



FEBRUARY 2022

# Off the Shelf

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

## CALENDAR

- Jan 28 AARP Tax Assistance Sign-up
- Jan 31 AARP Tax Assistance Sign-up
- Feb 1 Roblox Gamer Club
- Feb 5 *1619: The Journey of a People*
- Feb 7 Writer Support Group
- Feb 7 All-Ages Family Storytime
- Feb 8 Tuesday Book Club
- Feb 9 Free Movie: *Dune*
- Feb 10 Thursday Book Club
- Feb 10 Teen Advisory Board
- Feb 10 Sweet & Sour Valentine's Party
- Feb 12 Darwin Day
- Feb 14 Adult Coloring
- Feb 15 Movie Club
- Feb 17 Kids' Book Club
- Feb 21 Library Closed
- Feb 22 Animal Explorers Club
- Feb 24 Digital Discourse Book Club
- Feb 25 Tome Raiders Book Club
- Feb 26 Essential Skills Academy
- Feb 28 Dungeons & Dragons Club

## LIBRARY FOUNDATION NEWS

What an exciting year for the Galesburg Public Library and Library Foundation! We've already raised \$2.7 million in just over six months! On December 9, the Galesburg Community Foundation's 2:1 Challenge Grant opportunity was announced. For every \$2 donated through September 30, 2022, the Community Foundation will match an additional \$1, up to \$350,000, giving the Library Foundation an opportunity to raise a total of \$1,050,000. This total amount will provide the much-needed community room in the new library. The community room will be the Community's Gathering Place, an important multi-purpose room for welcoming everyone to the library.

All gifts are part of the Building a Library — Connecting a Community campaign and will help us achieve the remaining \$1.05 million of our \$3.75 million goal. The Galesburg Community Foundation invites you to participate in this opportunity, embodying the community spirit intended by this grant. For more information, visit [thegplf.org](http://thegplf.org), or contact Heather Sipes at [heather.sipes@thegplf.org](mailto:heather.sipes@thegplf.org).

## NEW CIRCULATION SUPERVISOR

New Circulation Supervisor Ali Jones has lived in Galesburg for over 20 years. She graduated from Sherrard High School in 1993 and went on to play volleyball at Monmouth College for two years, only to transfer to Western Illinois University and receive her bachelor's degree in Education. She then went on to receive a masters endorsement in school librarianship through ISU and was a guinea pig for their then-new online library program. After college, Ali went on to marry her WIU college sweetheart Matt, and together they have 4 furbabies: 3 cats (Wrigley, Scout, and Tanner) and 1 Shih-Tzu named Indiana. She is also a self-proclaimed nerd, loving all things science fiction and fantasy. Her favorite author is Stephen King, and she has been to his hometown of Bangor, Maine to see all of the inspirational scenes for his books. Other nerdy favorites include *Lord of the Rings*, *Doctor Who*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Fringe*... well, you get the idea!

Ali began teaching locally more than 14 years ago at Lombard Middle School here in Galesburg, then went on to become the District Librarian for the Abingdon School District, and rounded out her career in education by working at Alwood CUSD #227 as a teacher, librarian, athletic director, and coach, as well as donning too many other hats to mention! Ali has always wanted to be a librarian, as her mother was her grade school librarian and she loved to help her mom with summer reading programs, bulletin boards, and shelving, so libraries have been a part of her life ever since she can remember. When not working, Ali can be found "golfing" (if you can call it that!) with the husband, playing volleyball, reading, and traveling the United States. Ali is very excited to be a part of such a wonderful library and is looking forward to working with everyone here!

## AARP TAX ASSISTANCE

AARP Tax-Aide Program representatives will be at the library this tax filing season. Due to a shortage of volunteer counselors, a limited number of 2021 tax returns will be prepared and quality reviewed. Your patience and understanding is required.

Taxes will be prepared only with an appointment. Appointments can be made in person at the library from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on January 28 and 31. Appointments will not be made over the phone.

