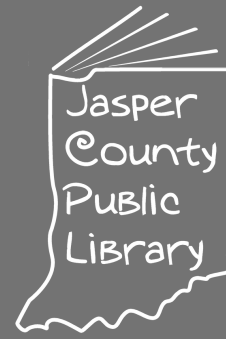




JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2024

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INFORM, ENRICH, EMPOWER



Looking Back and Moving Forward: JCPL's Long Range Plan 2020-2024

Where did 2023 go? Time seems to be moving faster and faster! It is hard to believe that we are in the final year of our current Long Range Plan. As we move into 2024 let's review together the goals we set for ourselves, 2020-2024.

Goal 1 – JCPL is a welcoming community hub.

JCPL will provide a well-maintained and welcoming facility that encourages connectedness, uniting generations and different groups in the community; be seen as a safe space for/in the community; provide helpful, friendly internal and external customer service; and the JCPL website will be more user-friendly.

Goal 2 – JCPL will collaborate with community partners to contribute to an interesting, thriving, prosperous community.

JCPL will connect potential volunteers with volunteer opportunities in the community; actively seek opportunities to assist our community schools; seek partnership opportunities with community organizations, businesses, and government units; serve as a reliable source of information; continue collaboration with other area libraries; evaluate how it reaches supporters and donors and encourage donations and support for the library and its operations; demonstrate that its collections, programs, and services contribute to an interesting, thriving, prosperous community; the Director will work to establish a community leader round table; JCPL will promote Jasper Newton Foundation Community Calendar; and will investigate feasibility of leadership training courses in collaboration with another community partner.

Goal 3 – JCPL will evaluate services and collections, and how they are marketed to the public.

JCPL will continue to be visible and recognized as the source for
(LOOKING BACK Cont. on pg 2)



CONNECT WITH US

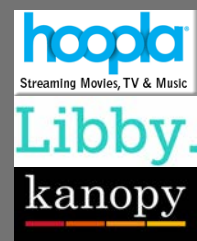
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.myjcpl.org

VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



E-book and Audio



Rensselaer
(219) 866-5881

DeMotte
(219) 987-2221

Wheatfield
(219) 956-3774





LOOKING BACK CONT.

information, recreation, and personal enrichment; actively demonstrate that its collections, programs, and services improve quality of life; promote itself as a county wide system; continue to actively seek community input on their aspirations for their community; promote its story on social media, telling what we are doing, what we want to do, and why it is important; evaluate feasibility of new and expanded services such as going fine free, auto renewals, walking books, hours study, etc.

Goal 4 – JCPL engages its staff and community in lifelong learning.

JCPL will continue to offer a variety of lifelong learning opportunities on technology, health, finance, security, life skills, literacy, civic-mindedness, and the arts; be a source of local history and genealogy; continue to evaluate and provide access to current information and entertainment resources in a variety of formats; seek ways to spark meaningful community conversation; and continue to educate staff.

We are pleased to report that we have accomplished many of these goals, but we are not finished yet. We look forward to 2024 and all that it will bring, as we continually strive “to inform, enrich, and empower our diverse community.”

WHERE WE COME FROM

Winter Reading Challenge

It's time to read about “Where We Come From” with our Beanstack all ages winter reading program! This year's theme is all about diving into the topics of family, history, and identity. Through the magic of literature, readers will embark on a transformative journey that encourages self-reflection and a deeper understanding of their own personal narratives.

Every time you use your library card to check out a book, audiobook, or magazine between January 2 and March 2, you can log it on Beanstack! E-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines also count! Each JCPL location will have weekly prizes and a grand prize drawing on March 4.

To get started, please visit myjcpl.beanstack.org.

♥ beanstack + Lerner



DEMOTTE EVENTS

January 9-Friends of the Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults. New members are always welcome!

January 12-20-Friends of the Library Booksale

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

January 17-Adult Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us upstairs for bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

January 19-Adult Trivia: Friends

6:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Back by popular demand is Friends Trivia! Grab 2-4 friends and test your knowledge of the show! Participants are welcome to bring pizza, snacks, and non alcoholic beverages. Prizes will be awarded to the winning team!

January 22-Quest Trekkers

6 pm, Grades 2-5. Registration required.

Join us as we discuss "Frindle" by Andrew Clements.

January 25-Lego Night

4-5 pm, All ages, ages under 5 require adult supervision. Join us for an afternoon of Lego creation!

January 27-Sara's Select Seeds Program

11 am-1 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a free hands-on class with horticulturist Dolly Foster and Sara from Sara's Select Seeds. We will be learning winter sowing.

January 30-Ivy Tech Admissions Information

6 pm, All ages.

Visit with an Ivy Tech Admissions rep! Learn about the programs offered at the Valparaiso campus and the amazing financial aid opportunities that Ivy Tech has to offer!

Wednesdays, February 7-28- Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required.

Toddlers and their caregivers are invited to hear stories, make a craft item, and participate in other activities!

