



MAY 2017

# Off the Shelf

GALESBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER | [WWW.GALESBURGLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.GALESBURGLIBRARY.ORG)

## CALENDAR

- May 6 Comicfest
- May 6 Sensory Saturday
- May 8 Writer Support Group
- May 9 Tuesday Book Club
- May 9 Free Movie: *My Man Godfrey*
- May 10 Local Author: Susan Sharp
- May 11 Thursday Book Club
- May 12 Spring Book Sale: Members
- May 13 Spring Book Sale: Public
- May 13 American Girls Club
- May 15 Spring Book Sale: Bag Sale
- May 16 Chapter Chompers
- May 16 Movie Club
- May 19 Sci-fi/Fantasy Book Club
- May 22 Early Summer Reading Registration Begins
- May 22 Keep Calm and Color On
- May 22 Local Author: Lyonel Nelson
- May 23 Pinterest Club
- May 23 Free Movie: *A Dog's Purpose*
- May 25 Food for Thought Book Club
- May 27 Breakfast Club
- May 29 Library Closed: Memorial Day

## SUMMER READING

Mark your calendars! Galesburg Public Library's 2017 Summer Reading program kicks off on Monday, June 5. The theme for this year's program is Reading by Design. Early registration for all ages begins on May 22. Children ages 12 and under can register in the Children's Room or on the Children's Room page of the library's website ([www.galesburglibrary.org](http://www.galesburglibrary.org)). Teens and adults can register at the Reference Desk or on the Summer Reading page on the website. A full list of programs will appear in the June newsletter.



## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SPRING BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale will take place on May 12, 13, and 15. From 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM on May 12, members of the Friends are invited to the preview sale. Nonmembers may pay \$5 to come to the Friday night sale. On Saturday, May 13, the sale will run from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM, and entry is free for all who attend. The sale will conclude on Monday, May 15, with a \$3 bag sale happening from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM.

## COMICFEST

May 6 is Free Comic Book Day, and the library will be hosting a Comicfest in conjunction with Free Comic Book Day events at For the Win and elsewhere in Galesburg. Costume contest! Crafts! Free buttons and bookmarks! The festivities begin at 11:00 AM and will last until 3:00 PM. Full schedule below.

**Galesburg  
Comicfest**



### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Crafts

Pop Art Superheroes and Paper Plate Shields with the Galesburg Civic Art Center and Galesburg Public Library.

### 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Youth Pokemon League

Kids and teens are invited to drop in with their own cards to play, trade, and show off their decks with fellow Pokemon fans. No sign-up required, and you can come and go as you please. Prizes!

### 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Studio 2:22

Pay a small fee and receive a caricature of yourself drawn comic book or anime style by Studio2:22 artists.

### 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Coloring

Coloring is a hot hobby for all ages! Relax and color a comic book-themed coloring page using colored pencils donated by Dick Blick Art Materials.

### Noon | Costume Contest

Show off your cosplay skills in a judged costume parade! Prizes from For the Win for best kid, best teen, and best adult costumes. (Family-friendly costumes only please!) You can pick up a contest entry number at any time from 11:00 AM until 11:55 AM. Free.

### 1:00 - 3:00 PM | Balloonatic Tracy

Fun for all ages with professional balloon artist and entertainer Balloonatic Tracy.

### 1:00 - 3:00 PM | Superhero Videos

Located in the small meeting room off of the Children's Room at the library. Enjoy the antics of Robin, Cyborg, Raven, Starfire, & Beast Boy in 11-minute adventures highlighting the hijinks they get into when they aren't out saving the world.

# HUMAN SEARCH

## ENGINE

**Question:** What is altitude sickness? I've never heard of it.

**Answer:** Altitude sickness is indeed a real thing. "As altitude increases, the atmospheric pressure decreases, thinning the air so that less oxygen is available." This quote from the trusty Merck Manual of Medical Information (616/Mer) describes what causes the problem. In some people this decrease in oxygen causes blood to leak from their capillaries into the surrounding tissue. The excess fluid causes swelling, and if this swelling is in the lungs or the brain, there are unpleasant results, starting with light headedness, shortness of breath, and headache, and proceeding to much more serious ones, like nausea, vomiting, fatigue and weakness.

Most people adjust within a couple of days, but if the body cannot adjust quickly enough, which occurs in 5-10% of those with this sickness, the symptoms can increase in severity and even result in death. And, of course, the higher up you are, the more likely you are to develop altitude sickness. People who have become dangerously ill need to descend to a lower altitude as soon as possible. Sometimes they may need to be hospitalized.

