COVER TO COVER

MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAY 2026

KEY

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

ADULT

American Poetry Contest
All April & May
To coincide with National Poetry Month, teens and adults can submit original poetry to win the title of Library Poet Laureate 2026! This year is themed after the USA's 250th anniversary so the poems should be inspired by the USA, an American poet, or piece of American poetry. For more information, visit **mentorpl.org/poetryanthology**.

H **100 Bird Challenge**
Starting April 1
Ohio has 200+ species of birds that live here all year or migrate to our region in the spring or fall. See how many you can find during our 100 Bird Challenge! Pick up a count list from the Headlands Branch. When you make it to 100, bring your list back to the Headlands Branch for a commemorative reward. Challenge lasts all year long!

M **Meet Us in the Garden: Mental Health & Gardening**
Saturday, May 2, at 10 am
Lake County Master Gardeners explore the mental-health benefits of gardening. Discover how spending time outside can help with stress, anxiety, and depression. RR

L **Color Me Calm**
Monday, May 4, at 10 am
Adults can color while listening to relaxing music. Supplies provided.

H **Come Crack Cold Cases**
Monday, May 4, at 6:30 pm
Mystery buffs unite! Detectives can test their skills by solving fictional cold cases. Examine the evidence and identify the murderer. RR

H **Star Trek 60th Anniversary Trivia**
Monday, May 4, at 6:30 pm
Celebrate 60 years of boldly going where no man has gone before! Test your knowledge against other Trekkies. There will be prizes — and, more importantly, *glory* — on the line. RR

ADULT

HB **Summer Tote Bags**
Tuesdays, May 5 or 12, at 5:30 pm
Create a hand-painted canvas tote with help from The HUB's Cricut. RR

L **Cell Phone Photography**
Tuesday, May 5, at 6 pm
Steve Manchook explores the advantages and limitations of cell phone photography. First, he'll explain the technical aspects of a cell phone's camera. Then he'll discuss the aesthetic side of photography, including lighting, composition, post-production software, and more. RR

M **Adventures in Beachcombing: Seaglass & More**
Tuesday, May 5, at 6:30 pm
Discover how to spot and identify beach glass, fossils, pottery, rocks, and more treasures waiting along the shores of Lake Erie. RR

H **Headlands Crafternoon**
Thursday, May 7, and Tuesday, May 19, At 1 pm
Enjoy an afternoon of crafting. Bring your current project! This group is open to fiber and textile artists, beaders, paper crafters, and more. All skill levels welcome!

M **The Fall of Rome: Crisis & Transition**
Thursday, May 7, at 6:30 pm
Dr. John Foster's lecture series continues by examining Roman history from the Julian Dynasty to the reign of Constantine. This turbulent era featured civil wars, invasions, plagues and economic breakdown. RR

V **On Courage, Turmoil & the Transformative Power of Love with Marjan Kamali**
Thursday, May 7, at 7 pm
The internationally bestselling and award-winning author of **The Stationery Shop** discusses her newest novel, **The Lion Women of Tehran**. Join the conversation at **libraryc.org/mentorpl**. RR

M **Marine Conservation in the Modern World**
Monday, May 11, at 6:30 pm
Oceans cover most of our planet and support an astonishing menagerie of life. Kevin Magee will discuss marine conservation and the challenges facing ocean ecosystems today, including overfishing, pollution, and environmental change. It's not all gloom though! He also offers hope for what can be done to address these problems. RR

L **Cozy Crafts: Junk Journaling**
Monday, May 11, at 6:30 pm
Learn how to make a junk journal. We'll provide all the supplies you need. RR

H **Headlands Writers' Group**
Monday, May 11, at 7 pm
Join our new writers' group! Each meeting begins with a guided prewriting exercise and 30 minutes of free writing, followed by group sharing and constructive criticism. RR

V **How to Robot-Proof Your Kids (And Yourself) with Dr. Vivienne Ming**
Tuesday, May 12, at 2 pm
Join Dr. Vivienne Ming for a timely conversation about AI, humanity, and her new book. Learn more during her author talk at **libraryc.org/mentorpl**. RR

M **The People's Congressman: James Garfield**
Tuesday, May 12, at 6:30 pm
John Garfield — the great-great-great-great grandson of James Garfield — explores the elder Garfield's 17 years in the US House of Representatives. Gain insight into Congressman Garfield's role as a principled leader, reformer, and advocate. RR

L **Castaways**
Wednesdays, May 13 & 27, at 10:30 am
Stitch with friends! Bring whatever knitting, crocheting, or other fiber art project you're working on.

