

APRIL - MAY 2026

NPL INSIDER

157 N. Main St., Nappanee, IN 46550

574.773.7919

nappanelibrary.org

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

A review of the library, our programs, and our services from 2025. (pg 2 - 3).

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Support your local library! (pg 11).



NAPPANEE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

In 2025, as plans for the library renovation took shape, the NPL community continued to show up and use the library in meaningful ways. Nearly 90,000 visits, more than 136,000 items borrowed, and thousands of reference questions answered showed that NPL remained a busy, trusted place for learning, connection, and support. From packed kids programs and summer reading participation to strong use of technology, online resources, and the Library of Things, these numbers reflect a library that is actively serving all ages. **We are investing in a library that already works hard for its community and is ready for what comes next.**

New Users
675
New Library Cards

Reference
5,556 Questions Answered
11,043 Computer Sessions
64,111 Prints/Copies
2,059 Pages Faxed

Reading Challenges
1,518 Summer Reading Challenge Participants
55 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Participants, **Including 10 Finishers**
20 100 Books Before High School Participants
6 100 Books Before Graduation Participants

Followers
6,761 Total Followers on Social Media

Circulation
136,634 Total Items Borrowed
85,026 Kids Items Borrowed
28,259 Digital Items Borrowed
3,235 Library of Things Items Borrowed

Door Counts
89,451 Total Visitors

Online Resources
99,480 Total Uses

Programs & Attendance
159 Adult Programs
2,019 Total Attendance
363 Kid Programs
5,825 Total Attendance
86 Heritage Collection
1,282 Total Attendance



Online Users
33,491 Wireless Internet Users



KIDS

Unless noted, registration is requested for all programs.
Register online at nappaneelibrary.org or call (574) 773-7919

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

LEGO WEEK

April 6 - April 11
During Library Hours | Age: 5 - 18
Stop in each day to complete a new Lego building challenge and enter for a chance to win a LEGO set.

BEYBLADE BATTLES

April 10
2:30 - 3:30 pm | Age: 5 - 12
Bring your Beyblades to the library to battle with other players.

BOOK REVIEW SHOW & TELL

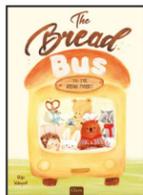
April 13 & May 4
1 - 2 pm | Age: 5 - 18
Bring your latest book review to life and share it with others show-and-tell style. **This program is recommended for homeschool students but all kids and teens are welcome.**

APRIL SHOWERS

April 14 | 4 - 4:45 pm
Age: 5 - 12
Decorate an umbrella to keep yourself dry this Spring.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK STORYTIME

April 20 | 10 - 10:45 am
Age 1 - 5
Join us for a special library-themed storytime to celebrate National Library Week! We will have books, crafts, and projects available for little ones.



READ IT & EAT IT
April 21 | 4:15 - 4:45 pm
Age: 5 - 12
Read a story together and enjoy a snack inspired by the book.

DENIM DAY

April 29 | 4 - 4:45 pm
Age: 5 - 12
Bring something denim, like a jacket, bag, or jeans, and customize it with iron on patches and fabric paint.

CHOMPSAW SATURDAY

May 2 | 2 - 4 pm
Age: 5 - 12
Drop in anytime between 2 and 4 pm to try out the ChompSaw and create a fun project!

BOOK PAGE EARRINGS

May 5 | 4 - 5 pm
Age: 8 - 18
Use book pages to create a custom, handmade pair of earrings. Design a pair for yourself or create a unique gift for a loved one, just in time for Mother's Day!



LITTLE BOOK WORMS
May 11 | 4 - 5 pm
Age: 0 - 7
Find a spot in the library to read the book with your child and make a craft!

SLIME CLUB

May 18 | 4 - 5 pm
Age: 5 - 12
Kids get hands-on with colorful slime, creating squishy masterpieces.

WOODEN JAR PAINTING

May 19 | 4 - 5 pm
Age: 5 - 12
Paint a wooden mason jar and fill it with wooden bug cutouts.

FRIDAYS @ NPL

Hang out at NPL on Fridays!
3:30 - 4:30 pm | Age: 5 - 12
Join us for a fun after school activity in the Kid's department most Friday afternoons! No registration necessary.

HOT WHEELS CLUB

April 10 & May 8
Bring your Hot Wheels cars and tracks to the library and play with friends.

