



OUR MISSION:

Together we create
a welcoming
community that
empowers
everyone to learn,
connect, create,
and grow.

connect



MahometPublicLibrary.org



staff@mahometpubliclibrary.org



217-586-2611



mahometpubliclibrary.org/chat OR
text your message to 447-442-1898



Monday-Thursday: 9 am-8 pm
Friday: 9 am-6 pm
Saturday: 9 am-5 pm
Sunday: 1-5 pm



1702 E Oak St. Mahomet, IL 61853



Mahomet Public Library



MAHOMET PUBLIC LIBRARY • SUMMER 2025

THE LIBRARY BOOKLET



PAST
SUCCESS
Future
Planning

FROM OUR 2022-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND THE RESULTING PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND ACTIVITIES ALL FALL UNDER ONE OR MORE OF OUR THREE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

1. WELCOMING

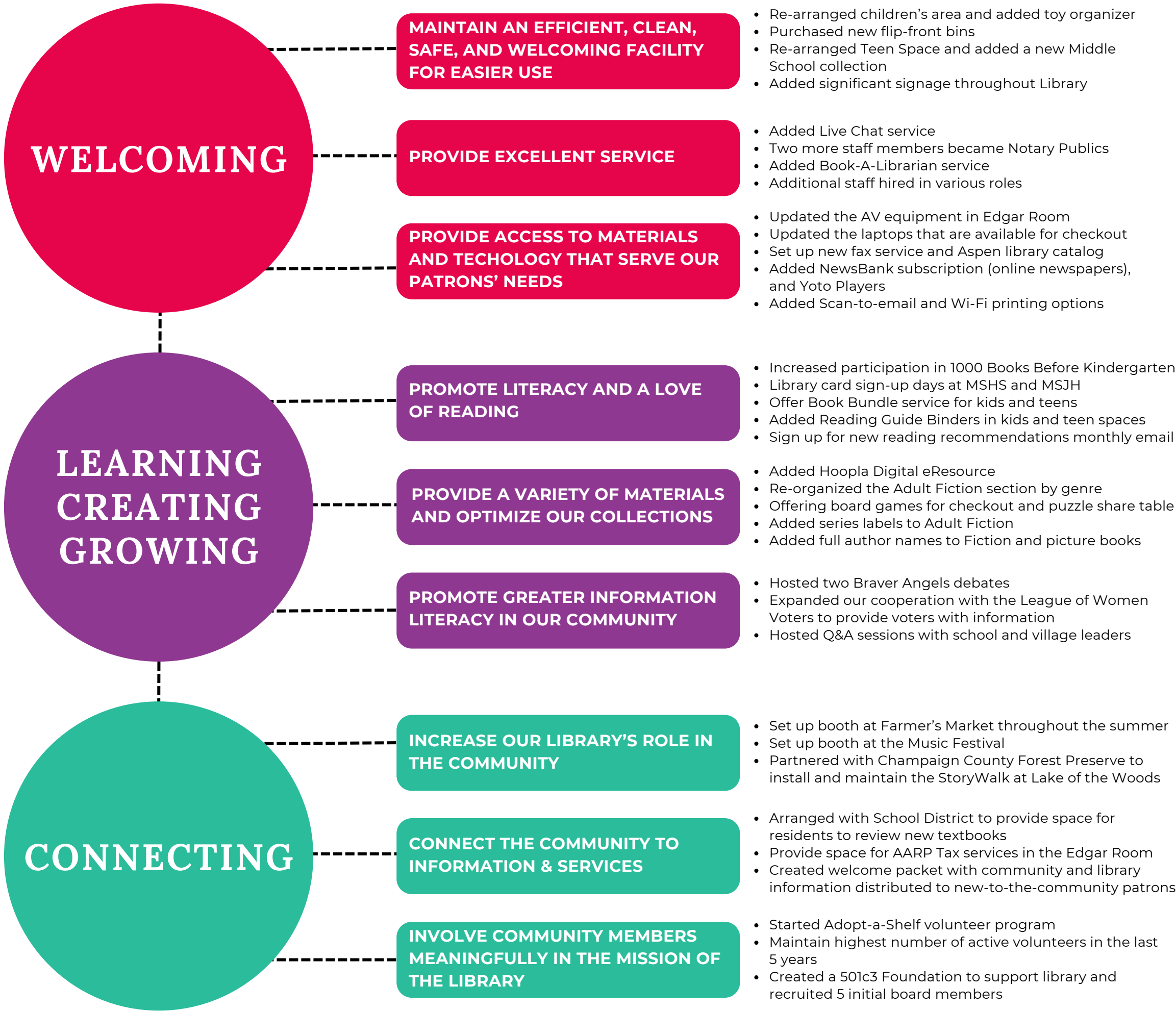
Wherever and however we serve our community -- in our building, out in the community, or in our virtual spaces -- we strive to create a welcoming and safe space for everyone. We want to make using our library as simple as possible and make every encounter a positive one.

