Things to Know...
About The Hayner Public Library District

MAILING LIST UPDATE
The mailing list for the quarterly newsletter is being updated. Please contact the library if your address has changed, a correction is needed, or you would like to be added to or deleted from the mailing list.

HOLIDAYS
The library will be closed for the following holidays:
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Jan. 17
Presidents’ Day – Feb. 21

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Mr. Kevin Botterbush, President
Mr. Peter Tassinari, Vice President
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Mary Cordes

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Hayner StoryWalk® Continues This Winter at Alton Square Mall

Attention, families! We will post our StoryWalk books at Alton Square Mall for the winter months.

Typically, we post our monthly StoryWalk books at The Nature Institute in Godfrey and James H. Killion at Salu Park in Alton. However, with the arrival of winter, we have moved our StoryWalk program indoors to the upper level of Alton Square Mall.

The StoryWalk books will start at J.C. Penney, move down the corridor, around the corner, and stop just before The Cookie Factory. The books will be posted on storyboards attached to the walls. At the end of each story, children ages 2–12 can stop by The Cookie Factory for the opportunity to answer a StoryWalk-related question and purchase a half-price cookie. Limit one half-price cookie per child per month.

StoryWalk is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and physical activity simultaneously. Laminated pages from a children’s book are attached to storyboards installed along a path. The storyboards direct readers to the next page in the story. The StoryWalk program was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, and developed with the help of Rachel Senechal of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

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The SHARE Mobile Library App Makes it Easier Than Ever to Use Hayner Library

Hayner Library is pleased to announce our newest service, the SHARE Mobile Library app! This app makes it easy to manage your library account and access helpful library information directly from your phone, tablet, or other mobile device.

The SHARE Mobile Library app allows you to keep track of checkouts and due dates, renew items, and view your fines. You can also search the catalog and place and manage holds easily.

The app allows you to quickly access the Hayner Library events calendar and our Facebook and YouTube pages. Accessing our online databases, such as Creativebug, Auto Repair Source, NoveList, Consumer Reports, and more, has also never been easier!

The app features an ISBN scanning tool that allows you to scan the ISBN barcode from any book to determine if Hayner Library or another SHARE library owns the title! If so, simply place a hold with one easy click, and we will contact you when the item is ready for pick up!

This app is free and available to all Hayner Library cardholders. Find it in the Apple App Store or Google Play store; search for “SHARE Mobile Library” or scan the QR code below.

This app is brought to you by The Hayner Public Library District and the SHARE library consortium, a division of Illinois Heartland Library System.
Join us for two special events. These events are great for all ages, and they’re all free of charge, financed through a private endowment. All programs require registration. To register, please call 1-800-613-3163. All programs will be held in 225 Alton Square Mall, upper level, unless otherwise stated.

NOTE: 225 Alton Square Mall is located on the east side of the mall, on the second floor between the escalators and J.C. Penney.

REMINDER: Often, program registration fills up and rolls over to a waiting list. If you are not going to attend a program for which you have registered, PLEASE call 1-800-613-3163 and let us know so that we can fill your reservation from the waiting list.

**Jared Hennings**

An Evening to Celebrate
Tuesday, February 8, 6:30 p.m.

In celebration of Black History Month, a local favorite, Jared Hennings, will perform music representing the culture and incredible musical contributions of the Black community, including gospel, jazz, swing, popular and contemporary. Hear Jared Hennings pay tribute to great music and artists. But wait, there’s more! Since we are on the cusp of Valentine’s Day, no doubt the irrepressible Mr. Hennings will also offer up a selection of romantic ballads as only he can perform.

Register at 1-800-613-3163

**Bud Shultz & You Can’t Beat Experience Jazz Band**

Celebrate Fat Tuesday
Tuesday, March 1, 6:30 p.m.

Note: This program will be held on the campus of Lewis & Clark Community College, 5800 Godfrey Rd., Godfrey, Ill. In the Ablmeyer Auditorium (ATC) of the Trimpe Bldg.

Bud Shultz and the You Can’t Beat Experience Jazz Band will appear in concert to help us celebrate Mardi Gras in the best way possible—through music! The YCBEJB specializes in traditional and Dixieland jazz. They also treat more modern pieces with a Dixieland flavor. Join Bud and the group to celebrate Fat Tuesday in authentic New Orleans style. It’s going to be a great show—and a great venue. This program is jointly sponsored by The Hayner Public Library District and the Music Department of Lewis & Clark Community College.

Register at 1-800-613-3163

**Adult Winter Reading Program**

Join us this winter for our Adult Winter Reading Program! From February 1 to February 28, 2022, Hayner Library invites patrons age eighteen and older to join in the winter reading fun—and a chance to win a grand prize gift basket designed to help you beat the winter chill.

Registration and participation are easy. Simply visit the Downtown Library or Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall and fill out a short registration form. For each book, e-book, or audiobook you read, you get a chance to enter a drawing for the grand prize. The more you read, the more chances you have to win! We will draw a winner at each location.

