

Shelf Life

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM



NEW MATERIALS AT DPLS

New bestsellers include "The Calamity Club," "The Well-Educated Child: How the Principles and Practices of Quality Thinking, Agency, and Ethical Purpose Cultivate Deeper Learning," and "A Deadly Episode." The new movie this week is "Dracula."

To get a complete list of our new materials delivered right to your inbox each month, visit wowbrary.org.



SEE OUR MAY CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS & EVENTS

GET THE DETAILS ON OUR SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!

THE PLANT LIBRARY HAS RETURNED TO DPL

FRIENDS OF SHERWOOD BRANCH HOST VETERANS EVENT

APPLY TO BE A VENDOR AT ART IN THE PARK 2026

THE PLANT LIBRARY RETURNS TO DPL

The Plant Library has returned to Defiance Public Library!

Community members are invited to stop by and leave plants and bulbs they don't need, and take what they will use. Be sure to label your plants and bulbs so everyone knows what they are getting!

Materials to build the Plant Library were purchased with a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), secured by Defiance Elementary School teacher Julie Houck. The cart itself was built and delivered by the Defiance Dream Center.

For more information, contact the library at 419-782-1456.



WORTHINGTON DEDICATION CEREMONY PLANNED


THE DEDICATION OF
WORTHINGTON
HISTORIC MARKER

The Defiance Public Library cordially invites the community to attend the dedication ceremony of a historic marker commemorating Archibald Worthington and the cemetery he created for his community.

To celebrate the preservation of our shared history, the ceremony includes remarks from local historians and community leaders, followed by the unveiling of the marker.

MAY 15, 10 AM
Bowman Rd, Defiance

Reception to follow at
Defiance Public Library
320 Fort St, Defiance
11am-1pm



Defiance Public Library invites the community to attend a dedication ceremony for the historic marker recently installed at Worthington Cemetery.

The ceremony will take place May 15 beginning at 10AM at the site (in Highland Township, on Bowman Rd., about ¼ mile east of Ohio 15).

Multiple speakers will share their experiences and discuss what this marker, placed at the site of Defiance County's only known Historic Black Cemetery, means to them.

After, all are invited back to Defiance Public Library for a reception. Cupcakes, fruit, coffee and water will be available, and attendees can browse displays related to the project.

UNEARTH A STORY! SUMMER READING CHALLENGE BEGINS JUNE 1

Defiance Public Library System's 2026 Summer Reading Challenge for all ages will take place June 1-July 25 at the Defiance, Sherwood, and Johnson Memorial (Hicksville) libraries.

This year's theme, "Unearth a Story," focuses on dinosaurs, paleontology, and archaeology, and is designed to spark curiosity and exploration. The theme promotes digging into history, science, and literature, covering topics like rocks, fossils, family heritage, and local history.

All are invited to read along with DPLS for a chance to win prizes. In addition, June and July are packed with free family activities at the libraries (listed at defiancelibrary.org/calendar).

Teens & adults can register for the reading challenge now at defiancelibrary.beanstack.org, and kids can register beginning May 15. Children from birth to grade 6 can also participate by filling out a paper reading/activity log, which will be available for pickup at the libraries once the challenge begins.

For complete challenge information, including activity ideas, information about prizes, and more, visit defiancelibrary.org/summer, stop into one of your Defiance County libraries, or call 419-782-1456.



APPLY TO BE A VENDOR AT ART IN THE PARK

The Friends of Defiance Public Library are now accepting vendor applications for Art in the Park 2026.

The 44th annual Art in the Park event is set to take place on Sunday, June 28, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Fort Grounds/on Fort Street near Defiance Public Library.

This family-friendly event features dozens of arts and crafts vendors, children’s activities, a Friends of DPL book sale fundraiser, food vendors, and live entertainment throughout the day. Vendor applications are available to download now at defiancelibrary.org. The deadline to apply is June 13.

For more information contact Laura Rath Connor at 419-296-0773 or Laura_43512@yahoo.com.



The Friends of Defiance Public Library present:

Art in the Park

Sunday, June 28, 2026
10:00AM – 4:00 PM
at the Fort Grounds, Defiance

- Arts & crafts vendors
- Live entertainment
- Food vendors
- Children’s activities
- Friends of DPL book sale

Download a vendor application form at defiancelibrary.org

The deadline to apply is June 13

DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM PRESENTS:

DEFCOM 11
MINI COMIC CONVENTION
NOVEMBER 21, 2026
10AM - 4PM
NORTHTOWNE MALL

Defiance Public Library System is now accepting vendor applications for DefCom 11.

DefCom, Defiance’s own mini art & comic convention, will take place November 21 from 10AM-4PM at Northtowne Mall, 1500 N. Clinton St. Defiance. The event features dozens of artists & vendors, kids activities, free arcade games, a cosplay contest, and more.

Download a vendor application at defiancelibrary.org/defcom11. The deadline to apply is August 7.

UPDATE: LOCAL PAPERS SEARCHABLE AGAIN

After a recent outage, most *Defiance Democrat* and *Crescent-News* papers are searchable again on NewspaperArchive.

You may still experience some minor issues with the platform. Thank you for your patience!



NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE
Explore, Discover, Share

A LOOK AT WHAT'S TO COME...



