

UNFOLD

Fall 2026



V.E. SCHWAB

Main | 574.282.4646
304 S. Main St., South Bend 46601
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 8 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun: 1 PM - 5 PM
Sunday hours begin after Labor Day

Centre Township | 574.251.3700
1150 E. Kern Rd., South Bend 46614
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Francis | 574.282.4641
52655 N. Ironwood Rd., South Bend 46635
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

German Township | 574.271.5144
52807 Lynnewood Ave., South Bend 46628
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Lakeville | 574.784.3446
120 N. Michigan St., Lakeville 46536
Mon-Thurs: 10 AM - 7 PM
Fri: 1 PM - 5 PM
Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM

LaSalle | 574.282.4633
3232 W. Ardmore Tr., South Bend 46628
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

North Liberty | 574.656.3664
105 E. Market St., North Liberty 46554
Mon-Thurs: 10 AM - 7 PM
Fri: 1 PM - 5 PM
Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM

River Park | 574.282.4635
2022 Mishawaka Ave., South Bend 46615
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Tutt | 574.282.4637
2223 Miami St., South Bend 46613
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Western | 574.282.4639
611 Lombardy Dr., South Bend 46619
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

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UPCOMING CLOSINGS

All locations will be closed on these dates:

- Sept. 7, Labor Day
- Sept. 24, Staff Day
- Nov. 11, Veterans Day
- Nov. 25, All locations close at 5 PM
- Nov. 26, Thanksgiving

All programs subject to change. Visit sjcpl.org for the most current information.

Design by Makenna King & Adrian Pacheco

Letter from the Executive Director

I’m having a surprisingly emotional back to school this year. My youngest will be a senior in high school this year. There’s quite an age gap between my oldest and youngest - 13 years. I’ve been doing this back to school thing for quite a long time. I’m truly ready for the next phase of life-one without school runs, homework, fundraisers, after-school activities, and ev-erything that goes with having a kid in pre-K-12th grade. So I was surprised at my emotion at the first back to school advertisements. It turns out I might actually miss parts of it.

Whether you’re a parent with kids just starting school or a nearly empty nester like me, the library has so many unexpected ways to help you out. It’s easy to forget we have these resources. I’m convinced this is the year I’m going to remember them for myself. When the math homework gets too hard for me to help (and everything beyond basic algebra is too hard!), we have access to live tutors through Brainfuse! The database page of our website has lots of ways to research just about any topic and easy access to newspapers for those current events projects.

For those of you with struggling or reluctant readers, stop by any of our locations and ask for help. I promise that librarians love nothing more than finding a book for a kid who “hates to read.” We take it as a personal chal-lenge to find one that will make them ask to read another. And I gotta tell you- we’re pretty darned good at it.

As we’ve been discussing what’s next for my kiddo, they decided on col-lege - not because they have a solid career path figured out - but because they “just love learning things.” It seems impractical, but it made me so proud. As a librarian, that lifelong learning is what we try to provide for all ages. I think a kid who loves to learn, becomes an adult who loves to learn and learning is a key skill for any career. She’ll be alright and so will I.



P.S. Everyone should go to see cookbook authors Jyoti and Auyon Mukharji on September 22. This mother-and-son team is charming and delightful, and you’ll want to go home and recreate their food!

Happy Fall,

Stephanie

Stephanie Murphy
Executive Director

Explore-a-Story

Featuring the book **Grace and Box** by **Kim Howard**



Immerse yourself in a story and take part in activities for 0-5 and their caregivers. Plus enjoy a special performance from **Jim Gill!**

Saturday, Nov. 14 | 10 AM - 1 PM
Main Library | CLC

Storytime, Babytime, and more!

Programs that spark joy & learning, crafted by our children's librarians



Storytime (AGES 3-5)

Main Library
 Thursdays | 10:30 AM
 Sept. 3 & Nov. 5 | 5:30 PM

Centre
 Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

Francis
 Tuesdays | 10:30 AM

German
 Mondays | 10:30 AM

Lakeville
 Sept. 10, Nov. 5 & 19 | 10:30 AM

North Liberty
 Sept. 3 & 17, Nov. 12 | 10:30 AM

LaSalle
 Mondays | 10:30 AM

River Park
 Thursdays | 10:30 AM

Tutt
 Tuesdays | 10:30 AM

Western
 Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

Babytime (AGES 0-2)

Main Library
 Wednesdays & Fridays | 10:30 AM

Francis
 Thursdays | 10:30 AM

Centre
 Tuesdays | 10:30 AM

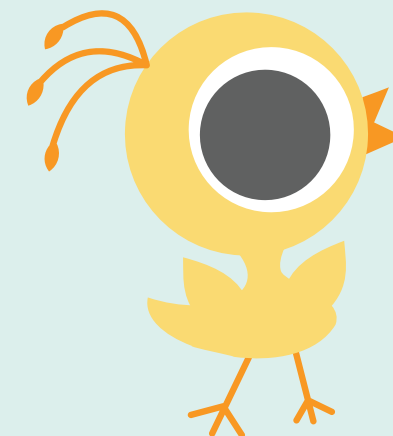
Crawl Climb and Play (AGES 0-2)

Main Library
 Sept. 21 | 10:30 AM

Centre
 Nov. 2 | 10:30 AM

Playtime (AGES 0-5)

Main Library
 Tuesdays | 10:30 AM



There will be **no** Early Literacy programming during **October**.

Children

Eerie Imaginings - Spooky Short Story Writing Contest

Sep 1 - Oct 1
Grades 3-12: write a spooky short story for our annual contest! Pick up a form at your library or check our website. Contest runs Sept 1 to Oct 1. *Only winners will be contacted prior to ceremony.

Talk With Your Baby - Presented by the Robinson Community Learning Center-Western Branch

Tuesdays | 10:30 AM
Come learn the importance of talking, singing, and playing with baby during a FREE 8 week parenting class. Babies are encouraged to attend with parent/care-giver.

Talk With Your Baby - Presented by the Robinson Community Learning Center-German Township Branch

Tuesdays | 10:30 AM
Come learn the importance of talking, singing, and playing with baby during a FREE 8 week parenting class. Babies are encouraged to attend with parent/care-giver.