As an added bonus, each week during the program, we will highlight a different library service, program, or collection in the form of a scavenger hunt “Word of the Week” poster hidden in the library. Visit the library weekly, find the hidden poster, and write down the Word of the Week to earn an additional chance to win the grand prize gift basket. Happy winter reading!
Crazy Critters Who Made The News!

Who doesn’t love a cuddly warm kitten or a pudgy rambunctious pup? Over the years, The Hayner Public Library District has shown our support for the canine and feline species with programs such as Food for Fido and Bow-wow Pow-wow, where children can read to a group of laid-back pooches during Saturday morning read-a-thons.

For the most part, our pets are cute, lovable, and fun. But sometimes, let’s be honest, they can also be a downright headache! I have owned a few such critters, and so did the folks below, according to the local newspaper.

In October 1908, the Alton Evening Telegraph ran a front-page story about Jim Chessen’s parrot. Jim’s beautiful pet bird was an enthusiastic talker, but the words he chose to speak were not beautiful at all. The newspaper article reported the fine feathered companion had such a foul vocabulary that it even repulsed Jim! So much so, he tried several times to give the bird away, but no one wanted to be the person responsible for bringing such vulgarity into their home. A week after the article ran, the newspaper reported that Mr. Chessen was trading horses with his neighbor Joe Heines. I wonder why Jim didn’t take advantage of throwing in the bird as an added bonus to the deal?

Jim Chessen’s parrot wasn’t the only parrot in Alton to make headlines. Three years later, in 1911, Mrs. Scott Walker on East Fifth Street had a parrot which she put on the front porch each morning to bask in the warm sunlight. But the warm morning sun wasn’t the bird’s only enjoyment. He also delighted in squawking out insults to the children walking to school. Having endured more than a fair share of the bird’s shenanigans, a group of young boys plotted their revenge. The newspaper reported the boys armed themselves with “flippers” and declared war on the brash-speaking bird! As they approached the battleground (the Walker’s front lawn!), the parrot exclaimed, “Wash your neck, dirty shirt.” Now, I have no idea what this silly statement meant to the bird, but the boys took it as a full-blown insult and opened fire. One well-placed shot knocked the pint-sized bully right off his perch. Luckily, the bird made a full recovery, and the boys received a reprimand.

In 1973, a moody goose on the loose was causing an uproar all around Grangeville, Idaho. Residents reported it to be running wildly and menacing the neighborhood canines with no regard to the size or disposition of the dogs. The owner of the grumpy goose was fined five dollars for allowing it to run around town unrestrained, but the city dropped the measly fine after their legal counsel declared the leash law did not apply to geese. The harassment of the hounds continued until the city changed the local law.

Dobin was a fire department horse who loved to run, and in 1928 he was arrested for doing just that. But Dobin wasn’t running to a fire or a rescue—he was running for the joy of it. He was spotted blissfully sprinting down public streets, across busy intersections, and through red stoplights. Dobin evaded all valiant attempts at capture, but he was finally caught by a��ated patrolman who, without prejudice, arrested and charged the horse with exceeding the speed limit! Dobin’s free rein adventure landed him a front-page newspaper story along with the title of “first horse to be arrested in Chicago.”

In 1937, a family in Alton was raising a pair of monkeys on Highland Avenue. Baby Lou was the youngest, and he was said to be a pesky little critter whose daily antics were more than a barrel of … fun (you expected monkeys, right?). According to the newspaper headline, Baby Lou was dubbed “Family Nuisance Number One.” Since he was allowed to run around the home unattended, his exploring quickly became a problem for the entire household. When Baby Lou found the mailbox, he began a daily ritual of removing the mail and joyously tearing every piece to shreds. Next, he discovered the clothesline and the great pleasure of removing the freshly laundered clothes so that he could distribute them haphazardly around the yard. But Baby Lou did have a few redeeming qualities. He loved to swim in Piasa Creek, hang from the top of a broomstick, sit lovingly on shoulders, and chew the gum that he would pull right out of his owner’s mouth (and there goes the bad temperament, again!).

In 1911, Mr. Pfaff of Alton had a melancholy chicken. The chicken was reportedly twenty-five years old and seemingly sick. The newspaper reporter compared the hen to Methuselah, so I assume it is unusual for a chicken to reach this milestone birthday. During her life on the farm, she had dutifully acted as a surrogate mother to the baby chicks, but lately, she had abandoned her position as mother hen and no longer seemed interested in her farm life. Mr. Pfaff, thinking the hen was ready to say her final goodbye, took her for a ride into town so he could have a professional photo taken of his beloved bird before she died. Surprisingly, after Mr. Pfaff’s and his egg-laying sidekick’s joyride ended, the hen recovered from her discontent and went back to her motherly duties with a renewed enthusiasm. Mr. Pfaff firmly believed the day-long outing away from the farm was the healing touch for the aged hen. I guess this proves that all mothers (human or poultry) need a break from the brood now and then!

