

Putnam County Public Library District teams up with Chiefs, Rivermen to promote reading

By KEVIN HIERONYMUS
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The Putnam County Public Library District is teaming up with the Peoria Rivermen hockey and the Peoria Chiefs minor league baseball teams to offer young readers a thrilling reward as part of the 2025 "Color Our World - Summer Reading Program."

Participants who read three books over the summer will be eligible to receive a free or discounted ticket to an upcoming Rivermen game and a Chiefs game on Friday, Aug. 29.

Once the reading goal is met, participants can visit any Putnam County Public Library branch to pick up a ticket order form. Eligible participants can pick up a Chiefs ticket order form from Aug. 1-8. Completed

forms must be submitted to the Peoria Chiefs box office no later than two weeks before the game in order to receive the free ticket.

These partnerships encourage literacy while offering a fun and engaging incentive for children to continue reading all summer long.

For information, call the Putnam County Public Library District at 815-339-2038.

Illinois turkey hunters have record spring harvest

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SPRINGFIELD - Illinois turkey hunters harvested a preliminary record total of 18,189 wild turkeys during the 2025 spring turkey season.

This year's total compares with the previous record total of 17,208 turkeys harvested in 2024.

The top five counties for the spring harvest were Jo Daviess, (628), Jefferson (518), Pike (468), Marion (428) and Pope (425).

Bureau County (195) and La Salle County (111) reported the same harvest as last year.

Other counties' harvest compared to last year were Henry

County (153/131), Lee County (113/112) and Whiteside County (212/167).

The 2025 total includes the record youth spring turkey season harvest of 2,099 birds, which compares with the previous record of 2,010 birds set in 2024.

This year 89,687 permits were sold compared with 86,083 last year.

Spring turkey hunting was open in 100 of Illinois' 102 counties. The 2025 regular season dates were April 7 through May 8 in the south zone and April 14 through May 15 in the north zone. The 2025 youth spring turkey season was March 29-30 and April 5-6 statewide.



Photo provided

A wild turkey walks across a field May 3 at Big Bend State Fish & Wildlife Area between Prophetstown and Erie

LOCAL NEWS BRIEF

IVCC to begin summer schedule June 13

Illinois Valley Community College will begin its summer schedule on Friday, June 13.

Both the Oglesby and Ottawa campuses

will be closed on Fridays from June 13 through Aug. 1.

In addition, the college will be closed Thursday, June 19, in observance of June-teenth, and Thursday, July 3, ahead of the Independence Day holiday on Friday, July 4.

IVCC will return to its regular five-day schedule the week of Aug. 4.

Campus Preview orientation for new students is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 15. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 18.

Registration for fall courses remains open.



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