

MARCH / APRIL 2024

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INFORM, ENRICH, EMPOWER



LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE BOARD!

When you think of the library, you probably think of buildings, materials, programs, or staff. You may not think about the seven very important people who comprise the Library Board of Trustees.

According to Indiana law, JCPL is to be governed by an appointed, unpaid, board of local citizens. Trustees serve four-year terms and can serve up to four consecutive terms. The five major tasks of a public library board include setting policies, hiring the director, planning for the future, monitoring and evaluating the overall effectiveness of the library, and advocating for the library in the community and advocating for the community as a member of the library board.

A library board member must attend monthly meetings. They must have the time to carefully read board materials beforehand to be prepared to make decisions. They participate in committee work and board training events. Board members know the importance to Jasper County residents of public library service, are willing to express opinions, and work well as a part of a team.

Current JCPL Board of Trustee members include:

Kevin Kaluf Kevin currently serves as Board President and was appointed by the County Council. His term will expire June 30, 2024.

Julie Davidson Julie currently serves as Vice-President and was appointed by the Presidents of the Kankakee Valley and West Central School Boards. Her term will expire August 2, 2027.

Kristie Housman – Kristie currently serves as Secretary and was appointed by the Rensselaer Central School Board. Her term will expire May 11, 2025.



(BOARD cont. on pg 2)

CONNECT WITH US

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.myjcpl.org

VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



E-book and Audio



Rensselaer
(219) 866-5881

DeMotte
(219) 987-2221

Wheatfield
(219) 956-3774



BOARD CONT.

Mark Heinig Mark currently serves as Treasurer and was appointed by the Rensselaer Central School Board. His term will expire May 9, 2026.

Janett Kingman – Janett currently serves as Assistant Treasurer and was appointed by the County Council. Her term will expire December 31, 2025.

Janelle Harper Janelle was appointed by the County Commissioners. Her term will expire December 31, 2026.

Kayla de Jong Kayla was appointed by the County Commissioners. Her term will expire December 31, 2027.

By law, public library board members may receive no pay for their board work. JCPL is grateful for these conscientious and dedicated community members who serve and support the library's mission "to inform, enrich, and empower our diverse community"!



Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five. Jasper County Public Library has partnered with the Jasper Newton Foundation to bring this program to all of Jasper County. The state of Indiana also provides funding for this program. Sign your child(ren) up at www.imaginationlibrary.com.



DEMOTTE EVENTS

March- Silent Auction

The Friends of the DeMotte Library will be hosting a silent auction throughout the month of March. Bidding will end on March 30 and the winners will be called on April 1.

March 2-Happy Birthday Dr Seuss!

10 am-2 pm, All ages.
Come and celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with a variety of activities in the children's area.

Wednesdays in March-Story Time

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.
Join us for stories, crafts, and more!

March 12-Friends Meeting

1 pm, Adults.
New members are always welcome!

March 13-Bingo!

11 am, Adults.
Join us upstairs for a morning of Bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

March 14-STEM

4:30 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.
Join us for an afternoon of projects using Science, Technology, Engineering and Math!

March 15-Doctor Who Adult Trivia

6:30 pm, Adults.
Allons-y! Gather in groups of 2-4 and come test your knowledge of all things Doctor Who from "New-Who" on and EXTERMINATE the other teams! Prizes awarded to the top team.

March 18-Pre-STEM

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.
Join us for a morning of projects using Science, Technology, Engineering and Math!

March 21-Lego Night

4-5 pm, All ages, (under 5 requires adult supervision)
Join us for lego building fun!

March 25-Quest Trekkers

6 pm, Grades 2-5.
Our book this month will be "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl.

April 1-Magnificent Monday

10 am, All ages.
This program is for individuals with developmental disabilities. We will read a story or two and provide a craft.

Wednesdays in April-Lapsit

10 am, Ages 0-2 years. Registration required.
Join us for a morning of interactive music and rhymes.

April 8-Solar Eclipse Viewing Party

12-1 pm, All ages.
Join us for activities in the children's area to celebrate the eclipse! A limited number of safety glasses will be available.

April 10-Bingo!

11 am, Adults.
Join us upstairs for a morning of Bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

April 13-20-Friends of the Library Booksale

There will be a Friends-Only preview on April 12 from 1-5 pm. The sale will be going on during library hours April 13-20. On Saturday, April 20 you may fill a bag for \$3.

