

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2026

CLD&J LIBRARY GUIDE

Your guide to what's happening at your Community Library



Programs, News, and More

INSIDE THIS GUIDE

Mission: The mission of the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville is to provide quality library service for the residents of DeWitt, Jamesville, and surrounding areas.

Vision: The Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville will be an essential asset to the DeWitt and Jamesville communities and serve as a center of community life. The Library will provide and promote free access to high quality resources to meet the information, educational, and cultural needs of the community.



**Community Library
of DeWitt & Jamesville**

COMMUNITY LIBRARY OF DEWITT & JAMESVILLE

**5110 JAMESVILLE ROAD
DEWITT, NY 13078
315-446-3578
WWW.CLDANDJ.ORG**

LIBRARY HOURS

**MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

**FRIDAYS
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**SATURDAYS
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**SUNDAYS
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

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To register for library events, programs, and workshops, call 315-446-3578, visit **www.CLDandJ.org**, or stop by the Front Desk in our Lobby.

Events beyond our control may result in date changes, event cancellations, or library closures. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience. The Library will post closures on our website, social media accounts, and on the local news CNYCentral and WSYR. The Library will attempt to notify registered patrons through the registration platform regarding any programming changes or cancellations.

Most Popular Reads of 2025

THE TITLES THAT CIRCULATED THE MOST LAST YEAR AT THE CLD&J

According to our statistics, these were the most popular fiction titles checked out last year. How many did you read?

#10. (tie)

Remarkably Bright Creatures

by Shelby Van Pelt

& *By Any Other Name* by Jodi Picoult

#9. *In Too Deep*

by Lee Child

#8. *Now or Never: Thirty-One On the Run*

by Janet Evanovich

#7. *The Grey Wolf*

by Louise Penny

#6. *The Women*

by Kristin Hannah

#5. *Sandwich*

by Catherine Newman

#4. *James*

by Percival Everett

#3. *To Die For*

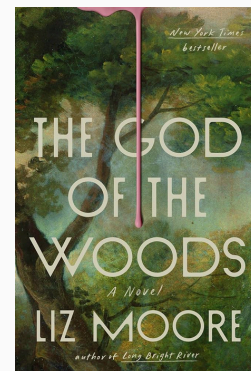
by David Baldacci

#2. *The Wedding People*

by Alison Espach

#1. *The God of the Woods*

by Liz Moore



Gasp! Patterson has been dethroned! After making multiple appearances in the top 10 over the years, 2025 marked the first time, no James Patterson book cracked the top ten list! Even Baldacci has slipped from the number one slot to #3. Other previous top 10 authors making a return appearance include: Jodi Picoult, Louise Penny, and Janet Evanovich.

Also, Kristin Hannah's 2024 title, *The Women*, continued to resonate in 2025.

However, the top spot goes to Liz Moore's multi-layered novel about the disappearance of a teenage girl in the Adirondacks.

AARP Tax Assistance

February 3 through April 15

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 10:00 am, 11:30 am or 1:30 pm

In Community Room 2

For ages 18 and up.

AARP will be providing free Tax Help at the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville.

Appointments are required, register by calling the Library at 315-446-3578 or asking at the circulation or reference desks. We will start taking appointments on January 20, 2026.

Appointments are available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at either 10:00 am, 11:30 am, or 1:30 pm. Ask Library staff for up-to-date availability.

*Bring a photo ID and Social Security card for each individual on the return.

If the tax payers are filing JOINT, both spouses must come.

Bring all your tax information including: Tax Return from last year, Income information, Expenses,

Property owners should bring their real estate bills and the amounts of any refund checks received.*

Registration Required.

Storytimes

In the Children's Programming Room

Babies and Books

Mondays @ 10:30 to 11:30 am

January 5 - April 27

Birth to 18 months.

This lively story time helps babies experience sounds and the structure of language through rhythm, rhyme and repetition. Enjoy lap and bouncing rhymes, short books and songs. Plan on a 20 minute program with time for baby and caregiver socialization afterwards.

