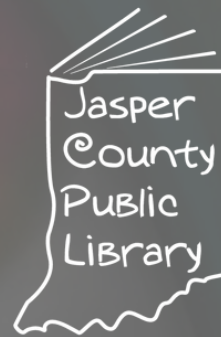


MAY / JUNE 2026

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INFORM, ENRICH, EMPOWER



UNEARTH A STORY™

SUMMER READING 2026™

TEENS & GRADES K-5

Unearth a good story with us in this year's Summer Reading Program from June 2 to July 21. Registration begins Tuesday, May 26 and can be done on the Beanstack app. Each library will have various dinosaur themed programs for you to discover!

ADULT SUMMER READING

May 26-July 26

For every book, ebook, audiobook, eaudiobook, magazine, or digital magazine adults read they get entered into the weekly prize and the grand prize. Grand prize will be drawn on Monday, July 27.



SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE
BEANSTACK APP.

CONNECT WITH US

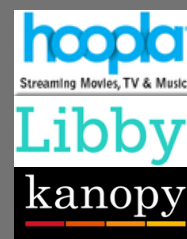
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.myjcpl.org

VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



E-book and Audio



Rensselaer
(219) 866-5881

DeMotte
(219) 987-2221

Wheatfield
(219) 956-3774

DEMOTTE EVENTS: ADULTS

May 2-Jasper Brass Concert

3 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

Enjoy an afternoon of beautiful, live music with Jasper Brass, a talented local brass quintet from Jasper County known for their rich sound and engaging performances. They'll be bringing a selection of inspiring classical pieces to life. Whether you're a longtime classical music lover or just looking for something unique and uplifting to do, this performance is the perfect opportunity to experience live brass music up close.

May 4 & 18-Monday Magic (The Gathering)

5-7 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

Have you always wanted to play Magic the Gathering but aren't sure where to start? Are you a seasoned player who would like to show others how to play? Join us for Monday Magic! We have plenty of cards to build your own deck to keep, or feel free to bring your own homebrew decks!

May 7-Come Craft with Me (Unfinished Craft Club)

5 pm, Adults

Bring your unfinished craft projects to work on and socialize with our crafty people in the community!

May 7-Salad Building

7 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Perkin's Good Earth Farms will be demonstrating how to build a salad using farm-fresh ingredients. All participants will receive a salad.

May 12-Friends of the DeMotte Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

New members are always welcome, consider joining today!

May 13-Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us upstairs for bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

May 13-Ivy Tech Open House

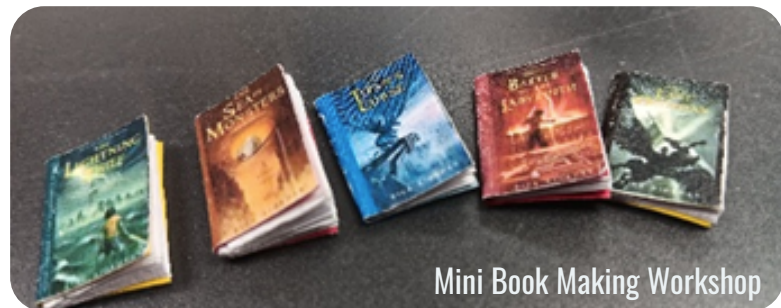
4-6 pm, Teens and adults.

Have you heard of Ivy Tech and the various degrees and programs they offer? Staff will be present to share information about the pathways and opportunities available, including the possibility of attending school for up to a year for free. They can also discuss how you can earn more money and gain the credibility and skills necessary for better pay and an improved quality of life.

May 16-Mini Book Making Workshop

1:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Learn how to make your very own mini books! All supplies provided. Please, stop in at the library before the program to select book covers from the provided list.



May 20-Storytellers Writing Group

6 pm, Ages 16+

Do you want to write a book? Are you in the middle of writing one already? Come join us for writing tips, sprints, and feedback!

