



# BETWEEN THE COVERS

## A Year in Review

In 2024, we added 2,085 new items to the library's collection! The section that saw the most growth was the adult fiction collections, which had 382 new books added, with DVDs as a close second with 336 new items. Our smallest change was the Library of Things collection, which saw three new video games and seven new hotspots added.

Last year, 13,486 items from the library's collection were checked out, for a total of 26,099 checkouts. The most frequently checked out item was Hotspot #17, which went out a whopping 42 times in 2024! The DVD that saw the most check outs was *Finestkind*, with 23 checkouts.

*The Women* by Kristin Hannah was the most circulated adult fiction book, and the most circulated audiobook, with 12 and 6 checkouts respectively. In the juvenile collection, the graphic novel *The Dark Secret* from the Wings of Fire series by Tui T. Sutherland saw the most action with 12 checkouts. Three video games tied at most popular, each with 9 checkouts—*Sackboy: A Big Adventure*, *Kirby and the Forgotten Land*, and *Super Mario Odyssey*. Also with 9 checkouts, *Bluey: 5-Minute Stories* was 2024's most popular picture book! Rounding out the collection with 8 checkouts is *The Body Keeps the Score* by Bessel A. van der Kolk for most popular adult non-fiction book, and *Divine Rivals* by Rebeca Ross tops the YA chart at 7 checkouts!

Last year, we also had 365 people get their library cards! Casco Township had the most new card sign-ups with 81 new cards, and Lee Township was in second place with 73 new cards. Ganges, the City of Fennville, and Clyde were neck-in-neck with 55, 54, and 51 new cards respectively. Manlius Township had the fewest with 46 new cards, and only 5 new Saugatuck Township patrons chose the Fennville District Library as the home library. If your community didn't have as many as new cards as you would like to see, make sure you tell your neighbors to get their library cards!



400 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 1130  
Fennville MI 49408

P: 269-561-5050  
F: 269-561-5251  
E: [info@fennvillelibrary.org](mailto:info@fennvillelibrary.org)  
[fennvilledl.michlibrary.org](http://fennvilledl.michlibrary.org)

Current Hours:  
Monday - Thursday 10 am - 8 pm  
Friday 10 am - 5 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm  
Sunday 2 - 4pm

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BOARD of TRUSTEES

**NEWSLETTER** *contact*  
[fdlnewsletter1@gmail.com](mailto:fdlnewsletter1@gmail.com)

# JANUARY IS NATIONAL HOBBY MONTH,

THE PERFECT TIME OF YEAR TO PICK  
UP A NEW HOBBY, OR GET BACK INTO  
AN OLD ONE THAT YOU HAVEN'T  
THOUGHT ABOUT IN A WHILE!

The great thing about having a hobby is that it can take your mind off the pressure of work or other daily stresses. Sit down and think about what you really love to do. Consider what sparks passion in your life or what makes you curious.

Finding a good hobby and giving yourself time to take part in it on a daily or weekly basis is sure to make you happier, and maybe even healthier.

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VANESSA'S  
VIEW

As we say farewell to the joys and sorrows of 2024, let us welcome in this new year filled with hope. *Winter's Gift*, written and illustrated by Jane Monroe Donovan, is a moving story about the hope that awaits us as we journey through healing after the loss of a loved one. Donovan's illustrations are rendered in a realistic style, and although they are very detailed, there is a lovely softness to them that make them feel like memories. The spot illustrations Donovan has added throughout the story flood you with emotion. A simple, stand-alone image surrounded by the white page makes you stop and capture a moment in time that will remain as a beautiful, distant memory. As you journey into this new year, may Donovan's heartwarming book remind you of the hope that awaits you.

## NEW! YOUTH READS>>>

# GREAT HOBBIES TO TRY

**Exercise:** Running on a treadmill, lifting weights, or taking workout classes improve your overall health and can be fun, too!

**Gardening:** It stimulates your mind, involves a little physical activity, and it's rewarding.

**Cooking:** If you can learn to cook wholesome, nutritious meals for yourself and your family, you'll save money and have a healthier lifestyle.