April 15-Curb your Urge to Splurge

6:30-7:30, Adults.
Carmen Fortney from Purdue Extension will show you how to control your spending habits.



DEMOTTE EVENTS



April 18-STEM

4:30 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.

Join us for an afternoon of projects using Science, Technology, Engineering and Math!

April 19-Adult Trivia: Sports Edition

6:30 pm, Adults.

Gather in groups of 2-4 and come test your knowledge on sports. Prizes awarded to the top team!

April 25-Lego Night

4-5 pm, All ages (under 5 requires adult supervision)

Join us for a night of Lego creation!

April 27-Voyager Rendezvous Reenactors

9 am-12 pm, All ages.

The Kankakee River and its early settlers were so vital in the development of our area. Step back in time, to the mid 1700's to get a glimpse of this first-hand. Reenactors, who have dedicated thousands of hours of research, will visit the library in full period costume, along with artifacts of this era.

April 29-Quest Trekkers

6 pm, Grades 2-5.

We will be discussing "Because of Winn Dixie" by Kate DiCamillo.

April 29-Preschool STEM

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.

Join us for a morning of projects using Science, Technology, Engineering and Math!



National Library Week April 7-13

The theme for National Library Week 2024, "Ready, Set, Library!," promotes the idea that in our always-online world, libraries give us a green light to something truly special: a place to connect with others, learn new skills, and focus on what matters most.

No matter where you find yourself on the roadmap through life's journey—preparing for a new career, launching a business, or raising a family—your library provides an inclusive and supportive community where everyone belongs.

Get ready to explore, become inspired, and connect with your library this National Library Week. Libraries are there for you, all the way to the finish line.

Stop by for a visit to celebrate with us during National Library Week, April 7-13. Each library will be having daily prizes, and a weekly drawing that anybody using their library card can enter.





RENSSELAER EVENTS



March 5, 12, 19-Story Time

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.

Come and enjoy a story or two as well as crafts, songs, and fingerplays.

March 6-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Ages 16+.

Join us for a casual game of Scrabble and conversation. All supplies are provided.

March 7-Bingo!

10 am, Adults.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

March 9-Free Family Train Day

10 am-3 pm, All ages.

Come and see model trains of all shapes and sizes! We will also have puzzles, games, and more!

March 11-Home School STEAM

2-3 pm, Grades K-8. Registration required.

We will make box viewers to enable us to see the April solar eclipse safely. Solar eclipse glasses will be distributed, and we will review solar eclipse safety precautions.

March 13-Genealogy Help

6-7:30 pm, All ages.

This monthly program is designed to help you learn how to search for your family history using free online resources available at the library. All assistance is available on a first come, first serve basis.

March 15- Fabulous Friday

2 pm, All ages.

This program is for individuals with developmental disabilities. We will read a story and provide a craft.

March 19-Teen Tuesday

4-5 pm, Grades 6-12. Registration required.

In preparation for the solar eclipse on April 8, we will be recreating the solar eclipse with Oreo cookies and other materials. We will review safety precautions and pass out eclipse glasses.

March 21-Third Thursday

4-5 pm, Grades 1-5. Registration required.

We will be doing eclipse activities as well as a craft.

March 23-Natural Dyed Easter Eggs

2-3 pm, Teens and adults. Registration required.

Experiment with food and plant based dyes for your Easter eggs. All materials provided, freewill donation to cover eggs and materials are welcome.

March 25-Lego Building Day

5-6:30 pm, All ages (Ages under 5 with adult supervision.)

Come and see what you can create with Legos!

March 26-Food Allergy Presentation

5:30 pm, All ages.

Come and join us at the library and learn about different food allergies.

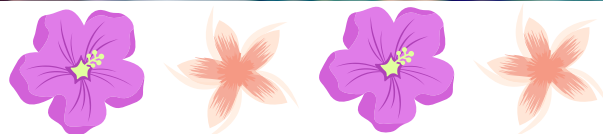
March 27-Cook the Book

6 pm, Teen through adult. Registration required.

This session's topic is Breads. We choose the cookbooks; you choose and make a recipe to share. Come to the front desk to see the cookbook (or bring your own recipe), use a Post-It note to mark which recipe you choose, and take a copy of the recipe home. Prepare the recipe and bring it to share with the other participants. All participants will discuss how easy or hard it was to make and what worked or didn't work well. Best of all we get to sample new dishes and bring a copy of the recipes home to share with our families. The library will provide a copy of the recipe and the plates, utensils, and a drink.