June 1 & 15-Monday Magic (The Gathering)

5-7 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

Have you always wanted to play Magic the Gathering but aren't sure where to start? Are you a seasoned player who would like to show others how to play? Join us for Monday Magic! We have plenty of cards to build your own deck to keep, or feel free to bring your own homebrew decks!

DEMOTTE EVENTS: ADULTS

June 4-Come Craft with Me (Unfinished Craft Club)

5 pm, Adults.

Bring your unfinished craft projects to work on and socialize with our crafty people in the community!

June 10-Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us upstairs for bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

June 13-Terrarium Workshop

1:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us to make a cute artificial terrarium garden! All materials will be provided for this free craft.



June 17-Storytellers Writing Club

6 pm, Ages 16+

Do you want to write a book? Are you in the middle of writing one already? Come join us for writing tips, sprints, and feedback!

June 18-Juicing & Smoothies

7 pm, Adults.

Perkin's Good Earth Farm will be doing a juicing and smoothie demonstration using farm-fresh ingredients. All participants will receive a drink.

June 23-Draw Like Mary Blair

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Learn how to draw like artist Mary Blair, the genius mind behind the design of "It's a Small World" ride in Disneyland!



All Jasper County Public Libraries will be closed on May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

DEMOTTE EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

May 5-Plot Twisters

5 pm at Cup of Joy in DeMotte, Teens. Registration required. This teen book discussion group meets at Cup of Joy in DeMotte to hang out with other teens! We're a low-key group up for chatting about books (no need to be an expert, just come out for a good time). Get this month's book *Powerless* by Lauren Roberts at the DeMotte Public Library.

May 21-K-5 STEM

4:30 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required. A fun, hands-on STEM program for students in kindergarten through 5th grade that sparks curiosity and creativity.

May 30-Barbie Club

10 am, All ages. All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the Barbies; you bring the fun!

May 30-Hot Wheels Club

2 pm, All ages. All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the cars; you bring the fun!

June 27-Barbie Club

10 am, All ages. All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the Barbies; you bring the fun!

June 27-Hot Wheels Club

2 pm, All ages. All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the cars; you bring the fun!

SUMMER READING EVENTS

Grades K-5

June 2 @ 10 am & 1 pm*

Summer Reading Bingo Kick-Off!

June 9 @ 1 pm

Science Heroes "Digging It!"

June 16 @ 10 am & 1 pm*

Summer Read Aloud & Activity Stations

June 23 @ 1 pm

Magician Kevin Wilson

June 29-July 3

Summer Scavenger Hunt! (This is a drop in anytime program)

Preschool

June 3 @ 10 am & 1 pm*

Preschool Summer Story Time

June 10 @ 10 am & 1 pm*

Lap Sit Story Time

June 17 @ 10 am & 1 pm*

Preschool Summer Story Time

June 24 @ 10 am & 1 pm*

Lap Sit Story Time

*Registration is required for these events

Teens

June 4 @ 7-9 pm*

After Hours Teen Book Club
Murder Mystery Party

June 11 @ 1 pm*

Teen Bingo

June 18 @ 1 pm*

Teen Book Cover Diamond Art

June 25 @ 1 pm*

Teen Cupcake Decorating



RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

Programs in Red are special programs that commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the nations founding

May 5-Writing Club

6 pm, Adults.

Join us at the Rensselaer for writing club! We start by doing a couple writing exercises to warm up, and then we usually talk about or work on whatever each of our current projects are. Make sure to bring what you are working on, whether that's a novel, short story, poem, or even just an idea! Writing club is a safe space for us to get out of our shell and spend time with other writers who can encourage and give ideas! We have different writing homework each month. If there is something specific you want to learn about, don't hesitate to bring it up!

May 7-Bingo

10 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for Bingo fun and prizes!

May 7-Estate Planning Presentation

12 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

Join us and learn about estate planning, a light lunch will be provided by Alliance Bank.

May 6-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a game or two of Scrabble. This is a free program and all supplies are provided.

May 13-Genealogy Help

5-6:30 pm, All ages.