Beginner Soccer Shots* Main Library CLC - Richard Pfeil Family Courtyard

Sep 12 | 11:00 AM
Enjoy fun, high-energy soccer program with a focus on basic skill and character development in a non-competitive environment. Weather permitting. Ages 5 - 8 are welcome. Registration required.

Family Game Night Main Library - Story House

Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9 | 4:30 PM
Join us for a board game bonanza! Stop by to learn new games, challenge friends or family, and play classic favorites. Light snacks will be provided. Ages 6 to 11.

Zoo-to-You - Potawatomi Zoo North Liberty Branch

Sep 17 | 4:00 PM
Enjoy an up close encounter with live zoo animals. Learn about several amazing animals with the zoo staff. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome. Doors close when room capacity is reached.

Lego Night Tuttt Branch

Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 19 | 4:00 PM
Join us each month for a new building challenge. Test your building and creativity skills. Recommended ages 6 to 11.

Pokemon Lunch Bunch Centre Township Branch

Sep 19, Oct 17, Nov 14 | 11:00 AM
Bring your lunch and enjoy all things Pokemon! Trade cards, play decks, join in party play or remote raids, or just meet friends and share your love of Pokemon. Tailored toward ages 6-11.

Lego Builder Challenge Main Library - Story House

Sep 21, Oct 19, Nov 16 | 4:30 PM
Can you master the LEGO Builder Challenge? Test your building and creativity skills in four timed challenges with a theme, then share about your creations. Ages 6-11.

Cupcake Wars Western Branch

Sep 23 | 3:30 PM
Draw your dream cupcake based on a specific theme, browse our decorations, and create your own cupcake design. Each person will present their creation for a friendly competition. Then, enjoy!

South Bend Symphony Orchestra presents "Tales + Tunes" Main Library - Story House

Sep 26 | 12:00 PM
Join the South Bend Symphony for Tales + Tunes, a series blending stories, music, and creativity into a memorable experience! Enjoy a storybook reading, musical activity, and craft. Ages 8 and under.

You-Decide: Adventure Book Club Main Library - Story House

Sep 28, Oct 26, Nov 23 | 4:30 PM
Enjoy a gamebook read-aloud and help decide which path the main character will take through the story! Come to one or come to them all. No prior reading necessary. Recommended for ages 6-11.

Zoo-to-You - Potawatomi Zoo German Township Branch

Oct 1 | 4:00 PM
Enjoy an up close encounter with live zoo animals. Learn about several amazing animals with the zoo staff. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome. Doors close when room capacity is reached.

Spooky Sensory Spectacular Main Library - Story House

Oct 3 | 10:30 AM
All ghouls welcome in this Halloween inspired fun sensory exploration. Join us as we sing songs, explore different halloween sensory centers, and read a story or two. Recommended for ages 3-5!

Zines & Scrapbooking - Kids Craft Main Library - Story House

Oct 5 | 4:30 PM
Join us each month for a fun new craft! Learn the basics, get inspired by a demonstration, and enjoy plenty of time to make your own creation. Ages 6-11.

Sew a Festive Pumpkin - America's 250th Anniversary LaSalle Branch

Oct 7 | 3:30 PM
We will teach basic embroidery and sewing techniques to make a pumpkin stuffie! Learn about American Thanksgiving traditions with a bit of trivia while you sew!

Busy Fall Wildlife w/ St. Joseph County Parks Centre Township Branch

Oct 10 | 11:00 AM
Join a naturalist from St. Joseph County Parks to discover how animals get ready for winter. Make discoveries and experience how animals keep warm with the blubber glove experiment! Ages 6-11.

Medieval Animals w/ the Notre Dame Medieval Institute Francis Branch

Oct 17 | 11:00 AM
Discover some of the wild stories told about animals in the Middle Ages. Solve tricky riddles, judge hilariously bad pictures from medieval times, and put your own animal drawing skills to the test!

enCOURAGEment: A Creative Writing & Art Workshop for Kids* with The Little Shot author Tasha Eizinger

Main Library - Story House
Oct 17 | 11:00 AM
Kids ages 6 - 12 are invited to a hands-on workshop that blends art, writing, and COURAGE with The Little Shot author Tasha Eizinger. Registration required.

Cupcake Wars Lakeville Branch

Oct 21 | 4:00 PM
Draw your dream cupcake based on a specific theme, browse our decorations, and create your own cupcake design. Each person will present their creation for a friendly competition. Then, enjoy!

Falling for the Theatre w/ Pete the Cat - Presented by the South Bend Civic Theatre

Main Library - Story House
Oct 24 | 12:30 PM
A high-energy dramatics class exploring Pete the Cat's best books of the season! Explore the world of Pete, Grumpy Toad, Callie, and Gus through imaginative play, puppetry, and story dramatization!

Cupcake Wars Tuttt Branch

Oct 27 | 3:30 PM
Draw your dream cupcake based on a specific theme, browse our decorations, and create your own cupcake design. Each person will present their creation for a friendly competition. Then, enjoy!

Eerie Imaginings Ceremony Spooky Short Story Writing Contest Main Library - Story House

Oct 29 | 6:00 PM
Join us in the Storyhouse to celebrate the Eerie Imaginings contest winners! Finalists will share their stories and receive prizes. *Due to the high volume of entries only winners will be contacted.

Cardboard Castles - Kids Craft Main Library - Story House

Nov 2 | 4:30 PM
Join us each month for a fun new craft! Learn the basics, get inspired by a demonstration, and enjoy plenty of time to make your own creation. Ages 6-11.

Zoo-to-You - Potawatomi Zoo Centre Township Branch

Nov 5 | 4:00 PM
Enjoy an up close encounter with live zoo animals. Learn about several amazing animals with the zoo staff. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome. Doors close when room capacity is reached.

Slimeapalooza! Main Library - Story House

Nov 7 | 1:00 PM
Experiment with different slime recipes, customize with fun mix-ins, and enter the prettiest, grossest, and best-sounding slime challenges. Ages 6 to 11.