RENSSELAER EVENTS



March 30-Kahoot! Electricity Facts!

2 pm, 16+ unless accompanied by an adult.

Electricity Trivia using Kahoot! Bring a mobile device to participate. Prizes will be awarded, and the first place winner will get a gift card!

April 2, 9, & 16-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3 years.

Enjoy a story or two, crafts, songs, and fingerplays.

April 3- Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Ages 16+.

Join us for a casual game of Scrabble and conversation. All supplies are provided.

April 4-Bingo!

10-11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

April 8- Family STEAM Eclipse Event

12:30-3:30, All ages.

Join us to view the partial eclipse! A limited number of safety glasses will be available.

April 10- Genealogy Help

6-7:30 pm, All ages.

This monthly program is designed to help you learn how to search for your family history using free online resources available at the library. All assistance is available on a first come, first serve basis.

April 13-VR Player's Choice

2-4 pm, Ages 13+.

Come and play VR games with the Meta Quest 2 VR Headsets. Games available include mini golf, Bowling, Beat Saber, Among Us, and more! VR may affect some people sensitive to motion sickness. All participants over 18 will be required to sign a waiver, participants under 18 will need a guardian to sign a waiver.

April 16-Teen Tuesday: Earth Day

4-5 pm, Grades 6-12.

We will be making seed bombs and soda bottle composters.

April 16-DIY Stickers

6-7 pm, Ages teens and adults.

Color and make your own stickers!

April 18-Third Thursday

4-5 pm, Grades 1-5.

We will be making a crayon that looks like the earth, earth shaped truffles and a few other activities for Earth Day.

April 19-Fabulous Friday

2 pm, All ages.

This program is for individuals with developmental disabilities. We will read a story and provide a craft.

April 20-Food Labeling

2-4 pm, Adults.

Join us and learn how to correctly label your food products.

April 29-Create With Legos

5-6:30 pm, All ages.

Come and see what you can create with Legos!

April 30-Kahoot! Book Trivia

6 pm, 16+ (unless with an adult)

Book trivia using Kahoot! Bring a mobile device to participate. Prizes will be awarded, and the first place winner will receive a gift card!



Every 3rd Monday of the month from 9:30-11 am.

Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.



WHEATFIELD EVENTS



March 1-Bingo

11 am, Adults.

Join us for Bingo fun!

Tuesdays in March-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages 0-23 months w/ caregiver. Registration required.

Children will hear stories and songs, lap-bounce, and interact with other children.

March 6-Combat Coffee

10 am, Vets (with or without combat experience).

Created by a Vet, this is a causal environment in which Veterans can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

March 7-Lego

4-5 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Join us for a night of Lego creations!

March 8-9-Friends of the Wheatfield Library Booksale

10 am-4 pm, All ages.

Stop by for some great book deals! A freewill donation will be accepted for all books.

March 12-Teen Program

4-5 pm, Grades 6-12. Registration required.

Join us for games on the Xbox and Wii!

March 15-Needle Punch Crafting

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Choose from a variety of patterns! All supplies provided.

March 18-Easter After School Program

4-5 pm, Grades K-5.

Join us for an Easter themed craft, snack, and a story.

March 26-Friends Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

New members are always welcome!

Mondays, April 1-22-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required.

Those in attendance will hear stories, make crafts and interact with other children.

April 3-Combat Coffee

10 am, Vets (with or without combat experience).

Created by a Vet, this is a causal environment in which Veterans can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

April 5-Bingo

11 am, Adults.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

April 5-Plant Based Eating with Purdue Extension

6 pm, Adults.

Learn about the popularity of plant based eating, the health benefits and the challenges to following a plant based diet. A \$10 fee is required to cover food costs.

April 8-Family Eclipse Program at the Wheatfield Centennial Park

1:30-2:30 All ages.

Celebrate the eclipse with us with stories, a craft, and a snack! Eclipse viewing glasses will be provided.

April 16-Teen Program

4-5, Grades 6-12. Registration required.

We will be having a teen book discussion.

April 18-Earth Day After School Program

4-5 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.

Join us for an Earth Day themed After School program.

April 23-Friends Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

New members are always welcome!



WHEATFIELD EVENTS



April 26-Nerf Night

6-8 pm, All ages.

Join us for capture the flag games! Anyone under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult, and all participants will be required to sign a waiver. Participants are required to bring their own unmodified Nerf toy and protective eyewear. The library will provide darts. Refreshments will be provided at this FREE event.

