COVER TO COVER

MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

JANUARY 2026

KEY

RR: REGISTRATION REQUIRED
H: HEADLANDS
HB: THE HUB
M: MAIN
L: LAKE
V: VIRTUAL

ADULT

ADULT

M **Winter Reading Challenge**
All January & February
Adults and teens (7th grade and up) can read something new and win something too! Pick up a Winter Reading Challenge bingo sheet from our Reference Desk or online at **mentorpl.beanstack.org**. Earn raffle tickets for reading books and completing activities like attending our programs, watching an author talk, or borrowing something from our Library of Things. (It's the perfect season to borrow a cake pan!) There'll be prize drawings at the end of January and February.

L **Color Me Calm**
Monday, Jan. 5, at 10 am
Adults can color while listening to relaxing music. Registration encouraged.

H **Come Crack Cold Cases**
Monday, Jan. 5, at 2 pm
Mystery buffs unite! Detectives can test their skills by solving fictional cold cases. Examine the evidence and identify the murderer. RR

L **Tracer Tuesdays**
Tuesdays, Jan. 6 and 27, from 1 to 3 pm
Patrons with genealogy questions can schedule a one-on-one appointment at our Lake Branch. Call us at 440-257-2512 to make an appointment. RR

M **Dry January Mocktails**
Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 6 pm
Katie Perdue from SoBern Journey will demonstrate how to make different delicious mocktails that don't depend on alcohol for their appeal. RR

HB **Frost & Fire**
Wednesdays, Jan. 7 or 14, At 5:30 pm
Make wooden snowflake tea light holders using The HUB's laser engraver. RR

HB **One-of-a-Kind Crossbody Bag**
Thursdays, Jan. 8 or 15, At 5:30 pm
Tote your essentials while looking impeccable! Customize a unique crossbody pouch using The HUB's Cricut. RR

M **Let's Cook with LaDonna Oltmanns**
Wednesday, Jan. 7, at 6:30 pm
Local chef LaDonna Oltmanns leads a free cooking demonstration using our spice of the month, urfa biber! RR

M **Supplementation 101: Simple Tips for Starting a Supplement Routine**
Thursday, Jan. 8, at 6 pm
Heinen's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Todd Pesek offers his insights on basic supplements. He'll answer common questions including what's the difference between synthetic and whole food-based supplements, where should someone start with supplements, and when are supplements necessary. These answers can be different depending on the person, so make sure to attend Dr. Pesek's talk. RR

Nature Journaling
Saturday, Jan. 10, at 9 am
Explore different journaling techniques across a variety of mediums. Open to all ages and skill levels. This meeting will be hosted in partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Second Saturday Science program. Join other nature journalers and venture into **Mentor Marsh**! (Park at the corner of Woodridge and Forest Roads.) RR

Winter Bird Walk
Sunday, Jan. 11, at 2 pm
Join the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's naturalist to explore natural areas and see what birds and wildlife are active this time of year. Meet at the **Mentor Marsh Nature Center** (5185 Corduroy Road) for a fun winter outing. All ages and experience levels are welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them and dress for the weather. RR

M **Monday University: The Declaration of Independence**
Monday, Jan. 12, at 6:30
To celebrate its 250th anniversary, Dr. John Foster will discuss the history of the Declaration of Independence — its importance when it was signed and its meaning now! RR

H **Winter Quilling**
Monday, Jan. 12, at 6:30 pm
Learn the basics of paper quilling while making an adorable snowflake craft. Instruction by MulWal Creations. RR

H **Headlands Writers' Group**
Monday, Jan. 12, at 7 pm
By popular demand! Our Headlands Branch is launching a monthly writers' group for adults that will meet on the second Monday of each month. The evening will begin with a guided prewriting exercise and 30 minutes of free writing, followed by group sharing and constructive criticism. Hosted at the **Headlands Community Center**. RR

V **The Compassionate Art of Seeing Others Deeply with David Brooks**
Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 2 pm
Join an online discussion with cultural writer and bestselling author David Brooks. He'll discuss his new book, **How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply.** He examines what it takes to know someone in a meaningful sense. You can join the discussion at **libraryc.org/mentorpl**. RR

L **Castaways**
Wednesdays, Jan. 14 & 28, at 10:30 am
Stitch with friends! Bring whatever knitting, crocheting, or other fiber art project you're working on.