Nutcracker in the Storyhouse* With Southold Dance

Main Library - Story House
Nov 10 | 4:30 PM
Join Southold Dance Theater for a mini movement class and watch dancers perform excerpts from this year's production of The Nutcracker Ballet. Registration required.

Korea Story Hour with the Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies

Main Library - Story House
Nov 12 | 4:00 PM
Join us for an introduction to Korean culture featuring the beloved folktale The Sun and the Moon Siblings. Enjoy a reading of the book, crafts, drawing activities and Korean rice cakes. Ages 5-11.

Sew a Festive Pumpkin America's 250th Anniversary

River Park Branch
Nov 17 | 4:00 PM
We will teach basic embroidery and sewing techniques to make a pumpkin stuffie! Learn about American Thanksgiving traditions with a bit of trivia while you sew! Ages 6-11

Movie Night: WALL-E Main Library - Story House

Nov 30 | 4:30 PM
Get comfy in the Storyhouse and enjoy a movie! Light snacks provided. WALL-E is rated G.

Giraffes Can't Dance

Presented by Fischhoff's S.A.M. I Am, Stories & Music Program

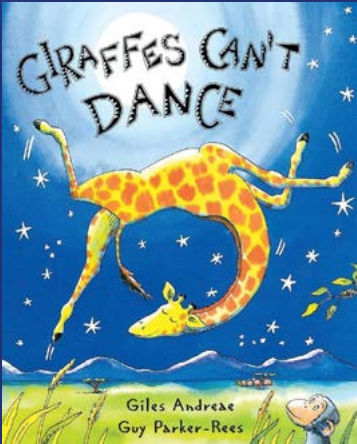
Nov. 21 | 11 AM - 1 PM

Main Library
Community Learning Center
Leighton Auditorium



FISCHOFF

Hear the dancing rhymes from the hilarious "Giraffes Can't Dance" story. Dust off your boogie shoes as we tango, cha-cha, waltz, reel and rock out to this family favorite book!



Sound Waves: Get Loud!

Learn how sound waves work so you can get loud! Learn about amplitude, frequency, pitch, vibrations and more with sound-based experiments. Just a one hour program!

Ages 8-12

Tinker.
Build.
Create.

Western - Tuesday 3:30 pm
September 1

Riverpark - Wednesday 4 pm
September 2

Centre - Wednesday 4 pm
September 16

Lakeville - Tuesday 4:30 pm
September 29

North Liberty - Friday 3:30 pm
October 2

Tutt - Thursday 4 pm
October 8

LaSalle - Wednesday 4 pm
November 4

Francis - Tuesday 4 pm
November 10

German - Wednesday 3:30 pm
November 18

Teen

T3 Teen Think Tank

River Park Branch

Sep 1, Oct 6, Nov 3 | 3:30 PM

Drop into any of our Teen Think Tank sessions between September 2026 and April 2027. Join for fun games and snacks, and to brainstorm potential future activities at the library!

Tournament Tuesday - Mario Kart

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 1 | 4:30 PM

Put your gaming skills to the test on the 1st Tuesday of every month as you battle others to earn a prize!

Dungeons & Dragons

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 5, Sep 19, Oct 3, Oct 17, Oct 31, Nov 14, Nov 28 | 1:00 PM

Come to the Teen Room to learn about a new playable race or class in D&D, create your own character, and use that character to play a mini-game!

T3 Teen Think Tank

Western Branch

Sep 8, Oct 13, Nov 10 | 3:30 PM

Drop into any of our Teen Think Tank sessions between September 2026 and April 2027 for fun games and snacks, and to brainstorm potential future activities at the library!

Bingo

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 8, Oct 13, Nov 10 | 4:30 PM

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for a chance to earn fun small prizes and socialize with others! Enjoy popcorn while supplies last.

Candy Sushi

Lakeville Branch

Sep 8 | 4:30 PM

Learn how to make homemade rice crispies and then shape them into sushi-esque shapes and decorate with your favorite candies.

Music Bingo Pizza Party

LaSalle Branch

Sep 9 | 3:30 PM

One part bingo one part trivia: see if you can identify some of the latest songs on your bingo card as we play a small snippet of the tune. Enjoy a slice of pizza and spend time with friends.

Candy Sushi

German Township Branch

Sep 10 | 4:00 PM

Learn how to make homemade rice crispies and then shape them into sushi-esque shapes and decorate with your favorite candies.

Leatherworking w/ Undercover Popular

Francis Branch

Sep 15 | 4:00 PM

Create your own bookmark or bracelet out of leather. Customize with fun images, emojis and letters, dye the leather a color of your choosing, and buff for a smooth finish. Ages 12-18 recommended.

Yarn Wrapped Cardboard Letters - Cozy Crafting

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 15 | 4:30 PM

Drop in on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to chill, unwind, craft with others, and build new friendships!

T3 Teen Think Tank

Tutt Branch

Sep 15, Oct 20, Nov 17 | 3:30 PM

Drop into any of our Teen Think Tank sessions between September 2026 and April 2027. Join for fun games and snacks, and to brainstorm potential future activities at the library!

T3 Teen Think Tank

LaSalle Branch

Sep 22, Oct 27, Nov 24 | 3:30 PM

Drop into any of our Teen Think Tank sessions between September 2026 and April 2027. Join for fun games and snacks, and to brainstorm potential future activities at the library!

Trivia Hour

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 22, Oct 27, Nov 24 | 4:30 PM

Join us on the 4th Tuesday of every month to show off your knowledge on pop culture and beyond. Winner gets a prize!!

Music Bingo Pizza Party

Tutt Branch

Sep 22 | 4:00 PM

One part bingo one part trivia: see if you can identify some of the latest songs on your bingo card as we play a small snippet of the tune. Enjoy a slice of pizza and spend time with friends.

Tabletop Tactics

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 29 | 4:30 PM

Put your tabletop gaming skills to the test as you battle other teens to stake your mastery over a series of board games!

Musical MadLibs

Main Library - Teen Room

Sep 30 | 4:00 PM

Create lyrical laughter while learning about music and recording technology.