If a person knows in advance that he or she will be traveling to a very high altitude, such as the Himalayas, a doctor may prescribe the drug acetazolamide in order to prevent the sickness. It must be started within a certain amount of time before making the ascent. It's basically just a diuretic, which deals with the excess fluid in the tissue and keeps the swelling from taking place.

# ADULT PROGRAMS

## Tuesday/Thursday Book Discussions

**Tue., May 9, 1:00 PM upstairs**

**Thur., May 11, 6:30 PM at Jimmy John's**

Discussion of *Be Frank with Me* by Julia Claiborne Johnson. After falling prey to a ponzi scheme, literary legend Mimi Banning is broke and must write a new book for the first time in years. Her publisher sends an assistant to monitor her progress. When Alice Whitley arrives, she's put to work—as a full-time companion to Frank, the writer's eccentric 9-year-old son. The Tuesday discussion will be followed at 2:00 PM by a showing of *My Man Godfrey* (Universal, 94 min.).

## Tome Raiders Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club

**Fri., May 19, 6:00 PM at Hardee's**

*Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom* by Cory Doctorow is an entertaining and unpredictable ride through Disney World in the near distant future. You will purchase and pay for your own food.

## Food for Thought Book Club

**Thur., May 25, 11:30 AM at En Season**

In *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World*, Michael Pollan demonstrates how people and domesticated plants have formed reciprocal relationships by linking four fundamental human desires—sweetness, beauty, intoxication, and control—with the plants that satisfy them. You will order and pay for your own food.

## Breakfast Club

**Sat., May 27, 10:00 AM at Perkins**

The Victorian language of flowers was used to convey romantic expressions. But for Victoria Jones, the main character in Vanessa Diffenbaugh's novel *The Language of Flowers*, it's been more useful in communicating mistrust and solitude. After a childhood spent in the foster-care system, she is unable to get close to anybody, and her only connection to the world is through flowers and their meanings. Brunch is pay-your-own-way.

## Movie Club

**Tue., May 9, 2:00 PM**

Free showing of the 1936 screwball classic *My Man Godfrey* (94 minutes, Universal).

## Tue., May 16, TBA

The library's movie discussion group will meet to watch a new movie at the AMC Showplace. The exact time and title will be announced the week before. We'll head to Perkins Restaurant afterwards for discussion.

## Tue., May 23, 1:30 PM

Free showing of *A Dog's Purpose*, based on the book by W. Bruce Cameron. It tells the story of one devoted dog who finds the meaning of his own existence through the lives of the humans he teaches to laugh and love (120 min., rated PG, ©Universal).

## Keep Calm and Color On

**Mon., May 22, 2:00-3:30 PM**

Join us in adult coloring for relaxation. We'll provide music, drinks, coloring pages, and colored pencils (donated by Blick Art Materials). Free!

## Writer Support Group

**Mon., May 8, 4:00 PM**

Are you a writer? Meet with other writers to hone your skills and give and receive constructive feedback.

## Local Author Events

**Wed., May 10, 6:00-8:00 PM**

Susan Sharp, Assistant Professor of Theatre at Carl Sandburg College, will sell and sign copies of the book *The Change* in the library's lobby. She contributed a chapter to this uplifting book about self-empowerment. Half the profits will benefit the library.

**Mon., May 22, 4:00-6:00 PM**

Lyonel Nelson will sell and sign copies of his book *From Farm to Fifth Avenue: How I Became a Stylist to the Rich and Famous at the World's Most Exclusive Salon* in the library's lobby. The book is \$10.

## Pinterest Club

**Tue., May 23, 6:00-7:00 PM**

Feeling stressed out? Enjoy taking baths? Come create your own bath bomb! Registration is required; call 343-6118 or stop by the Reference Desk to sign up. Cost per person is \$2 but you get to take home a bath bomb. Open to all ages (please note that bath bombs should not be given to small children).

# CHILDREN'S EVENTS

## Sensory Saturday

**Saturday, May 6, 11:00 AM**

On the first Saturday of each month there will be a storytime designed for children who have sensory processing challenges, but all children ages 3-7 are welcome to attend.

## American Girls Club

**Saturday, May 13, 11:00 AM - Noon**

Melody is the newest American Girl. She is a 9-year-old girl living in 1964. Come and experience games, crafts, and food of the 1960s. Registration is required.

## Summer Reading 2017: Reading by Design

This year's Summer Reading theme is Reading by Design. The program begins on June 5, but early registration starts on May 22. Children ages 12 and under may register in the Children's Room at the library or on the Children's Room page of the library website ([www.galesburglibrary.org](http://www.galesburglibrary.org)).