Learn how to search for your family history using the libraries free resources. The library has free use in the library, of genealogy websites such as Ancestry and Family Search. JCPL is a FamilySearch Affiliate library, this allows access to Family Search's digital collections that are otherwise accessible only through a Family Search Center. We also have a variety of Genealogy books available for check out and in house use. All assistance is available on a first come, first served basis.

May 16-America's 250th Tea Party

2 pm, All ages. Registration required.

You are invited to the Rensselaer Library's "Tea Party," where tea, sandwiches and desserts will be served. This year we will be celebrating Americas 250th anniversary with trivia and games. Dress is casual, but if you want to wear a hat or dress to impress, please do. Children are welcome to attend, if accompanied by an adult. Bring your mother, your friend, or a family member. Join us and spend the afternoon socializing and relaxing. If you have a favorite treat that you would like to share, please feel free to bring it along. We will have a drawing for prizes.

May 18-Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting

6 pm, Adults.

Please support your library by joining and attending the Friends of the Rensselaer Library quarterly meeting. Dues are \$3 for individuals and \$5 for families.

May 21-Dungeons and Dragons

3:30-5:30 pm, Grades 6 to adult.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Each meet up will be a new adventure! This is a free program for anyone in 6th grade to an adult. Beginners and experts are welcome! Dice will be provided but you can bring your own!

May 23-Beaded Suncatcher

2:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

A great craft for warmer weather! Join us to make a beaded suncatcher using wires and beads! All supplies and beads will be provided for this free craft.



Combat Coffee



Every 3rd Monday of the month from 9:30-11 am.

Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

Programs in Red are special programs that commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the nations founding

May 30-Star Wars Trivia

2 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Star Wars Trivia using Kahoot! Join us for Star Wars trivia! In honor of May the 4th we will be doing Star Wars trivia!!! Bring a mobile device to participate! Prizes awarded - first place winner receives a gift card!

June 2-Writing Club

6 pm, Adults.

Join us at the Rensselaer for writing club! We start by doing a couple writing exercises to warm up, and then we usually talk about or work on whatever each of our current projects are. Make sure to bring what you are working on, whether that's a novel, short story, poem, or even just an idea! Writing club is a safe space for us to get out of our shell and spend time with other writers who can encourage and give ideas!

June 3-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Adults

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a game or two of Scrabble. This is a free program and all supplies are provided.

June 4-Bingo

10 am, Adults.

Join us for Bingo fun and prizes!

June 10-Discover FamilySearch Full Text Search

2 pm, All ages.

Unearth your family history with FamilySearch newest feature full text search. FamilySearch applies generative AI to read historical handwriting and produce complete transcripts of historical manuscripts in a variety languages and scripts. We will be viewing a recorded demonstration from the 2026 RootsTech conference and discussing how these features can greatly improve your family history research from images and documents that are not indexed.

June 10-Genealogy Help

5-6:30 pm, All ages

Learn how to search for your family history using the libraries free resources. The library has free use in the library, of genealogy websites such as Ancestry and Family Search. J CPL is a FamilySearch Affiliate library, this allows access to Family Search's digital collections that are otherwise accessible only through a Family Search Center. We also have a variety of Genealogy books available for check out and in house use. All assistance is available on a first come, first served basis.

June 18-Dungeons and Dragons

3:30-5:30 pm, Grades 6 to adult.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Each meet up will be a new adventure! This is a free program for anyone in 6th grade to an adult. Beginners and experts are welcome! Dice will be provided but you can bring your own!

June 19-Diamond Art & Mocktails, Red White and Blue!

6 pm, Teens through adults. Registration required.

Celebrate America's 250th by diamond painting your own America themed Magnet! Diamond art is fun, easy, and relaxing -- a perfect craft for this year's America's 250th anniversary! Diamond painting is a fantastic activity to let go of stress and anxiety while building artistic confidence! While developing your diamond art skills, taste a fun mocktail! All materials will be provided, no fees required.

June 20-Diamond Art Red, White, & Sparkle

2 pm, Teens through adults. Registration required.