**Yoga:** No matter your age, gender, or level of physical fitness, yoga will increase your strength and flexibility. It also gives people clarity, peace of mind, and is overall a big stress reliever for anybody.

**Adopt a pet:** Research shows owning and bonding with a pet decreases the risk of depression, anxiety, and stress.

**Volunteer:** Being a part of your community and lending a hand without getting paid in return has been shown to give people a sense of fulfillment.

**Write:** Journaling and blogging help clear your mind, allow you to express your thoughts freely, and even improve your vocabulary.

**Travel:** Take time to experience another culture. Traveling helps to shift your perspective, and can even help you discover yourself.

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**ABi'S  
PICKS**

**financial  
WELLNESS**

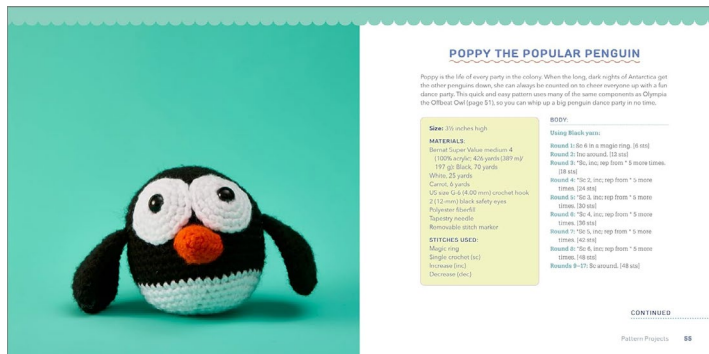
PICTURE BOOK  
*Save It*  
by Cinders McLeod

MIDDLE GRADE  
*Money*  
by Kalpana Fitzpatrick;  
illustrated by Gus Scott

YOUNG ADULT  
*How to Money*  
by Jean Sherman Chatzky,  
Kathryn Tuggle,  
and the HerMoney Team;  
illustrated by Nina Cosford

**NEW! TWEEN READS>>>**

# #NATIONALHOBBYMONTH



Use #NationalHobbyMonth to post on social media. Talk about a new hobby you've picked up or better yet, post a photo or video of you doing it to get others inspired to do the same!

Share your hobby with others by giving a class... Make gifts of your hobby... Start a hobby group so you can socialize, too... Turn your hobby into a career.

You know what they say. If you make your hobby your job, you'll never have to work a day in your life! ~ [nationaldaycalendar.com](http://nationaldaycalendar.com)

#globabellylaughday

GRAPHICS CORNER

NEW! TEEN READS>>>>

# THE STORM IS COMING...

After nearly eighteen months at Basgiath War College, Violet Sorrengail knows there's no more time for lessons. No more time for uncertainty. Because the battle has truly begun; and with enemies closing in from outside their walls and within their

ranks, it's impossible to know who to trust.

Now Violet must journey beyond the failing Aretian wards to seek allies from unfamiliar lands to stand with Navarre. The trip will test every bit of her wit, luck, and strength, but she will do anything to save what she loves - her dragons, her family, her home, and him. Everything.

## THE EMPYREAN SERIES

### AVAILABLE AS:

- eBook
- eAudio
- Audiobook
- Playaway
- Large Print

## Movie Preview...

*Titles subject to change.*



## KENDRA'S CURRENT ISSUE

Make 2025 the year for history... Family history. Uncover your roots with the resources you have access to right here! These include: local family histories and obituary archive, access to free online research, books that show you how to search for and organize information, and tools like *Family Tree UK* magazine on the Libby app, which has a wealth of information, tips, and stories.



## MICHELE'S MEDIA

This book is a favorite of a coworker of mine and that intrigued me enough to check it out. The reading lull I have been in has been frustrating and incredibly boring. Picking up books, getting a few chapters in, and then losing interest. The cycle has been relentless so the timing of this kind of book, with its conversational pace, introspective observations, and subtle humor was good for me.

The joy I found in *The Anthropocene Reviewed* by John Green was that the reviewed topic was something different in each chapter. It was like talking to longtime friend over a cup of coffee, reminiscing about our childhood and confronting our effect on the future.