Candy Sushi

Centre Township Branch

Oct 6 | 4:00 PM

Learn how to make homemade rice crispies and then shape them into sushi-esque shapes and decorate with your favorite candies.

Tournament Tuesday - Foosball

Main Library - Teen Room

Oct 6 | 4:30 PM

Put your gaming skills to the test on the 1st Tuesday of every month as you battle others to earn a prize!

Leatherworking w/ Undercover Popular

River Park Branch

Oct 13 | 4:00 PM

Create your own bookmark or bracelet out of leather. Customize with fun images, emojis and letters, dye the leather a color of your choosing, and buff for a smooth finish. Ages 12-18 recommended.

Fright Night Special Effects Makeup

Main Library - Teen Room

Oct 14 | 4:30 PM

Ever think about how movies make such real looking gore? In this program we'll learn how to use liquid latex to make a fake wound. Ages 12-18.

Music Bingo Pizza Party

Western Branch

Oct 14 | 3:30 PM

One part bingo one part trivia: see if you can identify some of the latest songs on your bingo card as we play a small snippet of the tune. Enjoy a slice of pizza and spend time with friends.

Painted Book Edges - Cozy Crafting

Main Library - Teen Room

Oct 20 | 4:30 PM

Drop in on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to chill, unwind, craft with others, and build new friendships!

Fright Night at the Library

Main Library - Teen Room

Oct 22 | 5:00 PM

Join us for a FRIGHTfully fun party in The Cube! Don your scariest ensemble to enjoy pizza, crafts, trivia, a photobooth, and more!

Tournament Tuesday - Dragonball Fighterz

Main Library - Teen Room

Nov 3 | 4:30 PM

Put your gaming skills to the test on the 1st Tuesday of every month as you battle others to earn a prize!

Slimy Slime - Cozy Crafting

Main Library - Teen Room

Nov 17 | 4:30 PM

Drop in on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to chill, unwind, craft with others, and build new friendships!

Leatherworking w/ Undercover Popular

North Liberty Branch

Nov 19 | 4:30 PM

Create your own bookmark or bracelet out of leather. Customize with fun images, emojis and letters, dye the leather a color of your choosing, and buff for a smooth finish. Ages 12-18 recommended.

**TEEN
THINK
TANK**

MAKE YOUR MARK

**THINK WE CAN
DO BETTER?**

**HELP MAKE US A
BETTER PLACE FOR
TEENS, WHILE
COLLABORATING ON
FUTURE ACTIVITIES
AND PROGRAMS**



**BRAINSTORM
IDEAS FOR
PROGRAMS &
EXPERIENCES
AT YOUR LOCAL
LIBRARY**



**Fright
Night**

Fright Night Special Effects Makeup

Wednesday, Oct. 14 | 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Learn how to use liquid latex to make a fake wound.

Cozy Crafting

Tuesday, Oct. 20 | 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Fright Night at the Library

Thursday, Oct. 22 | 5 - 7 PM

Events held at Main's Teen Room.

Ages 12-18



Adult

Writer's Critique Meet*

Main Library - CLC - Classroom B
Sep 1, Oct 6, Nov 3 | 6:30 PM
Are you a writer looking for critique partners? Join our monthly Writers' Critique Meet to read a sample of your writing and get immediate feedback from your peers. October 6th will be in Classroom D.

It's Midwest Chili Season!

Lakeville Branch
Sep 1 | 5:30 PM
Ope, let me just squeeze right past ya to get to the pressure cooker! It's officially Midwestern chili season, but we're doing things a little differently...

Build A Board Game! Remix Edition* Studio 304

Sep 2, Sep 16, Oct 7, Oct 21, Nov 4, Nov 18 | 6:00 PM
Combine your talents with other creatives in Studio 304 to design and fabricate a board game to showcase at Popicon 2027.

Yoga for EveryBODY

Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Every Wednesday | 5:30 PM
Community yoga classes offered with the aim of making yoga accessible to all.

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling

Crafting Connections
Centre Township Branch
Sep 3 | 10:30 AM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Line Dancing With Lorenzo

Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Sep 8 | 6:00 PM
Kick up your heels with line dance instructor Lorenzo Davis.

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling

Crafting Connections
Western Branch
Sep 8 | 5:30 PM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Medicare 101 - Presented by Amanda

Selesky, CLU
German Township Branch
Sep 9 | 10:30 AM
Confused by Medicare? Join us for a free educational seminar covering Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, enrollment deadlines, Medicare Advantage and Supplement plans, and common mistakes to avoid.

English Conversation Group

Main Library - CLC - Classroom E
Sep 9, Sep 23, Oct 7, Oct 21, Nov 4, Nov 18 | 5:30 PM
English Conversation Group allows English language learners to practice English together. Each meeting will have a conversation topic. For more information, email m.rangel@sjcpl.org.

Crafting for a Cause: Pet Enrichment

Workshop - Presented by the Humane Society of St. Joseph County
Francis Branch
Sep 9 | 5:30 PM
Join the Humane Society of St. Joseph County for a hands-on DIY crafting session! Discover the vital role of the Humane Society's rescue and foster programs in saving local lives.

The Green Dragon A Fantasy Book Club

Francis Branch
Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12 | 5:30 PM
Do you love fantasy literature, or are you hoping to expand your reading world? Join us at The Green Dragon, a fantasy book club hosted at the Francis Branch.

Pages in Time

Centre Township Branch
Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12 | 1:00 PM
Read and discuss a new historical fiction book each month with fellow history enthusiasts. Call Centre Branch for this month's selection (574) 251-3700.

A Taste from Heartland Masala by Jyoti

and Auyon Mukharji*
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Sep 12 | 1:30 PM
We'll be whipping up a fresh, accessible recipe from the acclaimed cookbook, Heartland Masala, which beautifully blends traditional Indian flavors with the American Midwestern home kitchen.

The Write Space*

Zoom
Sep 15, Oct 20, Nov 17 | 7:00 PM
A virtual support group for writers and aspiring writers. Join our Zoom meeting to participate in writing prompts, chatting, and dreaming about next steps in your writing life.