2. LEARNING, CREATING, GROWING

Every decision we make about items for our collection, methods of providing information, and library programming focuses on helping our community members learn more about their world, create their own contributions, and grow as individuals.

3. CONNECTING

We see our library as a place to connect people to people, people to information, and people to their community. Our programs help people see new perspectives, learn something new, or simply enjoy activities together. We are a place where people can gather for these purposes.



We want to HEAR FROM YOU!

AS PART OF PLANNING THE NEXT FOUR YEARS AT THE LIBRARY, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

- What we are doing well
- How we could do better
- What you want the Library to be

If you are at least five years old, please consider taking our community survey below to help us better serve you!



SURVEY FOR ADULTS (3 OR 10 MIN OPTIONS)



SURVEY FOR TEENS (GRADES 6-12)



SURVEY FOR KIDS (GRADES K-5)



EVERY PERSON WHO COMPLETES A SURVEY CAN ENTER A DRAWING TO WIN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PRIZES:

- Kindle Paperwhite (eBook reader)
- Yoto Player with cards (children's audiobook player)
- Gift card from a Mahomet business
- First 'dibs' on 5 books of your choice over the next year (you will be first in line to get the book)

I SPY SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, MAY 24 · 9AM-2PM

ENJOY A SUMMER KICKOFF PARTY AT THE LIBRARY INCLUDING:

- An "I Spy" walk from Barber Park to the Library
- Face painting & temporary tattoos
- Inflatables & carnival games
- Music & food (free hotdogs, chips, and water beginning at 11 am; Ice Daddy's available for purchase)
- Summer reading sign-up

ALL ABOUT THE "I SPY" WALK:

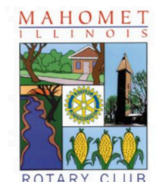
You won't want to miss out on our "I Spy" walk from Barber Park to the Library! Enjoy hunting for items, some big and some small, as you walk the 1.3-mile, stroller-friendly route.

- FOUR STOPS with special displays! Kids who collect stickers from the red buckets at all 4 stops will get a free book at the end. Grownups will get a free coupon for our Keurig station.
- This year's walk will feature dragons, hats, and fish. All hidden items will be located close to the trail. We'll give you a scoresheet to keep track of what you find.
- The shuttle will drop you off at Barber Park, then you'll follow the bike path to the Library. At the end of the trail, you'll find the rest of the summer party fun! We encourage people to park at the Library and take the free shuttle (service from 9 am-1:30 pm) to the starting line.

PREMIER SPONSORS:



This event supports your community through the Rotary Club of Mahomet and the Friends of the Mahomet Public Library.



MORE INFO



ALL AGES PROGRAMS

SCHOOL'S OUT! ICE DADDY'S PARTY

Wednesday, May 21 | 1:30-3:30 pm



School's out, and the fun begins! Let's celebrate with free frozen Ice Daddy's treats for kids, courtesy of Classic Plumbing. Don't forget to get signed up for summer reading!

All ages. No registration.
Free treats for kids only.



FAMILY FUN FRIDAYS

Fridays in June & July | 10:00-11:30* am



Each Friday morning in June and July, we'll have a fun event for all ages at the library! Events will range from drop-in stations and outdoor activities to special presentations from professional performers.