# ADULT PROGRAMS

All events are subject to change. Masks are required for indoor events. The library will provide a mask to anyone who does not have one. Tables and groups will be socially distanced at all events. Copies of the books for book discussions are available for checkout at the library.

## Tuesday/Thursday Book Discussions

**Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1:00 PM**

**Thursday, Feb. 10, 6:30 PM**

From the Great Depression through post-World War II, Ziggy Johnson, the protagonist of Alice Randall's novel *Black Bottom Saints*, has been the pulse of Detroit's famous Black Bottom neighborhood and has rubbed elbows with black artists of the era. But now he is ready to hang up his many dapper hats. As he lays dying, Ziggy reflects on his life, the community that was the center of his world, and the remarkable people who helped shape it. Presented in partnership with the NAACP Galesburg. The discussions will take place in person at the library and on Zoom. Please email [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org) for the Zoom links.



## Tome Raiders Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club

**Friday, February 25, 6:00 PM location TBD**

In the fantasy adventure *The Black God's Drums* by P. Djèlí Clark, a girl living on the streets of an alternate history New Orleans dreams of crewing aboard an airship and keeps a secret about the African god of the winds. The discussion location will be announced closer to the date.

## Digital Discourse Book Club

**Thursday, February 24, 7:00 PM on Facebook**

Get comfortable in your own home and join an online book discussion in the GPL Online Discussion group. *The Five Wounds* by Kirstin Valdez Quade is a debut novel about a New Mexican family's extraordinary year of love and sacrifice. Digital copies of the book will be available for checkout as part of Overdrive's Together We Read program through ADML or the Libby app from February 7-21. You will need to join the GPL Online Discussion group on Facebook to participate in the discussion. Questions will be posted in the group starting at 7:00 PM.

## Movie Club

### Free Movie

**Wed. February 9, 2:00 PM**

Free showing of the movie *Dune*, based on the classic science fiction novel by Frank Herbert. (155 min., rated PG-13, ©Warner Brothers)



**Tue. February 15, time 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 Culver's afterwards for discussion.

## Writer Support Group

**Monday, February 7, 6:30 PM**

Meet with other writers to hone your skills and give and receive constructive feedback. All writers are welcome.

## Adult Coloring

**Monday, February 14, 1:30-3:30 PM**

Join us in adult coloring for relaxation. We'll provide music, drinks, coloring pages, and colored pencils. Free! Adults only.

# ALL-AGES PROGRAM

## 1619: The Journey of a People

**Saturday, February 5, 1:00 PM at the Orpheum Theatre**

*1619: The Journey of a People* commemorates the struggles, recognizes the heroes, and critically analyzes the American journey towards freedom and equality for African Americans. You are invited to attend a free hour-long performance for all ages. Presented in partnership with the NAACP Galesburg and the Galesburg Public Library Foundation through the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau.



# CHILDREN'S EVENTS

## **Toddler Storytime**

**Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM**

Kids aged 18-36 months and their caregivers are invited to join us for stories, songs, and fun. No registration required.

## **Roblox Gamer Club**

**Tuesday, February 1, 6:00 PM**

Kids in grades 4-6 are invited to meet, socialize, and play Roblox together on a safe, supervised private server. Please bring a mobile device to play Roblox on and headphones or earbuds. Don't have a mobile device? The library has a limited number of devices available for use. Advance signup is required in the Children's Room.

## **All-Ages Family Storytime**

**Monday, February 7, 6:00 PM**

Bring the whole family for stories, crafts, activities and more. No registration required.

## **Darwin Day**

**Saturday, February 12, 11:00 AM**

Come celebrate Charles Darwin's 213th birthday with a scientific story, oceanic activities, and imaginative islands. Advance registration required. Open to kids in grades K-6.

## **Kids' Book Club**

**Thursday, February 17, 4:00 PM**

Fun monthly book club for independent readers in grades 4-6. In January and February we'll be discussing *The Great Treehouse War* by Lisa Graff. Limited free copies of each month's book are available. Advance registration is required in the Children's Room.