Dogs are man’s best friend, and some can actually tell you so! According to an article in the September 20, 1950 Alton Evening Telegraph newspaper, telephone linemen were startled when a dog at the East Alton residence of E.A. Jones called out to his owner. What was so startling was that he didn’t call out by a bark but by a word. According to the linemen, the owner’s wife told the dog to “call Earl,” and the dog did exactly as he was told. He yelled out, “Earl!” When the shocked workmen questioned Mrs. Jones about what they had just heard, she told them the dog could talk, but usually only on mornings when the weather is cool. It seems the mongrel dog, who had been rescued by the Jones family a year earlier, was a bit picky when it came to vocalizing his talent. She also informed the workers that the dog barks, too! Well, now, who would have guessed that?

Mary may have had a little lamb who followed her to school, but according to the 1948 Alton Evening Telegraph, Johnny had a dog. And Johnny’s dog was not the only pup who followed the kids to school that year. According to the article, too many dogs were accompanying their young friends to school and then gathering to play and fight on the playground. The canine high jinks, which were happening right outside the schoolroom window, were distracting the children so much that school officials called the police to break up the rally and send the dogs home. But the police said the wayward pets were not breaking any laws, so they could not
Borrow a Pedometer!

Keep Walking This Winter!
Borrow a Pedometer!

Mall walkers and outdoor walkers! Stop by Hayner Library and check out a pedometer with your library card. Pedometers can be borrowed for two weeks and possibly renewed (if there are no outstanding holds). Keep track of your steps and enjoy the physical activity of walking.

Pedometers track the number of steps taken in a day and are a popular tool for motivating physical activity. Both our physical and mental health benefit from walking. Try using a pedometer this winter and add more steps to your day!

And while you're at the library, be sure to pick up our hiking guide, which lists local walking paths and trails to explore.

do anything about it. Maybe this is why Mary had a little lamb; it was a quiet pet that behaved more civilly on the playground!

Myrtle, the turtle from Wood River, made front-page headline news in 1963 when her six-year-old owner Cynthia Floyd came home from school and couldn’t find her slow-moving playmate. Besides Myrtle the turtle, little Cindy had three goldfish named Reggie, Kent, and Wilbur. She also had a small poodle named Babette, who, besides the fish, was the only occupant in the house when Myrtle went missing. An accusatory finger was pointed—and it was pointed in Babette’s direction. Worried for the dog’s health if she did indeed turn Myrtle into an afternoon snack, the family consulted a veterinarian. The vet declared that the outcome had been far worse for the turtle than the consequences would be for the ornery little pooch. Myrtle the turtle was never seen again, and the newspaper reported that Babette never confessed.

The primate, poodle, and parrots in this article prove that the pets of our ancestors can also shed some light on who our family members were and how they lived. Maybe adding some pet stories to your genealogy research can introduce a whole different side of the family!

By: Pam Bierman
The Genealogy & Local History Library

**FOOD FOR FIDO**

**During the month of April, you may bring back overdue items and pay your fine with pet food and supplies.**

- Applies to Hayner Library materials only.
- Applies to items still checked out to you, not to fines already on your card for materials previously returned.
- Pet items must be brought in at the same time you return the materials.
- One pet item per overdue item.

All collected items will be donated to the 5As.

**New in Our Illinois Room**

**Cabokia Brought to Life: An Artifactual Story of America’s Great Monument.** IR 977.389 CAH

**Charles (Cletus) Joseph Kramer, 1892-1964: Georgia Ellen (Mabey) Kramer, 1894-1977** by Joyce Taff. IR 929.2 KRAMER

**Dedication Randolph County Courthouse, June 14, 1975.** IR 977.392 DED

**Education at the Principia: Selections from Letters, Messages, and Statements by Mary Kimball Morgan.** IR 378.77386 MOR


**From Slave to State Legislator: John W. E. Thomas, Illinois’ First African American Lawmaker.** IR B THOMAS

**Historic Preservation Patch: Girl Scout Junior Guide by Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia.** IR j363.69 GIR

**The History of Our New Prayer Garden** by Arnold Saaf (First United Methodist Church, Godfrey). IR 287.677386 SAA

**Holiday Treasures by Godfrey Women’s Club (2011 cookbook).** IR 641.5 HOL

**Humble Beginnings: The History of Cassens Transport** by Tom Rami and as remembered by Albert Cassens. IR 388.0977386 RAM


**The J (Jersey Community High School, Jerseyville, IL, yearbooks, 1950, 1952, 1953).** IR 373.773855 JER

**John Wade Taff. 1899-1951: Nina Helen (Baker) Taff. 1896-1953** by Joyce Taff. IR 929.2 TAFF

**Kentucky Barracuda: Parker Hardin French (1826-1878): The Notorious Scoundrel and Delightful Rogue of Antebellum and Civil War America** by Joe Goodbody. IR B FRENCH

