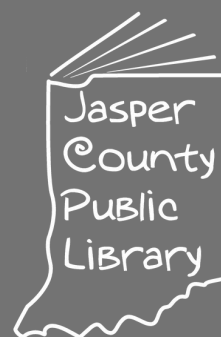


JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2026

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INFORM, ENRICH, EMPOWER



READ WITH BENNY

Winter Reading Challenge



CONNECT WITH US

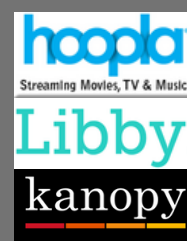
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.myjcpl.org

VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



E-book and Audio



Rensselaer
(219) 866-5881

DeMotte
(219) 987-2221

Wheatfield
(219) 956-3774

Read for prizes this winter and meet the Beanstack mascot, Benny the Bean! For every book (ages 18+) or every 60 minutes (ages 0-17) read, be entered into weekly drawings for prizes, as well as a grand prize drawing to be held March 2. Track your reading online with our Beanstack app or stop in the library and we can track it for you. To get started, please visit myjcpl.beanstack.org.

DEMOTTE EVENTS: ADULTS

January 13-Friends of the Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

New members are always welcome!

January 14-Adult Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

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

January 21-Storyteller's Writing Club

6 pm, Ages 16+. Registration required.

Do you want to write a book? Are you in the middle of writing one already? Come join us for writing tips, sprints, and feedback!

January 24-Collaborative Art Project

1-3:30 pm, All ages.

Help us create unique art pieces to display on the art wall. There will be coloring and painting. All ages and artistic levels are welcome to join in.



February 2 & 16-Monday Magic (The Gathering)

5:30-7 pm, Ages 16+. Registration required.

Have you always wanted to play Magic the Gathering but aren't sure where to start? Are you a seasoned player who would like to show others how to play? Join us for Monday Magic! We have plenty of cards to build your own deck to keep, or feel free to bring your own homebrew decks! We will be using these two sessions to learn the basics and build a deck to battle with in future meetings. If you've been playing for a while, you're still invited to join us! You can build a deck with the rest of us and guide others how to play, and battle in future meetings!



February 10-Book Page Rose Craft

5:30-6:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Recycle old books into beautiful roses – perfect for a book-loving Valentine or to celebrate your own love of books!

February 12-Cookbook Club

6 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

This month's theme is Valentine's Day! Please stop by the library to select a recipe from this month's chosen books. The books this month are "Sally's Baking 101" and "Sweet Tooth: 100 Deserts to Save Room For". Bring the finished dish back on February 12 to share and discuss.

February 18-Storyteller's Writing Club

6 pm, Ages 16+. Registration required.

Do you want to write a book? Are you in the middle of writing one already? Come join us for writing tips, sprints, and feedback!



The Crochet Group will meet in the East Room every Monday at 6 pm. All levels of crocheters are welcome!

DEMOTTE EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

January 6- Plot Twisters

5 pm, Teens. Registration required.

Join us to hang out, chat about books, and meet other teens!

This month's book is "Ashfall" by Mike Mullin. We will be meeting at Cup of Joy in DeMotte to discuss.

January 8-Story Explorers

4 pm, Grades K-2. Registration required.

Join us for our new picture book club! This month's book will be "Frog and Toad are Friends" by Arnold Lobel.

January 9-Winter Werewolf for Teens

5:30 pm, Teens. Registration required.

Let's play One Night Werewolf! Join the party game of mystery, deception, and survival. This is a social deduction game where villagers must work together to find the hidden werewolves before it's too late. Pizza will be provided.

January 19-Quest Trekkers

5:30 pm, Grades 3-6. Registration required.

Join us to discuss the book "Real Friends" by Shannon Hale.

January 21-Dog Man Family Story Time

4 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Join us for an all-ages Family Story Time! We will read a Dog Man chapter followed by Dog Man activities.

January 22-Lego

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

Join us for an afternoon of Lego creation!

January 31-Barbie Club

10-11 am, All ages, under 5 requires adult supervision.

We have the Barbies, you bring the fun!

January 31-Hot Wheels Club

2-3 pm, All ages, under 5 requires adult supervision.