Celebrate America's 250th by diamond painting your own America themed Magnet! Diamond art is fun, easy, and relaxing -- a perfect craft for this year's America's 250th anniversary!

RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

Programs in Red are special programs that commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the nations founding

June 24-Heirloom and Vintage Recipes

5:30 pm, All ages.

We are cooking up history with Heirloom and Vintage recipes. Bring a prepared recipe that is meaningful to your family or tied to personal traditions, holidays, or memories. Recipes may include appetizers, main dishes, side dishes, and desserts. These recipes represent how traditions are passed down through generations and shared around kitchen tables and community gatherings. America 250 gives us an opportunity to reflect on who we are, where we have been, and what connects us as a community. Please bring a copy of the recipe or cookbook to share. This is a FREE program and a great opportunity for cooks of all ages, skill levels and interests to share their love of cooking as well as eating. The library will provide a copy of the recipe and the plates, utensils, and a drink.

June 30-Kahoot! Nature and Animal Trivia

6 pm, All ages.

Nature/Animal Trivia using Kahoot! Bring a mobile device to participate! Prizes awarded - first place winner receives a gift card!

July 7-11-Jurassic Park Escape Room

Put your brains to the test and see if you can unlock the answers on how to save the last known species of Velociraptors from extinction!! Try to find the secret to saving the Velociraptors and escape the abandoned park in 45 minutes before the dinosaurs learn you are there! *Spoiler* They already do.

Never tried an escape room before?? Don't worry! We have 3 levels to choose from. When you signup make sure to let us know whether you want to play the easy, medium, or hard level. This escape room is made for everyone, whether you have done 20 escape rooms or 0. Still sound intimidating? Don't fret! There will be always escape room wizards in the room with you to give hints and help you along the way!

This escape room is completely free. There are multiple times to choose from each day, just select a time that works for you, put the name of the leader of your group, type in the notes how many people will be in your group, tell us what level you want, and then you're all set!!



Jurassic Park Escape Room

RENSSELAER EVENTS: CHILDRENS/ TEENS

May 4-10- Children's Book Week

Children ages 12 and under are welcome to stop by any day this week and sign up to win a free book for Children's Book Week! One entry per person per day.

May 4-May the Fourth be With You!

Stop by on Star Wars Day and pick up a free sticker!

May 5, 12, 19-Storytime

10 am, Ages 0-5. Registration required.
Join us for a story, activities and a craft!

May 14-All Abilities Storytime

1 pm, All ages.
This program is designed for adults with developmental disabilities. We will have a story and a craft for participants.

May 18-Last Monday Storytime

6 pm, Ages 0-5. Registration required.
Join us the last Monday of each month during the school year for an evening session of our storytime program. A story, activity and craft will be provided.

June 11-All Abilities Storytime

1 pm, All ages.
This program is designed for adults with developmental disabilities. We will have a story and a craft for participants.



SUMMER READING EVENTS

Grades K-5

June 2 @ 2 pm

Summer Reading Ice Cream Social
Kick Off

June 9 @ 10 am

Science Heroes "Digging It!"

June 16 @ 10 am

Jurassic CSI

June 23 @ 10 am

Magician Kevin Wilson

June 30 @ 10 am

Happy Birthday USA

Preschool

June 2 @ 2 pm

Summer Reading Ice Cream Social
Kick Off

June 9 @ 10 am

Science Heroes

June 16 @ 10 am

Jurassic CSI

June 23 @ 10 am

Magician Kevin Wilson

June 30 @ 10 am

Happy Birthday USA

Teens

June 4 @ 2 pm

Dirt Sundaes

June 11 @ 2 pm

Create a Crystal Craft

June 18 @ 2 pm

Plantable Paper and Seed Bombs

June 25 @ 2 pm

Painting with Mud



WHEATFIELD EVENTS: ADULTS

May 7-Afternoon Movie

1 pm, Adults.

Spend the afternoon enjoying a movie! Please contact Wheatfield Library for movie title.

