

SHELF LIFE

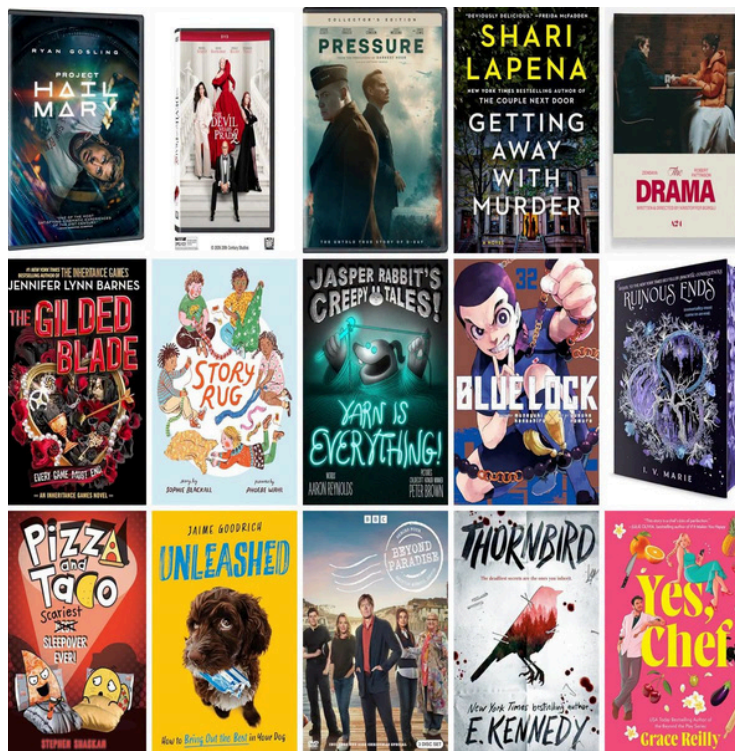
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM



NEW MATERIALS AT DPLS

New bestsellers include "Getting Away with Murder," "The Gilded Blade," and "Blue Lock 32." New movies include "Project Hail Mary," "The Devil Wears Prada 2," and "Pressure."

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



SEE OUR AUGUST
CALENDAR OF
PROGRAMS & EVENTS

CELEBRATE OUR
'SUMMER READING'
WINNERS!

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL
GRADUATION PARTY

'CARING FOR THE
CAREGIVERS' RETURNS
TO DPL

GET THE FACTS:
LIBRARY LEVY

HEARTLAND HOSPICE PRESENTS: CARING FOR THE CAREGIVERS

Have questions about advance care planning, hospice care, or Medicare services?

We invite you to join us for an informative conversation with Marlene Baker from Heartland Hospice on September 3 from 5:30–6:30 p.m. at Defiance Public Library.

Marlene will discuss planning for future care, maintaining quality of life, and separating hospice facts from common misconceptions.

This free program is open to all adults, and no registration is needed.



CELEBRATING OUR '1000 BOOKS' GRADUATES!



Let's celebrate a big milestone for our littlest readers! Join us as we honor this year's graduates of our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program — a fun early literacy challenge that encourages children to read (or listen to) 1,000 books before they start school.

Families are invited to celebrate at Defiance Public Library on August 11 from 10:30–11:30 AM with a special storytime and graduate celebration recognizing these young readers.

The celebration will continue with a special visit from Team Lily of Lily Creek Farms at 11 AM! This event is free and open to all children and families (you do not need to have completed the program to attend). No registration is needed.

A SUMMER OF DINOSAURS, DISCOVERY, AND READING SUCCESS!