Come play with Hot Wheels! Everyone is welcome. We have the toys, you have the fun!

Mondays, February 2-16-Pre-K Story Time

10 am, Ages 4-5. Registration required.

This class for pre-school aged children focuses on early literacy through books, songs, rhymes, crafts, and games. Join us to play, learn, and socialize!

February 3-Plot Twisters

5 pm, Teens. Registration required.

Join us to hang out, chat about books, and meet other teens!

This month's book is "Uglies" by Scott Westerfeld. We will be meeting at Cup of Joy in DeMotte to discuss.

Wednesdays, February 4-25-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required.

Enjoy stories, songs and rhymes!

Thursdays, February 5-26-Lap Sit Storytime

1:30 pm, Ages 2 and under. Registration required.

Join us for stories, rhymes, and interactive play with other babies!

February 5-Story Explorers

4 pm, Grades K-2. Registration required.

Join us for our new picture book club! This month's book will be "Groundhog Day" by Anne Marie Pace.

February 6-Nerf Night

5:30 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Unmodified Nerf guns only. We'll provide the darts! All participants must sign a waiver.



DEMOTTE EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

February 13-Teen Wii Game Night

5:30 pm, Teens. Registration required.
Join us for Wii games and tacos!

February 19-K-5 STEM

4:30 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.
Join us for a STEM filled afternoon! STEM combines science, technology, engineering, and math to foster creative problem solving, collaboration, and critical thinking.



February 23-Pre-K STEM Story Time

10 am, Ages 3-5. Registration required.
Join us for a STEM story time! STEM combines science, technology, engineering, and math to foster creative problem solving, collaboration, and critical thinking.

February 23-Quest Trekkers

5:30 pm, Grades 3-6. Registration required.
Join us to discuss the book "How to Steal a Dog" by Barbara O'Connor.

February 26-Lego

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

February 28-Barbie Club

10-11 am, All ages, under 5 requires adult supervision.
We have the Barbies, you bring the fun!

February 28-Hot Wheels Club

2-3 pm, All ages, under 5 requires adult supervision.
Come play with Hot Wheels! Everyone is welcome. We have the toys, you have the fun!



RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

January 6-Writing Club

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us as to share tips on writing, freewriting exercises, prompts, and more! This free class is for anyone who is interested in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, or just for yourself!

January 8-Bingo!

10 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

Wednesdays, January 7-21- Geri-Fit

11 am, Adults and seniors. Registration required.

Participants will follow DVD instructions with staff assistance. This is a low-impact chair exercise course. Please bring your water bottle and 2 lb weight if desired. Stretch bands will be provided for this free program.

January 7-Scrabble Night

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a game of Scrabble! Supplies are provided.

January 14-Genealogy Help

5-6:30 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.

January 15-Dungeons and Dragons

3:30-5:30 pm, Grades 6-adult.

Players of all skill levels are invited to join us for Dungeons and Dragons. All materials will be provided.



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.

January 17-Snowflake Diamond Art

2:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Tis the time for snow! Join us at the Rensselaer Library as we create a winter snowflake using a wooden snowflake and leftover diamond art gems. This program is free, and all supplies will be provided.



January 27-Kahoot! Indiana Quakers/Indiana History Trivia

5:30 pm, 16+ (under 18 must be accompanied by an adult)

Test your knowledge with Kahoot! Bring a mobile device to participate. Prizes will be awarded to the winner!

February 3-Writing Club

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us as to share tips on writing, freewriting exercises, prompts, and more! This free class is for anyone who is interested in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, or just for yourself!

Wednesdays, February 4-18- Geri-Fit

11 am, Adults and seniors. Registration required.

Participants will follow DVD instructions with staff assistance. This is a low-impact chair exercise course. Please bring your water bottle and 2 lb weight if desired. Stretch bands will be provided for this free program.

February 4-Scrabble Night

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a game of Scrabble! Supplies are provided.

RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

February 5-Bingo!

10 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a morning of Bingo fun!

February 7-Food Preservation

2 pm, Adults.