April 29-Maker Monday

4-5 pm, Grades 1-8.

Flex your skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math with some gadgets from the library. A snack will also be provided.



2024 Eclipse

Get your eclipse glasses ready! This April 8 at around 12:50 pm, Jasper County will experience a partial Solar Eclipse. Your local library will have limited numbers of Solar Eclipse Glasses so you can view this cosmic wonder safely. JCPL will also have various fun Eclipse-themed activities to celebrate the event during the months of March and April (some of which will be handing out glasses), so be sure to check out this issue of Community Connection to see when and where they will be.

REMEMBER: Do NOT look at an eclipse without the proper equipment, either eclipse glasses or a handheld viewer. Do NOT use eclipse glasses or handheld viewers with cameras, binoculars, or telescopes. Those require different types of solar filters.

For more safety tips you can check out NASA's webpage on the eclipse.

JCPL Adult Book Discussions



For more details or to reserve a copy, please visit or call your local library.
Registration is appreciated, and available online at www.myjcpl.org/events.

DeMotte

MARCH 19- THE BOOKIES- TUESDAY- 7:00 PM
BOOK: "CLARK AND DIVISION" BY NAOMI HIRAHARA

APRIL 16- THE BOOKIES- TUESDAY- 7:00 PM
BOOK: "MEET ME AT THE MUSEUM" BY ANNE YOUNGSON

Wheatfield

MARCH 12- ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION- TUESDAY- 1:00 PM
BOOK: "UPGRADE" BY BLAKE CROUCH

MARCH 26- BOOKS AND COFFEE- TUESDAY- 2:00 PM-AT CUP OF JOY IN DEMOTTE
BOOK: "THE MIRROR" BY MARLYS MILLHISER

APRIL 9-ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION- TUESDAY- 1:00 PM
BOOK: "A MOST CLEVER GIRL" BY STEPHANIE MARIE THORTON

APRIL 30- BOOKS AND COFFEE- TUESDAY- 2:00 PM -AT CUP OF JOY IN DEMOTTE
BOOK: "JANE EYRE" BY CHARLOTTE BRONTE

Rensselaer

MARCH 27- MEN'S BOOK GROUP- WEDNESDAY- 10 AM
BOOK: "PEOPLE OF THE BOOK" BY GERALDINE BROOKS
****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

MARCH 28- 4TH THURSDAY GROUP- THURSDAY- 1 PM
BOOK: "COUNTDOWN 1945" BY CHRIS WALLACE

APRIL 24- MEN'S BOOK GROUP- WEDNESDAY- 10 AM
BOOK: "THE BOYS IN THE BOAT" BY DANIEL JAMES BROWN
****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

APRIL 25- 4TH THURSDAY GROUP- THURSDAY- 1PM
BOOK: "FUNNY FARM" BY LAURA ZALESKI





NEW RELEASES FOR MARCH/APRIL

FICTION TITLES



A Calamity of Souls
by David Baldacci, 4/16

Never Too Late
by Danielle Steele, 3/5

Still See You Everywhere
by Lisa Gardner, 3/12

Table for Two: Fictions
by Amor Towles, 4/2

The #1 Lawyer
by James Patterson, 3/18

Only the Brave
by Danielle Steele, 4/30

Extinction
by Douglas Preston, 4/23

Lost Birds
by Anne Hillerman, 4/23

Close to Death
by Anthony Horowitz, 4/16

CHILDRENS

Dog Man: The Scarlet Shredder
by Dav Pilkey, 3/19

Who Is Taylor Swift?
by Kirsten Anderson, 4/2

I Survived D-Day 1944
by Lauren Tarshis, 4/2

YOUNG ADULTS

The Blood Years
by Elana Arnold

Rez Ball
by Bryan Graves

The Collector's Stories
by A.J. King

Forever is Now
by Mariama Lockington

I'd Rather Burn than Bloom
by Shannon Rogers



AUDIOBOOKS

A Calamity of Souls
by David Baldacci, 4/16

The #1 Lawyer
by James Patterson, 3/18

Extinction
by Douglas Preston, 4/23



DVDS

All Creatures Great and Small
Season 4, 3/12

Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom,
3/12

Aristotle and Dante Discover the
Universe

Next Goal Wins

Wednesday Season 1, 3/26

The Color Purple, 3/12

Miranda's Victim