June 6: Field Day at the Library! (outdoor activities and games)

June 13: Magic with Joel Shoemaker*

June 20: Unlazy River (outdoor obstacle course)

June 27: Do Art! With Do Art Productions*

July 11: Minecraft BINGO

July 18: Bigger Bang Bubble Show with Absolute Science*

July 25: Blast From the Past: Nostalgic Toys Open Play

*These special presentations end at 11:00 am instead of 11:30 am.

All ages. No registration required.

BOOK CHARACTER SCAVENGER HUNT

Saturday, June 28 | 1:00-3:00 pm



Search the Library for photos of your favorite children's book characters! When you've found them all, enjoy a popsicle and yard games on the Library lawn.

All ages. No registration required.

PLANT SWAP

Saturday, July 12 | 11:00 am-12:00 pm



It's time for a plantastic exchange! Bring your beloved plants, rooted cuttings, leftover garden plants, and seeds to the Library. Share the plant love and take home some new leafy pals. Just remember to bring your plants in pots you're ready to bid farewell to, then let the "plant swap" commence!

All ages. No registration required.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, July 13 | 2:00-4:00 pm



Get ready for a scoop of community appreciation! Join us for an ice cream social hosted by the Library's Board of Trustees. Enjoy free ice cream (and toppings!) and connect with the leaders dedicated to serving your Library. A sweet celebration awaits!

All ages. No registration required.

POKÉMON PARTY

Saturday, July 19 | 1:00-3:00 pm



Calling all Pokémon fans! Come help us celebrate all things Pokémon at the Library! We'll have crafts and activities set up around the Library.

All ages. No registration required.



SUMMER READING

MAY 21 - AUGUST 1

• KIDS •

BIRTH TO FIFTH GRADE

- 1) Use your reading log to track your minutes read and earn beads for your brag tag! Finish your whole log and **receive a FREE BOOK, Monicals coupon, and star to put up on the wall in the children's area.**
- 2) Earn stickers for your badge book full of bonus reading challenges. Complete all the challenges to get a **water bottle or tote bag.**

• COMMUNITY • PRIZES

HELP US "UNLOCK" PRIZES FOR EVERYONE!

- 1) Download the "Reader Zone" app or log in on their website.
- 2) Enter your total number of minutes read.
- 3) If the community reads a certain number of minutes in total, we will unlock the following special community prizes:

- **25,000 Minutes:** New train set for train table
- **75,000 Minutes:** Botley 2.0 Coding Robot
- **150,000 Minutes:** 6 new Wonderbooks
- **200,000 Minutes:** Foam party

• TEENS • SIXTH TO NINTH GRADE

- 1) Use your reading log to track your minutes read.
- 2) Get a **raffle ticket for every hour.**
- 2) Finish your whole log and **receive a FREE BOOK and Monicals coupon.**

• ADULTS • TENTH GRADE AND UP

- 1) Mark off a square on your log for every 30 minutes you read.
- 2) After you read 10 hours, **fill out a raffle ticket** for a chance to win a gift card from a local business!

More info: www.mahometpubliclibrary.org/events/summer-reading-2025

KIDS PROGRAMS

STORYTIME

Tuesdays & Wednesdays (Tuesday, June 3 - Wednesday, July 30)



Baby Storytime: Tuesdays, 9:30-9:50 am (ages 0-18 months)
All Ages Storytime: Wednesdays, 10:00-10:30 am (ages 0-5 years)

DROP-IN SENSORY TIME

First Thursdays (June 5 & July 3) | 10:00-11:30 am



Join us for drop-in stations that encourage sensory exploration! **Designed for children ages 3-7 and their caregivers. No registration required.**

ADVENTURES IN ART

Every other Tuesday (June 3 & 17, July 1, 15, 29) | 3:00-4:00 pm



Join us for an hour of artistic fun! All supplies needed to make each project will be provided.
June 3: Splatter Paint
June 17: Loom Weaving
July 1: Bubble Paint Flowers
July 15: Stitched Yarn Art
July 29: Perler Bead Pixel Art
Grades 2-5. Registration required.