# TEEN NEWS

## Chapter Chompers Teen Lit Book Club

**Tuesday, May 16, 4:00-5:00 PM**

Do YOU love reading YA books? So do we! Come join us to feed your face AND your brain at Chapter Chompers, a teen lit book club @ Galesburg Public Library. Each month we'll enjoy a lively discussion of a YA book and pig out on snacks. At our May meeting, we'll be discussing *An Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir. Open to readers of YA books, aged 12 and up.

## Friends of the Library Volunteers Wanted!

The Friends of the Galesburg Public Library seeks volunteers to help with the setup and teardown of the Spring Book Sale.

To volunteer, please sign up on the following online form: [goo.gl/814ab4](http://goo.gl/814ab4)

For more information, to ask questions, or if you can't access the form, please contact the Friends at [friends@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:friends@galesburglibrary.org).

Thank you!

# LOCAL HISTORY

BY PATTY MOSHER

## Do you remember May Day baskets?

There was a time when it was a common occurrence for children to hang small homemade baskets of flowers and goodies on their neighbors' or friends' doorknobs on the first day of May. This was done to commemorate the end of winter and to say hello after so many months indoors. Some have never heard of them, but they became popular in the United States in Victorian times. Some were made from a pretty handkerchief by forming it into a cone, and some were actual little self-woven baskets. But in more recent times, construction paper cones with pipe cleaner handles were popular. The tiny parcel would often contain the first violets of spring, some candy and perhaps a printed poem or greeting to welcome spring.

They were to be hung on the door handle or put next to the door. The giver would then yell "May basket!" and run away as fast as they could. Most May baskets were given anonymously, but most people knew who the giver was. It could be from a girl's best friend, the people next door, a boy giving one to his sweetheart or to a girl he had a crush on. When the receiver heard the May basket call, she was supposed to run out the door, and if it was a boy she liked, she would run to catch him and give him a kiss. If word got out that the boy had been caught, he got a lot of teasing on the playground that day.

Louisa May Alcott even wrote about them, saying: "Such twanging of bells and rapping of knockers; such a scampering of feet; such droll collisions as boys came racing round corners, or girls ran into one another's arms." That is such a sweet sentiment. But a current author from Florida was afraid that if they became popular again we would have to purchase all sorts of cards, trinkets and plastic baskets from the big discount stores to give away, and the old-fashioned sweetness of this bygone tradition would become just another money making holiday for retailers. What do you think?



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## HOURS

### Monday - Thursday:

9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

### Friday & Saturday:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Sunday:** Closed

**May 29:** Closed



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### GPL MISSION STATEMENT

To serve the community as a general center of information, and to provide opportunity and encouragement for people to use its services and materials to meet their educational, personal, professional, recreational and cultural needs.

## NEA BIG READ THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's NEA Big Read of the Poetry of Emily Dickinson. I hope you all enjoyed reading Dickinson's poetry and learning more about her life and interests. Please continue to read and color your copy of *Profound by Accident: Galesburg Reads Emily Dickinson*, or share the book with others. Thank you to Holly Whittet-Allison for providing beautiful drawings to illustrate the book.

Thank you to the Galesburg Civic Art Center and the Carl Sandburg Festival for being our partners for the NEA Big Read. Both these organizations assisted in promoting the NEA Big Read and planned events. Thank you to Dr. Rob McClure Smith, Monica Berlin, and Cynthia Gallaher for being presenters and introducing different concepts about Dickinson and poetry to the community.

Also thank you to Baked, the Beanhive Coffeehouse, the Galesburg Civic Art Center, GloBar Juice and Smoothie, Innkeeper's Coffeehouse, Q's Café, and Stone Alley Books and Collectibles for handing out pocket poems and copies of *Profound by Accident: Galesburg Reads Emily Dickinson*. A special thank you to the Beanhive Coffeehouse and Innkeeper's Coffeehouse for making and selling special Emily Dickinson-themed treats. Your involvement helped to make the NEA Big Read of the Poetry of Emily Dickinson a true community-wide celebration.

Thank you to the Friends of Galesburg Public Library for your continued support of the library and the NEA Big Read program. This year the Friends' donation helped to pay for treats at the tea party, a gift card prize for book discussion participants, and the Big Write prizes and book binding. Also, thank you to everyone on the Galesburg Public Library staff for supporting the NEA Big Read by promoting and participating in programs.

-Lauren Pierce, the NEA Big Read Coordinator