BLOCK PARTY

April 17 & May 15
Get creative with Lincoln Logs, Magna Tiles, Tinker Toys, and more.

UNO CLUB

April 24 & May 22
Play all the different kinds of UNO.

LEGO CLUB

May 1
Hang out with your friends and build something new and fun with LEGOs.



JOIN US EVERY MONTH FOR STORYTIME!

Upcoming Dates: April 1, April 15, May 6, & May 20
10 - 10:45 am | Recommended Age: 1 - 5 & Families



Enjoy stories and crafts at the library! Bring the kids to the library for a fun storytime. Together we will read an awesome story that sparks imaginations and keeps little ones engaged. Afterward, stick around for a fun activity that fits the theme.

Storytime isn't just fun, it helps kids build early reading skills, boost their creativity, and practice listening and sharing. Plus, it's a great chance for families to hang out together and enjoy some quality time.

TEENS

Unless noted, registration is requested for all programs.
Register online at nappaneelibrary.org or call (574) 773-7919

Upcoming Programs

BOOK PAGE COASTERS | April 6 | 1 - 2 pm | Teens
Use recycled book pages to make your own bookish coasters.

BEADED PLANTS | April 23 | 4 - 5 pm | Teens
Make a plant that will last forever using beads and wire.

TINY ART | May 4 | 4 - 5 pm | Teens
Create a tiny masterpiece using acrylic paint and mini canvas.

MOSAIC PICTURE FRAME | May 21 | 4 - 5 pm | Teens
Create a custom mosaic picture frame using glass!



CHECK OUT THE TEEN COLLECTION!

Teen items now have their very own space! The teen collection, previously shelved with the fiction collection, has been moved to a new location in the library. It is located on the Upper Level in the southwest corner, across from the Fiction stacks. There are nearly 3,000 items in the collection, including books, audiobooks, graphic novels, and more. **We are eagerly awaiting the completion of the Teen Room addition and can't wait to share more details as the renovation progresses.**



CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR MOST RECENT READING CHALLENGE FINISHERS!

Steven H. & Ezra Miller

Read 100 Books Before High School!

Caroline Veenstra

Read 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten!

Asa Hatcher

Read 100 Books Before Graduation!



Albus Approved Spring Break Reading List

Upcoming Programs

HANDMADE

Monthly | 11 am - 12:30 pm | Adult
Learn simple crafts, easy recipes, and other handmade skills that are fun and practical.
April 1 | Gardener's Hand Scrub
May 6 | Monte Cristo

MAGGIE'S BOOK BITES PODCAST

New Episodes Monthly
Maggie and her guests will be talking about all things books. Listen for reviews and recommendations. **Apple podcasts, Spotify, Amazon, Pandora or Stitcher.**
April 3 | State & National Parks
May 1 | Book Club Pressure

PINTEREST NIGHT

Monthly | 5:30 - 7 pm | Adult
Make a new craft each month!
April 8 | Beaded Plant
May 13 | Button Bouquet

PUZZLE SWAP

April 10 - April 11
During Library Hours
Bring a puzzle without any missing pieces to trade for one that's new-to-you.

COFFEE CAN VASE

April 10 | 2 - 4 pm | Adult
Recycle an empty coffee can into a vase for fresh or dried flowers.

SATURDAY STITCHERS

April 11 & May 9 | 11 am - 3 pm
Adult | at the Heritage Collection
This crafty group meets once a month to chat and cross-stitch together. No registration necessary.

GENEALOGY CLUB

April 14 & May 12 | 5:30 - 7 pm
Adult | at the Heritage Collection
Use genealogy resources and get help while you discover your family history. No registration necessary.

DIRECTOR CHATS

April 15 & May 20 | 12 - 12:30 pm
Get updates on the current library renovation and learn more about what's going on at NPL. Refreshments will be available while supplies last.

FRIENDS MEETING

April 16 & May 21 | 6 - 7 pm | Adult
Join the Friends of the Nappanee Public Library monthly meeting. No registration necessary.

BINGO

April 17, May 1, & May 15
1 - 2 pm | at the Heritage Collection
Play BINGO with friends and win prizes. Donations for prizes are welcome.

MICHIANA BEE KEEPERS

April 18 & May 16 | 9 am - 12 pm
at the Heritage Collection
Join the Michiana Bee Keepers for their monthly meeting and learn more about bees and bee keeping.

