



FEBRUARY 2021

# Off the Shelf

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

## CALENDAR

- Feb. 1 Writer Support Group
- Feb. 1-12 A Very Bookish Valentine
- Feb. 8 Animal Explorers Club Kits
- Feb. 9 Tuesday Book Club
- Feb. 9 High School Action Committee
- Feb. 10 Live Virtual Storytime
- Feb. 11 Teen Advisory Board
- Feb. 11 Thursday Book Club
- Feb. 13 Sweet & Sour Valentine's Day Virtual Party for Teens
- Feb. 14 Bird Walk
- Feb. 15 STEM Take Home Kits
- Feb. 18 Kids' Book Club
- Feb. 19 Tome Raiders Book Club
- Feb. 24 Live Virtual Storytime
- Feb. 25 Dungeons & Dragons Online
- Feb. 25 NAACP Book Discussion

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR ON REOPENING PLANS

BY NOELLE THOMPSON

As I write this, restaurants have just begun to welcome diners back indoors, Galesburg schools are preparing to reopen, and our county's Covid positivity rates are gradually decreasing. We are hopeful that our community may be beginning to heal, but we are also cautious, trusting the experts who advise us to maintain social distancing and mask-wearing practices. With that caution, we are working on a plan to reopen our doors and welcome our community back into the building. In the next few weeks, we hope to schedule appointments for in-person library visits, offering the full breadth of our services including public computer use; faxing, copying, and scanning services; notary services; and materials browsing. To keep you and our staff safe, we will observe the 25% capacity guidelines set for gatherings, masks will be worn at all times, and social distancing will be practiced. Events and programs will continue virtually or via our take-and-make programs, curbside checkout will continue, and wi-fi will be accessible outside of our building for anyone who needs it. We look forward to seeing your masked faces again and will do our best to provide you with exception service, from a distance.

## IN HONOR OF VALENTINE'S DAY: THE BEST ROMANCE NOVELS OF 2020

**Beach Read**  
by Emily Henry

**Take a Hint, Dani Brown**  
by Talia Hibbert

**Boyfriend Material**  
by Alexis Hall

**In Five Years**  
by Rebecca Serle

**You Had Me at Hola**  
by Alexis Daria

**Party of Two**  
by Jasmine Guillory

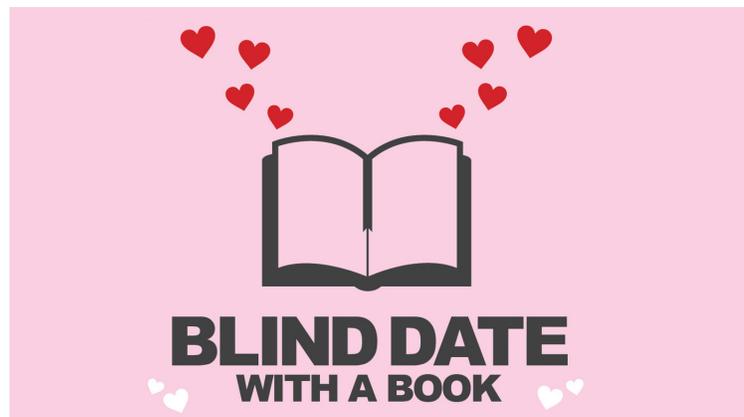
**A Rogue of One's Own**  
by Evie Dunmore

**In a Holidaze**  
by Christina Lauren

**Tweet Cute**  
by Emma Lord

## BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK

Looking for a good read to spend time with this Valentine's Day? Give us a call and let us set you up on a blind date with a book! Just tell us what kind of books you are looking for or authors and genres you have enjoyed reading, and we will pick out up to 10 items for you, wrap them up, and check them out to your library card! This can be done with regular books, large print books, audio books, Playaways, or DVDs, just be sure to specify which you are interested in. Set up your blind date today by calling us at 309-343-6118 and choosing extension #6, or by emailing us at [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org). Whether it's romance, nonfiction, fantasy, or something else, our matchmakers are standing by and ready to set you up!



# ADULT PROGRAMS

## Library Book Clubs

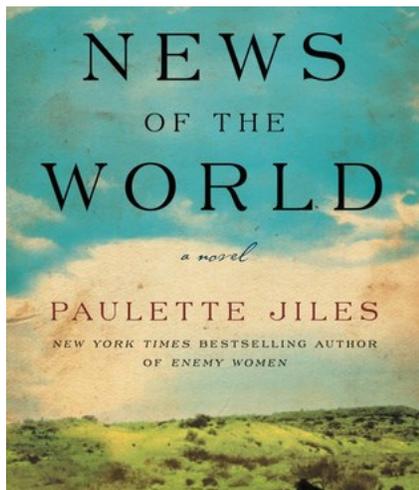
Copies of the books can be requested through curbside pickup. Join the GPL Online Book Discussion Group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2599070423642738>.