May 8-Ladies Night at the Library

6 pm, Adults

Ladies, join us for an evening of fun! We will have DIY mocktails, mini charcuterie boards, and more!

May 26-Friends of the Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

A nonprofit group whose primary focus is to promote and support the Wheatfield Library. New members welcome!

June 4-Afternoon Movie

1 pm, Adults.

Spend the afternoon enjoying a movie! Please contact Wheatfield Library for movie title.



Every 1st Wednesday of the month at 10 am.

Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans (with or without combat experience) can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

June 5-Container Gardening

1 pm OR 6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Want to enjoy a garden with less maintenance? Join us to learn how easy it is to create a container garden and take home the supplies to start one. Supplies are limited to 1 per household.

June 8-Ivy Tech Valparaiso Learning Lab and Info Session

4 pm, Teens and Adults

The Learning Lab is hitting the road and will be visiting your town in June! Join us for hands-on activities that connect with our programs and degrees. Enhance your skills and gain credibility to elevate your career and achieve your goals and dreams to a better future.

June 23-Friends of the Wheatfield Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

A nonprofit group whose primary focus is to promote and support the Wheatfield Library. New members welcome!

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

May 4-10- Children's Book Week

Children ages 12 and under are welcome to stop by any day this week and sign up to win a free book for Children's Book Week!

May 5 & 6-Story Time

Preschoolers ages 3-5 are invited to hear stories, make a craft, and interact with others. Choose between two sessions: Tuesday, May 5 at 2:30 pm or Wednesday, May 6 at 11 am. Registration required.

May 6-After School Program

4 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required.

Children are invited to listen to local author Camie Putchaven read one of her books and discuss her writing process. A snack will be provided.

May 7-Lego Program

4 pm, Ages 5 and up. Registration required.

Kids ages 5 and older are welcome to make Lego creations to be on display in the children's area. Ms. Rachael will also read the story Bears unplugged! Written by Papa Moose. A light snack will be provided.



WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

May 7-Paws and Pages

4 pm, Kids of all ages. Registration required.
Each student will get 20 minutes to read with the therapy dog. This program encourages them to read out loud. Registration is required. Choose a time that suits your student best.

May 9-Saturday Story Time

10 am, Ages 5 and under. Registration required.
Children ages 5 and under, along with their caregivers, are invited to hear stories and make a special Mother's Day craft.

May 12-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages birth through 23 months. Registration required.

May 13-All Abilities Story Time

1 pm, All ages.
All Abilities is a program for individuals of all ages with developmental disabilities. The program will include a story and a craft. A therapy dog will be present.

May 15-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required.
Children along with a caregiver are invited to hear stories and make a special craft.

May 18-Homeschool Meetup

12 pm, All ages.
Homeschoolers and their parents are invited to attend our monthly program.

May 19-Teen Meetup

4 pm, Teens. Registration required.
Have a RPG world you'd love to bring to life? Creative teen thinkers can create a map of their own. Snacks and refreshments are included.

May 21-Chess Program

5:30 pm, Ages 10 and up. Registration required.
Children ages 10 and up are welcome to come learn the game of Chess or practice their skills. Students from KVHS Chess Club will be presenting. A light snack will provided.

May 26-30-Curse of the Mummy Escape Room

Do you have what it takes to escape? Visit www.myjcpl.org or call the Wheatfield Library at 219-956-3774 to register for a time slot. Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

June 9-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages birth through 23 months. Registration required.
Join us to hear stories, sing songs, and interact with others.

June 10-All Abilities Story Time

1 pm, All ages.
All Abilities is a program for individuals of all ages with developmental disabilities. The program will include a story and a craft. A therapy dog will be present.

June 11 & 25-Paws and Pages

4 pm, Kids of all ages. Registration required.
Each student will get 20 minutes to read with the therapy dog. This program encourages them to read out loud. Registration is required. Choose a time that suits your student best.

June 13-Saturday Story Time

10 am, Ages 5 and under. Registration required.
Children ages 5 and under, along with their caregivers, are invited to hear stories and make a special Father's Day craft.

