JULY / AUGUST 2024

# **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

INFORM, ENRICH, EMPOWER



# JCPL DIRECTOR, PATTY STRINGFELLOW, IS READY FOR NEW ADVENTURES!

After working at JCPL for 27 years, Director Patty Stringfellow has announced that she will retire at the end of August. Stringfellow began her career with JCPL in 1997 as a Rensselaer Library Assistant, serving as the Satellite and Volunteer Coordinator. In 1999 she became the Headquarters Librarian for the Rensselaer Public Library, managing public services. She held that position until assuming the directorship in January 2006.

Some of Patty's favorite memories from her time at JCPL, include: "the Rensselaer Library Fall Festival and Philip Gulley author visit; introducing Digital Access Cards for students and staff of schools in our library service district, establishing our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program, going Fine Free, establishing Curbside Service, designing and implementing a Story Walk® at the DeMotte Library, expanding our digitized collections with digitized newspapers and yearbooks, and turning outward, listening to expressed community needs and drafting a five-year strategic plan to reflect that emphasis."

When asked about challenges she experienced throughout the years, Stringfellow answered, "there have been many challenges over the years, but two that stand out in my mind are the frozen/broken water pipes that caused significant damage

to the Rensselaer Library in January 2014, forcing us to close that building to the public for five weeks for repair and restoration. The biggest challenge that we faced in my tenure as director was operating during a global pandemic in 2020. It was an unprecedented time, and I am proud of how we continued to serve our community and meet needs under those very difficult circumstances."

(NEW ADVENTURES 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) 987-222

Wheatfield (219) 956-3774

# **NEW ADVENTURES CONT.**

"I have enjoyed my twenty-seven years with JCPL. I have been blessed to work with a dedicated and supportive library board and a brilliant, creative, and hard-working staff. I am thankful to have served in a community rich in the arts and strong in community spirit and appreciate every opportunity I have been afforded. I will look back with joy," Patty said regarding her experience with JCPL.

After retirement, Patty said "family time and travel will factor in greatly as I retire from over thirty years of public library service." JCPL will miss her but wishes her a long and happy retirement!





#### July 1-Magnificent Monday

10 am, All ages. Registration required.

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

#### <u>July 10-Adult Bingo</u>

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

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

#### <u>July 15-Firefly Awards Story Time</u>

10 am, Ages 0-5 years. Registration required.

Those in attendance will hear the five book nominees for the Firefly Award and vote for their favorite at the end of the program. We will do a craft as well. After this date, the nominated books will be available at the front desk for the patrons to read and submit a vote before the July 31st deadline.

#### July 18-Lego Night

4-5 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Join us for lego building fun! Children under 5 require adult supervision.

#### July 19-Mean Girls Trivia

6:30, All ages. Registration required.

On Wednesdays, we wear pink...but on Fridays we play Trivia! Play solo or in groups up to 4. Prizes will be awarded to the top team!

#### **August 5-Magnificent Monday**

10 am, All ages. Registration required.

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

#### Wednesdays, August 7-28-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages 2 and under. <u>Registration required.</u>
Join us for a morning of stories, rhymes, and interactive play!

#### <u>August 10-17-DeMotte Library Book Sale</u>

The Friends of the DeMotte Library will be having a book sale during the open hours of the Library. (During the Rotary Ramble it will be open in the Story Time Room from 11 am-4 pm.) There will be a Friend's Preview on August 9 from 1-5. On August 17 there will be a \$3 a bag sale. On Monday, August 19 there will be a "Byo Box" for free books! Bring your own box and fill it with books for free!

#### **August 21-Adult Bingo**

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

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

#### **August 22-Lego Night**

4-5 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Join us for lego building fun! Children under 5 require adult supervision.

#### **August 30-Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?**

6:30 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Come and test your skills against others and find out if you are smarter than a 5th Grader! Play solo or in groups up to 4. Prizes will be awarded to the top team!



# RENSSELAER EVENTS RENSSELAER EVENTS

#### **Tuesdays, July 2-16-Story Time**

10 am, Ages 3-5. <u>Registration required</u>
Join us for a morning of stories, activities, and crafts!

#### July 3-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Ages 16+. <u>Registration required.</u>
Join us at the Rensselaer Library and play a game of Scrabble and test your word skills! Supplies are provided.

