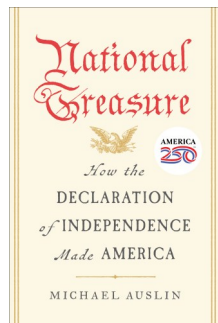


LUNCH WITH BOOKS & LWB *LIVESTREAM!*

MOST PROGRAMS BEGIN AT NOON IN THE HAROLD E. VITALIE AUDITORIUM ON THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE LIBRARY

Attend in-person OR tune in to watch live:
facebook.com/lunchwithbooks; LWB YouTube Channel (tiny.cc/LWB-YouTube)
OR ohiocountylibrary.org (search Livestream)

Sept. 1: National Treasure with



Michael Auslin The first complete history of our founding document, from 1776 to the 21st century, *National Treasure* is a celebration of how the Declaration of Independence became the supreme expression of the American Ideal and unity while guiding us along the often-bumpy road to a more perfect Union. It is also a thrilling

adventure story. Award-winning historian **Michael Auslin** will take us from the boarding house in Philadelphia where Thomas Jefferson put quill to paper to the Declaration's long, harrowing, and ultimately hallowed afterlife. As Jefferson had hoped, the principles enshrined in the Declaration became a beacon to the world. But what lessons should we take from it today? Can this statement of ideals bring a disparate nation together?

Sept. 8: Project Banjo with Enzo Chiodo

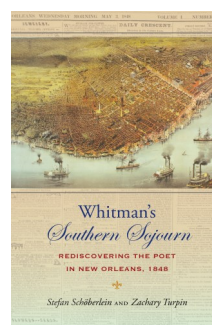
Project Banjo—An exploration of the banjo's place in American music," is a reimagining of traditional Americana and Bluegrass music through an exploration of the banjo's place within contemporary song-writing and nimble instrumentation. Accompanied with drum and bass, Project Banjo will shake your impression of what "banjo music" can be by breathing new life into old favorites while celebrating all the many ways the banjo has shaped American music and popular culture throughout history.



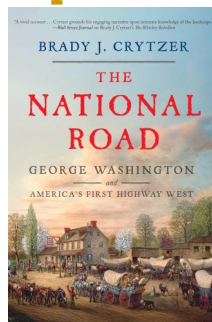
Sept. 15: Walt Whitman in Wheeling

Few people would associate the poet Walt Whitman (1819-1892) with West Virginia, yet in 1848 he briefly crossed the Appalachian mountains and visited the Wheeling on his way to New Orleans, writing about the city for a southern

newspaper. Dr. Stefan Schöberlein (Texas A&M University—Central Texas), will present Whitman's writings about Wheeling and West Virginia, and discuss the city's role as an important hub for Northern travelers in route to the major cities of the South. He will also introduce the captain of the steamboat that carried not only Whitman down the Ohio, but also President Zachary Taylor: Wheeling's own Samuel Mason, now buried at Greenwood Cemetery.



Sept. 19: (Sat., 1 PM) The National Road

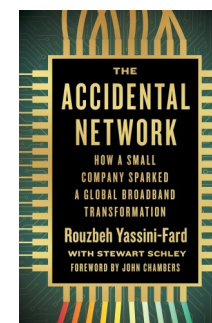


In partnership with Wheeling Heritage, the Fort Henry Chapter of the S.A.R., and the Wheeling D.A.R., author **Brady Crytzer** will discuss his new book, *The National Road: George Washington and America's First Highway West*. The book is the first narrative history of the federal project—begun decades before the nation itself was born and ranging through the 1830s—that connected the

United States across the Alleghenies and into the western frontier. Starting with a young Washington's dream of uniting the Potomac and Ohio Rivers, historian Crytzer traces the political rivalries and engineering marvels that created an artery bringing settlers, ideas, and commerce deep into the American interior.

Sept. 22: Inaugural Dr. Hossein "Doc" Yassini Lecture

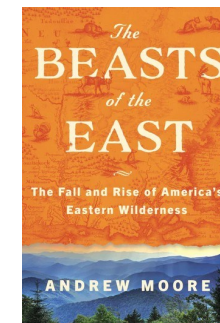
Introducing the Dr. Hossein "Doc" Yassini Lecture Series in Science and Medicine, a stimulating new annual program devoted to thoughtful dialogue, captivating subjects, and lifelong learning. The program is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Hossein Yassini, a revered physician and civic figure who touched countless lives with grace and humility over more than six decades. The series will bring internationally known subject-matter experts to explore breakthroughs touching on modern scientific, medical, and technological advancements. Our first guest will be Dr. Yassini's nephew, **Dr. Rouzbeh Yassini-Fard**, entrepreneur and author known internationally as "the Father of the Cable Modem." He will explore his book, *The Accidental Network: How a Small Company Sparked a Global Broadband Transformation*. (WVU Press, 2025). He will discuss the inter-



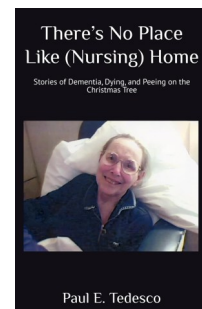
section of broadband networks and advancements in remote medical diagnosis/connected healthcare that have become critical in the wake of the 2020 Covid crisis. Don't miss this engaging, direct-from-the-source discussion about a technical revolution that continues moving forward at astonishing speed.