H **Headlands Craft Social Squad**
Wednesday, May 13, at 6 pm
Crafters and artists **of all ages** and skill levels can enjoy company while working on their next projects.

L **Herbs 101**
Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 pm
The Lake County Master Gardeners offer expertise on planting your first herb garden. Learn about 10 terrific herbs that are easy to grow. They'll even recommend recipes to make with your homegrown herbs. RR

L **Yoga for Common Aches & Pains**
Thursday, May 14, at 10 am
Certified yoga therapist Jennifer Kovalchik Langsdale offers simple chair yoga postures and breathing exercises to help with common aches and pains. RR

M **Let's Cook with LaDonna Oltmanns**
Thursday, May 14, at 6:30 pm
Chef LaDonna Oltmanns leads a free cooking demonstration. This month, she's making a vegan frittata. RR

L **Summer Birdsong by Habitat: Different Stages, Different Ensembles**
Thursday, May 14, at 6:30 pm
Dr. Lisa Rainsong from the Cleveland Institute of Music explains how different habitats produce different music. If weather permits, this program will conclude with a walk outside and a listening exercise. RR

ADULT

M **Board Game Saturdays**
Saturday, May 16, 9 am to 4:30 pm
Board > Bored! Play games from our collection or bring your own on the third Saturday of every month.

M **Saturday Scrapbooking**
Saturday, May 16, 9 am to 4 pm
Bring your supplies for a full day of cropping with fellow scrapbooking enthusiasts. RR

V **Reshape Your Beliefs & Unlock Your True Potential with Nir Eyal**
Tuesday, May 19, at 2 pm
The bestselling author of **Hooked** and **Indistractible** is back to discuss his newest book, **Beyond Belief**. He'll talk about how overcoming psychological limits will transform how you see challenges and feel about the future. Join the free online author talk at **libraryc.org/mentorpl.** RR

L **Tuesday Night Crochet Club**
Tuesday, May 19, at 6:30 pm
Fiber artists **of all ages** can work on projects, share ideas, and learn from each other while you stitch, crochet, knit, and so forth.

M **DIY Cricut Planters**
Tuesday, May 19, at 6:30 pm
Don't be a customer; be a customizer! Teens and adults can use a Cricut Maker to customize an adorable planter. RR

L **Tai Chi for Arthritis**
Wednesday, May 20, at 3:15 pm
Libby Hill — a master trainer for the Tai Chi for Health Institute — leads a free class. It will focus on gentle movements that will help reduce pain, increase strength, and improve balance. All experience levels welcome. Please wear comfortable clothing. RR

M **Instant Pot Demo with LaDonna**
Wednesday, May 20, at 4 pm
Don't let the instant pot intimidate you! Learn how to use an instant pot safely during this free cooking demonstration with local chef LaDonna Oltmanns. RR

HB **Patio Pal**
Wednesdays, May 20 or 27, At 5:30 pm
Transform an ordinary planter into a verdant Patio Pal using The HUB's Cricut Maker and laser engraver. RR

HB **Summer Bucket List**
Thursdays, May 21 or 28, At 5:30 pm
What do you want to accomplish this summer? Use The HUB's laminator to create a customized bulletin board for warm-weather plans and then transform it into a playful checklist. RR

L **Surveying & Mapping the Western Reserve**
Thursday, May 21, at 6:30 pm
Discover the fascinating story of how the Western Reserve was explored, surveyed, and mapped. Learn the first step in transforming rugged, uncharted forests into settlements. RR

Nature Journaling
Tuesday, May 26, at 6 pm
Forge a deeper connection with yourself and the marvels of nature. Open to **all ages** and skill levels. In May, we'll meet at **Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve**. RR

