

LTL Newsletter

Leighton Township Library

4451 12th Street

Moline, Michigan



History of Leighton Township Library

The Leighton Township Library began on March 4, 1974, as the Moline Public Library - a branch of the Dorr Township Library. It was initially located in a small 10x12 room in the basement of the Moline Town Hall, a historic building that had once served as a Christian Reformed Church (built in 1914) at 4410 Chappell Street. The library opened with 392 books. In 1982, after building renovations, it moved upstairs. By the early 1990s, the aging structure raised concerns and, in 1994, Dorr Township decided to end its funding of the Moline Branch. Moline residents rallied and, in September 1995, voters approved a 2-mill tax to establish their own library.

On April 1, 1996, the Leighton Township Library was officially established. Although it was now an independent entity, the library continued to operate in the same building, paying rent to Dorr Township, while planning for a new, dedicated library facility. A 10.79 acre property was secured on 12th Street and, on November 19, 1997, ground was broken for the new library. The project was completed and move-in began on October 8, 1998. Thus, the new Leighton Township Library officially opened its doors, marking a new chapter in the library's history and solidifying its place as a vital resource for the community. The bell from the old church where the library first began was brought to our new location, where it still sits today. A bell symbolizes peace and freedom and, as a communication symbol, it calls a community together. This symbol blends the past history with the future of the library.

A 2006 expansion added 665 square feet to the meeting room, along with a kitchen area and built in cupboards, plus a 555 square foot children's room and a redesigned front entry with power-assisted door providing better weather protection. An open house celebrated this milestone on September 27, 2006. In spring 2016, construction of the new Leighton Township Offices began on the north side of the library. The project was completed that October, with an open house held in December. As the community continued to grow, the library soon needed more space. Groundbreaking for another addition took place on September 27, 2021, adding 2,850 square feet that included study rooms, a makerspace, and more shelving. The renovation open house was held on March 22, 2022, followed by a community celebration with crafts and activities on March 26. In October 2023, the library received a grant for health and food literacy, resulting in a garden space and seed library which opened in the spring of 2024.

From just 392 books in 1974 to more than 42,000 items today, Leighton Township Library has grown with its community — and we're excited to see where the next chapter takes us.

RECURRING EVENTS

YOUTH

- **Storytime**
Wednesdays 10:30 am
- **Small Bites** 4:00 pm
1st Wed. every other month
- **Moving & Grooving**
Fridays 10:30 am
- **Sensory Saturday** 10:30 am
2nd Saturday each month
- **LEGO Club**
1st & 3rd Mondays
Drop in 3:00-5:00 pm
- **Creators Club**
2nd & 4th Mondays
Drop in 3:00-5:00 pm
- **First Chapter**
2nd Wednesdays 4:00 pm
- **Anime Café**
3rd Wednesdays 6:00 pm
- **Tail Waggin' Tutors**
Read to a dog
Thursdays 3:30 pm
- **Tween Night**
1st Thursdays 6:00 pm
- **Nancy Drew Night**
2nd Thursdays 6:00 pm
- **Teen Night**
3rd Thursdays 6:00 pm

ADULT

- **Book Club**
4th Mondays 6:30 pm
- **Community Coffee**
Thursdays 10:30 am
- **Seasons of Spice**
Monthly take home packet. *Signup Required.*

November Events

Medicare 101 - 11/5 at 6:30 pm or 11/10 at 1:00 pm

Join us for a free Medicare 101 educational event (presented by Jay Simon) designed to help you understand your Medicare options. Whether you're new to Medicare or just looking to refresh your knowledge, this session will cover the basics of Parts A, B, C, and D, enrollment timelines, and how to avoid common pitfalls. No sales—just helpful, unbiased information to empower your healthcare decisions. Choose to come Wednesday evening (11/5) or Monday afternoon (11/10).

First Chapter - 11/12 at 4:00 pm

Join us for a delightful read-aloud session where we'll explore the beginnings of various books together! Whether it's a story you've yet to discover or an old favorite, enjoy the magic of hearing it come to life in a new voice. Come listen, relax, and dive into new adventures! Designed for junior fiction readers, but all ages welcome.

Gingerbread House Painting - 11/12 at 6:00 pm

Get into the holiday spirit with us! Join our craft event where we'll paint small ceramic houses and transform them into adorable gingerbread-style cottages.

Fused Glass Ornaments - 11/15 Choose 10:00 or 11:00 am

Make your own fused glass ornaments in this holiday class led by Sue Hazen! This year's ornaments have 2 choices featuring either a penguin or a snowman. Make as many as you like. All ages welcome. Cost is \$14 per ornament. Signup and payment are required no later than 11/8/25. Cash, check, or Venmo.



Porch Pots - 11/19 at 6:00 pm

Create your own holiday porch pot or centerpiece using fresh evergreen branches! Bring a pot filled with dirt from home, or use a cup or bowl to make a festive tabletop version. Signup required.

Thanksgiving - 11/27 & 28 CLOSED

The library will be closed Thursday and Friday (11/27-11/28) for Thanksgiving. Be sure to stock up on your reading before the holiday! We'll reopen on Saturday, 11/29.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook for any last minute changes in programming. Check out our library YouTube channel, Facebook page, or visit leightonlibrary.org.

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