

Check It Out

A PUBLICATION OF LICKING COUNTY LIBRARY
NOVEMBER • DECEMBER 2025 • VOL. 21 • NO. 5

**Jane
Austen**

250 Years of a Timeless Voice



LCL

**LICKING
COUNTY
LIBRARY**

Mobile Library Schedule

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

MONDAY

11/3, 12/1

- Heath • Ramp Creek Community
3:30 – 4pm
- Heath • Villa Vista Mobile Homes
4:15 – 4:45pm
- Heath • Amber Mobile Home Park
5 – 5:30pm

11/10, 12/8

- Johnstown • Kroger | 3:15 – 3:45pm
- Johnstown • Clover Valley Chapel CCCU
4 – 4:45pm
- Johnstown • Kyber Run Circle | 5:15 – 5:45pm

11/17, 12/15

- Newark • Glenbrook Dr. | 4 – 4:45pm
- Newark • Potters Grove | 5 – 5:30pm
- Newark • Newark Village Apts. | 5:45 – 6:15pm

11/24, 12/22

- Newark • Reddington Rd. S | 3 – 3:30pm
- Newark • Reddington Village Condos
3:45 – 4:15pm
- Newark • Shalimar Dr. | 4:30 – 5pm
- Newark • Look Up Ctr. | 5:15 – 6pm

12/29

- Pataskala • Summit Glen Rd. | 4 – 4:30pm
- Pataskala • Autumn Way | 4:45 – 5:15pm

TUESDAY

11/4, 12/2

- Heath • Park Lanes | 3:15 – 3:45pm
- Heath • Woodland Ct. | 4 – 4:30pm
- Heath • Fox Run Dr. | 4:45 – 5:15pm

11/11, 12/9

- Pataskala • Liberty Park | 3:15 – 4pm
- Pataskala • Summit Ridge Estates | 4:15 – 5pm
- Pataskala • Woodington Dr. | 5:15 – 6pm

TUESDAY CONT.

11/18, 12/16

- Heath • Hopewell Commons | 3:15 – 3:45pm
- Heath • Glenwood Condos | 4 – 4:30pm
- Heath • Willow Ridge Dr. | 4:45 – 5:15pm
- Heath • The Club at Forest Hills | 5:30 – 6pm

11/25, 12/23

- Pataskala • Citizens Park | 4:15 – 5pm
- Pataskala • Woodington Dr. | 5:15 – 6pm

12/30

- Perryton • Licking Valley Rd. | 4 – 4:30pm
- Toboso • The Well | 4:45 – 5:15pm
- Hanover • Legacy Park | 5:30 – 6pm

WEDNESDAY

11/5

- Utica • Utica High School | 5 – 5:45pm

11/5, 12/3

- Newark • California Concept | 3 – 3:45pm
- Newark • Mary Ann Twp. Fire Dept.
4 – 4:30pm

11/12, 12/10

- Buckeye Lake • CRT Realtors by Water's Edge CC
3:15 – 4:15pm
- Hebron • Sunset Dr. | 4:30 – 5:15pm
- Buckeye Lake • First Community Church
5:30 – 6pm

11/19, 12/17

- Newark • Welcome Rd. | 3:10 – 3:55pm
- Newark • Irish Ln. | 4 – 4:45pm
- Newark • Meadowland Dr. | 5 – 5:45pm

11/26

- Pataskala • Summit Glen Rd. | 4 – 4:30pm

THURSDAY

11/6, 12/4

- Hanover • Colby Way | 4:30 – 5:15pm
- Newark • Blessed Sacrament School
5:30 – 6:15pm

11/13, 12/11

- Newark • Condominiums at Northtowne
11 – 11:45am
- Brownsville • Brownsville Christian Life Center
4 – 4:30pm
- Thornville • Deer Trail Dr.
4:45 – 5:30pm
- Jacksontown • Jacksontown Rd.
5:45 – 6:15pm

11/20, 12/18

- Buckeye Lake • Goodwill | 3 – 3:45pm
- Buckeye Lake • North Shore Boat Ramp
4 – 4:45pm
- Buckeye Lake • Harbor Hills Country Club
5 – 5:45pm

FRIDAY

11/28, 12/19

- Newark • Sharon Glyn Senior Apts.
10 – 10:30am
- Heath • Bill E. Mitchell Retirement Village
11am – 12pm
- Newark • The Village on Main | 12:30 – 1pm

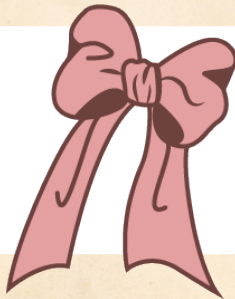
Jane Austen

250 Years of a Timeless Voice

November 18—January 13

December 16, 2025, marks the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. Jane Austen is known for introducing dramatic plots about ordinary people to the English novel. Her themes of love and marriage resound throughout her work of distinctive characters, making her a timeless voice in literature. Licking County Library celebrates throughout the season with an interactive exhibit in The Collective and a variety of programs and activities for all ages.