No Registration Necessary.

Story Play

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays

@ 10:30 to 11:30 am

January 6 - April 30

Ages 0—5.

This fun, informal story time combines stories with play time. Enjoy stories, discover wonderful toys, and meet new friends.

No Registration Necessary.

Storytime is an allergen free program. We ask that you don't bring foods that contain, may contain, or are processed in a facility with peanuts, tree nuts, sesame, and eggs. We provide safe snacks for your children during storytime.

Age Guidelines for Children's Programs:

Our librarians plan a variety of activities for children of all ages.

Each event is carefully designed with a particular age group in mind. Please observe age requirements listed. Parents are asked to stay with their children under age 10 for library activities, unless otherwise noted.

Program Series

In the Children's Programming Room

Lego Club

Mondays @ 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm

January 6 - March 31

For children of all ages!

Let's build! Join us for LEGO challenges and building themes. Each week, we will display your LEGO creations in the Children's Discovery Room.

No Registration Necessary.



Crafternoon

1st and 3rd Wednesdays @ 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm

in January & February

For children of all ages (Children 7 and under may need assistance from a parent or caregiver)

Children and families can stop in for some crafting fun, together. Each week, we will create something new and the final product can be taken home to show off and enjoy. In the event of inclement weather, we will craft in the Children's Programming Room.

Registration Required.

Sign up for each session individually.

Family Movie & Pizza

For All Ages.

Let's cozy up and watch a movie.

Pizza, juice, and water will be provided.

Jan. 23 @ 1:00 pm: *Dog Man* (2025) PG

Feb. 16 @ 2:00 pm: *The Bad Guys 2* (2025) PG

Registration Encouraged.

Young Naturalists

Monday, January 12 @ 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

For ages 5 to 12.

Young Naturalists is a monthly program run through the CNY Izaak Walton League and staffed by SUNY ESF students with passion and experience in environmental education. Young Naturalists host hour-long lessons for elementary and middle school aged children about fungi, winter hibernation, bugs, paleontology, and more with cool crafts or games.

Registration Encouraged.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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Chef Camp

1st Saturday of the Month @ 10:30 am

in January, February & March

In the Children's Programming Room

For Pre-K to 2nd Grade

Little chefs can learn to make kid-friendly snacks. View the menu for each session when you register.

Registration Required.

All About Ramadan

Friday, February 20 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

In the Children's Programming Room

For children of all ages.

Join us for an educational program all about Ramadan. We'll have themed crafts and activities, and there will be healthy iftars and snacks to take home.

No Registration Necessary.

Play2Learn Storytime

Tuesday, February 24 @ 10:30 am

In the Community Room

For ages 1 - 5.

Play2Learn Dewitt will visit our Library to share a winter story time with our little ones. The program will include a story, music and movement along with a simple art project.

No Registration Necessary.

Lunch Bunch!

Every other Tuesday @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

January 13 - March 24

In the Children's Programming Room

For Ages 2 to 6.

Calling all half-day and homeschool families! Pack a lunch and gather round for some fun with new friends. Join us for a themed story, game, and craft, followed by time for free play and socializing for kids and their caregivers.

No Registration Necessary.

1000 BOOKS

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Why 1000 Books?

It is never too early to read to your child! Research shows reading with your child is the single most important way to help them get ready to read. Not only is it a great bonding activity, reading also builds vocabulary, stimulates language development, strengthens their social, emotional, and character development, and more! The benefits are priceless and enormous.

Beginning early is important because the roots of language are developing in a baby's brain even before they can talk!



How do I participate?

1. Sign up on READsquared.
2. Let the front desk know you have signed up. You will receive a tote bag with all the materials you need to get started and a free board book.
3. Read with your child and log the read-ing in READsquared. If you prefer, you can fill out the paper logs instead and bring them in to the front desk.
4. When you have reached 500 books, come in to pick out another board book.
5. When you have completed 1000 books, come in for a certificate and a final board book!

