



FEBRUARY 2018

# Off the Shelf

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

## CALENDAR

- Feb. 1 HAC
- Feb. 1 TAB
- Feb. 3 Sensory Storytime
- Feb. 5 BYOB Book Club
- Feb. 6 Family Storynight
- Feb. 8 Thursday Book Club
- Feb. 12 Writer Support Group
- Feb. 13 Tuesday Book Club
- Feb. 13 Local Author
- Feb. 13 Lego Night
- Feb. 13 Valentine Dance Party
- Feb. 16 Kids' Book Club
- Feb. 17 Teen Valentine's Day Party
- Feb. 20 Movie Club
- Feb. 21 Free Movie
- Feb. 22 Pinterest Club
- Feb. 23 Tome Raiders
- Feb. 24 Music Morning
- Feb. 26 Keep Calm and Color On
- Feb. 27 TV without Cable or Dish
- Feb. 27 STEM Club
- Feb. 28 Anime Club

## GPL Staff Recommends...

### Love Stories for Valentine's Day (Recommended by Lauren in Reference)

- *Edenbrooke* by Julianne Donaldson
- *The Grand Sophy* by Georgette Heyer
- *The Longest Ride* by Nicholas Sparks
- *Persuasion* by Jane Austen
- *The Royal We* by Heather Cocks and Jessica Morgan
- *The Viscount and the Vicar's Daughter* by Mimi Matthews

## THE BIG WRITE

The library is accepting entries for The Big Write, the library's annual creative writing contest. Short stories, poetry, and song lyrics are being accepted from adults and those in high school, middle school, and 3rd through 5th grade. Cash prizes of \$10-\$25 will be awarded to up to three winners in each age group and category. Submissions do not have to be written exclusively for The Big Write, and writers who live outside Galesburg and the Knox County area are welcome to submit entries. Submission guidelines and complete details can be found at [www.galesburglibrary.org](http://www.galesburglibrary.org) under the Events & Programs tab and at the Galesburg Public Library's Reference Desk.

The submission deadline is midnight on Monday, March 5. Materials may be emailed to [bigwrite@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:bigwrite@galesburglibrary.org), dropped off in person at the library, or mailed to Writing Contest, Galesburg Public Library, 40 E. Simmons St., Galesburg, IL 61401. Electronic submissions are preferred. Contest winners only will be notified in April, and a list of winners will be available at the library. A reception for winners, entrants, friends, family, and the community will be held on Saturday, April 21, at 2:00 PM at the library. Refreshments will be served and the winners will have the opportunity to read their entries.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Galesburg Public Library, The Big Write is part of Galesburg Public Library's NEA Big Read of *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears* by Dinaw Mengestu. NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. Big Read activities will take place in April 2018. For more information about The Big Write or the NEA Big Read, call 309-343-6118 or email [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org).

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

For many years, the Galesburg Register-Mail has paid for the microfilm of the newspaper that is housed at the library. The Register-Mail is no longer able to do this. The library currently owes \$4180.80 for the 2017 Register-Mail on microfilm.

We need to find a way to pay for the microfilm going forward, but right now we need to pay last year's bill. If you are interested in donating, or have any ideas on how to make sure that this invaluable resource continues to be available to the Galesburg community, please contact Jane at the library or visit [www.galesburglibrary.org](http://www.galesburglibrary.org) to donate online.

In 2017, almost 2400 rolls of microfilm were viewed at the library!

## CURIO CABINET

Do you have a special collection you'd like to show off? Whether you collect legos or tsum tsums, action figures or rocks, we'd love to display your collection in the locked curio cabinet in the library lobby. Please ask for an application at the Reference Desk or the Children's Desk. This is also a great opportunity to show off a craft done by a Girl Scout or Boy Scout Troop, or a class. Please contact Jane or Melinda at 343-6118 if you have questions.

# HUMAN SEARCH ENGINE

**By: Faith Burdick**

**Question:** How much mileage does your employer have to pay you if you travel for your job and use your own car?

**Answer:** Alas, there is no federal law that requires employers to pay employees' expenses when using their own cars for the job. Your employer may choose to pay nothing, or he may choose to use the standard IRS mileage rate for a tax-free reimbursement. Or he may choose to pay less or more than this rate. The official rate for 2017 was 53.5 cents per mile.

If your employer does not pay you mileage, then you may use this as a tax deduction yourself. To do this, you must keep good records for proof, and you can only use mileage that actually involves business travel away from your tax home. Your tax home is your regular place of business or post of duty and is not where your family home is located. There are some conditions under which your family home is your tax home.