**Multigenerational Photos from Local Newspapers: Beginning 1922.** IR 929.2 MUL

**National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Middletown Historic District (Boundary Increase 2)—Alton Downtown Historic District.** IR 977.386 NAT

**The Negro and Education in Missouri (1948) by Ulysses Simpson Donaldson.** IR 378.777866 DON

**Richard Thomas Taff. 1918-1985: Mary Delores (Kramer) Taff. 1920-1999** by Joyce Taff. IR 929.2 TAFF

**Speakers’ Spectrum: 1982–83** (Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville). IR 378.77386 SOU

**Touching Each Tree by John J. Dunphy.** IR 811.54 DUN

**Watershed Cairns: The Mississippi River North.** Libby Reuter and Joshua Rowan. IR 731.2 WAT

**YWCA Southwestern Illinois Women of Distinction: 2021, Making a Difference.** IR 977.386 YWC
Winter 2022 Activities

Story Times
Virtual story times, designed for young patrons ages 2–7, will be available on the Hayner Library Facebook page on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Sam’s Tuesday story time dates are January 4, 11, 18, and 25; February 1, 8, 15, and 22; March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2022. Ms. Mary Kay’s Thursday story times dates are January 6, 13, 20, and 27; February 3, 10, 17, and 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2022. The story times will also be available on our Hayner KidsSpace YouTube channel.

Audubon Story Time
Come join Ms. Sam for a fun bird-themed story time at the Audubon Center at Riverlands, located at 301 Riverlands Way, West Alton, MO 63386. The fun will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. Masks are required at this program.

Take-Home Crafts
Each Thursday, we will offer take-home craft kits to young patrons ages 3–7 in KidsSpace at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall. Dates for craft distribution are: January 6, 13, 20, and 27; February 3, 10, 17, and 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2022. The craft kits will be available at 10:00 a.m. We will distribute the craft kits while supplies last.

After School Fun Craft
Children ages 6–11 can visit the Downtown Library and pick up a themed craft on the following Tuesdays: January 18, February 15, and March 15, 2022. We will distribute the craft kits while supplies last.

Science with Sam
Science with Sam is a fun, monthly STEAM-themed program that happens on the first Friday of each month. Ms. Sam will prepare interactive kits for children ages 7–10 to take home that demonstrate different STEAM concepts such as surface tension, earth science, anatomy, and robotics! Each kit will include an item list and the ingredients needed to complete the activity. We will also post an instructional video online for families to watch! Adult assistance is required for some of the activities. Kits may be picked up at the KidsSpace desk at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall. Kits will be available for pick up on the following dates: January 7, February 4, and March 4, 2022. We will distribute the science kits while supplies last.

Stuffed Animal Workshop
During this fun interactive workshop, children ages 3–7 will be read a themed story and entertained with a short puppet show. Children will then bring their very own plush animal to life by filling it with stuffing, naming it, and then taking it to its forever home. The fun begins at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 12, 2022, in the Hayner Library performance room, located on the upper level of Alton Square Mall. Registration is required to attend this program. Limited space available! Please call 618-433-2881 to register.

Hayner KidsSpace YouTube Channel
Hayner Library KidsSpace is now on YouTube! If you miss one of our virtual story times or Science with Sam videos on Facebook, you can easily find them on the Hayner KidsSpace YouTube channel. Search for “Hayner KidsSpace” on YouTube to access new and old videos—and to subscribe to our channel!

StoryWalk Continues at Alton Square Mall
Attention, families! We will post our StoryWalk books at Alton Square Mall for the winter months.

Typically, we post our monthly StoryWalk books at The Nature Institute in Godfrey and James H. Killion at Salu Park in Alton. However, with the arrival of winter, we have moved our StoryWalk program indoors to the upper level of Alton Square Mall. The StoryWalk books will start at J.C. Penney, move down the corridor, around the corner, and stop just before The Cookie Factory. The books will be posted on storyboards attached to the walls. At the end of each story, children ages 2–12 can stop by The Cookie Factory for the opportunity to answer a StoryWalk-related question and purchase a half-price cookie. Limit one half-price cookie per child per month.

StoryWalk is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and physical activity simultaneously. Laminated pages from a children’s book are attached to storyboards installed along a path. The storyboards direct readers to the next page in the story. The StoryWalk program was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, and developed with the help of Rachel Senechal of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.
Teen Take-Home Crafts
Do you love making crafts? If so, stop by Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall and pick up a teen take-home craft! We will distribute crafts kits on the following Wednesdays: January 12, February 9, and March 17, 2022. We will distribute crafts while supplies last.

Teen Diamond Art Series
Teens, stop by TeenSpace at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall each Wednesday in March and pick up a Diamond Art kit. We will distribute these kits to teens ages 11–18 while supplies last.

Not-Just-for-Teens Escape Rooms
Visit Hayner Library’s Facebook page every Monday for a new virtual escape room challenge. Figure them out by yourself or with your friends! Answer questions, find clues, and solve riddles to complete these fun virtual games. We will post a new escape room each Monday, beginning January 3, 2022.

