

VOLUME 41 ISSUE 3

# News Notes

Jay County Public Library

MARCH 2026

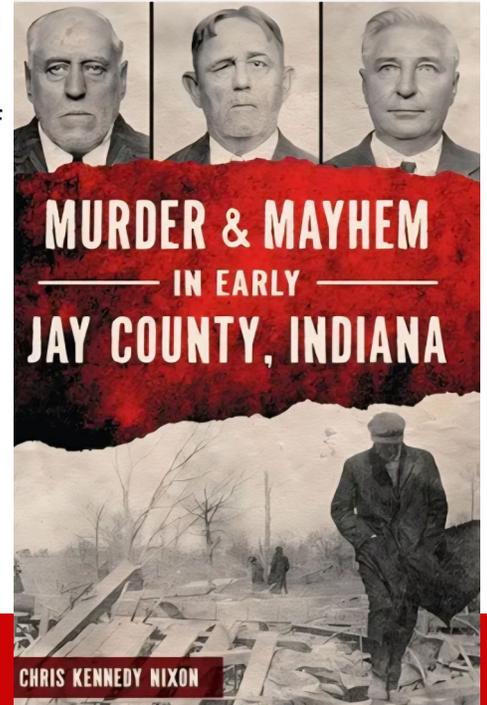


## MURDER, MYSTERY, & MARCH MADNESS @ JCPL!

Throughout the month of March, basketball madness meets murder mystery for teens and adults with various fun activities, especially if you love both basketball and murder mystery! While visiting the library, browse for materials at our March Madness displays on the adult/teen side of the library. Check out the program below and all the programs on p. 3 to see what madness awaits you:

### MURDER & MAYHEM MONDAY WITH CHRIS KENNEDY NIXON

**Adults (18+)**, join us for an exciting evening on **Monday, March 16 at 6 p.m.** as we welcome our very own Jay County local author Chris Kennedy Nixon to the library for a book talk, Q & A, and book signing of her new release *Murder & Mayhem in Early Jay County*. Here is a short description of her book: "Looking beyond the headlines at the impact of crime on a small community, local author Chris Kennedy Nixon examines criminals and their victims and provides a snapshot in time of social ideals about gender, politics, wealth, and poverty." Copies of her book will be available for purchase at this event. **This program is for adults 18+ and you MUST have a reservation in order to attend. The first 25 people to sign up will receive a free copy of her book at the event! To reserve your seats, visit or call the library.** True crime lovers & local history lovers, this is an event you won't want to miss!



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## FAMILY STORY TIME

Family Story Time is held on both **Monday and Tuesday mornings** at 10 a.m. in the Community Room. Join us for stories, songs, and activities for children ages preschool and younger with their caregivers **through April 14**. **Please note:** story time content will be the same for both days, but each week will have a different theme.

Also, **there will be no story time during Spring Break week- March 23 & 24**.

March 2 & 3: Under the Sea

March 9 & 10: Writing

March 16 & 17: Music

March 30 & 31: Bunnies & Rabbits



## MOTHER GOOSE

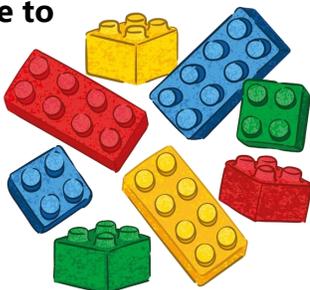
Mother Goose will be flying to the library on **Friday mornings at 10 a.m. through April 24**. Join her in the Community Room for stories, rhymes, and movement. If Jay Schools are not in session, Mother Goose will not be held. **There will be no Mother Goose on March 20 & 27**.

## LEGO LAB

Calling all Master Builders to the library on **Thursday, March 26 at 3:30 p.m.** to showcase their Lego skills and creativity! This program will be structured with timed increments for building challenges and free building. After the program, builds will be displayed for a period of time along the tops of bookshelves in the library!

**Recommended for children ages 8-12, but younger children are welcome to join with adult assistance.**

Refreshments will be provided. No registration is required, but come early to allow as much time as possible to build your Lego creations!



## COZY COLORING AFTERNOON

**Kids of all ages** are invited to stop by the library on **Friday, March 27 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.** and express your artistic creativity in this come-and-go event! You'll get to color fun pictures using crayons, markers, colored pencils, glitter pens, and scented markers. Come join us for some coloring fun and you'll have a chance to win one of a few creative raffle prizes, as well. Snacks will be provided, and no registration is necessary.