February 9- Adult Trivia: I Love the 90's

6:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Dust off your Beanie Babies and change the batteries in your Furby, it's time for 90's Trivia Night! Gather your friends in groups of 2-4 and test your knowledge of this totally awesome decade! Feel free to bring and snacks or non-alcoholic beverages you would like. Prizes will be awarded to the winning team!

February 14-Adult Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us upstairs for Bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

February 19-Pre-STEM

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.

Join us for a fascinating STEM-filled morning!

February 22-STEM

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

Join us for a STEM filled afternoon!

February 26-Quest Trekkers

6 pm, Grades 2-5. Registration required.

Join us as we discuss "Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things" by Lenore Look.

February 29-Lego Night

4-5 pm, All ages, ages under 5 require adult supervision.

Join us for an afternoon of Lego creation!





RENSSELAER EVENTS



Tuesdays, January 2-16-Story Time

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.

Children and their caregivers are welcome to join us for stories, activities and crafts.

January 3-Scrabble Night

6 pm, Ages 16+.

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

January 4-Bingo!

10 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

January 8-Home School STEAM

2-3 pm, Grades K-5.

Join us for this new program as we explore the surface of the moon and recreate it's surface on paper with pastels!

January 10-Genealogy Help

6 pm- 7:30 pm; All ages.

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

January 13-Morse Code Bracelet Class

2-4 pm, Ages 16+ unless with an adult. Registration required.

Join us for this free class and learn to make a Morse code bracelet. Make a bracelet with a word or sentence of your choice! All materials will be provided.

January 16-Teen Tuesday

4-5 pm, Grades 6-12.

In honor of National Popcorn Day, we will do a trivia quiz and enjoy some of the tasty treat!

January 18-Third Thursday

4-5 pm, Grades 1-5.

Come make some yummy snacks as we celebrate National Bagel, Popcorn, and Cheese Lover's Day!

January 20-Tile Painting Craft

2:30-4:30 pm, Ages 16+. Registration required.

We will be taking old bathroom tiles and using them as canvas to paint whatever you'd like! All materials will be supplied and free.

January 22-Create with Legos

5-6:30 pm, All ages, ages under 5 require adult supervision.

Join us for a night of Lego creation!

January 27-VR Player's Choice

2:30-4 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.

January 30-Kahoot! Art Trivia

6-7:30 pm, Ages 16+ (unless with an adult)

Bring your mobile devices and join us for art-themed trivia. Prizes will be awarded to the top team!

February-Books We Love, Books We Hate

Decorate a valentine for your favorite book (or a "hate"ntine for your worst book) with the book title, author, and why you love or hate it, and we will put it on display for the month of February!



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.



RENSSELAER EVENTS



February 1-Bingo!

10 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

February 1-25- IHS Exhibit: Groundbreaking Black Hoosiers

We invite visitors to explore the stories of Black Hoosiers who broke ground for their community and paved a path for future generations while making contributions to Indiana with a traveling exhibit from the Indiana Historical Society.

February 3- Crocheting for Beginners

2-4 pm, Ages 16+ Registration required.

We will learn the basics of crochet and, if time allows, make a small project to take home. All supplies are free.

Tuesdays, February 6-20-Lapsit Storytime

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

We will have activities such as fingerplay, music, and a story.

February 7-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Ages 16+.

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

February 10-Bead Crafts

2:30-4:30 pm, Ages 16+.

Join us to make something with beads! All materials will be supplied for this free class, or feel free to bring your own!

February 12-Home School STEAM

2-3 pm, Grades K-5.

Learn safety tips for observing a solar eclipse and recreating the stages of an eclipse with supplied art materials.

February 14-Genealogy Help

6 pm- 7:30 pm; All ages.

This monthly program is designed to help you learn how to search for your family history using the free online resources available at the library.

February 15-Third Thursday

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

Join us for crafts and snacks celebrating national Jello week.

February 17-Canning Creations

2 pm, Ages 13+.

Grab your canning creations and join us! Participants may just come to learn about the items people can and preserve, or they may bring a few of their own canning creations. This program is designed to help people learn about things we can preserve and keep on our shelves or in our freezers.

February 19-Friends of the Library Meeting

7 pm, New and old members

Please support your Friends group by joining today! Annual dues are only \$3 individual, \$5 for family.

February 20-Teen Tuesday

4-5 pm, Grades 6-12

Create a beautiful scratch off picture using Magic Scratch paper and stencils.

February 22-Create with Legos

5-6:30 pm, All ages, ages under 5 require adult supervision.

Join us for a night of Lego creation!

February 24-VR Players Choice

2:30-4 pm, Ages 13+

Come and play your choice of VR games with the Meta Quest 2 VR Headsets. 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.

February 27-Kahoot! Space Trivia

6-7:30 pm, Ages 16+ (unless with an adult)

Bring your mobile devices and join us for space-themed trivia. Prizes will be awarded to the top team!



WHEATFIELD EVENTS



January 4-Lego Program

4-5 pm, All ages, ages under 5 require adult supervision.

Join us for a night of Lego creation!

January 5-Friday Fun Bingo

11 am, Adults.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

January 15 & 16: Superhero / Mermaid Storytime

2:30-3 pm, Ages 3-5. Registration required.