L **Exploring Sankalpa: The Power of Intention through Meditation & Mindfulness**
Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 6 pm
Sankalpa means heartfelt intention. Learn why New Year's Resolutions don't work but sankalpa can! The class will be led by Jennifer Langsdale, a certified yoga therapist and owner of Wild Nurturer Wellness of Concord. It will use breathing techniques, guided meditation, and writing exercises. RR

H **Headlands Craft Social Squad**
Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 6 pm
Crafters and artists *of all ages* and skill levels can enjoy company while working on their next projects.

L **The Apollo Program**
Thursday, Jan. 15, at 6:30 pm
Eric Rivet, chief curator for the Western Reserve Historical Society, will share the triumphs and tragedies of the Apollo Program. From 1969 to 1972, 22 American astronauts left Earth's orbit and voyaged to the moon as part of NASA's Apollo program. Twelve of these men walked on the moon. Learn about the men and machines that made it possible. RR

ADULT

Board Game Saturdays
Saturday, Jan. 17, 9 am to 4:30 pm
Board > Bored! Play games from our collection or bring your own on the third Saturday of every month.

Saturday Scrapbooking
Saturday, Jan. 17, 9 am to 4 pm
Bring your supplies for a full day of cropping with fellow scrapbooking enthusiasts. RR

Spice Club: Urfa Biber
Starting Sunday, Jan. 18
Pick up a free take-home kit from our reference desk with a sample of this month's spice and a suggested recipe. One kit per family, while supplies last.

Headlands Crafternoon
Thursday, Jan. 20, at 1 pm
Enjoy an afternoon of crafting. Bring your current project. All skill levels welcome!

Nature, Art & Service as Medicine with Journalist Julia Hotz
Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 2 pm
Jumpstart your new year with a virtual chat with journalist Julia Hotz about her new book, **The Connection Cure: The Prescriptive Power of Movement, Nature, Art, Service, and Belonging**. Discover how connection can have a surprising effect on some of the modern world's most common ailments. Join the conversation at **libraryc.org/mentorpl**. RR

Tuesday Night Crochet Club
Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 6:30 pm
Fiber artists can work on projects, get ideas, and learn from each other while they work. No registration required.

Instant Pot Demo with LaDonna
Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 3 pm
Local chef LaDonna Oltmanns shares the basics of how to use an instapot safely to make enjoyable meals. RR

Tai Chi for Arthritis
Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 3:15 pm
This class will be led by Libby Hill, a master trainer for the Tai Chi for Health Institute. It focuses on gentle movements that will help reduce pain, increase strength, and improve balance. All experience levels welcome. Wear comfortable clothes. RR

Headlands Crockpot Club
Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 pm
Enjoy a fun evening of sharing dishes and recipes. Bring whatever dish you want, along with an ingredients list. RR

Medicare 101
Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 pm
Steve Milton from Senior Health Insurance will explain how Medicare works and affects you. Learn what Parts A, B, C, and D cover and what is not covered. Learn the difference between a Medicare Supplement and a Medicare Advantage Plan. Bring your Medicare questions, RR

Downsize & Thrive: Decluttering Your Space
Thursday, Jan. 22, at 6 pm
Join Christie and Mick — the husband-and-wife team from Downsize and Thrive — as they discuss one of life's overwhelming experiences. Learn how decluttering and organizing can be a seamless and dignified experience for homeowners. RR

Preserving Your Family Memories: Building the Foundation & Digitizing Old Media
Saturday, Jan. 24, at 1 pm
Learn how to both organize and preserve prints, slides, film, and other old media. Forever ambassador Kari Shick explains how to tackle your old photo collection and covers options for digitizing it. Leave with practical steps and resources. This is the first step of a 2-part series that continues on Jan. 31. You're encouraged to attend both sessions. RR

Gentle Yoga with Deep Relaxation
Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 2 pm
Enjoy gentle yoga that moves at a slower pace and leads into a guided meditation, so the participant can experience deep relaxation through yoga nidra. RR

Secrets & Second Chances with Liz Moore
Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 7 pm
Join Liz Moore, bestselling author of **The God of the Woods**, for an exclusive online discussion. Moore has also written four other novels, including the favorites **Long Bright River** and **The Words of Every Song**. Join the conversation at **libraryc.org/mentorpl**. RR