Look for this ribbon throughout the newsletter to find related programs!



Inclusive Programs

Downtown Newark

 **Next Chapter Book Club**
Nov 4, 18, Dec 2, 16 | 12PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

A unique community-based book club for adults with Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy and other intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Making Memories Monday

Nov 17, Dec 15 | 2PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Enjoy making memories while connecting with others in your community! Participate in activities like art, games, and music while socializing. Individuals with memory loss, such as dementia, and their caregivers are encouraged to engage in this program.

Pen & Games

Nov 20 | 5PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS & TEENS

Vote to have a creative writing workshop, play board games, or a mix of both! Adults and teens with disabilities are invited and encouraged to bring a notebook, some writing samples, and game favorites, but it's not necessary to bring anything. Games (including braille options) and creative exercises are provided.

Adventures in Art

Dec 2 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS & TEENS

A time for adults and teens with disabilities to explore arts and crafts while practicing self-expression.

Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock)

ESL Speaking Club

Nov 6, Dec 4 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Practice speaking English in a relaxed environment. This is a conversation club for adults who do not speak English as their first language and want to enhance their communication skills. This program is facilitated by LCL's Inclusive Services Coordinator.

Off Site

Adventures in Art: Centofanti Fine Art Gallery

Nov 4 | 1:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS & TEENS

A time for adults and teens with disabilities to explore arts and crafts while practicing self-expression. This month, we are taking a field trip and meeting at Centofanti Fine Art Gallery located at 118 E Main St. in Hebron, where the "Art Possible Ohio" exhibit is on display. "Art Possible Ohio" collaborates with artists of all ages with disabilities to advocate for accessibility and inclusivity, advance careers in the creative sector, foster community, and enhance the academic achievement of Ohio students through arts integration.

ESL Speaking Club

Nov 13, Dec 11 | 4:30PM

COTC PATASKALA

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Practice speaking English in a relaxed environment. This is a conversation club for adults who do not speak English as their first language and want to enhance their communication skills. This program is facilitated by C-TEC's ESOL Coordinator/Instructor and LCL's Inclusive Services Coordinator.



Downtown Newark

Early Readers Club

MONDAYS | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS 

Early Readers Club is a small reading group for preschoolers and kindergartners that focuses on early literacy skills. Through stories and activities, children practice recognizing letters, working on reading comprehension, and learning new vocabulary words.

Elementary Readers Club

MONDAYS | 4:45PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY 

Elementary Readers Club is a small reading group for children in first through third grade that focuses on developing literacy skills. Through stories and activities, children practice reading aloud, improving reading comprehension, and learning new vocabulary words.

Youth Classics Book Club

TUESDAYS | 4:15PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Sharpen your skills through discussion, vocabulary development, and creative thinking with your peers. Participants vote on the chapter book the group reads. If you miss a week, don't worry, we will catch you up. Newcomers and emerging or independent readers are welcome.

Book Tasting

NOV 4 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Come hungry for new-to-you books: picture books, easy readers, chapter books, and a healthy dose of nonfiction titles, too. Explore our amazing menu of titles and our open book buffet. Get suggestions from our friendly servers and tell us your reviews! Please note: there will be no food at this program.

Bourbon 101

NOV 4 | 6:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Dr. Tim Berra, author of *Bourbon: What the Educated Drinker Should Know*, discusses the history, science, and enjoyment of bourbon.

Rethinking Research

NOV 5 | 3:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Learn fundamental research skills from someone who genuinely enjoys it! Whether it's for school or for fun, there is a lot of information available to you. In this relaxed setting, you'll discover helpful tips and tricks for making your research process easier.

Stories of Licking County Veterans

NOV 5 | 3:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

To recognize this year's Veterans' Day, learn about our Licking County veterans through a collection of stories honoring their contributions and preserving their memories. Teens are also welcome.

Ready for Kindergarten

NOV 6, 13, 20, DEC 4, 11, 18 | 10:30AM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Focusing on a new skill each week, we introduce literacy-based activities to help participants become successful readers and begin their educational journey into kindergarten. Designed for ages 3-5.

Let's Make Magic Together

NOV 6 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Get ready for a high-energy, interactive magic show that will have kids and families laughing, cheering, and gasping in amazement! In "Let's Make Magic Together," The Alans bring their signature blend of mind-blowing magic, fun props, and nonstop audience participation to your Library. From hilarious surprises to incredible illusions, every trick is designed to engage young minds and spark a love of reading, creativity, and curiosity. Join us for an unforgettable adventure where YOU help make the magic happen! All ages are welcome.

Paper Bag Notebooks

NOV 10 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Create and decorate your own notebook using recycled paper bags.

Historical Books Trivia!

NOV 10 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Help us celebrate Jane Austen's birthday and join us for trivia featuring historical books!