Color Your Stress Away
Visit Hayner Library’s Facebook page every Friday for a new printable coloring sheet. Break out the colored pencils, turn on some relaxing music, and color your stress away. Coloring sheets will be available every Friday, beginning January 7, 2022.

Harry Potter Book Event
We are thrilled to announce “Magical Journeys” as the 2022 Harry Potter Book Night theme. We invite witches, wizards, and Muggles from all around the world to take a magical journey of their own through enchanting games, magical crafts, and bewitching activities. Stop by Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 1:00–3:00 p.m. For more information, please call Shannon at (618) 433-2872.

Teen Movie Event
Hayner Library invites teens ages 12–18 to join us on Saturday, January 15, 2022, at the new Alton Square Mall movie theater! We have rented one of the NCG Cinema theaters for a Saturday afternoon matinee. Participants will enjoy popcorn and soda during the movie. This program has a strictly enforced limit, so please register early! For more information or to register, please call Shannon at (618) 433-2872.

Teen Online Bingo
Teens can meet other teens online at our retro fun-filled Bingo challenge! This program takes place on Zoom on Saturday, March 26, 2022, from 1:00–3:00 p.m. Pick up your Bingo bag in TeenSpace at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall beginning Monday, March 21. We will offer the Bingo bags until a few hours before the game starts. The winner will receive a $25.00 gift card. To register for this challenge, please call Shannon at (618) 433-2872.
Welcome to Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall KidsSpace, Ms. Sam!

Earlier this spring, children and parents found a new (masked) face behind the KidsSpace desk at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall. We are happy to announce that Sam Staicoff has joined the Hayner KidsSpace department full time! Sam joined KidsSpace after Janet Andrews retired from the department in September 2020.

I must admit that when interacting with Sam, I have the urge to call her Sam I Am. She assures me that I’m not the only one who does. “I have so many parents and caregivers ask, ‘Sam? As in Sam I Am?’ when they first meet me!” said Sam.

This reference is fitting, not only because Sam works in our children’s department, but because Green Eggs and Ham happens to be her favorite childhood book!

Sam brings an impressive academic resume to her position. After earning an undergraduate degree in psychology, Sam knew she wanted to pursue a career dedicated to helping children. After internships with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and the Head Start Program, Sam earned a master’s degree in licensed mental health counseling.

Her realization of the potency of unity within a community and her desire to work in an established community-centered organization led her to apply for a position at Hayner Library. “While I was getting my master’s degree and volunteering, I realized the magic that happens when a community comes together for the well-being of everyone,” Sam explains. “Individual change is a powerful thing, but the change that happens when you have a supportive community is phenomenal.”

Since her first day in her new position, Sam has worked tirelessly to provide unique and creative programs and events for the children and families in our community. One such program, Science with Sam, is especially important to her. Science with Sam is a STEAM-based program for children between the ages of seven and ten. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, and math. Once a month, children who participate in the Science with Sam program can visit the library to pick up an interactive kit that includes item lists and ingredients to perform an activity that demonstrates different STEAM concepts such as surface tension, earth science, anatomy, robotics, and more. Sam also records instructional videos for each kit, published on the library’s Facebook page and KidsSpace YouTube channel. The Science with Sam program is rooted in Sam’s passion for the scientific field. “The subject of science has always fascinated me, and I love learning about new theories or discoveries that can be tested through the scientific method,” she said.

Science with Sam isn’t the only program offered in KidsSpace. Each week, the KidsSpace staff, consisting of Sam, Mary Kay Serio, Sharon Windham (manager), and Shannon French, offers story times, crafts, and special programs.

With so many programs happening, I was eager to find out what part of her job Sam loves the most. “My favorite part of KidsSpace is getting to share the joy and creativity that comes with making children’s programs. Watching kids’ faces light up with happiness and understanding when they participate is what makes this job awesome,” smiled Sam.

In the short amount of time that Sam has been in KidsSpace, she has created an atmosphere that allows children to learn, share, and grow as individuals. We’re delighted that Sam has joined our KidsSpace department, and we look forward to seeing what creative ideas she has in store!

—Theresa M.
Technical Services Department
Congratulations to Vintage Voices for a Successful Twentieth Year!

Since 2002, Vintage Voices has become an important cultural event in our community. Every October, tours are held in the Alton Cemetery with actors in period costumes telling the story of Altonians who have shaped the Riverbend’s history.

Vintage Voices began as a fundraiser for the Alton YWCA. Through the years, the event has been a collaboration between the YWCA, Alton Cemetery Board, Alton Little Theater, and starting in 2019, a committee of community volunteers. The committee partners with the East End Improvement Association (Alton, IL) to “Keep history alive!” The staff at the Genealogy & Local History Library assists the Vintage Voices committee in several ways:

• Helping to compile a list of possible decedents for the Vintage Voices committee to consider.
• Helping to locate the chosen decedents in the cemetery, especially if there is not a gravestone. The Genealogy & Local History Library collection contains copies of burial books, lot books, and other cemetery records. Cemetery maps are available in the library and on The Hayner Public Library District website.
• Providing research packets to the actors on the decedent they will portray. Actors write their own scripts—and really do a fantastic job!
• Providing access to physical and digital research materials such as the Alton Telegraph from 1836–present (available remotely from 1836–2012 and 2020–present with your Hayner library card).
• Serving as a permanent repository for Vintage Voices ephemera such as a complete set of the program booklets and many of the scripts written by actors over the years. All of these items are available to view in the library.