For more information about this or other business expenses, see the Tax Guide 2017 (we have a copy at the reference desk) or go online to [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) and click on Credits and Deductions.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

Copies of all discussion books are available at the library about one month in advance. Newcomers are welcome.

### BYOB Book Club

**Mon. Feb. 5, 10:00 AM at the library**

Join a discussion of the World War II historical novel *Girl in the Blue Coat* by Monica Hesse. While you engage in adult conversation about the book, Children's Room staff will provide a fun activity for children age 4 and older (younger ones are welcome too, but will need to be supervised by the parent).

### Tuesday/Thursday Book Discussions

**Thur. Feb. 8, 6:30 PM at Jimmy John's**

**Tue. Feb. 13, 1:00 PM at the library**

Stephen Harrigan's historical novel *A Friend of Mr. Lincoln* is set in Springfield in the 1830s and features Abraham Lincoln as an ambitious young circuit lawyer and state legislator. The Tuesday discussion will be followed by a showing of the 50-minute History Channel documentary *High Tech Lincoln*, about the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield.

### Tome Raiders Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club

**Fri. Feb. 23, 6:00 PM at Hardee's**

In Octavia Butler's novel *Kindred*, Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating her birthday with her new husband when she is snatched abruptly from her home in California and transported to the antebellum South. You will order and purchase your own food.

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### Movie Club

**Tue. Feb. 20, 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. Both the movie and restaurant are pay-your-own-way. Never been to Movie Club? Whether you only see one or two movies a year or you go to the movies every week, you are welcome to join us. Email to [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org) to be added to the Movie Club's email distribution list.

### Free Movie

**Wed. Feb. 21, 1:30 PM**

Free showing of *Wonder*, based on the book by R.J. Palacio. (113 min. rated PG, ©Lions Gate)

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### Writer Support Group

**Mon. Feb. 12, 4:00 PM**

Daniel Rosenberg, 2017 winner of the Soon To Be Famous Illinois Author Contest for self-published authors, will be present to talk with the group. Even if you are not a writer, you are welcome to attend this author visit. Dan is a 1993 graduate of Knox College.

### Local Author

**Tue. Feb. 13, 4:00-6:00 PM**

Bonnie Bair, author of *We Smile: Communication & Cooperation Strategies for Healing, Intimacy, & Teamwork*, will sell and sign copies in the library's lobby.

### Pinterest Club

**Thur. Feb. 22, 6:30-7:30 PM**

DIY Sock Snowman: This easy-to-make cute snowman is perfect for some winter cheer! All supplies will be provided. Free and open to all ages. Please register at the Reference Desk.

### Keep Calm and Color On

**Mon. Feb. 26, 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!

### TV Without Cable or Dish

**Tue. Feb. 27, 11:00 PM or 6:00 PM**

Learn about alternatives to cable TV and DISH. No registration required. Free.

The NAACP Galesburg Branch 3016 is pleased to present the following activities at the library for Black History Month:

**Sat. Feb. 3, 2:00 PM**

"Dispelling Myths" with Professor Kwame Zulu Shabazz

**Wed. Feb. 7, 5:30 PM**

*Remember the Titans*  
Rated PG, 114 Minutes, © Walt Disney

**Wed. Feb. 21, 5:30 PM**

*13th*  
Rated TV-MA, 100 minutes

**Wed. Feb. 28, 5:30 PM**

*Polly*  
Not Rated, 97 minutes, © Walt Disney

# CHILDREN'S EVENTS

## Toddler Storytime

**Wednesdays at 10:00 AM**

Interactive stories, songs, and movement for children ages 18-36 months and their caregivers.

## Preschool Storytime

**Wednesdays at 10:45 AM & Thursdays at 6:00 PM**

Books, crafts, songs, and movement for children ages 3-7.

## Tots and Tunes

**Thurs. Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, 10:00 AM**

Singing and dancing for kids ages 0-5 with an adult.

## Sensory Storytime

**Sat. Feb. 3, 11:00 AM**

Open to all children ages 2-7 but designed for children with sensory integration challenges.

## Family Story Night

**Tues. Feb. 6, 6:00 PM**

Bring the whole family to enjoy stories, crafts, and activities. Fun for all ages, from babies to grownups!

## Lego Night

**Tues. Feb. 13, 4:30-5:30 PM**

Come build with Legos!

## Valentine Dance Party!

**Tues. Feb. 13, 6:00 PM**

Tots and caregivers: put on your party clothes and come wiggle, sing, and dance the night away at a library dance party! Open to children ages 0-5 accompanied by a caregiver. Registration is requested; please sign up in the Children's Room.