Romantasy Book & Craft Club

NOV 11, DEC 9 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Do you love fantasy mixed with your romance? This is a book club where chatting and crafting go hand in hand. Materials are provided and book copies are available at the Downtown Newark and may be accessed digitally.

November: *The Coven*

by Harper L. Woods

December: *The Spellshop*

by Sarah Durst



Writers' Workshop

NOV 12, DEC 10 | 1:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

A writing workshop designed for homeschoolers. Discuss various elements of the writing process with a focus on imagination. Get ready to fine-tune your creative writing skills!

Resume Building Workshop

NOV 12 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

This interactive workshop is designed to help you craft a professional, polished resume that stands out. Whether you're starting from scratch or refining an existing resume, this session will guide you through best practices, formatting tips, and strategies to highlight your skills and experience effectively.

Downtown Newark cont.

Creating Wordless Books

Nov 13 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Enjoy picture books that tell stories with images only and create your own! We will have magazines, drawing, and painting materials for the creative process. Come with or without stories in mind.

Yarn Club

Nov 17, Dec 15 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Learn to knit or crochet and hang out with a group. All skill levels are welcome. You bring the needles or hook; we'll supply the yarn!

The Family Tree Readers

Nov 18 | 5:15PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Join us for a family read-along by illumination as we bring some of the outdoors in. Our nature-inspired story will be followed by an art session where we create a woodland ornament together.

Holiday Door Decorations

Nov 18 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Licking County Master Gardener, Dianne Hoffman, leads a workshop on creating a festive, fresh, and artificial evergreen door decoration for the holiday season.



Booked to Death

Nov 19, Dec 17 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Calling all armchair sleuths! Copies are available at the Downtown Newark location and may also be accessed digitally.

November: *Behind Closed Doors*

by B.A. Paris

December: *Death Comes to Pemberley*

by P.D. James



Password Pandemonium

Nov 20 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Passwords, passkeys, 2FA—what does it all mean? Our Techspert teaches you about keeping your passwords safe and available and how they are going to affect you and our digital future.



EXTRAterrestrial Sci-Fi and Fantasy Book Club

Nov 20, Dec 18 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Discuss the month's book with your fellow earthlings! Copies are available at the Downtown Newark location and may be accessed digitally.

November: *The Martian Chronicles*

by Ray Bradbury

December: *The Children of Men*

by P.D. James

Tunes and Tales

Nov 22 | 11AM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Your family's musical adventures begin here! Newark-Granville Symphony Orchestra musicians share their favorite stories, songs, and musical games in a series that introduces your young listeners to the instruments of the orchestra. These fun, interactive concerts are approximately 35-45 minutes in length and are appropriate for preschool through 6th grade.

November: *Dragons Love Tacos*, featuring OH50 Woodwind Quartet

Pastel Leaf Art

Nov 24 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Draw, shade, and trace leaves to create a piece of art using pastels.

Pre-K Art Play

Nov 25 | 10:30AM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS



Explore different mediums and create art in this messy, hands-on encounter where process over product is emphasized.

Puzzle and Board Game Swap

Nov 29 | 12PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Are you tired of your old jigsaw puzzles and board games and looking for something new? Bring your gently used puzzles and board games that are ready for a new home to a community exchange with fellow enthusiasts. This is a great way to refresh your low-tech activities for the winter and beyond! Please bring high-quality, well-maintained puzzles and games that are complete (no missing pieces), in their original box (must be in good condition), with a visible image of the completed puzzle or game instructions. Puzzles and games can be any difficulty level and for all ages.

DIY Snow Globes

Dec 1 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Get into the spirit of the season by making DIY snow globes with paper plates, cellophane, and glitter!



Cloud Storage

Dec 3 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Demystify cloud storage and learn how to safely store and access photos, documents, and more. Our Techsperts will guide you through practical applications and address your specific questions, ensuring a comfortable and confident experience.

Hooray for Friends!

Dec 4 | 10:30AM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Celebrate friendship with familiar characters from early reader books—Frog and Toad, George and Martha, and more! Also look for extra tips from Daniel Tiger on how to be a good friend.

Jane Austen and the Comedy of Complaint

Dec 6 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Dr. Linda Zionkowski explores the humorous role of complainers in Jane Austen's work. Austen's novels censure characters who are truly insensible to the pains and misfortunes of others, those disturbed by a minor illness, a poorly cooked meal, or a drafty window fall into



her group of whiners. This well-populated category of individuals is distinctive to Austen's fiction, but not unique among critiques of high life in her time. Teens and adults are welcome.

Winter Tales from Around the World

DEC 6 | 1:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

On dark, chilly winter days, songs and stories light up our hearts! Come sing and dance with songwriter/storyteller Joanie Calem and her special "Winter Tales from Around the World." All ages welcome.

Austen-Inspired Simple Embroidery

DEC 8 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Celebrate Jane Austen's 250th birthday by learning beginner embroidery stitches and try your hand at this popular Regency Era craft.