Proceeds from the Vintage Voices performances support the continuation of the event, upkeep of the Alton Cemetery, and various community organizations, including Hayner Library. Please come out next year to see our history come alive!

Martyr to Liberty: The Legacy of Elijah P. Lovejoy Film


The Mythic Mississippi Project, a collaboration between the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (Dr. Helaine Silverman) and the University of Illinois, Springfield (Dr. Devin Hunter), produced the film. Created by Route 3 Films, it features Genealogy & Local History Library Manager Lacy McDonald and showcases many books and artifacts related to Lovejoy in the Hayner collection. Most notable is the yoke of Lovejoy’s fourth printing press, found by Sparks Milling Company employee Alfred Pitts and pulled from the Mississippi River in 1915, and which now resides in the foyer of the Genealogy & Local History Library.

Our website’s Lovejoy page also contains a link to a Zoom lecture with Author Ken Ellingwood. In it, Ellingwood discusses his book First to Fall: Elijah Lovejoy and the Fight for a Free Press in the Age of Slavery, a compelling, suspenseful nonfiction account of abolitionist Elijah Lovejoy. “It’s a genetic test for modern journalism, an exploration of foundational American principles—the power of individuals, the fearless defense of a free press, and the deeper values of equality, justice and truth-telling at any cost,” wrote Nancy Gibbs, former Editor in Chief of TIME.

In addition to Ellingwood’s lecture and the documentary, our website’s Lovejoy page also contains behind-the-scenes photos from filming, a bibliography of books and ephemera related to Lovejoy in Hayner’s genealogy and local history collection, and information on the Lovejoy Memorial Committee.

Inclement Weather Closing Information

Winter is just around the corner, bringing with it the potential for snow and ice. To ensure the safety of our patrons and staff, the library may close should road conditions become too hazardous. If inclement weather is in the forecast, please call us at (618) 462-0677 before making a trip to visit one of our locations; an outgoing message will inform you of any changes to our regular hours of operation.
Celebrate Black History Month

A Focus on Black Health and Wellness

This year, Black History Month examines how American healthcare has often underserved the African American community. Black health and wellness includes the physical body and emotional and mental health. Hayner Library has many health and wellness books written by African Americans about African Americans. The selected list below covers some of the topic for health and wellness. Read a book, become aware of issues, and have a conversation. Check out a good book and be informed.

- **Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body** by Roxane Gay
- **You are Your Best Thing: Vulnerability, Shame Resilience, and the Black Experience—An Anthology** by Claudia Rankine
- **Just Us: An American Conversation** by Inger Burnett-Zeigler
- **Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen: The Emotional Lives of Black Women** by Mychal Denzel Smith
- **Black Pain: It Just Looks Like We’re Not Hurting: Real Talk for When There’s Nowhere to Go but Up** by Terrie M. Williams
- **The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women—and Women to Medicine** by Janice P. Nimura
- **The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation** by Anna Malaika Tubbs
- **The Woman’s Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote** by Elaine F. Weiss
- **Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant and Radical Life of Lorraine Hansberry** by Imani Perry
- **The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home** by Heath Hardage Lee
- **Educated: A Memoir** by Tara Westover

Celebrate Women’s History Month

In honor of Women’s History Month, Hayner Library has a selected list of books highlighting the lives of extraordinary women. You will find these books, and more like them, at Hayner Library.

- **Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond** by Lilly M. Ledbetter
- **Bad Feminist: Essays** by Roxane Gay
- **Hood Feminism: Notes from the Women that a Movement Forgot** by Mikki Kendall
- **The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women—and Women to Medicine** by Janice P. Nimura
- **The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation** by Anna Malaika Tubbs
- **The Woman’s Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote** by Elaine F. Weiss
- **Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant and Radical Life of Lorraine Hansberry** by Imani Perry
- **The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home** by Heath Hardage Lee
- **Educated: A Memoir** by Tara Westover

Directory of Community Mental Health Resources

Libraries provide an important link to promoting general well-being through our collections and knowledge of information resources. Hayner Library has many mental health and well-being resources in our collection, including our Directory of Community Mental Health Resources. The directory was developed to help patrons locate reliable mental health organizations within the local community.