SIGN UP TODAY!

<https://cldandjny07.readsquared.com/>
or scan the QR code!



Mini-Writing Workshop & Local Author Talk

Monday, February 9

@ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Community Room 1

For ages 13 & up.

Join local artist and author Evelyn Fiorenza for a mini writer's workshop and book discussion. She will talk about her book series, Always, Honestly & Forever, under the pen name Ava Zacardi, and her writing process. Write the first paragraph of your own book or short story with advice on how to start writing. If you would like to attend virtually, please register with a valid e-mail address to receive the Zoom link.

Registration Encouraged.



Intro to Canva

Tuesday, February 19

@ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Community Room 2

Ages 18 and up

Join Adult Services Librarian Kelly for an introduction to the free online graphic design platform Canva. Canva is used for creating a wide variety of visual content, including social media graphics, presentations, posters, videos, and even this event guide! This beginner class will cover the basics to help patrons get started in exploring the many uses of Canva. Participants can create a free account and follow along to the instructor's tutorial on a laptop computer. Please bring your own laptop. If you are unable to bring one, please e-mail Kelly at: knovak@cldandj.org about accommodation.

Registration Required.



Outsmart the Scammers

Tuesday, February 24 @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Community Room 2

Ages 18 and up

Join Financial Advisor Brian Stinson from Edward Jones for a free educational lecture on "Scam Awareness." Topics covered will include: how to identify scams and prevent being scammed, what to do if you think you may be involved in a scam, and how to manage the aftermath if you were scammed. Q&A follows the presentation.

Registration Encouraged.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

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Mystery Book Club

Explore the rich diversity of the mystery genre from the earliest examples and Golden Age authors to today's contemporary sleuths and cozy tales. New members welcome.

Monday, February 9 @ 2:00 pm

Read any book by Carl Hiaasen

Madcap adventures ensue in Hiaasen's Florida set novels featuring colorful characters and crazy crimes.

Monday, March 9 @ 2:00 pm

Read *Finlay Donovan is Killing It* by Elle Cosimano

A single mom and struggling romance novelist gets mistaken for a contract killer in a madcap adventure.



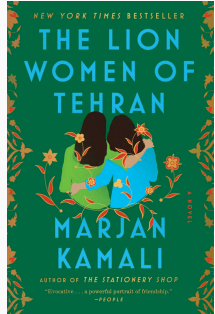
Page Turners Book Club

Read contemporary adult fiction by a diversity of authors. Participate in-person or via Zoom. Physical copies of the current title for discussion are available to checkout at the Library's Front Desk. New members welcome.

Wednesday, February 18 @ 7:00 pm

The Lion Women of Tehran by Marjan Kamali

In 1950s Tehran, two girls meet the first day of school, sharing their hopes to become "lion women." They grow apart, but meet again as adults. This book shows "how profoundly we are shaped by those we meet when we are young, and the way love and courage transform our lives".



EXERCISE

Adult Yoga

Mondays thru April 27 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am

In the Community Room

For ages 18 and up.

Yoga is a balance between mind, body, and spiritual energy. Join yoga instructor Tommy for a demonstration and hands-on practice with breathing exercises and gentle poses that will allow you to improve your balance and turn stiffness into flexibility. This is a beginning yoga class; expect a relaxed, friendly environment with laughing, fun, and learning. Wear comfortable clothing and bring your yoga mat.

Registration Required.

Please note: There will be no class on January 19.

Yang 24 Form Tai Chi

Fridays, Jan 9 thru April 24 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am

In the Community Room

For ages 18 and up.

Tai Chi is a balance between mind, body, and spiritual energy. Tai Chi is a gentle movement exercise that improves balance by strengthening muscles and coordination; simultaneously, it strengthens the mind, enhances calmness and confidence in not falling. With regular practice, Tai Chi is highly effective exercise for fall prevention. The Yang 24 Form is the most popular Tai Chi form around the world. It is suitable for all levels of practitioners, beginner and experienced.