Language of Victorian Fans

DEC 8 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Step back in time to discover the fascinating history of Victorian fans and the secret language they once conveyed in polite society. Learn how these elegant accessories served as both fashion statements and subtle tools of communication, then create your own beautifully decorated fan to take home.

Author Visit: Robin Yocum

DEC 9 | 6:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Author Robin Yocum discusses his work including the 2025 release, *The Last Hitman*, a thriller set in Steubenville, Ohio. Books are available for purchase and signing at the time of the program. Robin is known for his fiction set in the Ohio River Valley.



Beanstack: Challenge Accepted!

DEC 10 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS 

Discover how to participate in the Library's Winter Reading Challenge (begins January 2) using Beanstack. Our Techspert will guide you through creating an account and join the challenge. You will learn how to log books, complete badges,

and write reviews to earn tickets to enter for prize drawings.

Holidays Around the World

DEC 10 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

December is a month full of celebrations! Expand your knowledge about a variety of holidays celebrated here and around the world and make something to take home.

Jane Austen Murder Mystery

DEC 11 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

A scandal of great proportions has rocked the Library! Join us as we uncover the mystery surrounding the dead body found in the Library. Bring your thinking caps as we delve into this Jane Austen-inspired murder mystery.

Get Started with the Licking County Foundation

DEC 15 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Are you interested in applying for 2026 Licking County Foundation Scholarships? Begin working on your scholarship application with guidance from the Foundation staff. The session includes a step-by-step review of the entire application process so you can prepare your materials with confidence and avoid common mistakes. Intended for high school seniors and adults who are planning to enroll in a post-secondary certificate or degree program for school year 2026-

27. Participants should bring their own laptop or tablet; applications should not be completed using a cell phone.

Regency Era Games

DEC 16 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Test your skills by playing various games from Jane Austen's time, the Regency era. Families are welcome to try their hands at a number of different games and activities including charades, Spillikins, and Whist.

Linoleum Block Printing

DEC 17 | 4:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Create linoleum block prints using one, two, or three colors of your choice!

The Wes Holly Show

DEC 18 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Families are welcome to this song and dance party! When Wes Holly picks up his guitar or banjo, your children will be clapping, dancing, singing and laughing. Both new and familiar songs will be sung.

Jane Austen Afternoon Tea Party

DEC 20 | 12—2PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

You are cordially invited to partake in tea, refreshments, crafts, and delightful conversation. Everyone is welcome to wear Regency-era attire; teens are also welcome.



Johnstown

(Mary E. Babcock)

Read with Andrew!

Nov 3, 17, Dec 1, 15 | 3:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Come meet your new favorite reading buddy, Andrew! He's a Pet Partners certified therapy dog and a very good boy who loves when kids read to him. Visit him in our children's area—he cannot wait to see you!

DIY Hemp Bracelets

Nov 4 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Learn how to make your own macrame bracelet with hemp cord and beads. We'll provide the supplies—just bring your creativity!

Teen Craft & Chat

Nov 11, 25, Dec 9, 23, 30 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Bring your current crafting project to work on and chat with other crafty people. We'll have craft supplies available if you want to start a new project or learn a new skill. All creative types are welcome, from sketchbooks and watercolor to knitting and crochet projects. We even have a sewing machine!



Babcock Book Club

Nov 13, Dec 11 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Copies are available at the Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock) location and may be accessed digitally.

November: *11/22/63* by Stephen King
December: *Eligible: A Modern Retelling of Pride and Prejudice*
by Curtis Sittenfeld



Any Book Book Club

Nov 17, Dec 15 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Join other book lovers to talk about your latest reads. Instead of an assigned book, read whatever you'd like and come ready to discuss it.

Writers' Cafe

Nov 18, Dec 16 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Calling all aspiring teen writers! Bring your story ideas or latest drafts; be ready to share your work, commiserate about writer's block, and learn new tricks of the trade—all while sipping tea or hot chocolate.

Scrabble Game Night!

Nov 20 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Join us for a fun-filled evening of Scrabble! We will have multiple sets at varying skill levels available so everyone can get in on this wordsmithing, board-building, good time. All ages are welcome to show off and hone their Scrabble expertise.

Letters to Santa Claus

Dec 1—13 | 10AM—3PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Visit us to write and send your letter to Santa Claus! We will have festive stationary and a merry mailbox especially for post bound for the North Pole. Receive mail back from Santa and revel in that jolly holiday spirit!

Babcock Holiday Bash

Dec 1 | 4—6PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Celebrate the season with a magical photo session featuring Santa and his reindeer. Enjoy a variety of holiday activities, from crafting beautiful decorations to playing holly jolly games. It's the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit and create lasting memories!

Jane Austen Parlor Party

Dec 2 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Spend an evening Austen-style: sipping tea or hot chocolate, snacking on Regency-era treats, and playing the kind of parlor games Jane would have enjoyed. If you're inspired, come dressed in your favorite ball gown or tailcoat.