Do you like to preserve produce from your garden or a variety of other things? Grab your preservation creations and join us at the Rensselaer library. We will talk about a variety of preserving techniques such as canning, freeze drying and other preservation methods, the group would like to share. Participants may just come to learn about the items people preserve, or they may bring a few of their own preservation items. We will talk about the things we love to preserve and the things we will not preserve again and why. We will also share the cost and savings of home preservation and preserving. Participants are invited to share a sampling of some of their preserving creations with the group. This program is designed to help people learn about things we can preserve and keep on our shelves or in our freezers.



Food Preservation

February 10-End of Life Pre-Planning Seminar with Steinke Funeral Home

2 pm, Adults.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for an end-of-life seminar presented by Sally Niehoff from Steinke Funeral Home. Join Us for an Important Conversation on End-of-Life Preplanning. Planning ahead is one of the greatest gifts you can give your loved ones. Our upcoming seminar will guide you through the essential steps of end-of-life preplanning—covering topics like organizing important documents, understanding options, and making informed decisions that reflect your wishes. This free, informative session, presented by Steinke Funeral Home will help you feel prepared and provide peace of mind for you and your family. Don't wait—secure your spot today and take the first step toward a thoughtful, stress-free future

February 11-Genealogy Help

5-6:30 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 16-Friends of the Library Meeting

6 pm, New and old members

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

February 19-Dungeons and Dragons

3:30-5:30 pm, Grades 6-adult.

Players of all skill levels are invited to join us for Dungeons and Dragons. All materials will be provided.

February 28-Kahoot! February Trivia

2 pm, Adults (16+ if accompanied by an adult)

Test your February knowledge with Kahoot! Bring a mobile device to participate. Prizes will be awarded to the winner!



RENSSELAER EVENTS: CHILDRENS/ TEENS

Tuesdays, January 6-20-Family Story Time

10 am, Ages up to 5 w/ caregiver. Registration required. Join us for stories, activities, and crafts. Programs will be tailored to those who come. Caregivers with multiple children of different ages are encouraged to attend!

January 8-All Abilities Storytime (formerly Fabulous Friday)

1 pm, All ages.

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

January 10-Winter Family Storytime with Benny the Bean

10 am, All ages.

Families and little ones of all ages are invited to join us each month during Winter Reading for a special story time and a bean-themed crafts to celebrate Beanstack's mascot Benny the Bean! This month we will meet to hear a story and craft a bean mosaic.

January 10-VR/Wii Games

2:30-4:30 pm, All ages/13+ for VR. Registration required. Come join us for Wii and VR games using the library's Wii and Oculus headsets. All ages are invited for wii gaming. You must be age 13 or older with a waiver signed by a parent or guardian to use the VR equipment. VR may affect some people sensitive to motion sickness.

January 22-24 and 29-31-Indiana Quaker Escape Room

Hourly slots available. All ages.

Rensselaer Library hosts Indiana History Escape Experience. Join us at the Rensselaer Library and help us rescue an adorable owl while learning about Indiana history relating to Quakers and the Underground Railroad. This escape room, created by the Indiana Young Readers Center, part of the Indiana Center for the Book, is designed for youth in grades 6 to adult. There will be puzzles to figure out, ciphers to decode, and a few other challenges to test your brain!

January 26-Last Monday Family Storytime

6 pm, Ages up to 5 with caregiver

Parents/Caregivers and their little ones ages 0-5 are invited to our NEW Last Monday Family Storytime, held in the evening on the last Monday of each month at 6 pm. Families with little ones who cannot attend a morning story time are invited to join us for stories, snacks, activities, and crafts. Programs will be tailored to those who come. Caregivers with multiple children of different ages are encouraged to attend.

Tuesdays, February 3-17-Family Story Time

10 am, Ages up to 5 w/ caregiver. Registration required.

Join us for stories, activities, and crafts. Programs will be tailored to those who come. Caregivers with multiple children of different ages are encouraged to attend!

February 12-All Abilities Storytime

1 pm, All ages.

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

February 21-Winter Family Storytime with Benny the Bean

10 am, All ages.

Families and little ones of all ages are invited to join us each month during Winter Reading for a special story time and a bean-themed crafts to celebrate Beanstack's mascot Benny the Bean! We will be making coffee clay and a stress ball.