You can pick up your copy at any Hayner Library location. If you would like multiple copies for your organization, please contact the Reference department at reference@haynerlibrary.org, or call 618-462-0677, ext. 2849.
Nonfiction—

Amen, Daniel G., M.D. You, Happier: The 7 Neuroscience Secrets of Feeling Good Based on Your Brain Type

Atwood, Margaret. Burning Questions: Essays and Occasional Pieces, 2004 to 2021

Bertinelli, Valerie. Enough Already: Learning to Love the Way I Am Today

Bushman, David. And Murder at Teal’s: When a Killer Calls: A True Story of Ultimate Courage and Survival in World War II

Burns, James. Murder at Teal’s: When a Killer Calls: A True Story of Ultimate Courage and Survival in World War II

Byrne, Rhonda. Inspired Twin Peaks

Clark, Melissa. Dinner in One: Exceptional & Easy One-Pan Meals

Douglas, John E. When a Killer Calls: A Haunting Story of Murder, Criminal Profiling, and Justice in a Small Town

Eliot, Marc. The Hag: The Life, Times, and Music of Merle Haggard

Galloway, Stephen. Truly, Madly: Anne Frank: A Cold Case Investigation

Gerard, Tieghan. Romancing the Century and Music of Merle Haggard

Gordon, Steven, M.D. Unlocking the Keto Code: The Revolutionary New Science of Ketosis That Offers More Benefits Without Deprivation

Hari, Johann. Stolen Focus: Why You Can’t Pay Attention—And How to Think Deeply Again


Kershaw, Alex. Against All Odds: A True Story of Ultimate Courage and Survival in World War II

Matthews, Michael. Muscle for Life: Get Lean, Strong, and Healthy at Any Age!

McEnany, Kayleigh. For Such a Time as This: My Faith Journey Through the White House and Beyond

Meyer, Joyce. The Power of Thank You: Discover the Joy of Gratitude

O’Neal, Shaquille. Shaq’s Family Style: Championship Recipes for Feeding Family and Friends

Peters, William. At Heaven’s Door: What Shared Journeys to the Afterlife Teach about Dying Well and Living Better

Pink, Daniel H. The Power of Regret: How Looking Forward Moves Us Forward

Pohak, Shelley. The Dark Queens: A Bloody Rivalry That Forged the Medieval World

Rear, Rachel. Catch the Sparrow: A Search for a Sister and the Truth of Her Murder

Roberts, Robin. Brighter by the Day: Waking Up to New Hopes and Dreams

Shields, Charles J. Lorraine Hansberry: The Life Behind a Raisin in the Sun

Stahr, Walter. Salmon P. Chase: Lincoln’s Vital Rival

Streets, Annabel. 52 Ways to Walk: The Surprising Science of Walking for Wellness and Joy, One Week at a Time

Sullivan, Rosemary. The Betrayal of Anne Frank: A Cold Case Investigation

Thompson, Laura. Heiresses: The Lives of the Million Dollar Babies

Vonn, Lindsey. Rise: My Story

Zaleski, Laurie. Funny Farm: My Unexpected Life with 600 Rescue Animals

Fiction—

Allende, Isabel. Violeta

Atkins, Ace. Robert B. Parker’s Bye Bye Baby (Spenser)

Beaton, M. C. Death of a Green-Eyed Monster

Benedict, Marie. Her Hidden Genius

Box, C. J. Shadows Reel

Briggs, Patricia. Soul Taken

Burke, Alafair. Find Me

Chamberlain, Diane. The Last House on the Street

Chase-Riboud, Barbara. The Great Mrs. Elias: A Novel Based on a True Story

Cohen, Harlan. The Match

Dailey, Janet. Calder Grit

Deveraux, Jude. A Relative Murder

Davis, Fiona. The Magnolia Palace

Dorsey, Tim. Mermaid Confidential (Serge Storms)

Evanovich, Janet. The Recovery Agent (Gabriela Rose Novel)

Feehan, Christine. Phantom Game (Ghostwalker)

Fluke, Joanne. Caramel Pecan Roll Murder

Foley, Lucy. The Paris Apartment

Gardner, Lisa. One Step Too Far

George, Elizabeth. Something to Hide (Lynley Novel)

De Gramont, Nina. The Christie Affair

Greaney, Mark. Sierra Six

Gudgenkauf, Heather. The Overnight Guest

Guterson, David. The Final Case

Hawkins, Rachel. Reckless Girls

Hoover, Colleen. Reminders of Him

Hunter, Stephen. Targeted (Bob Lee Swagger)

Hurwitz, Gregg. Dark Horse: An Orphan X Novel

Jance, J. A. Nothing to Lose: A J.P. Beaumont Novel

Johansen, Roy. Killer View

Kellerman, Jonathan. City of the Dead: An Alex Delaware Novel

King, Stephen. Gwendy’s Final Task

Krentz, Jayne Ann. Lightning in a Mirror

Koontz, Dean. Quicksilver

Lippman, Laura. Seasonal Work: Stories

Macmillan, Gilly. The Long Weekend

Mallory, Susan. The Summer Getaway

Margolin, Phillip. The Darkest Place (Robin Lockwood)