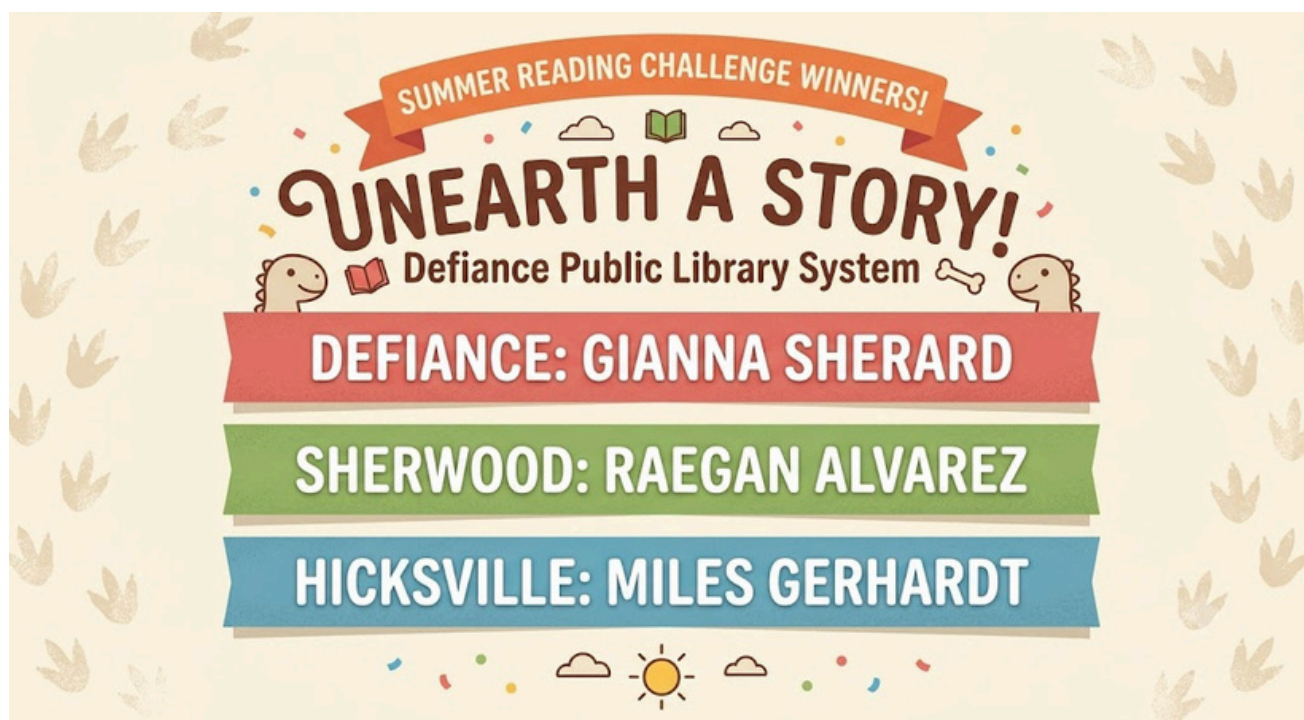
The 2026 Summer Reading Challenge has officially come to a close, and what an adventure it has been! This summer, readers of all ages joined Defiance Public Library System for a prehistoric journey through our “Unearth a Story” theme, exploring dinosaurs, fossils, archaeology, history, and the joy of discovering a great book.

From dinosaur-themed storytimes and crafts to hands-on activities, special guests, and plenty of opportunities to learn something new, our libraries were filled with curious explorers all summer long. Children, teens, and adults across Defiance, Sherwood, and Hicksville dug into reading challenges, shared their favorite stories, and celebrated the excitement of lifelong learning.

We are incredibly proud of every reader who participated this year. Whether you finished a single book, completed a reading log, attended a program, or made reading part of your daily routine, you helped make this summer a success.

Although the dinosaurs have gone back to their ancient homes for now, we’re already looking forward to next summer’s adventure. Until then, keep exploring, keep discovering, and most importantly, keep reading!

...and now, it’s time to announce this year’s grand-prize winners, who received tickets to King’s Island:



A LOOK AT WHAT'S TO COME...



Story Time
AT JOHNSON
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

WEDNESDAYS

SEPT. 23 - OCT. 28
10:30AM

**JOIN US FOR STORIES,
SONGS, RHYMES, AND
ACTIVITIES!**

AGES 2-6 | NO REGISTRATION



Defiance DD
dps

Join us for
**INCLUSIVE
Storytime**

with Defiance County Board of Developmental Disabilities

4th Tuesday monthly
*Exceptions in Nov/Dec

Dates
8/25, 9/22, 10/27,
11/17, 12/15, 1/26,
2/23, 3/23, 4/27, 5/25

Sherwood Branch Library
117 N. Harrison St.