February 21-VR/Wii Games

2:30-4:30 pm, All ages/13+ for VR. Registration required.

Come join us for Wii and VR games using the library's Wii and Oculus headsets.

February 23-Last Monday Family Storytime

6 pm, Ages up to 5 with caregiver

Families with little ones who cannot attend a morning story time are invited to join us for stories, snacks, activities, and crafts. Programs will be tailored to those who come.

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: ADULTS

January 14-Trivia Night at Marcella's

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for a fun night of trivia!

January 20-Introduction to Beekeeping

6 pm, Adults.

Are you thinking about getting started in beekeeping? Do you just want to learn the basics? Join us for an informational program on beekeeping.

January 27-Introduction to Canva

6 pm, Adults.

New year, new skill! Do you want to learn more about Canva? Join us for a Canva class. If you have a laptop, bring it along!



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 5-Afternoon Movie

1 pm, Adults.

Spend the afternoon enjoying a movie! Please contact the Wheatfield Library for movie title.

February 6-Valentine Decoupage Sack

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Spend an evening making a cute Valentine craft! All supplies will be provided for this free craft.

February 10-Fantasy Book Club Night and Author Visit

6 pm, Adults.

Join author Elisabeth Garner as we discuss her books! We will also be discussing "Divine Rivals" by Rebecca Ross. Elisabeth Garner's books will be available for purchase.

February 24-Friends of the Wheatfield Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

A nonprofit group whose primary focus is to promote and support the Wheatfield Library. New members welcome!

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

January 2-Nerf Night

5:30-7 pm. Ages 8+. Registration required.

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.

January-Story Time

Preschoolers ages 3-5 are invited to celebrate Winter with a special story and craft. You may choose between two sessions: Jan. 6 @ 2:30 pm or Jan. 7 @ 11 am. Registration required.



WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

January 8-Lego Program

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



January 8 & 22-Paws & Pages

4 pm, Grades K-5.
Each student will get 20 minutes to read with a therapy dog.
This program is meant to prepare for the iRead test.

January 10-Saturday Story Time

10 am, Ages 5 and under along with their caregivers.
Registration required.
Come and hear stories and make a special craft.

January 13-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages under 2 with a caregiver. Registration required.
Come and hear stories, sing songs, and interact with others.

January 14-All Abilities at Wheatfield Library

1 pm, All ages.
This program is for individuals with developmental disabilities. We will read a story and do a craft. A therapy dog will be present.

January 16-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3 with a caregiver. Registration required.
Come and hear winter stories and make a special craft.

January 19-Homeschool Meetup

12 pm, All ages.
Parents with children of all ages that are or soon deciding to be homeschooled will be able to meet. This is a drop-in program.

January 20-After School Program

4 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.
Celebrate Winter with a special story, snack, and craft.

January 23-Family Movie Night

6 pm, All ages.
Families are welcome to watch a family movie at the library and enjoy some snacks. Call the library for the movie title.

January 27-Teen Meetup

4 pm, Teens. Registration required.
Teens will have an opportunity to socialize and taste a sweet treat this month. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

January 29-Chess Program

5:30 pm, Ages 10+. Registration required.
Come learn the game of chess, or practice your skills.
Students from KVHS Chess Club will be presenting.

February-Story Time

Preschoolers ages 3-5 are invited to celebrate Valentine's Day with a special story and craft. You may choose between two sessions: Feb. 3 @ 2:30 pm or Feb. 4 @ 11 am.
Registration required.

February 5-Valentine After School Program

4 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.
Celebrate Valentine's Day with a special story, snack and craft.

February 10-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages under 2 with a caregiver. Registration required.
Come and hear stories, sing songs, and interact with others.

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

February 11-All Abilities at Wheatfield Library

1 pm, All ages.

This program is for individuals with developmental disabilities. We will read a story and do a craft. A therapy dog will be present.

February 12 & 26-Paws & Pages

4 pm, Grades K-5.

Each student will get 20 minutes to read with a therapy dog. This program is meant to prepare for the iRead test.



February 14-Saturday Story Time

10 am, Ages 5 and under along with their caregivers. Come and hear stories and make a special craft.