McIntyre, Adrian. The Island

Meier, Leslie. Easter Bonnet Murder

Meltzer, Brad. The Lightning Rod: A Zig and Nola Novel

Mezrich, Ben. The Midnight Ride

Mitchard, Jacquelyn. The Good Son

Parker, T. Jefferson. A Thousand Steps

Pataki, Allison. The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post

Patterson, James. The Horsewoman

Patterson, James and Dolly Parton. Run, Rose, Run

Patterson, James. Steal

Preston, Douglas. Diablo Mesa

Quinn, Kate. The Diamond Eye

Rice, Anne. Rameses the Damned: The Reign of Osiris

Rivers, Francine. The Lady’s Mine

Robb, J. D. Abandoned

Rollins, James. The Starless Crown

Scalzi, John. The Kaiju Preservation Society

Scottoline, Lisa. What Happened to the Bennetts

Shalvis, Jil. The Family You Make

Steel, Danielle. High Stakes

Steel, Danielle. Invisible

Taylor, Brad. End of Days (Pike Logan)

Todd, Charles. A Game of Fear

Tyler, Anne. French Braid

Winspear, Jacqueline. A Sunlit Weapon

Woods, Stuart. A Safe House (Stone Barrington)
Though she never lived in Rocky Fork, Priscilla Baltimore was instrumental in founding the community. Born in Kentucky, her father sold her to another Methodist minister from St. Louis, Missouri. He allowed her to work as a seamstress to purchase her freedom. Well respected in St. Louis, Priscilla was therefore allowed to take enslaved peoples to church meetings. In 1825, she took eleven families to a meeting near today’s Brooklyn, Illinois, and founded Freedom Town. Four years later, John Paul Quinn, an AME circuit-riding missionary, visited Freedom Town, organizing the people as a religious group and an Underground Railroad station. Priscilla Baltimore brought Rev. Quinn to Alton, where he organized the Lower Alton AME Church, part of today’s Trinity AME Church. They then traveled on to Rocky Fork, where he organized the people into a religious group that became the Rocky Fork Bethel AME Church.

The combined efforts of Mother Baltimore and Rev. Paul Quinn established an AME Underground Railroad route from St. Louis, Missouri, through Jersey County, Illinois. After leading more than 300 people to freedom, many through Rocky Fork, Priscilla Baltimore is known as “The Moses of the West.” From Prairie du Rocher, Randolph County, Illinois, Peter and Lavine Baker moved their family to Alton in 1835 after completing a term of indenture. Founding members of the Colored AME Church in the city, the Bakers were well known to Priscilla Baltimore and Rev. Paul Quinn. After learning of the Rocky Fork settlement, Peter Baker purchased forty acres of land at ten dollars per acre and moved his family to the community. He later purchased more land from A. T. Hawley and established a cemetery that cradles the remains of twenty-five early settlers. Called to continue the AME freedom work, Peter and Lavine moved north, joining the AME church group that met at Diamond School in Delphi, Illinois. Peter befriended known abolitionist Dr. Diamond. On September 21, 1879, before a crowd of 3,000 in Brighton, Illinois, the two men shared the podium to celebrate the repeal of the Illinois Black Laws. At the time of her death in 1905, Lavine Baker was returned to lie in eternal rest at Rocky Fork.

London and Agga Jane Parks, along with their four children, registered at the Madison County Courts as required of free persons of color in 1837. Like the Bakers, the family settled first in Alton and became founding members of the Lower Alton Colored Methodist Church. The Parks moved to Rocky Fork in 1842 after purchasing forty-eight acres for $150.00. London Parks became an initial trustee of Rocky Fork Bethel AME, and when plans began for a church building, he deeded the land for construction for just one dollar. Eventually, the family moved north to Delphi and helped organize the gathering of worshippers at Diamond School. Mrs. Agga Jane Parks was returned to Rocky Fork for burial in 1880.

Erasmus Green’s father was a respected Methodist minister appointed to the Louisiana Conference. The elder Green purchased his own freedom and assisted others in doing so. When Rev. Paul Quinn sent the call for a spiritual leader for a freedom-seeking community in Illinois, Erasmus answered the call. He and his wife Eliza Jane came to Rocky Fork in 1857.

They settled into their lives, farming land purchased from Misters Baker and Hawley. They welcomed four children and served the people of the area through their good works and the founding of Bethel AME, Rocky Fork Church. Months after the founding in 1863, Erasmus answered a call to arms. Forbidden to own or carry weapons in Illinois, he joined Company B of the 56th US Colored Infantry in St. Louis, Missouri. Following three years of distinguished service in Arkansas, Rev. Green rejoined his family and parishioners in Rocky Fork, bringing Andrew Jackson Hindman formerly of the 56th. Together, Rev. Green and co-pastor Hindman raised the first Rocky Fork Bethel AME church building in 1869. Rev. and Mrs. Green served the community until they died in 1907 and 1927, respectively. Descendants of the Greens and A.J. Hindman still live in the area and support the church.
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