LEVEL UP! STEM

Every other Wednesday (June 11 & 25, July 9 & 23) | 3:00-4:00 pm



Take on a STEM challenge! Level-up your STEM skills with a new challenge each session.
June 11: Egg Drop Challenge
June 25: LEGO Derby
July 9: DIY Articulated Grabber
July 23: Paper Plate Rollercoasters
Entering grades 2-5. Registration required.

LITTLE GROOVERS! MUSIC & MOVEMENT

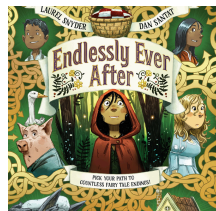
Every other Thursday (June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24) | 10:00-10:30 am



Join us for a fun-filled music and movement program designed for toddlers and preschoolers ages 2-5 and their caregivers. In this interactive program, children will sing, dance, and move to a variety of exciting songs that engage their imaginations, enhance motor skills, and encourage social interaction.
Ages 2-5. No registration required.

LIVE ACTION CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Wednesday, June 18 | 3:00-3:45 pm



Join us for a live reading of *Endlessly Ever After* by Laurel Snyder. Participants will have to make choices in real-time to determine how the story will end.
Ages 5 and up. No registration required.

LEGO CLUB: SUMMER EDITION

Thursday, June 19 & July 17 | 2:00-4:00 pm



Calling all LEGO lovers! Join us for drop-in open play with our huge collection of LEGOs!
Entering grades K-5. No registration required.

GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB

Friday, June 27 & July 25 | 4:00-5:00 pm



Calling all graphic novel enthusiasts! Join us as we read and discuss a set graphic novel at each book club session.
June: *Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
July: *Gamerville* by Johnnie Christmas
Grades 3-7. Registration required.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS PROGRAMS



FOR STUDENTS OF MULTIPLE SKILL LEVELS ENTERING GRADES 3-12

LEARN TO PLAY

INTRO TO D&D (YOUNG ADVENTURERS EDITION)

Thursday, June 12 | 2:00-3:00 pm

Curious about Dungeons & Dragons but don't know where to start? Learn the basics of D&D gameplay with library staff member, Ty! **For students entering grades 3-5. No registration required.**

INTRO TO D&D (TEEN EDITION)

Thursday, July 10 | 2:00-3:00 pm

Curious about Dungeons & Dragons but don't know where to start? Learn the basics of D&D gameplay with library staff member, Ty! **For students entering grades 6-12. No registration required.**

D&D CLUBS

TEEN D&D CLUB

Sunday, June 8 & 22 and July 20 | 1:30-4:30 pm

Join us for exciting DnD adventures that encourage creativity, problem solving, strategy, and teamwork! Library staff member, Ty, will lead players through exciting one-shot D&D adventures!
Entering grades 7-12. Registration required.

JUNIOR D&D CLUB

Saturday, June 14 & July 12 | 1:30-3:30 pm

Players will embark on an exciting D&D adventure that will help them develop their creative problem solving skills and teamwork! No D&D experience is necessary.
Entering grades 3-6. Registration required.

ADULT PROGRAMS

YOGA ON THE LAWN

Tuesday, June 3 and Thursday, June 12,
July 10 & 24 | 6:00-7:00 pm



Downward Facing Dog. Warrior Pose. Lotus Position. Summer Yoga with instructor Colleen Crawford is an approachable yoga practice with options offered and demonstrated that allow you to choose whether you want a more challenging or more chill experience. **Adults. Registration required.**

COOKBOOK CLUB: A TASTE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Thursday, June 5 | 6:30-7:30 pm



Join us for Cookbook Club! This month we will dive into the vibrant flavors of the Mediterranean. Instead of focusing on a single book, choose your own Mediterranean cookbook to explore and try out a recipe to share. Several Mediterranean cookbooks will be available for checkout from the library or you may choose your own cookbook. **Adults. Registration required.**

TUESDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB

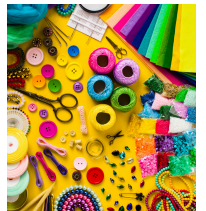
Second Tuesdays (June 10, July 8,
August 12) | 6:30-8:00 pm



Connect with fellow book lovers! Join us each month at the Library as we discuss that month's great read. **June:** *Heaven and Earth* Grocery Store by James McBride
July: *Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters
August: *Happiness Falls* by Angie Kim
Adults. No registration required.