## THE INVISIBLE STRING GROUP FOR KIDS

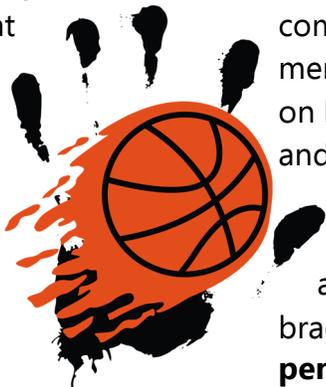
A new interactive, activity-based group has started to support children who deal with separation issues such as:

- First days of school, camp, or other life milestones
- Friendship and other relationship challenges
- Family separations due to travel, illness, or military service
- Divorce
- Trauma
- Temporary or permanent loss

Led by Sheron McClung Borders, this group is for **children ages kindergarten and up. (Children 7 and under need to have an adult present in the library during the activity.) The group will be held in the Friends room at the library from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Thursdays, now through March 12**. The group will work through lessons and activities based on the book *The Invisible String Workbook: Creative Activities to Comfort, Calm, and Connect* by Patrice Karst and Dana Wyss. Snacks will be served, as well. **Space is limited, and registration is required. Please call or visit the library to sign up.**

## NOTHING BUT NET... & MYSTERY ACTIVITY KITS

Basketball meets murder mystery on **Friday, March 13** with this interactive activity kit where you will have to solve the crime that happens during a fictitious high school basketball game! **Due to the nature of content, these activity kits are recommended for teens and adults who are aged 13+!** These kits will be available first come, first serve, while supplies last!



## GET A GRIP & DO SOME SELF-CARE

Has this winter season been hard on your feet? Stop the madness and get your feet sandal-ready for Spring! Drop into the library anytime from **9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Saturday, March 28** to create a sugar foot scrub and paint your own grippy socks. No registration is required!



## ONGOING PROGRAMS:

### JCPL Book Club:

**Monday, March 16, 7 PM**

We will be discussing *The Boys: A Memoir of Hollywood & Family* by Ron Howard & Clint Howard. Anyone who loves to read may join!

### Friends of JCPL:

**Tuesday, March 17, 6:30 PM**

Meet at 6 to fold newsletters.

### Lawyers in Libraries:

**Thursday, March 26, 10 AM-12 PM**

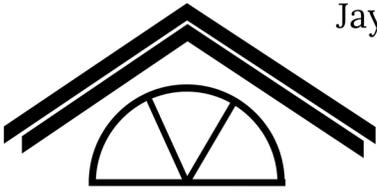
## MARCH MADNESS BRACKET COMPETITION

It's that time of year again--our annual March Madness bracket competition is back! You may complete brackets to enter the competition for men's, women's, or both! Brackets will be available on **Monday, March 16** and need to be filled out and turned back into the library by **11 a.m. on Thursday, March 19** to be entered into the competition. Keep checking back at the library after the weekly games to see how well your bracket is holding up against your opponents. **The person with the most perfect bracket for both men's and women's will each win a \$25 Amazon gift card and will be contacted after the last championship game on April 6.** Happy basketball season and may the best team win!

## TEEN SPRING BREAK SLASHER MOVIE NIGHT

**Hey teens (ages 13+),** you said you wanted a movie night and we heard you! If you are a teen and need something fun to do on Spring Break, come join us on **Tuesday, March 24** for our March murder, mystery, and mayhem event that is JUST for you! **Doors will open at 5:30 and the movie will start at 5:45 p.m.** We will have free pizza, popcorn, and more, plus a showing of *Happy Death Day!* **To help us have enough food and supplies, please register for this event if you plan on attending our first teen movie night! Please note: This movie is rated PG-13 for content, therefore anyone younger than 13 will NOT be permitted entrance for this program.**





Jay County Public Library  
 315 N. Ship St.  
 Portland, IN 47371  
 (260) 726-7890  
 www.jaycpl.lib.in.us

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**Library Hours:**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**  
 8 AM - 8 PM  
**Wednesday & Friday**  
 8 AM - 5 PM  
**Saturday**  
 8 AM - 1 PM

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Opt to receive a monthly e-mail with a link to an online version of the newsletter.

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



→ **ESCAPE ROOM EXPERIENCES** ←

Can you solve all the puzzles and escape in time? Two escape room experiences will be offered on **Thursday, March 12. Kids ages 8-12** are invited to test out their sleuthing skills, and solve a variety of puzzles and questions in 45 minutes. Sign up for one of two escape rooms (an easier room or a harder room) at **4, 5, or 6 p.m.** Bring a friend and join the fun!

**Easier Escape Room: Benjamin Harrison Escape Experience-** Solve puzzles, open locks, and use UV lights to read secret information, all while learning about President Benjamin Harrison, a silly goat, and Indiana history.

**Harder Escape Room: Indiana Aviation Escape Experience-** Hunt for a missing compass that was "stolen" by a group of international thieves. Solve codes, read invisible clues, and learn about Indiana's aviation history.



**CAN YOU?  
 ESCAPE?**



Thanks to the Indiana State Library for creating and sharing these escape experiences with JCPL!  
**Registration is required so please call or visit the library to sign up for this program.**