

SHELF LIFE

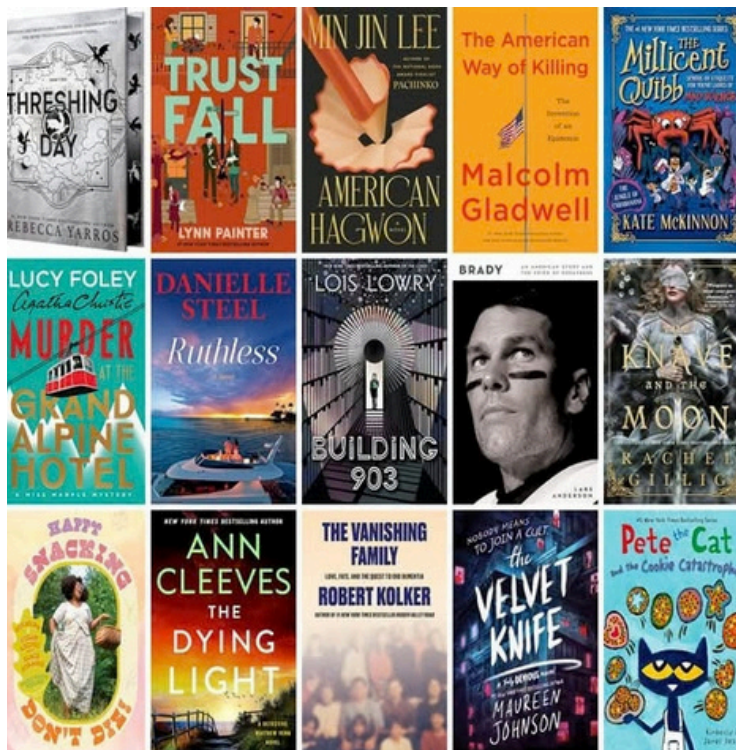
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM



NEW MATERIALS AT DPLS

New bestsellers include "Threshing Day," "Trust Fall," and "American Hagwon."

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



2026 VISITING
CHILDREN'S/YA AUTHOR:
TRICIA SPRINGSTUBB

TEEN FAN FICTION
WRITING CONTEST
RETURNS!

FRIENDS OF DPL, SBL
HOSTING FUNDRAISERS

GET THE SCOOP
ON DEFCOM 11

BOOK NERD READING
CHALLENGE IS UNDERWAY

BOOK NERD READING CHALLENGE UNDERWAY

Teens in grades 6–12 are invited to put their reading skills to the test during Defiance Public Library System’s annual Book Nerd Challenge, taking place now through October 31.

Participants can complete the challenge by reading or listening to at least three books that fit categories on the Book Nerd Challenge reading list. Reading lists are available at the Defiance, Sherwood and Hicksville libraries. The reading list can also be downloaded at defiancelibrary.org/nerd. After completing the challenge, participants should return their completed form to the library or email it to prellstab@defiancelibrary.org to be entered into a drawing for a \$20 gift card. Prizes include gift cards to Phoenix Theatres, McDonald’s, BIGGBY Coffee, Amazon, and Walmart, along with books and other prizes.

Winners will be notified by phone no later than Nov. 6. The Book Nerd Challenge is sponsored by the Friends of Defiance Public Library. For more information, call Defiance Public Library System at 419-782-1456.

FAN FICTION WRITING CONTEST RETURNS

Contest for grades 6–12 runs Nov. 1–30

Young writers are invited to let their imaginations take the wheel during Defiance Public Library System’s annual Fan Fiction Writing Contest for grades 6–12, taking place November 1–30.

The contest challenges participants to write an original 1,000–3,000-word story (PG-13) inspired by a book, television show, video game, or movie of their choosing. Entries may be submitted by email to prellstab@defiancelibrary.org or dropped off at any Defiance Public Library System location: Defiance Public Library, Sherwood Branch Library, or Johnson Memorial Library in Hicksville.

The contest winner will be notified by phone no later than December 7. The winning story will be featured in the 2027 editions of the YA Squeeze Newsletter and made available in print at DPLS libraries.

Complete contest rules and submission information are available at defiancelibrary.org/fanfic.



Friends of Defiance, Sherwood Libraries Host Oct. Fundraisers

Friends of DPL invite you!

Fall Book Sale

2-day Event! | Northtowne Mall
 10/24: 10 AM-5 PM | 1500 N. Clinton St.
 10/25: 11 AM-4 PM | Defiance, Ohio

Freewill Donation- Proceeds benefit the Library

With special guest:

MONSTER HUGS STORY-TIME

Come meet some friendly monsters! Join HUGS for a fun monster-themed story and a simple craft for children. Kids can enjoy a not-so-scary story while families shop the Friends of the Library Book Sale.