ADULT CRAFTERNOON

Third Tuesdays (June 17 & July 15) |
1:00-2:30 pm



Enjoy a relaxing afternoon crafting unique projects while connecting with fellow crafters. All supplies are provided. **June:** Teacup bird feeders
July: Introduction to cross-stitching
Adults. Registration required.

SUMMER MOCKTAILS

Thursday, June 19 | 6:30-7:30 pm



Enjoy an interactive session where attendees will learn to make easy, refreshing non-alcoholic drinks. Bartender Riley Mueller will teach us the basics of drink-mixing, samples, and share some tips. **Adults. Registration required.**

CRAFT LAB: MAKERSPACE FOR ADULTS

Saturday, June 21 | 1:00-3:00 pm



Now offering special hands-on sessions through out the year where you can explore a variety of creative projects! We will provide space to create, experiment and connect with fellow makers. You can bring your own project to work on or try something new. A Cricut machine, sewing machine, ChompSaw cardboard cutter, button maker and more will be available, as well as some supplies such as yarn, thread, paper, crochet hooks, knitting needles and more. All skill levels are welcome. Drop in or stay the whole time. **Adults. Registration preferred (but not required).**

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL: LONDON

Tuesday, June 24 | 6:30-7:30 pm



Join us for a virtual journey to London, England! Explore iconic landmarks like Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London. Learn about London's history, culture and traditions - all from the comfort of the library! Enjoy a taste of Britain with a themed snack as we enjoy the sights of the city. **Adults. Registration required.**

LIBRARY HACKS: GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Tuesday, July 1 | 6:30-8:00 pm



Did you know your library offers more than just books? Join director John Howard and library staff for Library Hacks, a hands-on session where we'll show you insider tips and tricks to make the most of your library's resources. Learn how to access e-books, audiobooks, and digital magazines; stream movies and TV shows from our Roku Sticks, and how to use the library's catalog and online resources. Bring your device and we'll help you get everything set up. Great for library regulars or those just getting started. **Adults. Registration required.**

INTRO TO GENEALOGY

Thursday, July 17 | 6:30-7:30 pm



Curious about your family history? Join genealogist Wendy Harris for this beginner friendly genealogy workshop where you will learn the basics of tracing your roots. Discover useful resources, research tips, and how to organize your findings. **Adults. Registration required.**

DIY SKIN CARE

Tuesday, July 22 | 7:00-8:00 pm



Join us as we make some simple, natural products. There will be three stations making sugar scrub, lip balm, and after-sun spray. **Adults. Registration required.**

TEEN PROGRAMS

TEEN AFTER HOURS GAME NIGHT: UNO TOURNAMENT

Friday, June 13 | 5:30-7:00 pm



Show off your Uno skills! Compete with your friends in a series of Uno games for a chance at winning some awesome prizes! Pizza and refreshments provided. **Grades 6-12. Registration required.**

TEEN MAKERSPACE: OPEN LAB

Thursday, June 26 & July 24 | 3:00-4:30 pm



Enjoy 90 minutes of open access to a variety of makerspace materials, including ChompSaw cardboard cutters, button makers, hot glue, and so much more. A variety of creative materials will be available for use. **Entering grades 6-12. No registration required.**