## The Art Thief

by Michael Finkel

For centuries, works of art have been stolen in countless ways from all over the world, but no one has been quite as successful at it as the master thief: Stéphane Breitwieser. Carrying out more than two hundred heists over nearly eight years—in museums and cathedrals all over Europe—Breitwieser, along with his girlfriend who worked as his lookout, stole more than three hundred objects, until it all fell apart in spectacular fashion.

In *The Art Thief*, Michael Finkel brings us into Breitwieser's strange and fascinating world. Unlike most thieves, Breitwieser never stole for money. Instead, he displayed all his treasures in a pair of secret rooms where he could admire them to his heart's content. Possessed of a remarkable athleticism and an innate ability to circumvent practically any security system, Breitwieser managed to pull off a breathtaking number of audacious thefts. Yet these strange talents bred a growing disregard for risk and an addict's need to score, leading Breitwieser to ignore his girlfriend's pleas to stop—until one final act of hubris brought everything crashing down.

Email: [fdlbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:fdlbookclub@gmail.com)

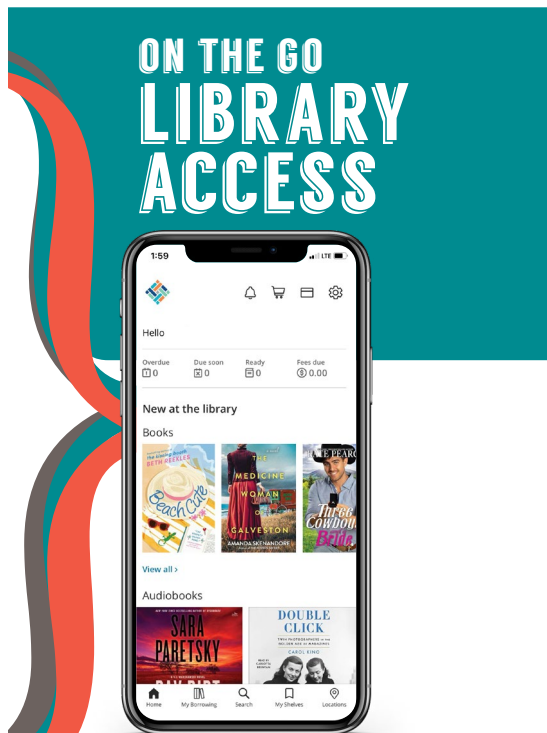
**DISCUSSION  
WEDNESDAY  
2.5 @ 1:30 PM**



## KNIT & Crochet GROUP

1:30 PM, MONDAY • JANUARY 6 & 20

*Bring your ideas and your projects!  
Beginners to experienced. Ages 18+*



**DOWNLOAD** Search for **Lakeland Library** app or clicking the QR code links.

**SET-UP** If you already have a username, you can enter that, or you can enter your library card barcode. Enter your PIN number. This is the last 4 digits of the phone number provided at registration.

**USE!** Explore the app and take advantage of all the services we have to offer!



**FDL** cares  
FENNVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY  
your partner in safety

**FREE**

*While supplies last.*

**COVID-19 TEST KITS**  
**CURBSIDE PICK UP ONLY,**  
**PLEASE CALL 269-561-5050**  
**FOR AVAILABILITY.**

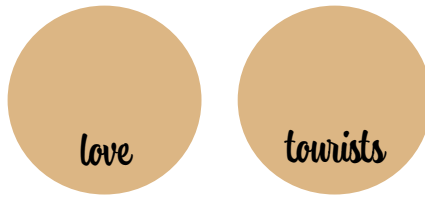


Look for these titles on Libby!

Click the link, or pick up the January BookPage at the circ. desk!



Look for these magazines in the Libby app!



Did you know the library circulates more than just books and movies? Browse through our cards to find a “thing” that interests you, and then bring the card to the circulation desk! Staff will retrieve the item for you to check out.



“To provide access to varied materials and services for lifelong enrichment”

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The board meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 4pm, at the Library. The public is welcome to attend.