Anna Wong, our Assistant Director, had been a practitioner of Qigong, Tai Chi, Tai Chi Fan, and mindful movement for decades and will be your guide in this ancient Asian practice that teaches, breathing, mindfulness, and movement.

Registration Encouraged.

Quilling Crafts**In the Hive Makerspace****For ages 12 and up!**

Learn how to quill and create a quilled card. Quilling is an art form that involves using a small tool to roll paper strips into intricate designs. Materials and instruction will be provided.

*Please note the quilling tool is quite small, the action is comparable to threading a needle.

Mon., Feb. 16 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Butterflies

Register for Each Class Separately.

Learn to Use Cricut**In the Hive Makerspace****For ages 14 and up!**

Learn to use the Cricut machine in our Hive makerspace. Cricut is a computer controlled cutting machine.

Participants will create designs in the Cricut design space software for the machine to print. Choose from one of the premade designs, or create your own design if time allows. Materials and instruction will be provided.

Wed., Feb. 10 @ 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Canvas Bags

Mon., Mar. 2 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Drink Koozies

Register for Each Class Separately.



These programs take place in the Hive Makerspace.

Macrame Snowflake

Monday, February 23 @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

For ages 13 and up!

Join Adult Services Librarian Kelly for a beginner macrame project. Learn how simple knotting techniques can make beautiful decor and accessories. Materials and instruction will be provided to make one snowflake per registrant.

Registration Required.

Adult Origami Program

Tuesday, January 27 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

For ages 18 & up!

Join us for a fun paper folding, origami program! Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding, originating in Japan in the 7th century. Learn the basics of modular and geometric origami. All are welcome, from the humblest of beginners to longtime practitioners. All materials will be provided. **Registration Encouraged.**

CNY Bead: Valentine's Earrings

Monday, January 26 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

For ages 14 & up!

Join the CNY Bead Society for a Valentine's themed earring making event. This program is beginner friendly and all materials and instruction will be provided by the CNY Bead Society. *Please note: the beads and tools are very small and the crafting will require fine motor functions. **Registration Required.**

Chinese Calligraphy 101

Tuesday, February 17 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

For ages 16 and up!

Learn the Art of Chinese calligraphy! This hands-on program will teach you the foundations of writing Chinese calligraphy and introduce participants concepts like holding the brush, making fundamental strokes, writing simple characters, and potentially the cultural significance behind the practice. Ink, paper and brush will be provided. **Registration Required.**

Craft Book Club

Tuesday, January 6, February 3 & March 3 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

In the Hive Makerspace**For ages 13 and up.**

A social book club for crafters! Each month choose a craft project from the designated book and bring your project to the Library on the 1st Tuesday each month to share with the group. Discuss how you found the crafting process, whether the instructions were clear, and how your projects turned out. Share crafting tips and ideas with your fellow crafters. In-progress projects are also welcome for peer feedback and advice. Participants are welcome to use any materials and tools available in the Hive Makerspace, but specific materials/tools won't be provided as everyone will choose their own craft. The designated craft book will be provided at each meeting to choose a project from.

Registration Required.

Library Loyalty Punch Card program**January 2 - April 30****For ages 18 and up.**

Now through April 30, adult patrons 18+ will receive one punch per item checked out at the Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville on our library loyalty punch cards. Completed cards with 10 punches can be returned with your name and phone number written on the back to be entered into our raffle. There will be four prize baskets: one each for January, February, March & April. Patrons can return completed cards to the Library's Front Desk and will be eligible for each raffle basket. Winners will be notified at the end of each month.

No registration necessary.

Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville Readers Are Winners

(Please print your name & contact phone on reverse side).
Receive a punch for every book & audio checked out!

