

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 11

# NewsNotes

JAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

DECEMBER 2023

## THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

As we move to the end of the year, we would like to extend a word of thanks to the Jay County community. As I look back upon 2023, I think we, at the library, have a lot to be thankful for—it was a great year!

We were able to serve Jay County in many ways in 2023. In addition to the traditional loaning of materials (over 150,00 this year!), we had over 6,000 people attend programs at the library, we delivered services and resources outside of the building, our meeting rooms were used nearly 700 times, and we partnered with numerous other organizations and businesses.

The key to succeeding at what we do is the fact that we don't do these things on our own, but so much is done with the support and help of members and organizations of Jay County.

Our staff is looking forward to serving Jay County in the coming year, alongside our partners, volunteers, and supporters. We are looking forward to what 2024 and beyond have in store for JCPL!

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year season and we look forward to seeing you at the library!

Eric Hinderliter, Director



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## WINTER WONDERLAND FAMILY FUN



Come walk in a winter wonderland and celebrate Christmas at the library in a come-and-go family event on **Thursday, December 14 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

Families will have an opportunity to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus, make and adopt

their own pet penguin,

make Christmas ornaments, play games, eat sweet treats and drink hot cocoa, and even go sock ice skating!

Also, build your own Snowball

Sculpture and enter it to win in our online voting contest that will be held after our event.

Winner will be notified at a later date.



## WINTER WONDERLAND KIDS SHOPPING

Give your children an opportunity to discover the joy of giving and select a gift for two family members! To participate, each child must complete the activities required for each age group listed below. Once the child completes their activities, they will



receive their ticket to enter the Winter Wonderland shopping experience. There will be gifts available to choose from that will be tailored to all ages. Helpers will assist children to pick out their gifts and the gifts will then be wrapped and tagged. 10-minute reservations will be taken for these events.

**Registration will begin on Monday, November 27, and more information will be available at the front desk at that time.**

## COOKIES & CANVAS FOR KIDS



The Jay County Farm Bureau, Inc. and JCPL are once again offering the popular kids Cookies & Canvas event on

**Thursday, December 7!**

Families may sign up for one of two sessions from **4:00-5:30 p.m.** or **6:00-7:30 p.m.** in the Community Room. Recommended for

elementary age children, this fun experience will include stories, painting, an

agricultural lesson, and of course, cookies! A parent/caregiver is encouraged to attend to help

each child as needed. **Call or visit the library soon to**

**register for this event!**



For **preschool age children** with their parent or caregiver: **Monday, December 18 from 1-3 p.m.** To participate in this event, preschool age children need to write a letter to Santa and take a picture with the decorative snowman at the library. Parents/caregivers are welcome to help their preschool age children with selecting a gift.

For children ages **Kindergarten to 3rd grade:** **Monday, December 18 from 5-7 p.m.** To participate in this event, children must check out a holiday book, write a letter to Santa, decorate a snowman, and take a photo near the decorative snowman. At this event, parents can wait in the Community Room or enjoy the library while their child shops, but we do ask that parents remain in the building.

## CHRISTMAS FAMILY STORY TIME

Join us for the last story time of the year on **Tuesday, December 5 at 10 a.m.**, as we celebrate Christmas together! We'll read Christmas stories, sing songs, and do a variety of Christmas crafts and activities. Story Time is for kids ages preschool and younger with their caregivers.



## HOLIDAY STEAM AT JCPL

JCPL and Purdue Extension invite kids in grades 3-6 to the library's Community Room to participate in Holiday STEAM with Purdue University's Women in Engineering on **Thursday, December 21 from 2-4 p.m.** Kids will have an opportunity to enjoy hands-on holiday theme STEAM activities. Space is limited to the first 20 youth in grades 3-6.

**Register online at:**

<https://holidaysteam2023.4honline.com>.

For more information, contact the library or Purdue Extension Office at 260-726-4707.

## GINGERBREAD CRAFT FUN



Start your Christmas break with a visit to the library! Stop by the children's area any time between **9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

**on Wednesday, December 20** to make a craft gingerbread house and enjoy other fun Christmas activities. Those who participate will receive a goody bag from the front desk!

## HOME ALONE SAFETY CLASS

On **Saturday, December 2 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**, students in grades 3-6 who have expressed interest in assuming the responsibility of staying home alone are invited to come to this safety class to learn how to practice safe habits, how to prevent unsafe situations, and what to do when faced with dangers such as power failures or weather emergencies. Students are also introduced to the Safe Sitter® First Aid Chart and learn a system to help them assess and respond to injuries and illnesses. Snacks will be provided. **Registration is required, so visit or call the library to sign up today!**

## CLUB DATES

**JCPL Book Club:**  
**Monday, December 18**  
**7:00 PM**

Discussing *The 13th Gift*, by Joanne Huist Smith. Anyone who loves to read may join!

**JCPL Friends:**  
**Tuesday, December 19**  
**6:30 PM**

Meet at 6 to fold newsletters.



*"To face unafraid the plans  
that we've made, walking in  
a Winter Wonderland."*  
-Richard Bernhard Smith





JAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
315 N. SHIP STREET  
PORTLAND, IN 47371  
TELEPHONE: (260) 726-7890

[WWW.JAYCPL.LIB.IN.US](http://WWW.JAYCPL.LIB.IN.US)

#### LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY  
8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.  
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.  
SATURDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

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US Postage Paid  
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Return Service Requested



**Cut paper & postage costs!**  
Receive a monthly e-mail  
with link to an online version of  
the newsletter.

**Send request to:**  
**[jaylibrary315@gmail.com](mailto:jaylibrary315@gmail.com)**



## DID YOU MISS IT?

On November 2, we welcomed Craig Johnson, author and creator of the Longmire series, to JCPL! Craig started the day with a surprise visit to the library, followed by a VIP dinner, and then talked to 210 attendees at Arts Place. We ended the night with a book signing and reception with treats provided by the Friends of JCPL. It was a special day for the library!