Day	Story & Craft	Book Title
Saturday	11:00-11:30 AM	The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson
	1:00-1:30 PM	The What-if Monster by Michelle Nelson-Schmidt
	3:00-3:30 PM	The Hungry Thing by Jan Slepian & Ann Seidler
Sunday	12:30-1:00 PM	King Arthur's Very Great Grandson by Kenneth Kraegel

Book lovers and families are invited to Northtowne Mall on Oct. 24-25 for the Friends of Defiance Public Library's annual Fall Book Sale!

Browse a wide selection of books for a freewill donation while supporting library programs & services. The sale runs Saturday, October 24, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, October 25, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Families can also enjoy free Monster HUGS Storytimes and crafts throughout the weekend: Saturday at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., and Sunday at 12:30 p.m. Storytimes feature friendly monster-themed stories, and families are welcome to attend any or all sessions. For more information, call Defiance Public Library at 419-782-1456.

The Friends of Sherwood Branch Library's Trivia on Tap fundraising event returns to Iron Horse Brews, 101 N. Harrison St., on Tuesday, October 13. Doors open at 5 p.m., trivia begins at 6 p.m. The cost is \$10/player, payable at the door, with proceeds benefiting SBL.

Participants will compete in six rounds of trivia, plus a bonus round for \$1 per player, with a cash prize awarded to the winning team. Iron Horse Brews' full food and drink menu will be available for purchase. Those interested in attending are encouraged to register a team of up to six by calling the Sherwood Branch Library at 419-899-4343. Walk-ins are also welcome on the day of the event.

The Friends of Sherwood Branch Library present:

Trivia on Tap

October 13, 2026
Iron Horse Brews
101 N. Harrison St.
Sherwood

Doors open at 5:00 PM
 Trivia starts at 6:00 PM

\$10/person at the door to play
Proceeds benefit Sherwood Branch Library!

Register a team of up to 6 players by
calling 419-899-4343. Walk-ins welcome!

Bonus round available for \$1 per person!

Cash prize for winning team!

Full food & drink menu available for purchase!

A LOOK AT WHAT'S TO COME...

Defiance Public Library System's
FALL AUTHOR VISIT
Featuring *Tricia Springstubb*
Author of children's, middle grade, and YA literature



NOVEMBER 19
6:00 PM
Defiance Public Library
320 Fort St.

Free & open to everyone
-No registration needed-
Geared to children & families

BRING A BOOK FOR SIGNING, OR PURCHASE ONE
FROM OUR LIMITED SELECTION:



Sponsored by the Friends of Defiance Public, Sherwood Branch, & Johnson Memorial libraries!

Tales and Treats

at the Bronson Park Storywalk

Join us for a trick or treat event at the Storywalk! Wear your costume and bring your bucket to collect candy and trinkets as you read the story!

October 26 4:30-5:30
Bronson Park
2104 Power Dam Rd
Defiance, OH 43512

JOHNSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY'S PUMPKIN CHARACTER CONTEST

Pick up a pumpkin beginning Oct. 2 and decorate it as a character from a book!

Return by Oct. 16
Patrons vote Oct. 17-31

Prizes awarded in 3 age groups:
Ages 5-12 • 13-17 • Adult

Winners announced Nov. 2 and notified by phone.

Halloween Costume SPOOKTACULAR!

OCTOBER 24
10:00AM-NOON
SHERWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY

Snacks, crafts, games & more!

Geared to school-aged children
No registration

In other news...

DPL's annual Riverside Cemetery Walk will take place on October 10 at 3:00PM. Read details and register for this free fall event at defiancelibrary.org/riverside.

The DPLS Board of Trustees will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 28, beginning at 5PM at Sherwood Branch Library. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Early voting for the Nov. 3 General Election begins Oct. 6. To read details about Defiance Public Library System's levy and Annex Project, visit defiancelibrary.org/annex or pick up a fact sheet at any DPLS location.



DEFCOM 11

DefCom, Defiance's only comic convention, will return to Northtowne Mall on Saturday, November 21, 2026, from 10:00AM-4:00PM.

This free family event features an assortment of local artists and vendors, free arcade games, kids activities, a cosplay contest, Friends Book Sale, and more!

DefCom is sponsored by the Friends of Defiance Public Library.

[http://](http://defiancelibrary.org)



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