Jane Austen Movie Matinee

Dec 13 | 12PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Celebrate Jane Austen's birthday month by enjoying hot wassail and popcorn while watching 2005's *Pride and Prejudice*.



Get Started with the Licking County Foundation

Dec 15 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Are you interested in applying for 2026 Licking County Foundation Scholarships? Begin working on your scholarship application with guidance from the Foundation staff. The session includes a step-by-step review of the entire application process so you can prepare your materials with confidence and avoid common mistakes. Intended for high school seniors and adults who are planning to enroll in a post-secondary certificate or degree program for school year 2026-27. Participants should bring their own laptop or tablet; applications should not be completed using a cell phone.

Lakewood

Children's Book Week Celebration

Nov 3—8 | 10AM—3PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Celebrate an entire week dedicated to children's books! Visit the Library during the week to discover new games, crafts, and activities all about your favorite children's book characters.



BalletMet Story Time

Nov 7 | 10:30AM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Combine books, movement, and dance in this interactive story time. A BalletMet instructor reads a dance-themed book and uses movement activities to spark imagination. At the end, see and touch ballet attire, including a tutu and pointe shoes!

Make Your Own Limited Edition

Nov 11 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Turn your favorite book into a work of art! Discover how to decorate the outside edges of a book with paint and patterns. We provide the supplies, just bring a book you love to create a one-of-a-kind limited edition. Adults are also welcome.

Pioneer Day

Nov 15 | 11AM—3PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Step back in time and explore life on the frontier! Ohio History Connection will share stories and insights about pioneer life in early Ohio for the first 30 minutes, then families can get up close with authentic artifacts from the time period and enjoy hands-on crafts and activities for all ages. Join us for an educational afternoon for the whole family—no covered wagon required!

Reader's Choice Book & Craft Club

Nov 22 | 11:30AM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Enjoy a laid-back morning of crafting and book discussion. Use our craft supplies or bring your own project to work on.

Enchanting Embroidery

Dec 2 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Learn how to create a simple and elegant floral design featuring a sprig of lavender. Practice a new technique and master a few essential stitches, then finish with a beautiful piece of needlework art!

KPop Demon Hunters Night

Dec 5 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Be golden with *KPop Demon Hunters* trivia, crafts, music and snacks. Dress as your favorite character, make bracelets, and sample fizzy Saja Boys soda. Designed for ages 9-12.

Get Started with the Licking County Foundation

Dec 10 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS 

Are you interested in applying for 2026 Licking County Foundation Scholarships? Begin working on your scholarship application with guidance from the Foundation staff. The session includes a step-by-step review of the entire application process so you can prepare your materials with confidence and avoid common mistakes. Intended for high

school seniors and adults who are planning to enroll in a post-secondary certificate or degree program for school year 2026-27. Participants should bring their own laptop or tablet; applications should not be completed using a cell phone.

Afternoon Tea & A Game of Whist

Dec 13 | 12:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Spend a genteel afternoon playing the classic 4-player card game Whist while enjoying a selection of teas and snacks in celebration of Jane Austen's 250th birthday.



Pretend and Play:

Polar Express

Dec 15 | 10:30AM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS

All aboard the Polar Express! Wear your favorite pajamas and pretend with us as we explore a festive train station. Pretend and play features stories and guided play using props and scene settings to build your child's vocabulary, cooperative skills and imagination.



Daily at 10:30am

Mondays	Utica
Tuesdays	Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock)
Tuesdays	Downtown Newark (ages 3–5)
Wednesdays	Downtown Newark (Tots and Twos, birth–2)
Wednesdays	Lakewood
Thursdays	West Newark (Emerson R. Miller)

Utica

Flip 7 Game Night

Nov 6 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Are you the type of player to play it safe and bank points before you bust, or are you going to risk it all and go for the bonus points by flipping over seven in a row? Press-your-luck meets strategy in this addictive card game, Flip 7, that's sure to be the greatest card game you've ever played!



Homeschoolfest

Nov 11-12 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Day One: This Veterans Day, our Local History Coordinator, Doug Stout, will share inspiring insights about our community veterans. Afterwards, we will walk to Utica's Wall of Honor and the American Legion flag display, weather permitting.

Day Two: Discover what recycling is, why it matters, and learn about landfills and the three R's of recycling from Licking County Recycling. Examine displays of recyclable materials and participate in a simple reuse-recycle craft.

Wicked Celebration

Nov 20 | 3PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Defy gravity while celebrating the release of *Wicked: For Good* with this pink-and-green-themed event filled with trivia, fan art, and all things *Wicked*. Costumes are encouraged.



Village of Utica Christmas Walk

Dec 3 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

Celebrate the season at our Utica location during the annual Village Christmas Walk. Stop by to decorate a cookie and visit with a special guest. Don't forget your cameras!