M **Laura Mae Corrigan: Snubbed, Close Calls & Getting the Last Laugh**
Tuesday, May 26, at 6:30 pm
Discover the story of the most motivated social climber of her day. Laura Mae Whitrock ascended from a waitress to the wife of Cleveland's premier playboy. But wealth didn't guarantee acceptance from Cleveland's upper crust. RR

L **Gentle Yoga with Deep Relaxation**
Wednesday, May 27, 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

M **Finding Your Ancestors: Courthouse Records**
Wednesday, May 27, at 6:30 pm
Genealogist Margaret Cheney provides an overview of the records held in probate courts, including birth, death, and marriage certificates, as well as estate records. RR

M **Canva Basics**
Thursday, May 28, at 6:30 pm
This beginner-friendly class explains the essential tools and features of Canva, a graphic-design software suite that's free to use. Learn how to create with confidence. **Open to tweens and teens, as well.** RR

Summer Reading Begins
From May 28 to July 25
Adults and teens can win raffle prize tickets for each book they read and challenge they complete. Visit any branch to sign up or register online at **mentorpl.beanstack.org**. Last day to earn tickets is Saturday, July 25.

H **Motorcycles & Mutual Respect**
Saturday, May 30, at 1 pm
Interested in learning how to ride a motorcycle? The Motorcycle Ohio program provides new, intermediate, and advanced safety courses for riders. A MO representative will provide info on these courses and tips on how to improve awareness while on the roads. RR

Book Clubs

M **It's a Mystery Book Club**
Wednesday, May 6, at 6:30 pm
This monthly book club reads crime-related genres such as thrillers, suspense, true crime, and mystery/detective novels. In May, they will discuss **Housemaid** by Freida McFadden.

M **Back in Time Book Club**
Tuesday, May 12, at 2 pm
This book club travels through time with fiction and nonfiction selections. This month, we discuss **Lincoln's Lady Spymaster** by Gerri Willis.

L **Tuesday Night Book Club**
Tuesday, May 12, at 6:30 pm
Enjoy great reads with great company! This month, we'll be talking about **James** by Percival Everett. RR

M **Cookbook Club**
Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 pm
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 **The Great American Recipe Cookbook.** Bring a plate and utensils for yourself and a serving spoon for your dish. RR

M **Monday Night Book Club**
Monday, May 18, 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 **The Peculiar Gift of July** by Ashley Ream.

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

M **Men's Book Club**
Monday, May 18, at 7 pm
This month's book is **The Second Sleep** by Robert Harris.

H **Science Fiction Book Club**
Wednesday, May 20, at 6:30 pm
Our club celebrates new and classic speculative fiction. This month, we're reading **The Kaiju Preservation Society** by John Scalzi. We'll be meeting at Headlands Community Center (9096 Lake Overlook Drive, Mentor.) RR

H **Romancing the Book Club**
Wednesday, May 27, at 6 pm
This month, we're reading **Bride** by Ali Hazelwood. We'll meet at the **Headlands Community Center.** RR

Main Branch Renovation Starts This Spring

Our Main Branch's newest chapter has begun!

We're breaking ground on the long-planned expansion and renovation that will transform both the branch's interior and exterior.

This multiyear project is beginning with changes outside of our building.

When you visit our Main Branch this month, you'll see Lakeland Construction building a new garage for our vehicles and Pop-Up Library.

The garage will also include a work space for our facilities staff, security cameras, and restrooms. (The restrooms will only be available when we're hosting outdoor programs.)

The outdoor renovations will continue throughout the spring and summer.

The changes include:
• A new shelter, so our outdoor programs don't need to be relocated or rescheduled when the forecast calls for rain. (See the shelter's design at the top of the page.)
• An updated story walk.
• A musical wishing well.

Our Main Branch also has a new pollinator garden — planted last fall — courtesy of a grant from FirstEnergy.

And Rooted in Trees will supplement our Main Branch's tree canopy by planting eight oaks later this year.

Because of the construction, our outdoor programs will be hosted in the lawn between our staff parking lot and Main Branch this summer. That includes our Summer Reading Kickoff Party on Saturday, May 30!