Downsizing Made Easy! Presented by

Aging Connections
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Sep 15 | 3:30 PM
How to know when you're ready to downsize and resources to help you. Presented by Leanne Hankins - Broker, Cressy & Everett Real Estate.

Book Chat

Main Library - Study Room L201
Sep 16, Oct 21, Nov 18 | 1:00 PM
Come discuss your latest reads at this social event meeting the third Wednesday of each month. Share your reviews of your latest reads. Meet us in the fiction stacks at Main Library.

Creating a Business Plan (Financing

Purposes) - Presented by Luis Zapata, First Source Bank
Main Library
CLC - Classroom D
Sep 16 | 5:30 PM
In this session we will discuss how to create a business plan, and what are the important parts of the plan to include when seeking financing from banks or other financial institutions.

Meet the Candidates

Main Library - CLC
Sep 16 | 6:00 PM
Come hear local candidates share their platforms with a meet and greet reception to follow. In partnership with the American Democracy Project.

SJCPL Online Book Group*

Zoom
Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 19 | 8:00 PM
Join us on the 3rd Thursday of each month via Zoom to discuss the month's reading.

Southside Book Club

Centre Township Branch
Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 19 | 5:30 PM
Expand your horizons with fellow southsiders to read and discuss a mixture of titles, recommended by club members. For this month's selection call the Centre Branch.

Eviction & Housing Legal Clinic

Presented by the Volunteer Lawyer Network
Main Library - CLC - Classroom B
Sep 17 | 11:00 AM
Free legal advice for evictions and housing issues provided to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Autumnal Watercolor Painting Gourds,

Pumpkins, and more!
LaSalle Branch
Sep 18 | 10:30 AM
In this all-levels workshop, we'll use pumpkins, decorative gourds, and other rustic fall favorites as our inspiration.

Community Repair Fair

Main Library - CLC - Ballroom
Sep 20 | 1:00 PM
Don't toss it, fix it! Bring your broken bikes, torn clothes, sad houseplants, or wobbly furniture to our Community Repair Fair. Lets reduce waste and build a culture of repair together!

Dinner & a Book* Heartland Masala

WNIT
Sep 22 | 11:30 AM
Join us at WNIT for a live taping of Dinner & a Book! Take a delicious deep dive into Indian cooking and culture with mother-son duo Jyoti and Auyon Mukharji, authors of Heartland Masala.

Empowerment Tools for Memory Care

at Home
Presented by Aging Connections
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Sep 22 | 3:30 PM
Author with fifteen years of experience in the field of Gerontology, Kerry Ann Sandsmark, shares practical, compassionate strategies from her book Balance of Dignity in this supportive program.

Liberty's Readers

North Liberty Branch
Sep 22, Oct 27, Nov 24 | 4:00 PM
Explore a wide range of genres with our fearless readers!

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling

Crafting Connections
Francis Branch
Sep 23 | 10:30 AM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Starting Your Own Business: Getting

Resources
Presented by SBEAP
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Sep 23 | 6:00 PM
Learn to think like an entrepreneur in this info session by Dr. Michael H. Morris, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation at the University of Notre Dame.

The Matchsellers: Burning Up the

Bend* - Presented by Wild Rose Moon
Radio Hour
Main Library
CLC - Leighton Auditorium
Sep 26 | 7:00 PM
Enjoy a live taping of the Wild Rose Moon radio hour featuring The Matchsellers and special guests John Bahler & The Moon Rockers. For ages 12+.

Genealogy Book Study*

Main Library - CLC - Classroom A
Sep 26, Oct 24 | 10:15 AM
Participants will gather monthly to discuss chapters of the book Mastering Genealogical Proof by Thomas W. Jones.

Creature From the Black Lagoon (1954,

Rated G, 79 minutes). Monster Movie Film Series
Main Library
CLC - Leighton Auditorium
Sep 28 | 6:00 PM
Join us for a curated film series celebrating cinema's most iconic, thrilling, and deliciously campy aquatic monsters.

Book Talks

Francis Branch
Sep 29, Oct 27, Nov 24 | 1:30 PM
Come join us for Book Talks! This book club meets in person on the last Tuesday of every month. Be a part of the discussion by sharing your review of your current reads!

The Underground Railroad and South

Bend
Main Library - CLC
Sep 30 | 6:30 PM
Aaron Helman shares stories of the Underground Railroad in and around South Bend and Cass County, Michigan.

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling

Crafting Connections
Tutt Branch
Sep 30 | 5:30 PM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Medicare 101 - Presented by Cliff Havens

Centre Township Branch
Sep 30 | 5:30 PM
Learn about plan options, eligibility timelines, and enrollment rules.

A Matter of Balance: Managing Con-

cerns About Falls* - Presented By REAL Service, Inc.
Francis Branch
Oct 2, Oct 9, Oct 16, Oct 23, Oct 30, Nov 6, Nov 13, Nov 20 | 10:00 AM
This 8-week program for adults age 60+ helps increase skills to manage falls risk & improve activity levels. Includes light exercise for balance and strength. Limited space, please register.

Shaped by Place Your Connection to

Place Through Creative Expression
Main Library - CLC - Classroom F
Oct 3 | 11:00 AM
Whether you're an experienced artist or writer, or simply curious about creative expression, this workshop will help you interpret your own thoughts and feelings about the places that shape you.

Harvesting Financial Success: An

Interactive Experience Presented by the South Bend Financial Empowerment Center
Main Library - CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Oct 3 | 1:00 PM
This hands-on program gives you the practical tools and personalized insights needed to reduce debt, grow your savings, and confidently build long-term financial stability for your family.

Medicare 101 Presented by Cliff Havens

German Township Branch
Oct 5 | 5:30 PM
Learn about plan options, eligibility timelines, and enrollment rules.

An Evening with Cory Doctorow

Presented by University of Notre Dame Franco Institute
Main Library
CLC - Leighton Auditorium
Oct 6 | 5:00 PM
Join the Franco Institute and SJCPL for a moderated talk with blogger Cory Doctorow, writer of Enshittification. Book signing to follow. Books available for purchase from Brain Lair Books.