TEEN AFTER HOURS CRAFT NIGHT: PERLER BEAD MAGNETS

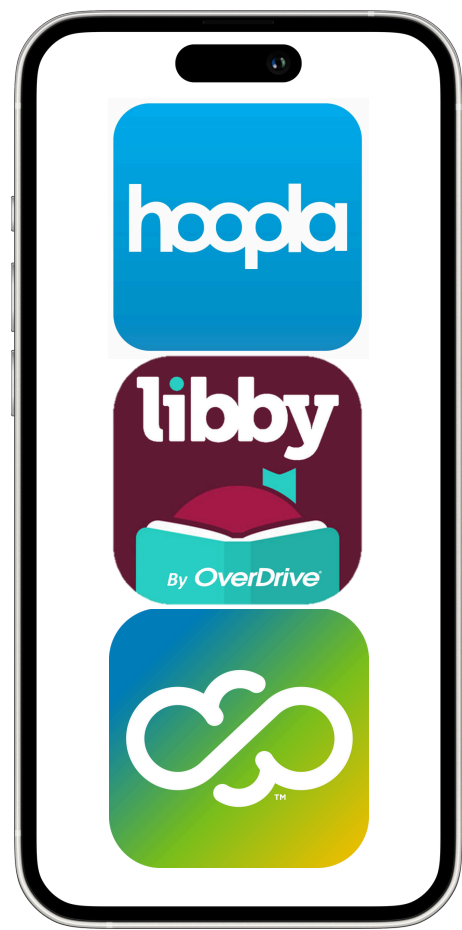
Friday, July 11 | 5:30-7:00 pm



Craft with friends at the Library! You bring yourself; we'll provide all the materials for the project, plus pizza and snacks! This crafting session, we'll be making Perler bead magnets. **Grades 6-12. Registration required.**

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS AT THE LIBRARY

This summer, we're offering both an Introduction to D&D event and monthly D&D Club! **Find out more about both on page 9 of this booklet.**



HOOPLA, CLOUDLIBRARY, LIBBY, COMPARING OUR E-RESOURCE PLATFORMS

Hoopla

- 5 instant downloads per month
- No wait times
- Might not have the very newest books or bestsellers
- Includes bingepasses, music, comics, and movies
- Mahomet Library pays per patron download
- You need a valid email address to create an account

Magazines are available for checkout

Libby

- Compatible with Kindle
- Mahomet Library has the most control over purchasing for this app
- Has the highest number of new books and current bestsellers
- Hold times can be long, but Mahomet patrons usually wait less time because they get priority for items purchased by Mahomet Library

Log in with your Mahomet Library barcode number and PIN (last 4 digits of phone number)

Audiobooks and ebooks available

Download the app on your device

Kids mode option

Download for use without Wi-Fi

Cloud Library

- All the libraries in our Illinois Heartland Library system have access
- Mahomet Library does not purchase specific titles. They are purchased through our IHLS system.

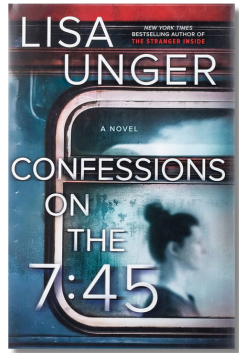
Can be used with Kindle Fires but NOT other Kindle eReaders

Check out items that are available

Place a hold on items that are currently checked out

No limit to number of items borrowed in one month

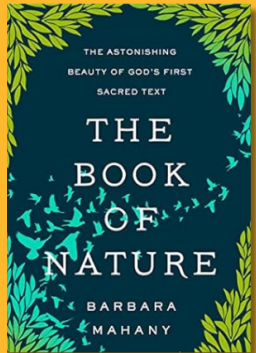
LINDA'S PICK:
CONFESSIONS ON THE 7:45



Selena meets Martha on a train one morning. They share secrets expecting never to see each other again. Their paths do eventually meet again and now one of their nannies is missing. Coincidence or was their meeting not by chance after all.

Find it on our fiction shelves and in the Hoopla and Libby apps.

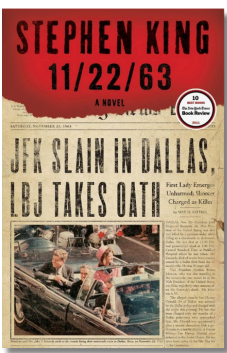
KATHY'S PICK:
THE BOOK OF NATURE



This is an amazing book on finding God in His design and creation!

Find it on our nonfiction shelves and in the Libby app.