Join us on the 15th for a special Superhero story time, or on the 16 for a magical Mermaid story time! We will hear stories and make a craft.

January 19-History Trivia Night

6-8 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Gather a group of friends, grab some snacks, and join us for History trivia night!

January 22- Winter After School Program

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

Those in attendance will enjoy a snack, make a craft, and hear a story.

January 23-Teen Trivia

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

Join us for trivia fun and a snack!

January 26-"Where Does Your Money Go?" Part 1

6-8 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Do you know where your money goes? Most of us don't. This free program presented by Purdue Extension Educator Carmen Fortney is designed to help you understand how to spend your money.

★ ★ ★ **Combat Coffee** ★ ★ ★
Every 1st Wednesday of the month at 10 am.

Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans (with or without combat experience) can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

February 2-Friday Fun Bingo

11 am, Adults.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

February-Story Time

Ages 3-5. Registration required.

Choose between two different story times: Tuesdays

February 6-27 from 2:30-3 pm OR Wednesdays, February 7-28 from 11-11:30.

February 8-Valentine After School Program

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

Those in attendance will enjoy a snack, make a craft, and hear a story.

February 9-Valentine's Day Crochet Craft

6-8 pm, Ages 14+. Registration required.

Learn to make a Valentine themed crochet craft! All materials will be supplied for this free craft.

February 13-Teen Craft Day

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

Join us for a snack and make a Valentine craft for someone special.

February 23-"Where Does Your Money Go?" Part 2

6-8 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Join us for part two of this informative program.

February 26-Maker Monday

4-5 pm, Grades 1-8. Registration required.

Enjoy a snack while making some cool creations.

February 27-Friends Meeting

1 pm, All ages.

New members are always welcome!



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

JANUARY 16- THE BOOKIES- TUESDAY- 7:00 PM
BOOK: "THE GIVER OF STARS" BY JOJO MOYES

FEBRUARY 20- THE BOOKIES- TUESDAY- 7:00 PM
BOOK: "SUCH A FUN AGE" BY KILEY REID

Wheatfield

JANUARY 9- ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION- TUESDAY- 1:00 PM
BOOK: "THE STORY OF ARTHUR TRULUV" BY ELIZABETH BERG

JANUARY 30- BOOKS AND COFFEE- TUESDAY- 2:00 PM-AT CUP OF JOY
BOOK: "WHERE'D YOU GO, BERNADETTE?" BY MARIA SEMPLE

FEBRUARY 13-ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION- TUESDAY- 1:00 PM
BOOK: "AN AMERICAN FAMILY" BY KHIZR KHAN

FEBRUARY 27- BOOKS AND COFFEE- TUESDAY- 2:00 PM -AT CUP OF JOY
BOOK: "THE ATOMIC WEIGHT OF LOVE" BY ELIZABETH CHURCH

Rensselaer

JANUARY 24- MEN'S BOOK GROUP- WEDNESDAY- 10 AM
BOOK: "THE AFGHANISTAN PAPERS" BY CRAIG WHITLOCK
****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

JANUARY 25- 4TH THURSDAY GROUP- THURSDAY- 1 PM
BOOK: "THE LEAGUE OF WIVES" BY HEATHER HARDAGE LEE

FEBRUARY 22- 4TH THURSDAY GROUP- THURSDAY- 1PM
BOOK: "YINKA, WHERE IS YOUR HUSBAND" BY LIZZIE DAMILOLA BLACKBURN

FEBRUARY 28- MEN'S BOOK GROUP- WEDNESDAY- 10 AM
BOOK: "THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS" BY ISABEL WILKERSON
****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****



NEW RELEASES FOR JAN/FEB

FICTION TITLES

The Women
by Kristin Hannah, 2/6



Random in Death
by J.D. Robb, 1/23

Three Inch Teeth
by C.J. Box, 2/27

Upside Down
by Danielle Steele, 1/2

Crosshairs
by James Patterson, 2/12

The Atlas Complex
by Olivia Blake, 1/9

House of Flame and
Shadow
by Sarah J. Maas, 1/30

The Fury
by Alex Michaelides, 1/16

CHILDREN

Waverider (Amulet #9)
by Kazu Kibuishi, 2/6

Ink Girls
by Marieke Nijamp and Sylvia Bi

Owl Diaries: Eva for President
by Rebecca Elliot

InvestiGATORS: Agents of S.U.I.T.:
From Badger to Worse
by John Patrick Green, 2/20

YOUNG ADULT

Gwen and Art are Not in Love
by Lex Croucher

Every Time You Go Away
by Abigail Johnson

Swarm
by Jennifer Lyle



AUDIOBOOKS

The Women
by Kristin Hannah, 2/6

Random in Death
by J.D. Robb, 1/23

Three Inch Teeth
by C.J. Box

Crosshairs
by James Patterson, 2/12



DVDS

Daddy Daughter Trip

The Kill Room

The Mandalorian Season One

The Mandalorian Season Two

Mrs. Sidhu Investigates: Series 1

What Happens Later