#### July 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.

#### <u>July 11-Bingo</u>

10-11 am, Adults.

Join us for a fun morning of Bingo!

#### July 13-Scrapbooking

2:30 pm, Ages 16 +. <u>Registration required.</u>
Join us at the Rensselaer Library for an afternoon of scrapbooking. All supplies will be provided for this free event. Patrons will need to bring pictures to use.

#### July 19-Fabulous Friday

1 pm, All ages.

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

#### July 23-Kahoot! American History

6 pm, Ages 16+

Play on your own or gather your friends and test your knowledge of American History! Prizes will be awarded.
Registration requested, limit of 20 teams. Teams are optional.
A mobile device is required to participate.

#### July 27-VR Players' Choice

2 pm, Ages 13+. <u>Registration required.</u>
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.

#### **August 1-Bingo**

10-11 am, Adults. <u>Registration required.</u> Join us for a fun morning of Bingo!

#### <u>August 6-Empower Me to be Clutter Free!</u>

5:30 pm, Adults. <u>Registration required.</u>
Join us as Carmen Fortney, a Purdue Extension Educator, will present practical strategies for decluttering and organizing!

#### **Tuesdays, August 6-20-Story Time**

10 am, Ages 3-5. <u>Registration required</u>
Join us for a morning of stories, activities, and crafts!

#### **August 7-Scrabble Game Night**

6 pm, Ages 16+. <u>Registration required.</u>
Join us at the Rensselaer Library and play a game of Scrabble and test your word skills! Supplies are provided.

#### **August 10-VR Players' Choice**

2 pm, Ages 13+. <u>Registration required.</u>
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.



#### **August 12-Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting**

7 pm, Adults.

Please support your friends group by attending! Or join today! Annual dues are only \$3 individual or \$5 for a family.

#### **August 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. All assistance is available on a first come, first serve basis.

#### <u>August 16-Fabulous Friday</u>

1 pm, All ages.

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

#### **August 21-Canning Creations**

6 pm, All ages.

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.

#### **August 27-Kahoot! Book Trivia**

6 pm, All ages (under 16 requires adult supervision) Play on your own or gather your friends and test your knowledge of various books! Prizes will be awarded. Registration requested, limit of 20 teams. Teams are optional. A mobile device is required to participate.

#### **August 31-Dot Rocks**

2 pm, Ages 16+. Registration requested.

Use household items and paint techniques to create these fun, friendly critters that can be a paperweight, a magnet, or more! All materials provided for this fee craft.



# JULY YOUTH BOOKMARK PROGRAM

Those under 17 years of age are invited to join us for our passive reading program in July! Pick up a bookmark at any of the JCPL locations for the month of July and complete as many reading prompts on the bookmark as you can. Once the bookmark is complete, bring it back for an entry into a grand prize drawing to be done at the end of July!





Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie. Each library will be hosting Combat Coffee once every month:

> <u>DeMotte</u> will be hosting theirs every 4th Tuesday at 9:30 am in the East Meeting Room. Rensselaer will be having theirs every 3rd Monday of the month at 9:30 am. Wheatfield will get together on the first Wednesday of the month at 10 am.

**COMMUNITY CONNECTION** 



#### July 5-Friday Fun: Bingo!

11 am, Adults.

Join us for an hour of fun and prizes while playing BINGO. Prizes will be awarded to winners!

#### **Tuesdays, July 9-30-Lapsit Story Time**

10-10:40 am, Ages 0-23 months with a caregiver. Registration 11 am, Adults. required.

Those in attendance will hear stories, sing songs, and have playtime.

#### July 11-Lego program

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

Kids in attendance will enjoy a snack, and make Lego creations that will be on display.

#### July 12-Create a Flowerpot Person

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Create a person made from flowerpots and paint! \$10 per person is due on June 29.

#### **July 15-Firefly Awards Story Time**

10 am, Ages 0-5 years. Registration required.

Those in attendance will hear the five book nominees for the Firefly Award and vote for their favorite at the end of the foster creative problem solving, collaboration, and critical program. We will do a craft as well. After this date, the nominated books will be available at the front desk for the patrons to read and submit a vote before the July 31st deadline.

#### **July 23-Friends of the Library Meeting**

1 pm, Adults.

