

A Christmas Storywalk®

Follow this month's storybook page by page through uptown and read about Fitz and *The Best Parts of Christmas* by Bethanie Murguia. *Fritz knows that the best parts of Christmas happen around the tree. This year, Fritz gets to pick out the perfect tree. When Christmas is over and the tree begins to drop needles, Mom and Dad say it's time to say good-bye. How can Fritz keep his Christmas tree—and the happiness gathered around it—with him all year?* To start your walk, stop at the front desk and pick up a Coded Tales sheet. As you walk from business to business, be sure to write down the code letter located at each stop. When you finish the story, you should have spelled out a special message that you can bring back to the library's front desk to receive a prize!



A Cool Mystery

Are you ready to return to the Winter Faire for another frosty, winter adventure? Join Miss Lisa and be whisked away on an enchanting escape room journey that will captivate your imagination and get you in the Christmas spirit! You'll meet magical and quizzing characters and help them as they aid the forest Wisp in time for the Winter Faire. Can you complete this chilly challenge? It all happens on December 11th at 5:30 p.m. in the downstairs large meeting room. Come ready to test your skills...and eat some snacks!



DECEMBER 2023

COVER TO COVER

Upper Sandusky Community Library



December Events

- 1st: New Storywalk begins
- 2nd: Friends of the Library Santa's Secret Shop
- 6th: Wood 'N It Be Fun
- 7th: Book Talk
- 11th: STEAMPunks
- 14th: Craft Party!
- 18th: Lunch Bunch
- 25th: Closed

Holiday Hours

USCL will be closed on
Monday, December 25th
 and
Monday, January 1st

Merry Christmas!

From the Director

I am writing this on the day after Thanksgiving, so I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for being able to serve this wonderful community, and to thank you for the vote to renew our tax levy. Thanks to this, we will be able to continue getting new books, movies and other resources, as well as offering a wide variety of programs for all ages. We plan to continue to grow our services to you over the years to come. One new venture to come in spring of 2024 will be a new Story Walk® at Stepping Stones Park. This is being funded through a grant from the Wyandot County Community Foundation, and with the support of the Parks and Recreation Department. We are also looking for ways to expand our outreach to homebound residents of our community, including collaboration with the Council on Aging, Wyandot County Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and other agencies. And we are always on the lookout for opportunities to engage our wonderful library "family." Again – thank you for the chance to serve you. I am truly grateful for every one of you.

Kathleen Whitt

Wood 'n It Be Fun!



USCL welcomes Jim and Diane Hogan on Wednesday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m. as they show participants how to sand and paint a unique wood craft.

Wear old clothes or bring an apron to enjoy this chance to celebrate the holiday season with a creative painting project. Registration begins on November 27th and is required for this program. *Adults only, please.*



Dinovember STORY STOMP

Tiny Tots Storytime
 (ages 0-3):
 Monday 10:00 a.m.,
 Tuesday 5:30 p.m.,
 and Wednesday 11:00 a.m.

Storytime
 with
Miss Jill



Preschool Storytime
 (ages 3-6):
 Monday 11:00 a.m.

Connect with us! www.usclibrary.org or uscl@seolibraries.org
 Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Education Station Now Available

USCL is happy to offer a new, free online resource for our homeschooling patrons. Education Station is a site designed to be a one-stop destination for elementary grade learning. This site consists of two core pieces of content: learning plans and worksheets. Both are designed to engage children in meaningful, hands-on learning. The weekly plans consist of five days of instruction and activities, along with 5+ worksheets to support learning. Each of the plans are aligned to standards and topics that children need to master. There is a suggested sequence for the learning plans but you can also mix and match or choose which plans work best for the children you are supporting. To access this resource, go to usclibrary.com and click on the "Find Information" tab and select "Research Databases."



Up In The Club

Start your new year by joining one of USCL's book clubs! Check out some of next year's book selections for a preview of what's to come.

If casual reading is more your style, join Krystal for Book Talk, where people share their thoughts about what they are reading; you are encouraged to add your own unique suggestions and reviews. Book Talk meets on the first Thursday of the month at 11:00 a.m. in USCL's downstairs boardroom.

COMMON READERS

Third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
in USCL's downstairs meeting room

January 16th

The Book Thief
by Markus Zusak
Discussion Leader: Krystal Smalley

February 20th

Mad Honey
by Jodi Picoult &
Jennifer Finney Boylan
Discussion Leader:
Nanette Warnecke-Flood

March 19th

The Diamond Eye
by Kate Quin
Discussion Leader: Vicki Orians

INGLORIOUS BOOKWORMS

Fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
in USCL's downstairs meeting room

January 23rd

Genre: Science Fiction
Project Hail Mary
by Andy Weir

February 28th

Genre: Romance
*The Very Secret Society of Irregular
Witches* by Sangu Mandana

March 27th

Genre: Mystery
The Last Thing He Told Me
by Laura Dave

Common Readers and Inglorious Bookworms
do not meet in December or July.

Lunch Bunch

Join Cheryl on Monday, December 18th at noon in USCL's large meeting room for a very special Lunch Bunch gathering. Celebrate the season with delicious holiday potluck and optional \$5 cooking-themed gift exchange. Bring a copy of the recipe-and your Christmas spirit-to share with the group!

Layered Peppermint Icebox Cake

3 cups heavy whipping cream
3 Tbsp. sugar
1 tsp. peppermint extract
2 packages (9 oz. each) chocolate wafers
Chocolate curls, crushed candy and edible flowers of your choice for decoration.

In a large bowl, beat the cream, sugar and peppermint extract on high until stiff peaks form. Fill a pastry bag with whipped cream. On a serving plate, arrange seven cookies in a circle, using one cookie in the center. Pipe 2/3 cups whipped cream over cookies. Repeat layers nine times. Refrigerate overnight. Garnish with flowers, chocolate curls and crushed candy if desired.



Don't have a pastry bag handy?

Fill a plastic sandwich baggie with your whipped cream and simply snip a corner from the bottom and squeeze the bag to decorate!



Find more delicious and easy recipes in *Taste of Home Holidays and Celebrations* cookbook available in the 641 section of the non-fiction area.

Christmas Craft Party!

The holidays are the perfect time to break out the glue guns and join your friends for an evening of Christmas crafting.

On Thursday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room, we'll welcome Darlene Perricone as she demonstrates how to make mini decorative Christmas trees.

Then it's a creative free-for-all as you design your own candy cane wreath using assorted ribbon and Christmas trim. Throw in some snacks and Christmas tunes and let the party begin! It's all free and all adults, so register for your spot starting December 4th.



Baby, It's Cold Outside

What's better than getting a notice that the book you've been waiting to read has finally come in? Not having to get out of your car and into the cold to pick it up!

USCL is pleased to continue to offer Click and Collect to all our patrons. Here's how it works:

- Download the SEO App.
- Open your App to see if your holds are available.
- If your holds are in, you will see the Click and Collect option. Select this option.
- Select "I am on my way" and choose your arrival time.
- You will receive a message telling you where to park.
- One of our staff will bring your items to your car!

This service is available from 10:00 a.m. until 30 minutes before close.

Can't download the App? You can also call 419-294-1345 to request curbside service.

In Memory of... **Jane Woods**
by Carl and Helen Shinn