Preserving Your Family Memories: Organizing Digital Files & Developing a Plan
Saturday, Jan. 31, at 1 pm
Forever Ambassador Kari Shick explains how to organize digital photo files, add details to make searching simple, and create a long-term plan that works for your family. This is the second program in a 2-part series that begins on Jan. 24. You're encouraged to attend both sessions. RR

TECH

Introduction to Streaming Services
Thursday, Jan. 8, at 6:30 pm
With the prices of both cable and streaming services ticking upward, it's important to know what the options are and which would suit you best. Our librarian will explain what different streaming services are out there, including some (like Hoopla and Kanopy) that we provide without charge. RR

eReading: Books for your Tablets & Smartphones
Saturday, Jan. 10, at 10 am
Borrow books and more — even when our branches are closed. Learn how to check out ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, and other materials on your tablet, iPad, smartphone, or computer. RR

Basic Computers & Internet
Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 2 pm
Learn basic skills needed ro use a computer and search the internet. No previous computer knowledge necessary. RR

Word I: Computer Class
Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 pm
Learn how to create, open, and save a document in Microsoft Word. Participants will also learn how to select text and change its formatting. RR

Learn to Use your Android Phone
Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 2 pm
Learn basic information about using mobile devices with more specific info on how to use an Android phone. RR

Word II: Computer Class
Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 6:30 pm
Learn more advanced techniques in Microsoft Word, including how to use quick access and mini toolbars, spell and grammar check, and Word's thesaurus. RR

Finding Your Ancestors: Using Ancestry Library Database
Thursday, Jan. 29, at 2 pm
Ancestry: Library Edition is one of the largest genealogy databases available. Learn how to navigate the site and begin researching your family tree. Computer and internet skills are essential for this class. RR

Microsoft Word: Flyers, Pictures & Drawing Tools
Thursday, Jan. 29, at 6:30 pm
Learn how to use Microsoft Word to create flyers, manipulate pictures, and use its drawing tools. RR

You can also visit **www.mentorpl.org/makerspace** for information about The HUB's makerspace, including how to schedule your one-on-one appointment now!

Book Clubs

Back in Time Book Club
Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 2 pm
This book club travels through time with fiction and nonfiction selections. This month, we discuss **The Glass Ocean** by Beatriz Williams. RR

Tuesday Night Book Club
Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 6:30 pm
Enjoy great reads with great company! This month, we'll be talking about **Class Clown** by Dave Barry. RR

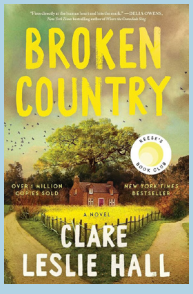
Cookbook Club
Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 6:30 pm
Local chef LaDonna Oltmanns leads this group, which combines a book club and potluck. Each member picks and prepares a recipe to share with the group. This month's book is **Make It Ahead** by Ina Garten. Bring a plate and utensils for yourself and a serving spoon for your dish. RR

Thrills & Chills Book Club
Monday, Jan. 19, at 6:30 pm
Our book club for teens — with books selected by its club members! In January, they will read and discuss **Unwind** by Neal Shusterman For readers, ages 14 - 18 in 9th - 12th grade. RR

Men's Book Club
Monday, Jan. 19, at 7 pm
This month's book is **The Lost Bookshop** by Evie Woods. RR

Science Fiction Book Club
Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 pm
Our club celebrates new and classic speculative fiction. We're discussing **This Is How We Win the Time Way** by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone. RR

Monday Night Book Club
Monday, Jan. 26, at 6:30 pm
Join us for a discussion of bestsellers, popular reads, and books of interest. This month, we're reading and talking about **Broken Country** by Clare Leslie Hall. R



TEEN

Winter Reading Challenge
All January & February
Adults and teens (7th grade and up) can read something new and win something too! Pick up a Winter Reading Challenge bingo sheet from our Reference Desk or online at **mentorpl.beanstack.org**. Earn raffle tickets for reading books and completing activities like attending our programs, watching an author talk, or borrowing something from our Library of Things. (It's the perfect season to borrow a cake pan!) There'll be prize drawings at the end of January and February.

