

GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

For children, teens and adults

May / June 2026

LOCATIONS & HOURS

**GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY
AND CULTURAL CENTER**
220 W. 5th. Ave. 886-2484
Monday - Thursday.....9am - 8pm
Friday & Saturday.....9am - 5pm

TECHMOBILE
(219) 886-2484 x 358
Monday - Friday.....9am - 4pm

MAKERSPACE
(219) 886-2484 x 332 CALL FOR INFO.
Current schedule available at all locations

KENNEDY BRANCH
3953 Broadway 887-8112
Monday - Thursday 10am - 6pm
closed: Friday & Saturday

WOODSON BRANCH
501 S. Lake Street 938-3941
Monday - Thursday 10am - 6pm
closed: Friday & Saturday

ALL UNITS OF THE GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE

CLOSED: Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day HOURS WILL RESUME ON TUESDAY, MAY 26

CLOSED: Friday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth HOURS WILL RESUME ON SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Programs for Families

Saturday, May 13

- Chess Tournaments - All ages welcome (Not USCF sanctioned). Walk-ins welcome, featuring 30 minute games. Registration is encouraged but not required. FREE! 219-886-2484 for more information, 10 - 12pm @ **Main Library**

Sunday, May 17

- Jazz Concert - Entrance through North parking lot side only. Doors open at 2:30pm. Free Admission & parking. No Library service. Concert is co-sponsored by the Greater Gary American Jazz Association, 3 - 5pm @ **Main Library - 2nd Floor Arts Theater**

Tuesday, May 19 @ 4-6pm

- Water Safety - With special guest Mary Ann Best, Blue Flow Great Lakes @ **Children's Services - Main Library**

Sunday, May 31

- Classical Sunday Concert Series - Free Admission & parking. No Library service. Concert is co-sponsored by the Gary Civic Symphony Orchestra and the Gary Historical & Cultural Society, Inc., 3 - 5pm @ **Main Library - 2nd Floor Arts Theater**

Mondays in June @ 4pm

- Story Hour - Fun and welcoming for children of all ages. Each session features engaging read-alouds lead by volunteer readers. Come listen, imagine, and enjoy stories together @ **Woodson Branch**

Tuesday, June 2 @ 2pm & Saturday, June 6 @10am

- Heirloom Roses Talk and Tour - Featuring a guided tour of the library rose garden and rose inspired refreshments. Co - sponsored by the Miller Garden Club and Gary Public Library @ **Woodson Branch**

Getting Your IRS Debt Sorted:

The Insider's Guide to 'Fresh Start' Secrets

A 30 minute educational presentation from former IRS officer to understand options that the IRS doesn't always advertise.

- The 10 - Year Clock:** How to know when IRS debt legally expires.
- Penalty Abatement:** How "good" taxpayers can get penalties removed.
- The Roadmap to a Fresh Start:** Understanding the difference between IRS Settlements and Voluntary Bankruptcy (VBA)

Thursday, May 28, 2026 @ 5pm
Main Library, 220 W. 5th Avenue



Seandrea Earls is a Northwest Indiana resident and veteran tax expert who knows that "peace of mind" is the most valuable asset a taxpayer can have. With over 11 years of federal and private sector experience, including four year as an IRS Revenue Office, Seandrea Earls has an understanding of how the tax system operates from the inside out.

MEET THE AUTHOR & BOOK SIGNING



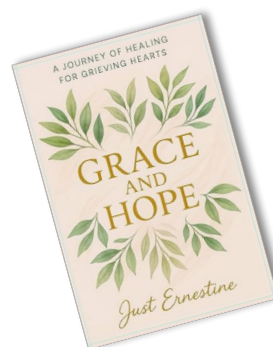
ERNESTINE BEAN

FREE

Saturday
May 23, 2026

noon - 2pm

Main Library,
220 W. 5th Avenue



Just Ernestine (Ernestine Bean) is a native of Gary and an author whose work explores grief, healing, identity, and restoration with clarity, compassion, and restraint. Drawing from lived experience, she creates space for honest reflection without pressure to perform. Her books range from adult devotionals and reflective studies to children's stories and honor emotional process, dignity, and timing. Across audiences, her voice is steady and trustworthy, guiding readers toward wholeness through presence, truth, and care.

BUDGETING BASICS WORKSHOP FOR TEENS!

TUESDAY, JUNE 9 & THURSDAY, JULY 9
3PM @ WOODSON BRANCH

Join us for a FREE 15 minute interactive financial literacy workshop for middle and high school students. Featuring practical budgeting skills using real-world examples.