Dig into
YOUR PAST
AT SHERWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY

JUNE 1-30

REVISIT YOUR PAST! CALL TO RESERVE A TIME TO USE OUR DIGITAL CONVERTER TO CONVERT OLD PHOTOS, NEGATIVES, OR 35MM SLIDES INTO DIGITAL IMAGES

To reserve a time, call 419-899-4343



VETERANS CELEBRATION

HOSTED BY THE FRIENDS OF SHERWOOD LIBRARY & SHERWOOD VFW

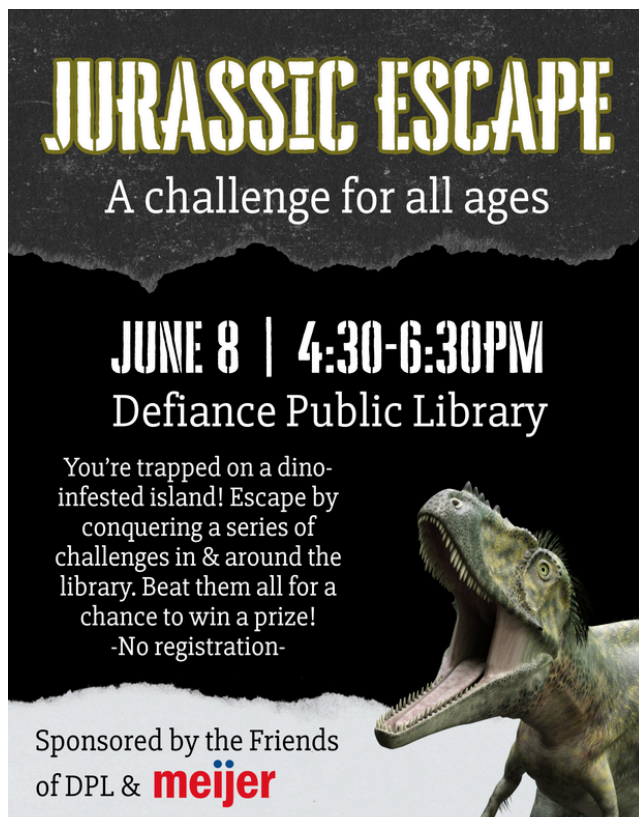
JUNE 9
5:30PM

SHERWOOD VFW POST 5665
115 CEDAR ST.

5:30PM DINNER, 6:30PM VFW WEEKLY DRAWING, 6:30PM SPEAKERS ERIN CLADY & RENEE HOPPER

*Celebrating Flag Day & the USA's 250th birthday
Dinner is free to all veterans who call to register!*

RSVP by calling Sherwood Branch Library (419-899-4343) on or before May 30

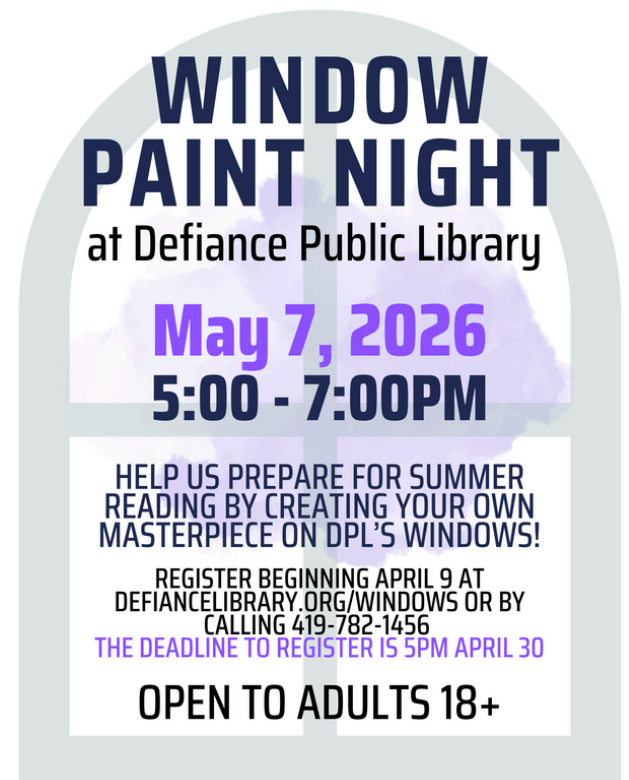


JURASSIC ESCAPE
A challenge for all ages

JUNE 8 | 4:30-6:30PM
Defiance Public Library

You're trapped on a dino-infested island! Escape by conquering a series of challenges in & around the library. Beat them all for a chance to win a prize!
-No registration-

Sponsored by the Friends of DPL & **meijer**



WINDOW PAINT NIGHT
at Defiance Public Library

May 7, 2026
5:00 - 7:00PM

HELP US PREPARE FOR SUMMER READING BY CREATING YOUR OWN MASTERPIECE ON DPL'S WINDOWS!

REGISTER BEGINNING APRIL 9 AT DEFIANCELIBRARY.ORG/WINDOWS OR BY CALLING 419-782-1456
THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS 5PM APRIL 30

OPEN TO ADULTS 18+

In other news...

Every Tuesday morning in May, Johnson Memorial Library will hide 6 baseball-themed rubber ducks throughout the village of Hicksville. Find one and you can keep it! Send us pictures on Facebook (@jmlhix).

The Defiance Public Library System Board of Trustees will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 27, beginning at 5PM at Johnson Memorial Library. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Do you or does someone you know have difficulty making it to the library? DPLS offers homebound delivery service to eligible patrons. Get your library picks delivered to your door! To learn more, call 419-782-1456.



Did you know you can use your DPLS library card to borrow a museum/attraction pass?

Visit Defiance Public Library and check out passes to the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Science Central Fort Wayne, and more! This program is sponsored by the Friends of DPL.

Read details at:
defiancelibrary.org/pass

[http://](http://defiancelibrary.org)  **DEFIANCIELIBRARY.ORG**



Defiance Public Library
320 Fort Street
Defiance, Ohio 43512
419-782-1456

Johnson Memorial Library
116 W High Street
Hicksville, Ohio 43526
419-542-6200

Sherwood Branch Library
117 N Harrison Street
Sherwood, Ohio 43556
419-899-4343