Nature Journaling
Saturday, Jan. 10, at 9 am
Explore different journaling techniques across a variety of mediums. Open to all ages and skill levels. This meeting will be hosted in partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Second Saturday Science program. Join other nature journalers and venture into **Mentor Marsh**! (Park at the corner of Woodridge and Forest Roads.) RR

Winter Bird Walk
Sunday, Jan. 11, at 2 pm
Join the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's naturalist to explore natural areas and see what birds and wildlife are active this time of year. Meet at the **Mentor Marsh Nature Center** (5185 Corduroy Road) for a fun winter outing. All ages and experience levels are welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them and dress for the weather. RR

Thrills & Chills Book Club
Monday, Jan. 19, at 6:30 pm
Our book club for teens — with books selected by its club members! In January, they will read and discuss **Unwind** by Neal Shusterman For readers, ages 14 - 18 in 9th - 12th grade. RR

KIDS

USA — Australia Pen Pal Program
All January
We're teaming with the Port Macquarie Library in New South Wales, Australia, for this program! Kids in first through fifth grade can have a pen pal who lives Down Under! Discuss interests and hobbies with another kid who lives halfway around the world. For more information, visit the Children's Desk at our Main Branch.

Build a Snowman Scavenger Hunt
All January
Snowmen keep melting in the library. (Rude.) Help find their missing pieces hidden around the Lake Branch. Complete the game sheet for a prize.

Finger Paint Fridays
Fridays, from 10 am to noon
Kids can explore their creativity with finger painting every Friday. This activity is largely self-directed with limited assistance from staff. Kids may need to wait for their turn.

LEGO at the Library
Saturday, Jan. 3, at 11 am
Kids (ages 5-12) can rock the blocks on the first Saturday of every month. We provide the LEGO. You bring the creativity!

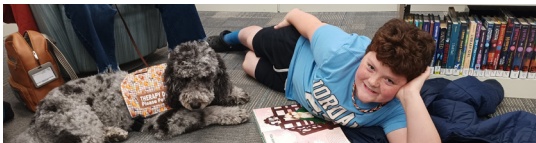
Grab-n-Go Seasonal Crafts
Monday, Jan. 5, at 11 am
Kids can take a seasonal craft to make at home, while supplies last. No registration required.

Book-to-Movie Book Club
Monday, Jan. 5, at 4 pm
Kids (8-12) read part of a classic children's book, watch a snippet of the movie it inspired, and enjoy related activities. RR

The Fine Arts Club
Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 4 pm
Kids (7-12) will learn about poetry, painting, and other art forms with fun hands-on experiences. RR

Travel Club
Wednesday, Jan. 7, at 4 pm
Kids (6-12) will enjoy crafts, activities, and a snack celebrating a different state each month. Kids can also collect a pin from that state. This month, we're visiting California. RR

Paws to Read
Wednesday, Jan. 7
Sessions starting at 6 & 6:30 pm
Kids who can read independently are invited to practice with a licensed therapy dog. Perfect for reluctant readers! RR



KIDS

M The Story of America Club
Thursday, Jan. 8, at 4 pm
Kids (7-12) can explore a different chapter in the story of the United States each month with crafts, activities, and a snack that relates to that period in history. RR

Nature Journaling
Saturday, Jan. 10, at 9 am
This meeting will be hosted in partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Second Saturday Science program. Join other nature journalers and venture into **Mentor Marsh**! (Park at the corner of Woodridge and Forest Roads.) RR

H Roblox Saturday
Saturday, Jan. 10, at 2 pm
Join us for a different game from ROBLOX each month. RR

H Next Level Video Game Club
Saturday, Jan. 10, at 2 pm
Kids (8 and older) can play games on our Switch. They're also welcome to bring their own portable device. RR

Winter Bird Walk
Sunday, Jan. 11, at 2 pm
Join the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's naturalist to explore natural areas and see what birds and wildlife are active this time of year. Meet at the **Mentor Marsh Nature Center** (5185 Corduroy Road) for a fun winter outing. All ages welcome. Dress for the weather. RR

M Stroller Strides
Thursday, Jan. 15, at 10 am
It's a workout for the grownups and fun for the kids! Adults can experience total-body conditioning while the children (three and younger) remain in the stroller and are entertained with songs, activities, and more fun. Class led by Zerina Hutchinson. RR

M From Mentor to Marietta
Monday, Jan. 19, at 1 pm
Part of our celebration of the USA's 250th anniversary! Kids in first through sixth grade can learn interesting tidbits about Ohio's history with crafts, activities, and food. RR

HB Frosty's Forest Friend
Wednesdays, Jan. 21 or 28, at 4 pm
Kids (6-11) can make an adorable snowman that never melts using The HUB's laser engraver. RR