JOHN'S PICK:
11/22/63



Ignore that this is Stephen King. It's not horror. A school teacher stumbles upon a passage to 1958 and decides to try and prevent the Kennedy assassination.

Find it on our fiction and Large Print shelves and in the Libby & CloudLibrary apps.

CHAT WITH THE
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Does this book make us look fat?



We REALLY DO Want to Know!

I'm from the Midwest. I grew up in Davenport, Iowa and went to college at Drake University in Des Moines. I have never lived more than three hours from home. As a general rule, Midwesterners tend to be pretty polite, and we don't care for confrontation. I get that. But, as we go out into the community in the next few months, trying to get feedback on the Library with a survey, we really do want to know.

Since I have been the Director here, we have not made a big effort to ask the community how we are doing. Now is your opportunity to tell us. For instance:

- If you never use the Library, please tell us why. (And please tell us what would motivate you to visit again.)
- If you had a bad experience at the Library in the past, we need to hear that too. If I can apologize and welcome you back, I will.
- If there are services or programs that you would love to see, please let us know.

Of course, we also want to hear if we are doing things well. What we hear from you is vital to helping us continue to serve our community better. We can't be everything to every person, but we can always try to improve. Earlier in this issue, there is a link to our community survey. Please take a few minutes to tell us what you think.

Numbers Back to Pre-COVID Totals

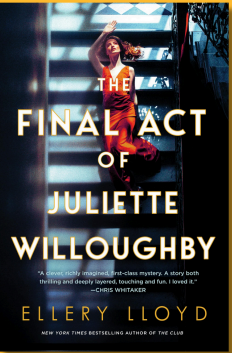
Like a lot of libraries, our usage went down during the COVID pandemic. I am happy to say that as of the fiscal year ending in June 2024, we have officially gotten back to pre-pandemic levels, and are continuing to grow from there. As of the end of the last year, we circulated 12.5 items for every person (adults and children) in our district.

In a society where we have smartphones, Netflix, TikTok and hundreds of other choices to distract and entertain us, reading is still going strong! It may look different, or sound different (audiobooks are having a moment!) but reading is not dead.

Year	Total Circulation
2018-2019	168,744
2019-2020	138,843
2020-2021	144,951
2021-2022	146,561
2022-2023	160,434
2023-2024	170,881

STAFF PICKS

JENN'S PICK:
THE FINAL ACT OF JULIETTE WILLOUGHBY



This is a great mystery that has twists and turns and straight up shockers. I loved how the author seamlessly weaves three timelines (artists Juliette and Oliver in Paris 1938, and two Cambridge students in 1991 and in their adult life) into a well thought-out and extremely engaging read.

Find it on our fiction shelves and in the Hoopla and Libby apps.

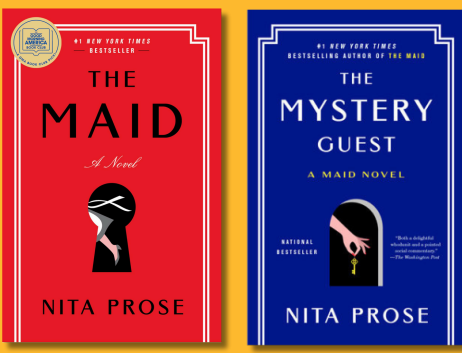
AERA'S PICK:
CARRY ON



Set at a magic school, not too unlike Hogwarts, main character Simon Snow, alongside his best friend Penelope Bunce, and his nemesis-turned-sort-of-friend-to-something more, Baz Pitch, unravel the mystery at the heart of the Magicians' biggest enemy, the Insidious Humdrum. Armed with a sparky romance and witty narration, it was impossible to put this book down once I started it.

Request a physical copy or find it in the Libby and CloudLibrary apps.

STAFF PICK:
THE MAID
THE MYSTERY GUEST



These two books are in a series. A quirky maid in an upscale hotel is thrown into the world as an amateur detective when there are deaths (or are they murders?) in the hotel. These are funny, easy to read mysteries if you are looking for your next "Who-done-it" read.

Find them on our fiction shelves and in the Libby and CloudLibrary apps.