Pretend and Play: Gingerbread House

Dec 10 | 10:30AM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Use your imagination to decorate a gingerbread playhouse and make pretend gingerbread cookies. Pretend and play features stories and guided play using props and scene settings to build your child's vocabulary, cooperative skills, and early literacy skills.

Get Started with the Licking County Foundation

Dec 12 | 3:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

Are you interested in applying for 2026 Licking County Foundation Scholarships? Begin working on your scholarship application with guidance from the Foundation staff. The session includes a step-by-step review of the entire application process so you can prepare your materials with confidence and avoid common mistakes. Intended for high school seniors and adults who are planning to enroll in a post-secondary certificate or degree program for school year 2026-27. Participants should bring their own laptop or tablet; applications should not be completed using a cell phone.

Jane Austen's Birthday Game Night

Dec 16 | 6PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Debut your Regency game skills in a fun night of celebrating the 250th birthday of Jane Austen. Enjoy a variety of games including cards, charades, riddles, and more. Regency attire is welcome!



West Newark (Emerson R. Miller)



Family Recipes: Save and Share

Nov 5 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Bring your treasured family recipes and a smartphone to this hands-on class. Our Techspert will guide you through the process of taking high-quality photos and editing them for clarity. Then, learn how to organize your photos into a digital album, creating a lasting, shareable record of your family's culinary history. You'll leave ready to share your digital recipe album with family or have it printed to create a modern heirloom.

Stay Smart. Stay Safe. Stay Connected.

Nov 5 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Learn practical tips to protect kids in the digital world from deputies in the Licking County Sheriff's Department.

Shirley Brooks-Jones and "The Plane People"

Nov 6 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

On September 11, 2001, the jet carrying Shirley Brooks-Jones made an emergency landing at Gander International Airport in Newfoundland, Canada. Thirty-seven other planes also landed there as the world learned the first details of the horrifying events taking place that day. Shirley and the 6,594 others aboard those jets became "the plane people" to the warm and welcoming local residents, who opened their arms and their homes. This story has inspired the award-winning Broadway musical *Come from Away*, which will come to Columbus early next year. Brooks-Jones will share her own story, along with heartwarming tales from many others who also experienced the generosity of the Newfoundland people.

D&D Day

Nov 8 | 11AM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

D&D is having a moment. Join our experienced Dungeon Masters in a one-shot campaign and a celebration of the adventure game that keeps getting better.

Poke It!

Nov 11 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Learn the basics of needle felting in this beginner-friendly workshop. We'll create an adorable ornament with materials provided. Registration is required—spots are limited.



Tote-ally Awesome Graphic Novel Club

Nov 12, Dec 10 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ELEMENTARY

In the world of graphic novels, there is something for everyone! Add flair to your tote bag while we discuss a graphic novel. This group is designed for kids in grade 3 and up. Copies are available at the West Newark (Emerson R. Miller) location and may also be accessed digitally. November: *Spy School* by Stuart Gibbs
December: *The First Cat in Space Ate Pizza* by Mac Barnett

Wicked or Not?

Nov 13 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

No one mourns the wicked, but is Elphaba really evil? Let's investigate the proof together and celebrate the upcoming film with crafts and activities.

Skein Squad Crochet Group

Nov 18, Dec 16 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Grab your hook and join the squad! Skein Squad meets monthly to crochet, connect, and give back to the community. Bring your own yarn and hook, though some supplies will be available. Keep your creations or share the love as gifts! Teens are welcome, too.



BritLit Book Group

Nov 19, Dec 17 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Calling all literary enthusiasts and Anglophiles! Join us for witty discussions and a jolly good time. Copies are available at the West Newark (Emerson R. Miller) location and may be accessed digitally. November: *Murder At Gull's Nest*

by Jess Kidd

December: *Jane and the Twelve Days of Christmas* by Stephanie Barron 





Snoreytime: Clever and Cozy

Nov 20 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS

This story time is inspired by our furry forest friend and one of nature's cleverest creatures, the fox! Through stories, songs, and activities, children will learn about where foxes live, what they eat, and what makes them so unique.



LGBTQIA+ Book Group

Nov 20, Dec 18 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Everyone is welcome to engage in fun, respectful dialogue. Copies are available at the West Newark (Emerson R. Miller) location and may be accessed digitally.

November: *Woodworking*

by Emily St. James

December: *The Nightmare Before Kissmas*

by Sara Raasch

Historical Drama Group

Nov 24 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Delve into the untold stories behind history through film and gain a new perspective on the people and events that have shaped our world. Copies are available at the West Newark (Emerson R. Miller) location.

November: *Dolly Parton's Christmas of Many Colors: Circle of Love*

Family Photo Op

Dec 1—13 | OPEN HOURS

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Celebrate the winter season with a special family photo! Visit us with your loved ones and capture a festive memory in front of our cheerful holiday backdrop. Bring your camera or phone, and we will have props and pose ideas ready for you. Perfect for family photos, holiday cards, or a keepsake to treasure. Available December 1-13.