Medicare 101 Presented by Amanda

Selesky, CLU
Centre Township Branch
Oct 7 | 10:30 AM
Confused by Medicare? Join us for a free educational seminar covering Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, enrollment deadlines, Medicare Advantage and Supplement plans, and common mistakes to avoid.

STUDIO 304

Musical Mad Labs

Sept. 30, 4 PM | Main Library Teen Room

Studio Music Mixer Networking Event

Nov. 10, 6 PM | Studio 304 Instructional Area

Build a Board Game! Remix Edition*

Sept. 2, Sept. 16, Oct. 7, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, Nov. 18 | 6 - 7 PM | Studio 304 Instructional Area



Power Play: Political Board Games for Adults Western Branch
Oct 8 | 5:30 PM
Do you have what it takes to run the world (or at least your neighborhood)? Join us for an evening of strategy, negotiation, and high-stakes decision-making at Power Play!

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling
Crafting Connections
German Township Branch
Oct 8 | 10:30 AM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Hospice Around the World Presented by Aging Connections
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Oct 13 | 3:30 PM
Have you ever wondered what end-of-life care looks like in other countries? Join Dr. Thomas Sweeney, Caring Cove Hospice Director, for this insightful presentation and discussion.

Line Dancing With Lorenzo
Main Library - CLC Ballroom
Oct 13, Nov 10 | 6:00 PM
Kick up your heels with line dance instructor Lorenzo Davis.

Understanding Business Financial Statements Presented by Luis Zapata, First Source Bank
Main Library - CLC - Classroom D
Oct 14 | 5:30 PM
In this session, we will discuss the income statement, balance sheet, and the statement of cash flows.

Griffcon 50th Anniversary Gaming Event
Presented by The Griffon Bookstore
Main Library - CLC
Oct 16 & 17 | 12:00 PM
Play a variety of non-electronic games hosted by local game masters in celebration of the 50th anniversary of The Griffon Bookstore. Learn a new game or play one of your favorites.

Cozy Crafting at LaSalle Branch Classic Mystery Edition
LaSalle Branch
Oct 16 | 10:30 AM
Bring your current craft project and watch a mystery on the big screen! No project? No problem! You can check out a creative kit from our art cabinet.

Crafting for a Cause: Pet Enrichment Workshop Presented by the Humane Society of St. Joseph County
River Park Branch
Oct 20 | 5:30 PM
Join the Humane Society of St. Joseph County for a hands-on DIY crafting session! Discover the vital role of the Humane Society's rescue and foster programs in saving local lives.

Medicare 101 Presented by Cliff Havens
Western Branch
Oct 20 | 5:30 PM
Learn about plan options, eligibility time-lines, and enrollment rules.

Protecting Yourself from Fraud!
Presented by Kendall Carnes, Indiana Securities Division
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Oct 20 | 1:00 PM
Protect Yourself-Our engaging presentation designed to help adults and seniors recognize, avoid, and report scams.

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling
Crafting Connections
Lakeville Branch
Oct 22 | 5:30 PM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Genealogy Coffee Chat
Main Library - CLC
Oct 24 | 9:00 AM
Meet with fellow genealogists to share success stories and brick walls.

Jaws (1975, Rated PG, 125 minutes)
Monster Movie Film Series
Main Library
CLC - Leighton Auditorium
Oct 26 | 6:00 PM
Join us for a curated film series celebrating cinema's most iconic, thrilling, and deliciously campy aquatic monsters.

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling
Crafting Connections
LaSalle Branch
Oct 27 | 5:30 PM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Ask a Lawyer
Main Library - CLC 2nd floor
Nov 3 | 12:00 PM
Free legal advice to the public on a first come, first served basis, provided by attorneys from the Volunteer Lawyers Network.

It's Midwest Chili Season!
LaSalle Branch
Nov 3 | 1:30 PM
Ope, let me just squeeze right past ya to get to the pressure cooker! It's officially Midwestern chili season, but we're doing things a little differently...

Medicare 101 Presented by Amanda Selesky, CLU
LaSalle Branch
Nov 4 | 10:30 AM
Confused by Medicare? Join us for a free educational seminar covering Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, enrollment deadlines, Medicare Advantage and Supplement plans, and common mistakes to avoid.

Crafting for a Cause: Pet Enrichment Workshop Presented by the Humane Society of St. Joseph County
North Liberty Branch
Nov 5 | 5:30 PM
Join the Humane Society of St. Joseph County for a hands-on DIY crafting session! Discover the vital role of the Humane Society's rescue and foster programs in saving local lives.

Medicare 101 Presented by Cliff Havens
Main Library - CLC
Nov 5 | 5:30 PM
Learn about plan options, eligibility time-lines, and enrollment rules.

Starting Your Own Business: Making Sales Happen - Presented by SBEAP
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Nov 9 | 11:30 AM
Learn to think like an entrepreneur in this info session by Dr. Michael H. Morris, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation at the University of Notre Dame.

Is This Normal Aging, or a Warning Sign? Presented by Aging Connections
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Nov 10 | 3:30 PM
How to tell the difference before small changes become big crises (stop guessing, start matching mare to what still works). Presented by Shelley Pillado, Owner of HolistCare Homes, Inc.

It's Midwest Chili Season!
Centre Township Branch
Nov 10 | 5:30 PM
Ope, let me just squeeze right past ya to get to the pressure cooker! It's officially Midwestern chili season, but we are doing things a little differently...

Music Mixer
Studio 304 Networking Event
Studio 304
Nov 10 | 6:00 PM
Meet local recording artists and join in the listening party as we present selections of music produced in our recording rooms. Talk shop, compare notes, and seek out collaboration opportunities.

Beginning Genealogy*
Tutt Branch
Nov 12 | 5:30 PM
Begin climbing your family tree with an introduction to genealogy research.

The Art of Everyday: Junk Journaling
Crafting Connections
North Liberty Branch
Nov 12 | 5:30 PM
Learn a low-pressure creative practice for capturing the texture of your daily life.

Medicare 101 - Presented by Cliff Havens
Francis Branch
Nov 16 | 5:30 PM
Learn about plan options, eligibility time-lines, and enrollment.