HERITAGE SKILLS

10 - 11 am | Adult
Learn classic heritage skills for a more wholesome lifestyle.
April 20 | Elderberry Syrup
May 4 | Crafting Vinegar

CREATIVE CANVAS

Monthly | Adult | 5:30 - 7 pm
at the Heritage Collection
Follow a step-by-step tutorial to create a unique work of art.
April 21 | Boho Painting
May 19 | Lighthouse Painting

MAKE-A-MIX

Monthly | 10 - 10:30 am | Adult
Make a different mix monthly.
April 22 | Granola Bars Mix
May 27 | Spaghetti Sauce

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK FARMER'S MARKET

April 23 | 5 - 7 pm
Support your local community during National Library Week! Join us at our farmers market! Celebrate local crafters, bakers, and makers.
Email adultprograms@nappaneelibrary.org to secure a free vendor spot.

WHO WAS MINNIE PEARL?

May 21 | 10 - 11 am | Adult
at the Heritage Collection
Always wearing a straw hat with \$1.98 price tag hanging from it, Minnie Pearl was a well known comedian and country singer who appeared at the Grand Ole Opry for more than 50 years. Learn more about her life.

DIGITAL PRESERVATION TOOLS

May 22 | 2 - 3 pm | Adult
Learn about the tools that the library has to digitize old media types and keep your memories safe.

Technology Programs

CREATE IN 3D

April 7 | 5:30 - 6:30 pm | Adult
Learn how to use a 3D Pen to create fun and useful items out of nothing more than melted plastic and imagination. This month we will be making a coffee cup coaster.

AI CAFE

April 23 | 12 - 1 pm
Drop by the AI Cafe to explore Generative AI tools and ways that they can be used. Bring your own lunch and join the conversation about Generative AI.

Join a Library Book Club! Connect with fellow readers and dive into great discussions at our library book clubs for adults. New members are always welcome!
Registration is required to borrow a copy of the monthly book pick.

NOT SO YOUNG ADULT

Young Adult | Bi-Monthly | 5:30 - 6:30 pm

The Not So Young Adult Book Club is for adults who love to read YA books. Whether you've been a YA fan for years or are just discovering the genre, this book club offers a welcoming space to celebrate the joy of reading and sharing stories.



April 21
Under the Same Stars by Libba Bray

COVER TO COVER

General | Monthly | 5:30 - 7 pm

Join us each month to read a book selected by the members. Selections alternate between fiction and nonfiction each month and with the diversity of the group it is always a lively discussion.



April 21
The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts



May 26
All Good People Here by Ashley Flowers

RECIPE READERS

Cooking | Bi-Monthly | 10 - 11 am

Dive into delicious reads all about cooking, food, and diet. Whether it's a chef's memoir, a foodie adventure, or a book packed with recipes to try at home. If you have a passion for cooking (or just love food), join us for a fun, flavorful discussion!



May 23
The Fresh Eggs Daily Cookbook: over 100 fabulous recipes to use eggs in unexpected ways by Lisa Steele

GRUMPY SUNSHINE

Romance | Bi-Monthly | 5 - 6 pm | Adult

Read the book of the month (BOTM), a book of your choice that features the trope of the month, or choose from the list of recommendations, then join us for a fun chat about the trope and discuss your favorite reads.

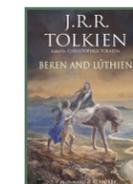


April 16
Trope: Forced Proximity
BOTM: *The Spanish Love Deception (Love Deception, #1)* by Elena Armas

SPLIT / FICTION

Sci-Fi & Fantasy | Bi-Monthly | 5 - 6 pm | Adult

Read everything from epic battles to exotic planets, from cozy creatures to terrifying monsters, let's not forget the dragons! We will read a book from one of the two genres (and their respective subgenres) and you can join us for a good discussion about the book.

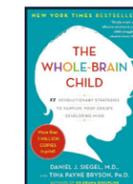


May 20
Beren and Luthien by J.R.R. Tolkien

READ BETWEEN THE NAPS

Parenting | Bi-Monthly | 6 - 7 pm

at the Heritage Collection
Calling all busy parents who love books but barely have time to read! No required reading, just a recommended book each month. Join us for conversations about books, parenthood, and everything in between.