February 19-Take Care of our Hearts

4 pm, Grades K-8. Registration required. Kids and Teens will have an opportunity to socialize and learn about American Heart Month with different projects. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

February 20-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3 with a caregiver. Registration required. Come and hear winter stories and make a special craft.



February 20-Family Puzzle Races

6 pm, Ages 5+. Registration required. Race through a puzzle with our family to be the quickest to finish!

February 24-Teen Meetup

4 pm, Teens. Registration required. Teens will have an opportunity to celebrate the Chinese New Year and create a project. Snacks and refreshments are included.

February 26-Chess Program

5:30 pm, Ages 10+. Registration required. Come learn the game of chess, or practice your skills. Students from KVHS Chess Club will be presenting.

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.mycpl.org/events.

DeMotte

January 20- The Bookies- Tuesday- 2:00 PM OR 6:00 PM

Book: "The Bookshop of Yesterdays" by Amy Meyerson

February 9-The Dark and Stormy Night Book Club-Monday-6 PM

Book: "Devil's Knot: The True Story of the West Memphis Three" by Mara Leveritt

February 17- The Bookies- Tuesday- 2:00 PM OR 6:00 PM

Book: "Whistling Past the Graveyard" by Susan Crandall

Wheatfield

January 13- Adult Book Discussion- Tuesday- 1:30 PM

Book: "The Soul of an Octopus" by Sy Montgomery

January 27- Books and Coffee-Tuesday-2 PM-at Cup of Joy in DeMotte

Book: "The Personal Librarian" by Melanie Benedict

February 10-Adult Book Discussion- Tuesday- 1:30 PM

Book: "The Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah

February 10-Fantasy Book Club-Tuesday-6 pm

Book: "Divine Rivals" by Rebecca Ross

February 24- Books and Coffee-Tuesday- 2:00 PM -at Cup of Joy in DeMotte

Book: "11-22-65" by Stephen King

Rensselaer

January 22- 4th Thursday Group- Thursday- 1 PM

Book: "The River We Remember" by William Kent Krueger

January 28 - Men's Book Group-Wednesday- 10 AM

Book: "All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me" by Patrick Bringley

****The Men's Group was created for men but anyone can join****

February 25-Men's Book Group-Wednesday- 10 AM

Book: "Chasing Hope: A Reporter's Life" by Nicholas Kristof

****The Men's Group was created for men but anyone can join****

February 26-4th Thursday Book Group-Thursday- 1 PM

Book: "The Monk of Mokha" by Dave Eggers



NEW RELEASES FOR JAN/FEB

FICTION TITLES

The Astral Library
by Kate Quinn, 2/17



Crown of War and Shadow
by J.R. Ward, 2/17

More Than Enough: A Novel
by Anna Quindlen, 2/24

Secondhand Luck (The Shadow
Age)
by Kim Harrison, 2/10

Without a Clue
by Melissa Ferguson, 2/17

The Heir of Whitestone
by Cathrine Coulter, 2/24

Want to Know A Secret?
by Frieda McFadden

Dear Debbie
by Frieda McFadden, 1/27

Woman Down
by Colleen Hoover, 1/13

CHILDREN'S

Talons of Power: A Wings of Fire
Graphic Novel
by Tui Sutherland

A Waffle Lot of Love! (A Jelly and
Narwhal Novel)
by Ben Clanton

I Survived the California Wildfires of
2018
by Lauren Tarshis

Eva Saves the Day (Owl Diaries)
by Rebecca Elliot

YOUNG ADULTS

Kill Joy: A Good Girl's Guide to
Murder Novella
by Holly Jackson

Read Between the Lies
by Jessie Sutanto, 2/1

Rings of Fate
by Melissa de la Cruz, 1/6



AUDIOBOOKS

Pendergast: The Beginning
by Douglas Preston and Lee
Child, 1/27

The Crossroads: A Joe Pickett
Novel
by C. J. Box, 1/24

The Hard Line: A Gray Man Novel
by Mark Greaney, 2/17

Antihero
by Gregg Hurwitz, 2/10



DVDS

Regretting You

Ritual

Spinal Tap II: The End Continues

Big Bold Beautiful Journey

F1: The Movie