Join us at our meeting as we discuss upcoming events, purchases, and more! Everything we do benefits the library.

#### **August 1-Homeschool Meet and Greet**

10 am, All ages. Registration required.

Homeschool families are welcome to come to the library and learn about the resources we have to offer.

#### **August 2-Friday Fun: Bingo!**

Join us for an hour of fun and prizes while playing BINGO. Prizes will be awarded to winners!

#### <u>August 2-Family Game Night</u>

6-8 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Join us for an end-of-Summer family fun night. We will have a variety of games to play in a laid-back, causal environment.

#### Mondays, August 5-19-Toddler Time

10-10:30 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required.

Those in attendance will enjoy stories, crafts, and interacting with other children. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

#### **August 19-Maker Monday**

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

Join us to have fun making cool STEM creations! STEM combines science, technology, engineering, and math to thinking. A snack will also be provided.

#### **August 27-Friends of the Library Meeting**

1 pm, Adults.

Join us at our meeting as we discuss upcoming events, purchases, and more! Everything we do benefits the library.



# **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**

JULY 16- THE BOOKIES- TUESDAY- 7:00 PM BOOK: "OLIVE AGAIN" BY ELIZABETH STROUT

AUGUST 20- THE BOOKIES- TUESDAY-7:00 PM BOOK: "THE PERSONAL LIBRARIAN" BY MARIE BENEDICT

## **Wheatfield**

JULY 9- ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION- TUESDAY- 1:00 PM BOOK: "THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY" BY MATT HAIG

JULY 30- BOOKS AND COFFEE- TUESDAY- 2:00 PM-AT CUP OF JOY IN DEMOTTE BOOK: "RAFT OF STARS" BY ANDREW GRAFF

AUGUST 13-ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION- TUESDAY- 1:00 PM BOOK: "WINTER GARDEN" BY KRISTIN HANNAH

AUGUST 27- BOOKS AND COFFEE- TUESDAY- 2:00 PM -AT CUP OF JOY IN DEMOTTE BOOK: "THE KING'S SPEECH" BY MARK LOGUE AND PETER CONRAD

# Rensselaer

JULY 24- MEN'S BOOK GROUP- WEDNESDAY- 10 AM
BOOK: "THE ROAD TO SERFDOM" BY F. A. HAYEK
\*\*THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN\*\*

JULY 25- 4TH THURSDAY GROUP- THURSDAY- 1 PM BOOK: "THE GUNCLE" BY STEVEN ROWLEY

AUGUST 28- MEN'S BOOK GROUP- WEDNESDAY- 10 AM
BOOK: "THE WORST HARD TIME" BY TIMOTHY EGAN
\*\*THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN\*\*

AUGUST 22- 4TH THURSDAY GROUP- THURSDAY- 1PM BOOK: "THE FIRST LADIES" BY MARIE BENEDICT AND VICTORIA CHRISTOPHER



# **NEW RELEASES FOR JULY/AUGUST**

# FICTION TITLES

Shadow of Doubt by Brad Thor, 8/6



By Any Other Name by Jodi Picoult, 8/20

Chasing Embers by Glenn Beck, 7/23

Briar Club by Kate Quinn, 7/9

Spirit Crossing by William Kent Krueger, 8/20

The Burning by Linda Castillo, 7/9

This is Why We Lied by Karen Slaughter, 8/20

What Have You Done? by Sari Lapena

Fire and Bones by Kathy Reichs, 8/6

## **CHILDRENS**

The Bad Guys in The Serpent and the Beast by Aaron Blabey, 7/2

I Survived the Destruction of Pompeii, AD 79 by Lauren Tarshis, 7/2

> Narwhal's Sweet Tooth by Ben Clanton, 7/2

## **YOUNG ADULTS**

Children of Anguish and Anarchy by Tomi Adeyemi

Looking for Smoke by K. A. Cobell

A Game Most Foul by Alison Gervais

Taylor Swift: In Her Own Words by Helena Hunt



Shadow of a Doubt by Brad Thor, 8/6

By Any Other Name by Jodi Picoult, 8/20

The Summer Pact by Emily Giffin, 7/16

Briar Club by Kate Quinn, 7/9



Challengers, 7/9

Come Fly With Me

Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire

Halo Season Two, 7/23

The Ministry of Ungentlemanly
Warfare

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