### Tuesday/Thursday Book Discussions

**Tue. Feb. 9, 1:00 PM by Zoom**

**Thur. Feb. 11, 6:30 PM on Facebook**

In *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles, an aging itinerant news reader agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowa back to her people in the aftermath of the Civil War. This morally complex, multilayered novel of historical fiction explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor, and trust. It is now a movie starring Tom Hanks. Email



reference@galesburglibrary.org for the Tuesday Zoom link.

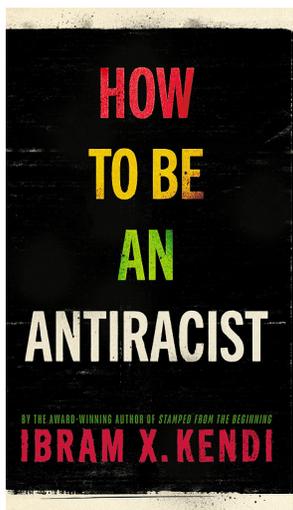
### Tome Raiders Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club

**Fri. Feb. 19, 6:00 PM on Facebook**

In *An Unkindness of Ghosts* by Rivers Solomon, Aster lives in the low-deck slums of the HSS Matilda, a space vessel organized much like the antebellum South. For generations, the Matilda has ferried the last of humanity to a mythical Promised Land. Embroiled in a grudge with a brutal overseer and sowing the seeds of civil war, Aster learns there may be a way off the ship if she's willing to fight for it.

### Black History Month Discussion

**Thur. Feb. 25, 6:30 PM at the library**



Discussion of *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. Combines ethics, history, law, and science with a personal narrative to describe how to move beyond the awareness of racism and contribute to making society just and equitable. Presented in partnership with the Galesburg NAACP. Ashon Bradford, Assistant Professor of Anthropology-Sociology at Knox College, and Galesburg Public Library staff member Jane Easterly will co-facilitate. A limited number of copies of the book are available for curbside checkout.

## Other Adult Events

### Adult Trivia

Check out our Facebook page every Thursday night between 6:00 and 11:00 PM for a trivia quiz!

### Writer Support Group

**Mon. Feb. 1, 6:30 PM**

Meet with other writers over Zoom, to hone your skills and give and receive constructive feedback. All kinds of writers are welcome. Email reference@galesburglibrary.org for the Zoom link.

## Other Events for All Ages

### Big Write

Entries are now being accepted for the Big Write, the Galesburg Public Library's Annual Creative Writing Contest. Submissions are grouped into four levels: adult, high school, middle school, and 3rd-5th grade. Three categories of submissions are being accepted: short stories, poetry/song lyrics, and essays (adults only). The submission deadline is Monday, March 29, 2021, at 11:59 PM. Visit [https://galesburglibrary.org/?page\\_id=370](https://galesburglibrary.org/?page_id=370) for complete rules, or pick up a copy in the library's vestibule.

### Bird Walk

**Sun. Feb. 14, 8:00 AM**

Need to get out of the house? Join the Galesburg Area Bird Club for a walk at Lake Storey, starting in the Joe E Anderson area. Come see what birds hang out in Illinois all winter. Bring binoculars and a mask, and dress for the weather. For all ages.

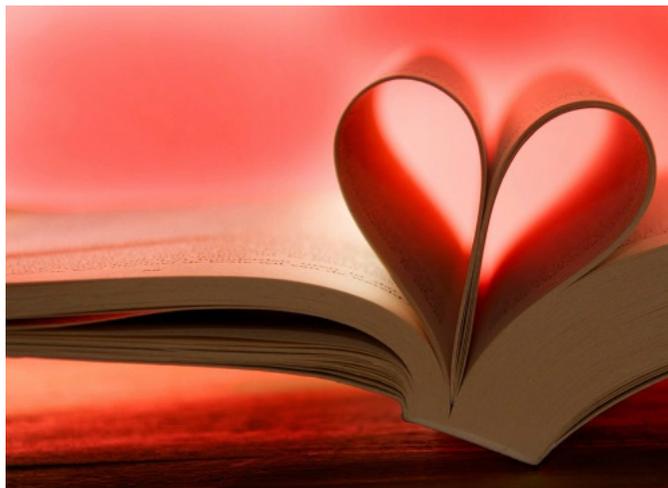


# CHILDREN'S EVENTS

## **A Very Bookish Valentine**

**Available from February 1-12**

Surprise the mini-reader in your life with a valentine from Pete the Cat, Peppa Pig, Harry Potter, or many more! Starting on Monday, February 1st, contact the Children's Room and register your child to receive a custom valentine in the mail from the children's book character of their choice. Sign up by calling 343-6118 or emailing [children@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:children@galesburglibrary.org).



## **Animal Explorers Club**

**Take-home kits available beginning Monday, February 8**

Become an animal expert in this self-paced, interactive monthly club, open to kids in grades K-6. Club members receive a free take-home kit containing library books on the animal of the month, activities, and more. Club members may also participate in an optional virtual club meeting. Library card and advance registration required.