HB Dreams of a New Year
Thursdays, Jan. 22 or 29 At 4 pm
Kids (6-11) can decorate and assemble a one-of-a-kind dreamcatcher using wooden pieces that were cut by The HUB's laser engraver. Sweet dreams for 2026! RR

M American Girl & America
Wednesday, Jan. 28, at 4 pm
Kids (8-12) can celebrate 250 years of American history through the American Girl doll! Each month, the group will celebrate a different girl and explore a different moment in the country's history. Kids may bring their doll with them. We'll kick things off by returning to the Revolutionary War with Felicity and Elizabeth. RR

M Celebrate Hot Chocolate Day
Saturday, Jan. 31, at 2 pm
Kids (first through sixth grade) can celebrate Hot Chocolate Day by making their own hot chocolate mix and finishing it off with some fun toppings. RR

STORYTIMES

M Family Story Time
Mondays, at 10 am
Bring your kids and enjoy stories, songs, and activities that promote early literacy and healthy development. Geared toward ages two to six but all ages welcome. Each story time ends with a parade!

M Tiddlywinks Story Time
Tuesdays & Wednesdays, at 10 am
Kids (0-3) with a caregiver will love this story time filled with stories, songs, and rhymes.

L Storytime Stars
Tuesdays, at 10:30 am
Kids (6 months to five years old) can enjoy stories, music, rhymes, and a craft. All kids must be accompanied by an adult.

M Preschool Story Time
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, at 11 am
Kids (3-6) will enjoy stories, songs, rhymes, and a craft. Children attend without an adult.

M Pajama Story Time
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Kids can wear their pajamas while enjoying stories, songs, rhymes, a craft, and a snack. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

L Musical Munchkins
Thursdays, at 10:30 am, starting Jan. 8
Kids (0-5) can enjoy an interactive story time with singing, stories, and rhymes. All kids must be accompanied by an adult.

M Wiggle, Giggle & Shake Story Time
Fridays, at 10 am, starting Jan. 9
Kids (2-6) and caregivers will have fun clapping and moving to music together.

M Early Intervention Family Story Time
Monday, Jan. 12, at 5:30 pm
Story time and short activity for families in the early intervention program. RR

Who Needs a Resolution When You Have a MPL Card?

Here are just six of the ways we can help you succeed in whatever your goals are this year!

1. If you're looking to be healthier this year, you can borrow workout DVDs and exercise equipment from us! We're also offering free Tai Chi and Yoga classes at our Lake Branch. We're even hosting Stroller Strides on Jan. 15. for parents (and grandparents) who are trying to move more.

2. Working on that novel? We're launching a writer's group on Jan. 12 at the Headlands Community Center!

3. Feeling the urge to downsize? We're bringing in the experts from Downsize & Thrive for a free program on Jan. 22 at our Main Branch.

4. Want to spend more time in nature? Join our monthly Nature Journaling hike or come on our Winter Bird Walk this January in the Mentor Marsh.

5. Want to learn more about your country? In celebration of the United States Semiquincentennial, we're hosting programs all year about the history of Ohio and the USA. To kick things off, our own Dr. Foster is offering a lecture on the Declaration of Independence on Jan. 12.

6. Want to connect more with people? Join one of our book clubs, attend *any* of our programs, or join the Friends of the Library!

MPL Cover to Cover
Jason Lea, Editor

Cover to Cover is published monthly by the Mentor Public Library. It is provided free to library patrons and interested citizens.

Board of Trustees
Sarah Strang, President
Laurie Kosanovich, Vice President
Andrew Mitcham, Secretary
Jennifer McGee
Sue Wilcosky
Christopher Gallagher
Greg Markell

Board of Trustees' meetings will be 6 pm on the following dates at our Main Branch:
Jan. 21
Feb. 18
The public is welcome to attend.

Friends of the Library
friends@mentorpl.org

Main Library
8215 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
Phone: 440-255-8811

Lake Branch
5642 Andrews Road
Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060
Phone: 440-257-2512

Headlands Branch
4669 Corduroy Road
Mentor, OH 44060
Phone: 440-257-2000

The HUB @ Mentor High School
6477 Center Street
Mentor, OH, 44060
Phone: 440-205-6011

Register online at www.mentorpl.org or via phone by calling the library branch that is hosting the program.

© 2026 Mentor Public Library 8215 Mentor Ave. Mentor, OH 44060