## Kids' Book Club

**Thurs. Feb. 15, 4:00 PM**

Fun monthly book club for independent readers in grades 3-5. Ask in the Children's Room for this month's book.

## Music Morning

**Sat. Feb. 24, 10:00 AM**

Children ages Pre-K thru 5th grade are encouraged to come to the library and participate in Music Mornings. Co-sponsored by the Knox-Galesburg Symphony, Music Mornings are free introductory music experiences of different instruments. This month will feature "The Cello," presented by Anne Suda, KGS Soloist.

## STEM Club

**Tues. Feb. 27, 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM**

Kids ages 5-12 (PreK-Grade 5) will explore topics in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math through hands-on, station-based activities. Signup is required, and children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

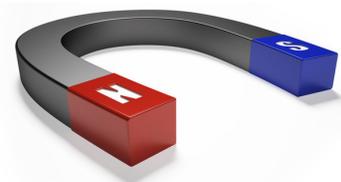
# LOCAL HISTORY

BY PATTY MOSHER

In September of 1898, a handsome gentleman by the name of "Professor" J. Austin Larson came to Galesburg to pursue his chosen profession as a con artist touting the power of magnetic healing. Prof. Larson claimed he was a graduate of various colleges that taught the science of "magnetic healing," suggestive therapeutics and "bloodless surgery," which was a con man's trick of "pulling" a "tumor" (which was usually chicken organs) by slight of hand. Other magnetic healers had come to Galesburg but failed to gain the confidence of the citizens and quietly left town. But in the October, 7 1899 edition of the Republican Register newspaper, Prof. Larson was described as a "pleasant and refined gentleman." So with a great deal of advertising, charm and his good looks, he soon had many patients knocking on his door. Galesburg became the center of his practice at his boarding house located at 164 S. Academy Street.

By December of that year, business was booming, so much so that he soon opened an office on Ferris Street. Within two weeks, his clientele had increased to such an extent that he enlarged his business space by renting five rooms in the Holmes Building at the southwest corner of Main and Cherry Street. He claimed that within the space of 10 months he had treated 5,000 people from the Galesburg area and that many old-line physicians in Galesburg had changed their beliefs about magnetic healing and were giving up "old methods of curing illnesses." However, it must be noted that the names of local doctors listed by the professor could not be found in Galesburg city directories. Prof. Larson declared that many of the cures he claimed to have achieved were "miraculous" and that he had restored to health many patients of chronic conditions that were beyond the reach of conventional medicine or drugs. Sometimes these miracles could occur with just one treatment! The volume of his business became so large that he employed two assistants, a stenographer and an office clerk. He was also the editor of a 16 page monthly journal, the Magnetic Herald, published in Galesburg.

The 1901 Galesburg City Directory shows his establishment was advertised as the Columbian School of Magnetic Healing located in rooms in the Holmes Building. But after that, the professor moved about every year, purveying his treatments from Vancouver to Pittsburgh. However, he could not save himself with his magnetic healing and died in California in 1911 at age 36.



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## HOURS

### Monday - Thursday:

9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

### Friday & Saturday:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Sunday:** 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.

## TEEN NEWS

### High School Action Committee

**Thurs. Feb. 1, 6:00-6:45 PM**

High school students! Come join us in planning fundraising and awareness events to improve the Galesburg Public Library teen experience. This volunteering and leadership opportunity also comes with free snacks.

### Teen Advisory Board

**Thurs. Feb. 1, 7:00-7:45 PM**

Join the Library's Teen Advisory Board, an open forum to make YOUR voice heard about the library! You can suggest and vote on program ideas, pitch new ideas to improve the Teen Scene, and give the library recommendations for new YA books to purchase. Open to teens aged 12-18 (or 6th-12th grade). New members always welcome.



### 8th Annual Sweet and Sour Valentine's Day Party

**Sat. Feb. 17, 2:00-3:30 PM**

Whether you're head-over-heels for someone or drinking the Haterade, everyone either loves Valentine's Day or loves to hate it. So why not do both at our 8th Annual Sweet & Sour Valentine's Day party? Take part in games and activities, eat sweet 'n sour snacks, and more! Open to teens ages 12-18, or in grades 6-12. Registration is required; call 343-6118 or stop by the Reference Desk to sign up.

### Anime Club

**Wed. Feb. 28, 4:00-5:00 PM**

Looking for a place to share your love of anime and manga? Come to our anime club! Binge-watch new and classic anime, talk about your favorites, and argue the merits of subtitles versus English dubs. We will have Japanese snacks and other anime-related activities as well, so tell all your fellow otaku! Open to teens age 12-18 or in grades 6-12.