeting is Jan. 6 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "To Night Owl from Dogfish," by Holly Goldberg Sloan. February's title is "Both Ways," by Jason Reynolds. Full details can be found on our website.

The #OwnVoices Book Club is for adults and will explore authors from marginalized or under-represented groups writing from their own experience or perspective. This club meets at 6:30 p.m. every fourth Monday. For Zoom link details, visit our website Book Club page or Facebook events. The first meeting Jan. 25 will discuss "The House on Mango Street," by Sandra Cisneros. February's title is "Nickel Boys," by Colson Whitehead. For more information on either book club, call Lakeview Branch at 497-2200.