Sept. 29: The Beasts of the East

Author **Andrew Moore** will discuss his new book, *The Beasts of the East: The Fall and Rise of America's Eastern Wilderness*. The book is a celebration of the extraordinary lost natural wonder of the eastern U.S.—an astonishingly abundant landscape that was once the center of American wildness before its despoliation—and a revelatory journey through recent efforts to return elk, bison, wolves, and other creatures to their native landscapes. Moore is the author of *Panpaw: In Search of America's Forgotten Fruit*, which was a James Beard Foundation Award nominee in Writing & Literature. His work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, and *The Daily Yonder*. He lives in Pittsburgh.



Oct. 6: There is No Place Like (Nursing) Home



Paul Tedesco proudly hails from East Wheeling. One day, his mother moved into a nursing home. On another, she died there. What happened in between changed his life. *There's No Place Like (Nursing) Home: Stories of Dementia, Dying, and Peeing on the Christmas Tree*, is a book for all the Baby Boomers and

Gen-Xers across the country who, like Paul, are getting older. So are their parents. Many already are or will end up in nursing homes. Most who do will die there. The book is a short, folksy memoir, a compendium of stories, real ones, filled with heartbreak and agony, as well as laughter and mirth. The stories are about what Paul saw, learned, and felt, and how he learned to smile again, then and now. In the midst of the tempest, he also found serenity for a troubled soul. So can you.

Oct. 13: Hispanic Heritage Month

Diana Rodriguez Wallach is an award-winning author of young adult novels. Her latest, *THE SI-*



LENCE, tackles the Troubled Teen Industry and is the winner of the 2026 International Thriller Awards for Best YA Thriller, and nominee for the 2026 Bram Stoker Awards for Best YA Horror. The talk will include a consideration of Puerto Rican folklore, especially the tradition of espiritismo. Diana is on faculty as a writing instructor for the Highlights Foundation. She grew up in Ridley Township, PA to a Puerto Rican father and a Polish mother. She holds a B.S. in Journalism from Boston University and lives in the Philadelphia area.

Oct. 20: The Story of Shapes

Dr. Vincent DeGeorge is a scientist, writer, and community leader living in Wheeling, WV. After earning a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University, he chose to return to Appalachia, where he has spent the past decade working in education, nonprofit leadership, and community development. Vincent enjoys exploring the intersections of science, faith, philosophy, and people. Those lifelong interests inspired **The Story of Shapes**, which traces humanity's remarkable, ongoing quest to better understand our cosmos through geometry. He serves as President of the WALS Foundation and enjoys sharing the wonder of big ideas, especially with local audiences.



Oct. 27: The Mummy Radio Play



For **HALLOWEEN**, Or-Seán Welles and the OCPL Players return to the airwaves with this long-anticipated production of "The Mummy," based on the 1932 film starring Boris Karloff. Join us as we revisit the legend of

ancient Egyptian priest Imhotep's mummy, reanimated when an archaeologist reads from a forbidden script! Follow Imhotep as he searches for a woman he believes is the reincarnation of his ancient lover, scheming to murder then resurrect her as his immortal bride!

What is Lunch With Books?

"Lunch With Books" is the library's flagship program for adult patrons. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy presentations by authors, poets, historians, musicians & more. Complimentary beverages are provided. Programs usually start at noon on Tuesdays in the Harold E. Vitalie Auditorium on the lower level of the library.

Feedback from our guests:

"Libraries are special places where the community comes together in ways it can't (or doesn't) anywhere else. They are resources for people in all walks of life, of all ages, of all backgrounds. The OCPL in downtown Wheeling was a refuge, a hangout, a treasure trove, for me growing up. I heard my parents lecture there, at Lunch with Books..." ~Jessica Whitehead, author of *Driftwood: The Life of Harlan Hubbard*

Interested in local history?



www.archivingwheeling.org



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E-mail: lunchwithbooks@yahoo.com

Library-Sponsored Programs Policy

The purpose of Ohio County Public Library-sponsored programs is to provide education, information, and entertainment for library patrons. The Library reserves the right to exercise sole discretion in selecting and inviting presenters for its programs. In selecting presenters, the Library does not discriminate on account of race, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, political affiliation, religion, ancestry or national origin, and the views expressed by presenters of Library-sponsored programs, or by any person in attendance at the programs, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Library, its staff, and /or its representatives.



Sept - Oct
2026



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52-16th Street

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