April 9
Recommended book: *The Whole-Brain Child: Revolutionary Strategies to Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind* by Daniel Siegel

Upcoming Programs

Unless noted, registration is requested for all programs. Register online at nappaneelibrary.org or call (574) 773-7919



Taste of Nappanee

AN IMMERSIVE WALKING TOUR IN NAPPANEE, IN 3RD TUESDAY, MONTHLY | 3 - 4:30 PM OR 6 - 7:30 PM MAY - SEPTEMBER | STARTING AT \$30

Taste of Nappanee is an immersive walking and tasting experience that brings Nappanee's history to life through stories, places, and flavors. Guests journey through downtown, engaging their senses as they discover how bold decisions, resilient people, and shared traditions shaped the community. Walk the streets. Hear the stories. Taste the traditions.

For group pricing and reservations call 574-773-7919 or email heritagecollection@nappaneelibrary.org

BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES

April 1 & May 6 | 12 - 1 pm

Enjoy your lunch at the Heritage Collection and learn about Nappanee History. Each month, we will be discussing and discovering a different topic. Lunch is not provided.

COPPES CLIPS

April 13 & May 11 | 10 - 11 am

Live on Facebook
Coppes Nappanee is 150! Tune in on Facebook and join Martha each month as she dives deeper into their history and shares a variety of fun facts.

POKÉGNEK BODÉWADMIK, THE POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

April 16 | 6 - 7 pm | Adults

Dr. John Low, Professor Emeritus at Ohio State University and citizen of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, will lead a discussion on the Potawatomi in northwest Indiana with a focus on the Nappanee area.

CRAFTING WITH JEN

10 - 11 am | Teen & Adult

Join Jen for a fun day of crafting at the Heritage Collection.

April 25 | Beeswax Wraps

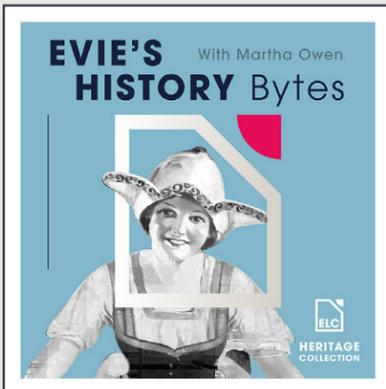
May 16 | Tin Punching

CRIME AND CRAFTING

April 28 & May 26, 5:30 - 7 pm

or April 29 & May 27, 10 - 11:30 Adults

Join us at the ELC Heritage Collection for a monthly gathering where crafters of all kinds bring their projects and enjoy the suspense of true crime. While you knit, paint, scrapbook, or work on any craft of your choice, we'll play gripping true crime podcasts or audiobooks in the background.



LISTEN NOW!

EVIE'S HISTORY BYTES PODCAST

Available on Spotify, iTunes, Pandora, or Audible!

Each month Martha and her guests will discuss important parts of Nappanee history. Hear fascinating stories from your neighbors, get to know the world around you, and discover more about the city of Nappanee.

New Episode Monthly

April 29 | Indigenous People Groups with Dr. John Low

May 27 | Historic Preservation with Deb Parcell



April 20 - April 25, 2026

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK



Support your local library during National Library Week. Participate all week long through different activities at the library and special events!

SPECIAL EVENTS



Coffee & Cookies | Monday, April 20, 9 - 11 am
Enjoy a free morning snack to kick off the celebration.

Storytime | Monday, April 20 | 10 - 10:45
Join us for a special library-themed storytime for kids age 0 -12.

Farmers Market | Thursday, April 24, 5 - 7 pm
Support your local community! Join us at our farmers market! Celebrate local crafters, bakers, and makers. Email adultprograms@nappaneelibrary.org to secure a free spot by April 9.

APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Unless noted, registration is requested in advance for all programs. Register online at nappaneelibrary.org, call (574) 773-7919, or visit the library.</p> <p>AGE GROUPS All Ages Kids Teens Adults</p>			1 Storytime 10 - 10:45 am Handmade 11 am - 12:30 pm Brown Bag Lunch 12 - 1 pm	2	3 Maggie's Book Bites New Episode CLOSING AT 12 PM FOR GOOD FRIDAY	4
			5	6 Book Page Coasters 1 - 2 pm	7 Create in 3D 5:30 - 6:30 pm	8 Pinterest Night 5:30 - 7 pm
			LEGO WEEK			PUZZLE SWAP
12	13 Coppes Clips 10 - 11 am Book Review Show & Tell 1 - 2 pm	14 April Showers 4 - 4:45 pm Genealogy Club 5:30 - 7 pm	15 Storytime 10 - 10:45 am Director Chats 12 - 12:30 pm	16 Grumpy Sunshine 5 - 6 pm Friends Meeting 6 - 7 pm Pokégnék Bodéwadmik 6 - 7 pm	17 BINGO 1 - 2 pm Block Party 3:30 - 4:30 pm	18 Michiana Bee Keepers 9 am - 12 pm
19	20 National Library Week Storytime 10 - 10:45 am Heritage Skills 10 - 11 am	21 Read It & Eat It 4:15 - 4:45 pm Cover to Cover 5:30 - 7 pm Creative Canvas 5:30 - 7 pm Not So YA 5:30 - 7 pm	22 Make-a-Mix 10 - 10:30 am	23 AI Cafe 12 - 1 pm Beaded Plants 4 - 5 pm Farmer's Market 5 - 7 pm	24 UNO Club 3:30 - 4:30 pm	25 Crafting with Jen 10 - 11 am
26	27	28 Crime & Crafting 5:30 - 7 pm	29 Evie's History Bytes New Episode Crime & Crafting 10 - 11:30 am Denim Day 4 - 4:45 pm	30		

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
 <p>Unless noted, registration is requested in advance for all programs. Register online at nappaneelibrary.org, call (574) 773-7919, or visit the library.</p> <p>AGE GROUPS All Ages Kids Teens Adults</p>			1 Maggie's Book Bites New Episode BINGO 1 - 2 pm LEGO Club 3:30 - 4:30 pm	2 Chompsaw Saturday 2 - 4 pm			
			3	4 Heritage Skills 10 - 11:30 am Book Review Show & Tell 1 - 2 pm Tiny Art 4 - 5 pm	5 Book Page Earrings 4 - 5 pm	6 Storytime 10 - 10:45 am Handmade 11 am - 12:30 pm Brown Bag Lunch 12 - 1 pm	7
10	11 Coppes Clips 10 - 11 am Little Bookworms 4 - 5 pm	12 Genealogy Club 5:30 - 7 pm	13 Pinterest Night 5:30 - 7 pm	14	15 BINGO 1 - 2 pm Block Party 3:30 - 4:30 pm	16 Michiana Bee Keepers 9 am - 12 pm Crafting with Jen 10 - 11 am	
17	18 Slime Club 4 - 5 pm	19 Taste of Nappanee 3 - 4:30 pm or 6 - 7:30 pm Wooden Jar Painting 4 - 5 pm Creative Canvas 5:30 - 7 pm	20 Storytime 10 - 10:45 am Director Chats 12 - 12:30 pm Split Fiction 5 - 6 pm	21 Who was Minnie Pearl? 10 - 11 am Mosaic Picture Frame 4 - 5 pm Friends Meeting 6 - 7 pm	22 Digital Preservations Tools 2 - 3 pm UNO Club 3:30 - 4:30 pm	23 The Recipe Readers 10 - 11 am	
24	25 Closed for Memorial Day		26 Cover to Cover 5:30 - 7 pm Crime & Crafting 5:30 - 7 pm	27 Evie's History Bytes New Episode Make-a-Mix 10 - 10:30 am Crime & Crafting 10 - 11:30 am	28	29	30
31							

TASTE *of Nappanee*

**An Immersive Walking Tour in
Nappanee, IN Coming May 2026**

Walk the streets. Hear the stories. Taste the traditions.

More on page 8.



All of our events and programs may be photographed or recorded for promotional purposes. Please let us know if you prefer not to be photographed or recorded. We will never use your name without consent.



So we can be best prepared to assist with your needs, we ask individuals who require accommodation for Library programs to contact the Library at (574) 773-7919 at least 5 days in advance.

CONTACT US

LOCATIONS

Nappanee Public Library
157 N Main St. Nappanee,
IN

ELC Heritage Collection
302 W Market St. Nap-
panee, IN

(574)773-7919

www.nappaneelibrary.org



LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Friday - Saturday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday
Closed

ELC HERITAGE COLLECTION HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sunday
Closed

HOLIDAY HOURS

April 3
Closing at 12 pm for Good
Friday.

May 25
Closed for Memorial Day.