Sense and Stolen Sensibility: A Cozy Mystery Night

Dec 2 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

News Flash: It's 1950 and a theft was just committed at the brand-new library building in Newark, Ohio. Can you help solve the crime? Pay attention to enacted clues and you might save the day for some very worried librarians.

Reverse Coloring: Holiday Card Edition

Dec 4 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Explore the creative art of reverse coloring and design the perfect holiday card for friends or family!

Jane Austen Tea & Etiquette Party

Dec 10 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Curious about tea culture or seeking a relaxing escape? Our Jane Austen Tea & Etiquette Party invites you to sip delicious tea, sample light refreshments, and learn about the graceful traditions from the Regency era of tea etiquette. Whether you're a tea enthusiast or simply curious, this is sure to be both fun and informative.

Lover's Eye Jewelry

Dec 11 | 5:30PM

DESIGNED FOR TEENS

In Jane Austen's era, lover's eye jewelry was used to secretly show affection for an anonymous someone. Make your own lover's eye jewelry to celebrate a beau, parent, or even a pet.



Snoreytime: Stop & Go

Dec 18 | 4PM

DESIGNED FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Get ready to move, groove, and listen during this energetic story time. We'll combine storytelling with games, music, and fun pauses to build listening skills, coordination, and early literacy.

Taffy Pull!

Dec 20 | 1PM

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

This sweet and stretchy hands-on experience will have you rolling up your sleeves as we explore the art of making homemade candy. Participants will learn about the science behind sugar, the tradition of taffy pulls, and then get to stretch, twist, and pull their very own batch of warm taffy. Perfect for families and children ages 6+ with an adult; younger kids can observe or assist with supervision.



Let NoveList Plus be your personal book matchmaker! Whether you're craving a cozy mystery, an epic fantasy, or something just like your last favorite read, NoveList Plus helps you discover your next page-turner. Explore by genre, mood, or even your favorite author—your next great read is just a click away.

Off Site



Assistive Technology

Nov 13 | 1PM | LCAP

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Join our Techspert for an engaging introduction to assistive technology, where you'll explore tools and devices designed to support independence and accessibility. From simple everyday aids to innovative solutions for seniors, this class will show you how technology can make daily life safer, easier, and more connected. Please register by calling 740.345.0821.



Maples & Manuscripts

Nov 13, Dec 4 | 7PM

OCTAGON EARTHWORKS

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Join us to discuss some of the best nature-themed nonfiction. We will also explore additional resources through activities to deepen our understanding of the natural world. Copies of the book are available at the Downtown Newark location and may be accessed digitally. Maples & Manuscripts is a partnership between Licking County Library, the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, and Dillon State Park. November: *Our Moon* by Rebecca Boyle
December: *What an Owl Knows* by Jennifer Ackerman



Intro to Chromebooks

Nov 19 | 1PM | OHIO MEANS JOBS

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Our Techspert teaches you the ins and outs of Chromebooks. Get your questions answered about how a Chromebook differs from a Windows PC or laptop and decide if a Chromebook is right for your personal needs. Please register by calling 740.670.8700.



Online Shopping Safety

Dec 11 | 1PM | LCAP

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

Join our Techspert for an engaging session on online shopping safety, where you'll learn how to spot scams, protect your personal information, and shop with confidence. Whether you're browsing for everyday essentials or special gifts, this class will equip you with the tools to enjoy safe and secure online shopping. Please register by calling 740.345.0821.



Windows 11 Basics

Dec 17 | 1PM | OHIO MEANS JOBS

DESIGNED FOR ADULTS

In this hands-on class, our Techspert guides you through the basics of Windows 11. They demonstrate how to navigate your desktop, locate settings and tips to make your computing easier. Please register by calling 740.670.8700.

Book Sale

Saturday, December 6

Member Preview: 9am - 12pm

Public Sale: 12 - 3pm

Support YOUR library while adding to your personal collection! The sale is in the former State Farm building at 1440 Granville Road, Newark. Books are sold for \$5 per bag and distributed at the door.



Smithsonian

The Legacy of Julia Child's Kitchen
with Author and Smithsonian
Curator Paula J. Johnson
December 9 | 2pm

The Search for Truth and the Persistence
of Love Across Time with Award-Winning
Novelist Amanda Peters
November 13 | 7pm



Community, Power, and the Search
for Indigenous Identity with Award-
Winning Journalist Joseph Lee
November 5 | 2pm

View details, more
talks, and register
online!



EMPOWERED MINDS



Life-long learning classes designed for renewal and growth! Registration for Empowered Minds classes is easy to do online at lickingcountylibrary.org. We also welcome in-person, mailed or phone registrations by calling 740.349.5520. Empowered Minds is supported by a sustaining gift from Robert Trimble Jr., a lifelong learner, and in part by the Licking County Senior Levy.