We'll continue to keep you updated on the renovation's timeline — both in our newsletter and online at **mentorpl.org/mainbranchmasterplanfaq**.

Certain factors — including weather — may force us to adjust our timeline as we proceed. We thank you in advance for your flexibility.

While we're starting outside, the renovations and expansion will also transform our building.

The indoor plans include:
• More space for our makerspace.
• A dedicated area for teens to enjoy.
• A larger children's story time and craft room.
• Soundproofed study rooms.
• An expanded children's play space.
• A sensory room in the children's area.

TEEN

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KIDS

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H Finger Paint Fridays
Fridays, from 10 am to noon
Kids can explore their creativity with finger painting every Friday. If it's busy, children may need to wait for their turn.

M LEGO at the Library
Saturday, May 2, 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!

HB Twiggy Bear
Wednesdays, May 6 or 13
At 4 pm
Kids (6-11) can make a rustic bear using twigs and The HUB's laser engraver. RR

H Paws to Read
Wednesday, May 6
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

L Sand Art
Wednesday, May 6, at 6 pm
Kids (7-12) can use colored sand to make unique masterpieces! RR

HB My Hero & Me: Super Badges
Thursdays, May 7 or 14, at 4 pm
Kids (6-11) will design custom badges and turn them into buttons with The HUB's sublimation printer. RR

H Roblox Saturday
Saturday, May 9, at 2 pm
Join us for a different game from ROBLOX each month. RR

H Next Level Video Game Club
Saturday, May 9, at 2 pm
Kids (8 and older) can play games on our Switch. They're also welcome to bring their own portable device. RR

M The Story of America Club
Thursday, May 14, 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

M Parent & Me Mat Pilates
Friday, May 15, at 11:30 am
Kids (3-8) along with their grownup can enjoy a gentle workout with Melissa Bogo from Rooted & Rising Pilates. Please bring your own mats. RR

M Mother's Garden Tea Party
Saturday, May 16, at noon
Kids (3-11) can bring their mom or favorite adult to the library's special tea party. Wear your best tea-party outfit and bring your own teacup. RR

HB Miniature Museums
Tuesdays, May 19 or 26, at 4 pm
Transform a shoebox into a miniature museum! Kids (6-11) can paint, frame, and hang their artwork inside their tiny gallery. Bring the box and will supply the rest! RR

M American Girl in America
Wednesday, May 27, 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. RR

Summer Reading Begins
From May 28 to July 25
Kids (those entering 6th grade or younger) can sign up for summer reading at any of our branches. For every hour they read, they'll receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of our fabulous prizes.

M Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff Party & Americana Picnic
Saturday, May 30, at noon
We're hosting an Americana Picnic to kick off summer reading and celebrate the USA's 250th anniversary! The Snowbelt Grass Quintet will play an hour of patriotic music selections, along with some kids' favorites. We'll also provide hot dogs. (You're welcome to bring your own drinks and sides.) Don't forget to sign up for summer reading while you're here! RR

STORYTIMES

M Lift, Laugh, Parachute Play!
Tuesdays, at 10 am
Kids (2-5) along with an adult can enjoy music, activities, and stories using a parachute! RR

M Wiggle, Giggle & Shake Story Time
Friday, May 1, at 10 am
Kids (2-6) and caregivers will have fun clapping, marching, and moving to music together.

L Firefighter Story Time
Friday, May 8, at 10:30 am
Kids can learn about fire safety and firefighters' equipment during story time with Firefighter Josh from Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department. You can even check out the fire engine afterward! RR

M Early Intervention Family Story Time
Monday, May 11, at 5:30 pm
Story time and short activity for families in the early intervention program. RR

M Firehouse Friends
Thursday, May 14, at 10 am
Join Fireman Dan from Mentor Fire Department as he reads stories about firefighters and offers tips on staying safe.

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
Sue Wilcosky, President
Laurie Kosanovich, Vice President
Jennifer McGee, Secretary
Sarah Strang
Christopher Gallagher
Greg Markell

Board of Trustees' meetings will be 6 pm on the following dates:
May 20 at our Lake Branch
June 17 at our Main Branch
July 15 at The HUB
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.

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