June 15-4-H Prep for Homeschoolers

12-2 pm, All ages. Registration required.
Homeschoolers can reserve space to work on their 4h projects. Please note: no open flames allowed at the library.

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

June 18-4-H Prep at the Wheatfield Library

4-6 pm, All ages. Registration required.

Do you have a project you need to finish for the fair? Reserve a space to work at the library! Don't forget your supplies! Please note: no open flames allowed at the library.

June 19-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required.

Children ages 2 & 3 years old, along with a caregiver are invited to hear stories and make a special craft.

June 25-Chess Program

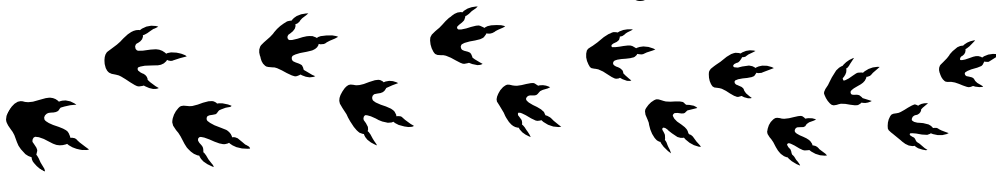
5:30 pm, Ages 10 and up. Registration required.

Children ages 10 and up are welcome to come learn the game of Chess or practice their skills. Students from KVHS Chess Club will be presenting. A light snack will be provided.

June 26-Family Gamers Trivia

6 pm, All ages. Registration required.

This family program can bring the whole family together! Parents test your knowledge over videos games you've played long ago. Kids, come school those parents on what modern games are out now!



SUMMER READING EVENTS

Grades K-5

June 2 @ 3-4 pm

Drop in and participate in various dinosaur themed activities!

June 9 @ 3 pm

Science Heroes "Digging It!"

June 16 @ 3 pm

Dinosaur Themed Movie

June 23 @ 3 pm

Magician Kevin Wilson

June 30 @ 3-4 pm

Drop-in and pick up a 4th of July craft for America's 250th Celebration

Preschool

June 8 @ 10 OR 11 am

Preschool Summer Story Time

June 22 @ 10 OR 11 am

Preschool Summer Story Time

Teens

June 4 @ 3-5 pm

Teens Summer Movie

June 11 @ 3 pm

Teen Diamond Art

June 18 @ 3-5 pm

Teen Summer Movie

June 25 @ 3 pm

Teen Gaming Day



JCPL Adult Book Discussions

For more details or to reserve a copy, please visit or call your local library.
Registration is appreciated, and available online at www.myjcpl.org/events.

DeMotte

May 19- The Bookies-Tuesday-2 or 6 pm
Book: "Marley and Me" by John Grogan

June 8-Bingo Book Club Meeting-Monday-6 pm
Join us to discuss your favorite books you've read for the Bingo Book Club!

Wheatfield

May 12-Adult Book Discussion-Tuesday-1:30 pm
Book: "The Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingslover

May 26-Books and Coffee-Tuesday-2 pm at Cup of Joy in DeMotte
Book: "The Witness" by Nora Roberts

June 9-Adult Book Discussion-Tuesday-1:30 pm
Book: "The Stationary Shop" by Kamali Marjan

June 9-Fantasy Book Club-Tuesday-6 pm
Book: "The Bone Maker" by Sarah Beth Durst

June 30-Books and Coffee-Tuesday-2 pm at Books and Coffee at Cup of Joy in DeMotte
Book: "Sarah's Key" by Tatiana de Rosnay

Rensselaer

May 27-Men's Book Group-Wednesday-10 am
Book: "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" by Taylor Jenkins Reid
****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

May 28-4th Thursday Group-Thursday-1 pm
Book: "Thursday Murder Club" by Richard Osman

June 24-Men's Book Group-Wednesday-10 am
Book: "The Odyssey" by Homer, translated by Emily Wilson
****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

June 25-4th Thursday Group-Thursday-1 pm
Book: "The American Spirit" by David McCullough