All ages!

10:00 AM

No registration needed

**NEURO-BASED
OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY**

with Brain Bright Therapy

Sept. 3, 2026
10:30AM
Defiance Public Library

Brain Bright Therapy will showcase exercises to improve emotional regulation, balance/coordination, eye tracking, impulse control, and much more.

Free & open to all adults. No registration is needed.




Penney Nature Center
Story Trail Adventure
with Defiance Public Library

September 3
10:30AM-NOON
Penney Nature Center
08855 Ashpacher Rd., Defiance

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This is a ½ mile, unpaved trail, with outhouses available. Wear hiking gear and don't forget your mosquito/tick spray!

Walk & read at your own pace, then join us after for a craft in the Shelter House!

- No registration -



DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM LEVY 2026 FACT SHEET

The Defiance Public Library System Board of Trustees voted in May 2026 to place a 1.65-mill, 35-year levy on the November 3, 2026, ballot consisting of:

- A **renewal** of the library system's existing 0.75-mill operating levy. This levy has been in place, unchanged, for 24 years.
- A 0.9-mill **increase** to backfill the library system's operating budget for debt payments on a construction loan and operating costs at a new annex building across the street from Defiance Public Library.



ANNEX BUILDING - EXTERIOR APPROACH
SHP ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

The Annex Project

As the library's services and offerings continue to expand and diversify, its longstanding need for additional space has become extremely pressing. A donation of two parcels of property across from the Carnegie library on Fort Street has presented a once-in-a-generation opportunity to complete this much-needed expansion. In 125 years of service, DPLS has incurred no long-term debt.

Estimated total construction cost (including Carnegie renovations): \$8.3 million

- Fundraising goal: 30% of total construction cost (\$2.5 million)
- Library funds set aside: \$1 million
- Donated property: Assessed at \$490,000 by Bigner Appraisal

Plans for the annex include an expanded Children's Services Department, a larger MakerSpace, a large meeting room to be shared with local government and nonprofits, huddle rooms, and space for an adult literacy coordinator. This will free up space in the Carnegie building, allowing for expanded teen and local history services.

More Information

Ohio public libraries receive most of their funding through the state's Public Library Fund (PLF). Ohio law allows libraries to borrow against future PLF revenue for building projects. Loan payments are then made from PLF revenue, reducing the operating funds available for library services. The proposed 0.9-mill increase would replace those operating dollars.

Beyond Defiance

The annex would become the central hub for services that would benefit DPLS' branch locations too, most notably the MakerSpace, which already brings services to DPLS' branches, and the Adult Literacy Program, which would do the same. Expanded local history and genealogy services would also enrich offerings to patrons of the Sherwood and Hicksville locations.

Understanding the Cost

The County Auditor estimates that the proposed levy will cost approximately \$47 annually for each \$100,000 of the County Auditor's market value of a home.

In other news...

A DVD/VHS player is now available to check out from the DPLS Library of Things! To see what else is available, visit defiancelibrary.org, access the catalog (Using the Library > Catalogs) then click the "Library of Things" button at the top of the page.

The Defiance Public Library System Board of Trustees will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 26, beginning at 5PM at Johnson Memorial Library. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Defiance Public Library bids a fond farewell to Circulation Assistant Linda Clay as she begins a new chapter, and warmly welcomes Jo Ann Meyer to the library team. Jo Ann will join the staff as a Circulation Assistant effective Aug. 10.



New to the Museum/Attraction Pass Program! Enjoy the timeless charm of a classic outdoor movie experience at Field of Dreams Drive-In Theater in Liberty Center! Use your library card to check out a pass that admits one carload of movie-goers for free! (Pass must be picked up at Defiance Public Library.)

Read details & see other available passes at defiancelibrary.org/pass

<http://>



DEFIANCELIBRARY.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