## **LIVE Virtual Storytime**

**Wednesday, February 10 & Wednesday, February 24, 10:00 AM via Zoom**

Join Miss Hillary and Miss Melinda for live stories, songs, and movement, all via Zoom. Pre-registration for each session is required; registered participants will receive Zoom call-in information prior to the program. Virtual storytime is designed for toddlers and preschoolers accompanied by an adult.

## **STEM To You**

**Take-home kits available beginning Monday, February 15**

Pick up a free monthly science experiment you can do in your home. For grades K-6; advance registration required. To learn about or register for this month's kit, contact the Children's Room.

## **Kids' Book Club**

**Thursday, February 18, 4:00 PM via Zoom**

Fun monthly book club for independent readers in grades 3-6. Contact the Children's Room to register and to receive information on the virtual club meeting.

# LOCAL HISTORY

BY EMILY DUGRANRUT

Many people have written, called, or emailed the library in the last year asking where they can find genealogy and local history information when they can't visit the library. While in-person research is difficult right now (not just at GPL, but at many institutions), it's still possible to find some information online. Here are a few places to start your research until you can visit the library again:

## **Ancestry Library Edition**

Ancestry.com is home to millions of documents, photographs, and other materials that can be helpful to a genealogical search — or even just fun to browse. Ordinarily, the library edition is only available inside the building, but we've temporarily expanded the service to any GPL cardholder. Simply log in to your RSA account here: [https://alsi.sdp.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/GalesburgPL/](https://alsi.sdp.sirsi.net/client/en_US/GalesburgPL/) to gain access.

## **Sandburg.org**

The website for the Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association isn't just for information about Carl Sandburg and his birthplace. There are also photos, videos, and other information about the city and its history. Local historian Barbara Schock has written hundreds of articles for the "Sandburg's Hometown" series that cover everything from the Post Office to baking bread to the town's founders and their families.

## **GPL's Digital Image Archive**

Last month we shared a few photos that are available on the library's Flickr page, <https://www.flickr.com/gplarchives>. Take a visual trip down memory lane on this page, which features new images every week. Is there something you'd like to see a photo of but can't find online? Email [archives@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:archives@galesburglibrary.org) and we'll see if we can add it!

## **City of Galesburg Cemetery Database**

The City of Galesburg has an online database for Linwood, East Linwood, and the other cemeteries owned & maintained by the city. Visit <https://www.ci.galesburg.il.us/parksandrec/cemetery/> for more information about these cemeteries and to search the database.

## **Request Research**

Sometimes materials just can't be found online. In that case, our archivist is around to help! If you have something you're looking for that you think might be part of the archives, our genealogy section, or available on microfilm, give Emily a call at the library or email [archives@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:archives@galesburglibrary.org) and she will try to help you in your search!

These are just a few of the resources that might be helpful in your research (or just fun to peruse). If you have any trouble, give the library a call or email [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org) for assistance.

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## HOURS

To be determined. Please check our Facebook and website for updates to our hours.

### 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.



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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## TEEN NEWS

**All events open to teens ages 12-18 or in grades 7-12, unless otherwise specified. Call us or email [johnd@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:johnd@galesburglibrary.org) for more information or to sign up for all events. For Zoom events, you will need a free Zoom account and internet connection. Zoom links will be posted on the library website the day of event.**

*Want the library to tell you whenever there's a teen event going on? Join our GPL Teen Event Reminders list to get messages sent right to your phone! Text @teen61401 to 81010 and you'll get text reminders whenever there's a teen event at the library or online.*

### **High School Action Committee Online Tues. Feb. 9, 6:00-6:45 PM**

High School Action Committee is a service and leadership opportunity just for high school students! HAC members will plan and implement special library projects such as volunteer efforts, library promotions, fundraisers, and more.

### **Teen Advisory Board Online Thurs. Feb. 11, 6:00-6:45 PM**

Join our Teen Advisory Board online! We will meet over Zoom to discuss library services for teens, as well as doing fun activities like trivia games and digital escape rooms.

### **Sweet & Sour Valentine's Day Virtual Party**

**Sat. Feb. 13, 2:00-3:30 PM**

Whether you love Valentine's Day or love to hate it, come to our online Sweet & Sour Valentine's Day Party! Join us on Zoom for a variety of Valentine's and anti-Valentine's themed games and activities. Open to teens ages 12-18 or in grades 7-12. Sign up by calling 343-6118 or emailing [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org). The Zoom link will be shared by email before the event.

### **Dungeons & Dragons Club Online**

**Thurs. Feb. 25, 4:00-6:00 PM**

Want to play Dungeons & Dragons from the safety and comfort of your own home? Join the library's online D&D club, using the platform Roll20!

You do not need prior experience with either D&D or Roll20 to join, but you will need: a computer with internet access, the ability to voice chat, and a free account on Roll20. Open to teens ages 12-18 or in grades 7-12. Call the library or email [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org) for more information.