Business Financing - Presented by Luis Zapata, First Source Bank
Main Library - CLC - Classroom E
Nov 18 | 5:30 PM
In this session we will discuss business credit and what are the different ways to finance your business.

Eviction & Housing Legal Clinic
Presented by the Volunteer Lawyer Network
Tutt Branch
Nov 19 | 11:00 AM
Free legal advice for evictions and housing issues provided to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Navigating the New Candid Foundation Directory* Features, Enhancements, and Best Practices
Main Library
CLC - Beutter-Kernan Hall
Nov 19 | 1:00 PM
This presentation will provide nonprofit professionals, grant writers, researchers, and development staff with an overview of Candid Foundation Directory Online and recent changes to the platform.

Crochet Disco
Groovy Chevron Blankets
LaSalle Branch
Nov 20 | 10:30 AM
In this workshop, you'll learn the classic chevron (or ripple) stitch, the defining pattern of 1970's crochet!

The Host (2006, Rated R, 120 minutes)
Monster Movie Film Series
Main Library
CLC - Leighton Auditorium
Nov 30 | 6:00 PM
Join us for a curated film series celebrating cinema's most iconic, thrilling, and deliciously campy aquatic monsters.

All Ages

Edwin (Mauricio) Mejia
Gallery Reception
Main Library - 2nd Floor Gallery
Sep 10 | 5:30 PM
Join us for the gallery reception for the artist Edwin (Mauricio) Mejia!

Vibrant Light: Stained Glass of the Basilica WNIT Docs and Discussion Series
Main Library - CLC
Leighton Auditorium
Sep 14 | 6:00 PM
This WNIT documentary explores the birth of Notre Dame, the construction of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, and the significance of stained glass through religion, art, history and craftsmanship.

Game Night
Tutt Branch
Sep 23 | 3:00 PM
Join us once a month for Game Night! We will offer a variety of board games, card games, video games, and more. Plus, it wouldn't be a game night without some snacks! Come hang out!

Shein Trust Listen + Learn Children's Concert Series Presented by South Bend Symphony Orchestra
Main Library - Story House
Sep 25 | 4:00 PM
Join the South Bend Symphony's String Quintet as they perform a family-friendly concert in the cozy atmosphere of The Story House. All are welcome!

DIY Dungeons & Dragons: Adventuring on a Budget
Studio 304
Oct 3 | 2:00 PM
Learn how to make tabletop gaming materials using the resources of Studio 304! Game designer Isaiah Garcia will show participants examples that can be crafted in Studio 304.

Shein Trust Listen + Learn Children's Concert Series Presented by South Bend Symphony Orchestra
Main Library - Story House
Oct 9 | 4:00 PM
Join the South Bend Symphony's String Quintet as they perform a family-friendly concert in the cozy atmosphere of The Story House. All are welcome!

Game Night
Western Branch
Oct 21 | 3:00 PM
Join us once a month for Game Night! We will offer a variety of board games, card games, video games, and more. Plus, it wouldn't be a game night without some snacks! Come hang out!

Kay Westhues Gallery Reception
Main Library - 2nd Floor Gallery
Oct 22 | 5:30 PM
Join us for the gallery reception for the artist Kay Westhues!

Marta Francis- Watercolor Exhibit Gallery Reception
Main Library - 2nd Floor Gallery
Nov 12 | 5:30 PM
Join us for the gallery reception for the artist Marta Francis!

The Veldman Family: From Immigrant Roots to Community Legacy WNIT Docs and Discussion Series
Main Library - CLC
Leighton Auditorium
Nov 16 | 6:00 PM
Meet the Veldman family in the latest installment of WNIT's Legends of Michiana series. Discussion to follow.

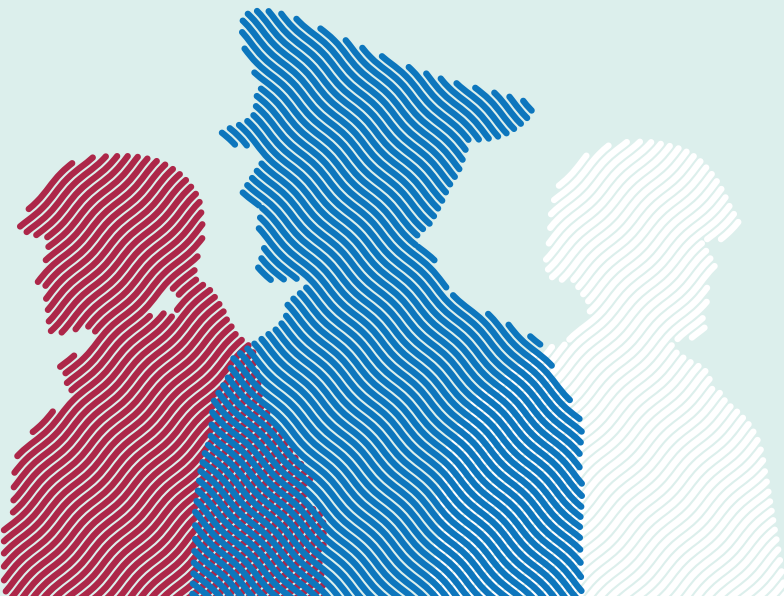
Game Night
Centre Township Branch
Nov 18 | 3:00 PM
Join us once a month for Game Night! We will offer a variety of board games, card games, video games, and more. Plus, it wouldn't be a game night without some snacks!

Alexandra Lopez Gallery Reception
Main Library - 2nd Floor Gallery
Dec 3 | 5:30 PM
Join us for the gallery reception for the artist Alexandra Lopez!

Honoring our Veterans

Celebrate Veterans Day at the LaSalle Branch as we hear from local veterans. A musical performance and light refreshments will follow.