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English Conversation Group**Tuesdays @ 11:00 am to 12:30 pm**

In-Person and via Zoom.

The Library hosts informal English Conversation Classes for those who wish to practice their English speaking and listening skills. Each session is centered around a specific topic question that is emailed out the day before the weekly class. Afterward, practice and discuss some key vocabulary and/or English idioms. Let's practice together!

Registration Required.To sign up, e-mail: sbrandt@cldandj.org

ART GALLERY EXHIBITION

For the months of January and February, the CLD&J Wendy Scott Art Gallery will feature the artwork of local artist JP Powers.

About the Exhibit:

Not counting grade school art classes, I've been trying my hand at drawing and painting and just generally playing around with color and light and shapes since early in 2019. A canvas seemed like the most practical way to bring together the images that were floating around in my head from the times I was fortunate enough to visit Ireland, and the time I've lived here in Central New York. (And some that are just floating around in my head, as well.)

I have no formal training, but that 2019 start included a class in "Introduction to Studio Art" at Cazenovia College (now, sadly, closed). I was the oldest student by four decades or more, but it was a very positive experience. The teacher, a talented and generous person, was tasked with giving us a general idea of how to get started. There wasn't time enough for much individual instruction, though she gave as much of that as she could. To me she gave the greatest possible gift: encouragement. Looking at my first effort - a very poorly rendered landscape - she commented on how much she liked the way I painted the sky. By semester's end, when the class painted outside at Lorenzo in

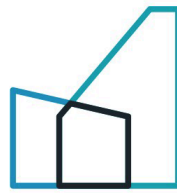
Cazenovia, she found me working on a painting of the building itself, not the grounds. The assignment was the landscape, but I didn't know this and the building is what caught my eye. She started to tell me that painting architectural subjects is not recommended for beginners then stopped, mid-thought, as she looked over my effort and said "but you just keep doing what you're doing."

I've been doing that ever since. Sometimes, I'm even pleased with the results. These paintings reflect those moments. And while I usually have some idea in mind when I begin a painting, I continue to be pleasantly surprised by what one brush stroke or bit of color can do to change my mind and the painting. These moments, when the paint takes the lead, are part of what really appeals to me about painting.

J.P. Powers (2026)

(Some of the paintings are for sale. If you are interested in one of them, or a commissioned work, please contact me. My contact information is on the cards provided.)





Community Library of DeWitt & Jamesville

At the Library

The Library offers a variety of programs and events. Checkout our online calendar at:

www.CLDandJ.org. We provide updated information as it becomes available on our website and Facebook.

NOTARY

Free Notary Public services are available at the Library!

Mondays from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesdays from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Fridays from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Please call ahead to verify Notary Services are available the day of your visit at: 315-446-3578. No registration necessary. First come, first served basis. For ages 18 and up.

A notary public is not an attorney and cannot make something legal or ensure its truthfulness. If you need legal advice, please consult a certified attorney. We are unable to notarize wills or certify official copies of Birth, Marriage, and Death Certificates. In order to have a document notarized, please bring the following to your appointment:

- All the people who will sign the document (involved parties). If your document requires witnesses in addition to the notary, please bring additional witnesses with you. Non-notary staff and other patrons cannot serve as additional witnesses.
- A valid, government issued photo ID for each person.
- The document without any signatures.

The notary will verify your identities, witness the signing of the document, and notarize it when complete.

WIFI

The Library offers free wifi throughout our building and in our parking lot. Just search for **CLD&J Wifi** to log on.

WIFI HOTSPOTS

The Library circulates hotspot devices that can be checked out for individual Wi-Fi access at home. Reserves on hotspots can be placed by calling the Library at 315-446-3578 or through the Library's online catalog at: catalog.onlib.org by searching for "T10 Franklin Mobile Hotspot". Hotspots are available for a three-week loan with an option to renew for an additional three weeks.

QUESTIONS?

Please e-mail our staff at: reference@CLDandJ.org