## **Animal Explorers Club**

**Tuesday, February 22, 4:00 PM**

Become an animal expert in this interactive monthly club, designed for kids in grades K-3. Participants receive a free take-home kit containing library books on the animal of the month and an explorer guide, then meet on the last Tuesday of each month to share info and enjoy activities as a group. Advance registration is required.

# NEW CHILDREN'S ROOM MEMBER

Sue Trotter joins the Children's Department as our newest shelver. A Galesburg resident for the past 10 years, Sue previously worked as a paraprofessional in Galesburg School District and as a facilitator at the Mental Health Center of Western Illinois. Sue enjoys books, reading, flower gardening, and spending time with her daughter's family (especially her three grandchildren).

# TEEN NEWS

*All events open to teens ages 12-18 or in grades 7-12, unless otherwise specified. 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.*

## **Teen Advisory Board**

**Thursday, February 10, 6:00-6:45 PM**

Join the Library's Teen Advisory Board, where you can make YOUR voice heard about the library! You can suggest and vote on future teen events, talk about ways to improve the Teen Scene, and help find other ways to make teen services at the library better.

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

**Thursday, February 10, 6:45-7:30 PM**

Whether you love Valentine's Day or love to hate it, come to the library's Sweet & Sour Valentine's Day Party! Take part in games and activities, eat sweet and sour snacks, and either celebrate or poke fun at the celebration of romance. Open to teens ages 12-18 or in grades 7-12. Register at the Reference Desk or by calling 343-6118.

## **Dungeons & Dragons Club**

**Monday, February 28, 4:00-6:00 PM**

Create your own hero and join the all-new adventure, in person at the library! New players are always welcome. Open to teens ages 12-18 or in grades 7-12. Advance registration is required.

# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWS

Friends of the Library wish to remind all members that annual memberships are always renewed each January. If you have already remitted your dues, thank you for your continued support. If you are not currently a member and wish to join a valuable volunteer group in the Galesburg community, we'd love to welcome you!

Most dues are either \$10 or \$15, while more generous amounts are also available. More information is available on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheGalesburgPublicLibrary/](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheGalesburgPublicLibrary/). You can mail any checks (but please, no cash) to:

Attn: Friends of the Library  
Galesburg Public Library  
40 E. Simmons Street  
Galesburg, IL 61401

— Verna Treasure, Friends President

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## HOURS

### Monday - Thursday:

9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

### Friday & Saturday:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Sunday:** Closed

**Closed:** February 21

## 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.



GALESBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY  
40 E. SIMMONS ST.  
GALESBURG, IL 61401

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS ACADEMY

**Saturday, February 26 & Saturday, March 5**

**9:00 AM - 4:45 PM**

Trying to get back into the workforce and need to boost your chance of employment, or just looking to brush up on your professional skills? Register for the Essential Skills Academy at the library! The Essential Skills Academy is a sixteen-hour course that will teach attendees skills to improve their success rate in gaining and retaining employment. Through a series of fun, integrated activities combined with lectures, graduates will gain knowledge and skills such as communication, teamwork, etiquette, and time management. There will also be resume help and an interview bootcamp.

The Academy will take place Saturday, February 26 and Saturday, March 5. Both will run from 9:00 AM - 4:45 PM, with a 30 minute lunch break. You must attend both courses to receive your certificate. It is FREE and open to all adults. However, space is limited, so call or email the library to reserve your spot today! The Academy is led by Carl Sandburg College Career Development center, in partnership with the Galesburg Public Library and the Regional Office of Education, and is funded through a grant from the Illinois State Library.

## FREE INTERNET

The Galesburg Public Library has partnered with Comcast to sponsor free Internet service in the homes of qualifying Galesburg community members through the Internet Essentials Program. If you qualify for programs like the National School Lunch Program, housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, or SSI, you may be eligible to take advantage of this program, provided by the Emergency Connectivity Fund.

If you believe you or someone you know may qualify, you can contact the Reference Desk at the Galesburg Public Library and request a promo code that will be needed to apply. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call us at 309-343-6118 or email us at [reference@galesburglibrary.org](mailto:reference@galesburglibrary.org).