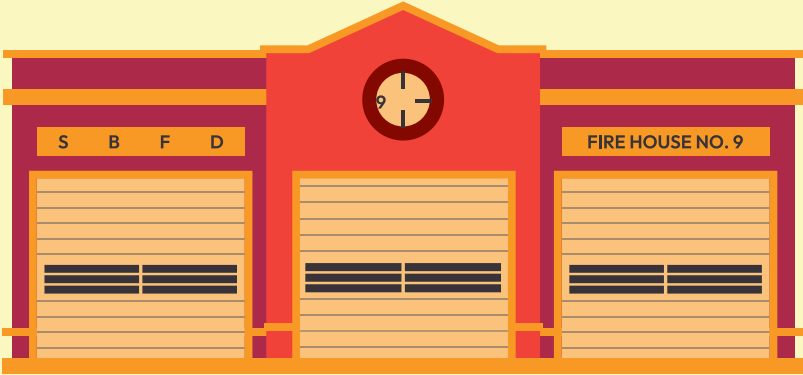
Nov. 10 **LaSalle Branch**
4:30 - 6:30 PM **Meeting Room**



Saturday, October 3
1:00 - 3:00 PM
River Park Branch

For all ages

FUN WITH FIRE STATION NUMBER 9



Spend time with some of our local heroes. You'll meet firefighters from *Station 9*, get an up close view of a fire truck, and enjoy a special performance by *Roz Puppets*.

Life in Michiana

Photography Contest

Capture what makes our community great!

The 28th annual Life in Michiana Photography Contest invites you to share photos that showcase what makes our home unique and beautiful. No matter the subject, we want to see it through your lens!

Entries accepted online Nov. 16, 2026 to Jan. 15, 2027

Final reception will be held on Feb. 25, 5:30 - 7:30 PM



Learn more, and submit work here

HEARTLAND MASALA

Indian cooking from an American kitchen

Sept. 22
6-8 PM

Main Library - Community Learning Center
Leighton Auditorium

Scan here to register!



A delicious dive into Indian cooking and culture with Jyoti Mukharji and Auyon Mukharji, the Midwestern mother-son duo behind *Heartland Masala: an Indian cookbook from an American kitchen*.

An Evening with V.E. Schwab

Oct. 14
6-8 PM

Main Library - Community Learning Center
Ballroom A+B, Leighton Auditorium

Join us for an evening with #1 New York Times bestselling author **V.E. Schwab**. Preorder a signed copy of *Victorious* through Brain Lair Books and pick it up at the event.

Please note: there will be no meet-and-greet or book signing following the program.



Scan here for event info and registration





V.E. SCHWAB

Who is she?

“I always loved telling stories”

#1 New York Times bestselling author V.E. Schwab comes to the St. Joe County Public Library as part of our Culturally Speaking author series.

The fourth author to grace our stage in 2026 is none other than **#1 New York Times bestselling author V.E. Schwab**. She is the author of more than 25 books, and believes the best story is the one that finds you when you need it.

Schwab's critically acclaimed work has been featured in publications including the New York Times, Entertainment Weekly, and the Washington Post, translated into more than 20 languages, and optioned for both television and film.

Her greatest goal as an author is to make you doubt your reality. Not by convincing you that magic is real, but by planting a seed of doubt that it's not.

Interest in her appearance has been high, with registrations filling quickly. Join us for a conversation about her path from a self-proclaimed “non-reader” to a #1 New York Times bestselling author, and the stories, ideas and imagination behind her work.

We expect a full house for V.E. Schwab, so reserve your seat while you can!

HAVE QUESTIONS?

For more information about V.E. Schwab, visit her website and sign up for her *Culturally Speaking* event **Wednesday, Oct. 14th** at **Main Library**.

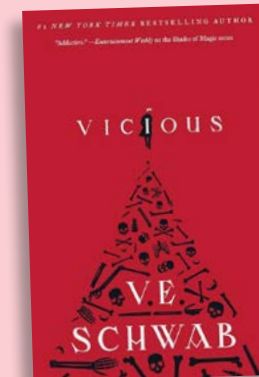
veschwab.com



Scan to register, pre-order your signed copy of **Victorious**, and explore V.E. Schwab at the Library.



Top 4 V.E. Schwab books for your TBR



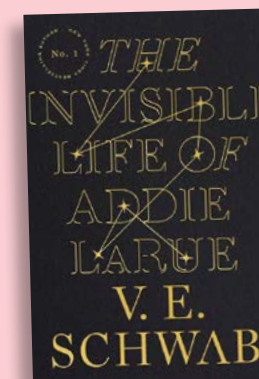
Vicious Sci-Fi/Fantasy

Two friends with an experiment gone wrong, now fight with the consequences of their mistake. Supernatural events, betrayal and loss shape the start of the *Villians trilogy*. The third book, *Victorious*, comes out Oct. 6.



A Darker Shade of Magic Sci-Fi/Fantasy

A magic system that transports “travelers” through different worlds. Yet, when something becomes out of place, the entire system threatens to collapse. Pirates, magicians, and treason run rapid in this urban fantasy.



The Invisible Life of Addie Larue Fantasy

A woman cursed to be forgotten by everyone she meets. She begins leaving her mark on the world in creative ways, in history and art across 300 years. But, what happens when a stranger somehow remembers her?



Bury Our Bones in the Midnight Soil Fantasy

Three women in different centuries have their stories intertwined in this vampire romance. Love, rage and revenge take hold when they're finally reunited together.

EERIE IMAGININGS SPOOKY SHORT STORY WRITING CONTEST

Does your notebook twitch with
strange scribbles after dark?

Entry window:
Sept. 1 - Oct. 1

Channel those creeps into our **Spooky Short Story Writing Contest!** Every Fall, young writers (grades 3-12) are encouraged to write a 1-3 page terrifying story to scare all readers.



Scan for
more information



HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION



Celebración de la Herencia Hispana | Wednesday, September 30 | 4:30 - 6:30 PM
Western Branch

Celebrate the contributions and diverse culture of American Latinos. Join us for crafts/ artesanía, food/comida, music/música, and games/juegos!

For all ages

Pumpkin Painting

All are welcome to paint and decorate pumpkins.
Light refreshments will be served.

Oct. 3 | Lakeville Branch
10:30 AM - 1 PM | Meeting Room



Gift Lab

A DIY gift making extravaganza!

North Liberty Branch
Nov. 7 | 11 AM - 1:30 PM

Come prepare for the holiday season with our gift making extravaganza!
All ages can enjoy crafts, gift making, and light refreshments.