Downtown Newark

Understanding Evolution • November 5 • 10:30am - 12:30pm

Dale Gnidovec discusses Earth's ever-evolving story, reviewing how evolution works and how we know.

A Taste of Chocolate • November 6 • 1 - 2:30pm

Dr. Mary Kay Pohlschneider discusses the science and history behind everyone's favorite sweet treat—chocolate—from the cacao bean to the candy bar.

The Babylonian Exile • November 12 • 1 - 2:30pm

Dr. Chris Farrar, lifelong learning instructor, examines the geopolitical realities that led up to the conquest of Judah and the disastrous foreign policy decisions on the part of Judah that made it inevitable. He also compares the historical and archaeological evidence with that from the Bible itself and look at individuals in the biblical account whose existence and roles can be confirmed through archaeology.

Page Turners Book Club • November 18, December 16 • 3 - 4pm

Gather with friends and fellow readers to explore the spectrum of literature and share perspectives. Copies are available at the Downtown Newark location and may also be accessed digitally.

November: *What My Bones Know* by Stephanie Foo

December: *Anima Rising* by Christopher Moore

Understanding Geologic Time • November 19 • 10:30am - 12:30pm

Dale Gnidovec, curator of the Orton Geological Museum at Ohio State University, decodes the topic of geologic time.

Cheesemaking in Medieval Europe • November 20 • 11am - 12:30pm

Dr. Leslie Lockett offers a blended discussion on the history, literature, and science of cheese in medieval Europe.

Foraging for Health • December 1 • 1pm - 2:30pm

Diana Hand, naturopathic doctor and forager, offers an overview of foraging for wild medicinal plants. Diana is a certified family herbalist with years of experience who has taught classes for Licking Park District and others.

Prelude to Independence • December 4 • 10:30am - 12:30pm

Learn Dr. Barbara Terzian discusses the origins and beginnings of the American Revolution, from “taxation without representation” to “the shot heard ‘round the world.”



Earth on the Move: Understanding Plate Tectonics • December 10 • 10:30am - 12:30pm

Dale Gnidovec, curator of the Orton Geological Museum at Ohio State University, explores the plate tectonics of our dynamic planet.

Medieval Ethics • December 11 • 1 - 2:30pm

Dr. Chloe Armstrong explores the philosophy and ethics of the medieval world.

Automobile History, 1900-1920 • December 17 • 11am - 12:30pm • Downtown Newark

Rick Lindner reviews the early history of the automotive industry, highlighting some of the notable makes and models.

Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock)

Birding Basics • November 10 • 1 - 2:30pm

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, James Estep, discusses the basics of birding in Ohio.

Virtual

Raphael, Prince of Painters • December 9 • 1 - 2:30pm

Art historian and artist Sean Crum discusses the art and life of Raphael. Raphael, along with Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, form the holy trinity of High Renaissance artists.

Unlock Your Memory Writing Workshop • November 11 • 7 - 8:30pm

Writing instructor Gabrielle Esposito offers a writing session built around personal memories. Through a series of engaging exercises and prompts, attendees will delve into their memories, uncovering the stories that shape their lives. This memoir writing workshop provides practical techniques for capturing vivid details, crafting compelling narratives, and preserving personal legacies.

LCL LOCATIONS

Visit our website for location hours: lickingcountylibrary.org

* Includes a drive-up window for your convenience

Downtown Newark*

101 West Main Street, Newark | 740.349.5500

Johnstown (Mary E. Babcock)

320 North Main Street, Johnstown | 740.967.2982

Lakewood

620 East Main Street, Hebron | 740.928.0472

West Newark (Emerson R. Miller)*

990 West Main Street, Newark | 740.344.2155

Utica*

115 South Main Street, Utica | 740.892.2400

Mobile Library

Schedule listed online | 740.349.5519

24-Hour Kiosk • COTC Pataskala Campus

8660 West Broad Street, Reynoldsburg

24-Hour Kiosk • Legacy Park Hanover

2018 West High Street, Newark

This publication is available in alternate formats on request. Please contact info@lickingcountylibrary.org.

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

All programs at Licking County Library are free! Programs are designed with the indicated age group in mind. There are three ways to register:

Program Calendar: lickingcountylibrary.org

In-person/Phone: 740.349.5500

Email: info@lickingcountylibrary.org

KEY TO SYMBOLS:



Registration Required



Dress For A Mess



Developing students' interests while learning outside of the classroom.



Copies of Book Club selections are available at the specific location or may be accessed digitally.



Local History programs cover historic events, places and people including military information.



Made possible, in part, by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the State Library of Ohio.



Enjoy stories, rhymes and songs that help develop early literacy skills!

Closing:

Wednesday, November 26 | Close at 5pm for Thanksgiving Eve

Thursday, November 27 | Closed for Thanksgiving

Wednesday, December 24 | Closed for Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 25 | Closed for Christmas

Wednesday, December 31 | Close at 5pm for New Year's Eve

Licking County Library



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