Lo-Fi Hangout

- Tuesday, June 16, 23, 30 @ 3:30-4:30pm
Teens, 7-12th grade are welcome to drop in for a calm, welcoming library experience featuring Lo-fi music and optional creative activities @ **Woodson Branch**

SAVE
THE
DATE
SATURDAY
MAY 30

Gary Public Library's

Spring Showcase

Join us for a community celebration
highlighting local talent and creativity!
Showcasing authors, crafters & entrepreneurs

Main Library 10am - 3pm



Follow us using @GPL1908 on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter

www.garypubliclibrary.org/events Print copies available at all library locations.

Children's Programs in MAY

- 2 Saturday
 - Star Wars Marathon - May the 4th be with you! Join us in watching the original Star Wars trilogy. Light refreshments will be provided, 1:30-3:30pm @ **Children's Services**
- 4 Monday
 - Cloud Activity, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 5 Tuesday
 - Celebrate Cinco De Mayo - Let's talk about food, culture and traditions, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 6 Wednesday
 - Holiday Talk, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 7 Thursday
 - Let's Make Tulips, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 11 Monday
 - Let's Plant Sunflower Seeds, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 12 Tuesday
 - "Charmed I'm Sure" Etiquette Program - Featuring another lesson in etiquette presented by Ms. Shakinah Bullock, 5 - 6pm @ **Children's Services**
 - Bird Activity, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 13 Wednesday
 - Card Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 14 Thursday
 - Story Hour, 10 - 11am @ **Children's Services**
 - Game Day - Play games of your choice, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 18 Monday
 - Let's Color Rainbows, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 19 Tuesday
 - Bee Activity, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**

- 20 Wednesday
 - Let's make flags, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 21 Thursday
 - Story Hour, 2 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**
 - Computer Day, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 26 Tuesday
 - Story Hour, 5 - 6pm @ **Children's Services**
 - Free Day - It's your choice, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 27 Wednesday
 - Game Day - Play games of your choice, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 28 Thursday
 - Dandelion Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 30 Saturday
 - Board Game Day, 1 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**

UNEARTH A STORY™

2026 Summer Reading Program
For Pre-school through 12th grade

June 6 - July 16 @ Kennedy Branch & Woodson Branch
June 6 - July 18 @ Main-Children's Services

SUMMER READING KICK - OFF
SATURDAY, JUNE 6
@ 12 - 3PM - MAIN LIBRARY

Join us for fun, meet the local community and learn how the Summer Reading Program works! Complete Rules and sign-up sheet available at all locations.

- 2 Tuesday
 - Story Hour - Let's read a story and get inspired to check out books for the Summer Reading program, 4 - 5pm @ **Children's Services**
- 9 Tuesday
 - Summer Reading Program Story Hour - Stories based on the theme. Stories read during this program will count for Juvenile patrons in attendance, 5 - 6pm @ **Children's Services**
- 11 Thursday
 - Water Safety Summer - Join us for an introduction in water safety featuring Mary Ann Best of the Blue Flow Great Lakes organization, 1 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**
- 15 Monday
 - Summer Reading Program Story Hour - Stories based on the theme. Stories read during this program will count for Juvenile patrons in attendance, 5 - 6pm @ **Children's Services**
- 22 Monday
 - Save the Dunes - Let's learn about the Indiana Dunes, 1 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**
- 25 Thursday
 - Story Hour: Pick Your Path - Read Summer Reading themed stories and choose the paths together, 1 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**
- 29 Monday
 - Summer Reading Program Story Hour - Stories based on the theme. Stories read during this program will count for Juvenile patrons in attendance, 5 - 6pm @ **Children's Services**
- 30 Tuesday
 - Adopt - A - Dinosaur - Adopt your very own dinosaur! Adoption forms provided, 4 - 6pm @ **Children's Services**



Children's Programs in JUNE

- 1 Monday
 - Paper Plate Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 2 Tuesday
 - Dentist Day - Let's talk about going to dentist, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 3 Wednesday
 - Butterfly Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 4 Thursday
 - Computer Day - Let's research Spring objects, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 8 Monday
 - Scavenger Hunt - 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 9 Tuesday
 - Log Cabin Activity, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 10 Wednesday
 - Log Cabin Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 11 Thursday
 - Animal Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 15 Monday
 - Beach Talk, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 16 Tuesday
 - "Charmed I'm Sure" Etiquette Program - Featuring another lesson in etiquette presented by Ms. Shakinah Bullock, 2 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**
 - Free Day - It's your choice, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 17 Wednesday
 - Bee Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 18 Thursday
 - Owl Craft, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 20 Saturday
 - Father's Day Craft - Father's Day is just about here! Come on in and make a card to honor our dads or father-figures, 1 - 3pm @ **Children's Services**
- 22 Monday
 - Story Time, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 23 Tuesday
 - Computer Day, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 24 Wednesday
 - Movie Day, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**
- 25 Thursday
 - Puzzle & Game Day, 3 - 5pm @ **Kennedy Branch**