Welcome Back, Patrons!

We were excited to welcome patrons back for in-person visits to Hayner Library on March 15! All library locations were closed from March 2020 through May 2020 in compliance with Governor Pritzker's COVID-19 closure orders. During this time, many library employees worked from home developing programs and online resources, such as virtual story times, crafts, educational activities, community support sites, public aid programs, and much more.

We reopened in June 2020 to provide curbside service, allowing patrons to access Hayner Library and interlibrary loan materials. During these months, staff were also busy with many “housekeeping” projects: carpets were cleaned in all our facilities, the shelves were weeded and straightened, the stacks were read, and we began a major inventory project.

We constantly monitored CDC and Madison County Health Department policies and recommendations. For the last several months, we planned and implemented procedures which allowed us to safely open our doors to public access. We will continue to quarantine returned materials before shelving, and will also continue our curbside service for those patrons who would still prefer to not be in a public space.

We are fully configured with PPE supplies for both patrons and staff. We have implemented daily sanitizing procedures for staff to follow. We require all patrons to wear masks, which we can provide if you should forget your own. At this time, computer sessions will be limited to one hour to allow access for as many patrons as possible. As you remove items from the shelves while browsing, we ask that you please place the items in the bins at the end of the stacks; staff will collect the materials, quarantine them for the appropriate amount of time, and then reshelve. We also ask that you follow social distancing guidelines most closely.

We will continue to offer our story times, crafts, and teen activities online. Our annual Summer Reading Program will be held virtually. We hope to resume on-site programming sometime in the fourth quarter.

Please understand that only a limited number of our staff have been able to receive vaccinations, so we may not be able to visit with you as we would normally like to do. But we will do everything possible to welcome you back into the libraries in the safest and most accommodating manner.

I, my staff, and The Hayner Public Library Board of Trustees thank you all for your unfailing support and patience as we have negotiated our way through this most unusual of years.

Bernadette Du Vernonoy
Executive Director

Food for Fido
Help Us Help Them

Do you have Hayner Library materials that are still checked out and are embarrassingly overdue? Do you keep getting overdue notices in the mail and are scared of what your fine may be? Breathe a sigh of relief! From April 1-30, if you have overdue Hayner Library items, you may pay your fine with an item of pet food. This amnesty applies to Hayner Library materials only, and 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 your Hayner Library materials; one pet item per overdue item.

All the donations will go to our furry friends residing at the 5A’s animal shelter. The devoted staff in this no-kill shelter relies entirely on donations to provide proper care to the adoptable animals that have been abandoned, neglected, or abused. For more information about this worthy organization, please call (618) 466-3702, visit their website at www.fiveas.org, visit their Facebook page, or visit the shelter at 4530 N. Alby Street, Godfrey.
Due to a change in ownership of the RBdigital Media Company, the unlimited subscriptions model for lending digital audiobooks and magazines is no longer being offered for library licensing. In addition, the new owners announced the intent to discontinue the RBdigital apps and website.


While we do not yet have a replacement platform for digital magazine access, the Illinois Heartland Library System, of which Hayner Library is a member, is in talks with companies who may be able to provide a comparable consortia lending model, which is what we are losing in RBdigital. Consortia lending models allow member libraries the ability to offer a robust collection of titles at a cost we can afford.

Hayner Library still offers access to ebooks and audiobooks through the Cloud Library platform. For more information about Cloud Library, including step-by-step instructions for downloading the app and using the product, please visit www.haynerlibrary.org and click on the Download Audio and eBooks and Help with Your eReader links. You can also contact our Reference department at (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849, if you have questions about using Cloud Library. Our Reference librarian will be happy to assist you.

We regret the loss of the RBdigital platform, but we hope to have a solution in the coming months. We will publicize any developments on our website and Facebook page and in future editions of this newsletter.

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**Books-to-Film**

(Recent releases or soon-to-be released titles)

**Book:** Good Morning, Midnight by Lily Brooks-Dalton

**Movie:** Midnight

**Book:** Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margo Lee Shetterly

**Movie:** Hidden Figures

**Book:** Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson

**Movie:** Just Mercy

**Book:** Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann

**Movie:** TB1

**Book:** The Last Letter from Your Lover by Jojo Moyes

**Movie:** The Last Letter from Your Lover

**Book:** News of the World by Paulette Jiles

**Movie:** News of the World

**Book:** The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

**Movie:** The Nightingale

**Book:** Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century by Jessica Bruder

**Movie:** Nomadland

**Book:** Two Kisses for Maddy by Matthew Logelin

**Movie:** Fatherhood

**Book:** Where’d You Go, Bernadette by Maria Semple

**Movie:** Where’d You Go, Bernadette

**Book:** Without Remorse by Tom Clancy

**Movie:** Without Remorse

**Book:** The Woman in the Window by A. J. Finn

**Movie:** The Woman in the Window

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**Nonfiction That Reads Like Fiction**

- Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup by John Carreyrou (2018) 338.7681761 CAR
- Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo (2012) 305.56909 BOO
- The Big Oyster: History on the Half Shell by Mark Kurlansky (2006) 641.6 KUR
- Educated by Tara Westover (2018) 270.092 WES
- I’ll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman’s Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer by Michelle McNamara (2018) 364.153209794 MCNAMARA
- The Library Book by Susan Orlean (2018) 027.4794 ORL
- Life Undercover: Coming of Age in the CIA by Amaryllis Fox (2019) 327.1273 FOX
- Men We Reaped by Jesym Ward (2013) B WARD
- Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century by Jessica Bruder (2017) 331.3980793 BRU
- Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging by Sebastian Junger (2016) 302.3 JUN
Welcome Back to the Genealogy & Local History Library!

Welcome back! We are so glad we’ve gotten to see many familiar faces in person since we reopened in March, but if you’re more comfortable continuing your research from home, please feel free to keep contacting us by phone, email, or letter with your requests! Give us a call (618) 462-0677, send an email (genealogy@haynerlibrary.org), or put a letter in the mail (401 State Street, Alton, IL 62002) and we’ll be happy to help.

Our Illinois Room book collection is available. All items have to be quarantined after use, so if there’s something in particular you’d like to see, please call or email in advance so we can make sure it’s accessible, especially if it’s a frequently used book like an Alton City Directory or yearbook. We’ve acquired quite a few interesting books this year, so please check out our new books list, or ask a staff member about some of our favorites.

This past year, we had the Alton Telegraph newspapers from November 2012–December 2019 microfilmed and digitized. Due to copyright restrictions, these archives are only available for in-library use. However, they can be accessed from all patron computers at all three Hayner Library locations. Genealogy & Local History Library staff are happy to look up articles for you if you cannot make it into the library. The microfilm and database are completely unique to the Hayner Library collection, which means that we now have almost continuous issues available from 1836–present.

We have continued our project digitizing out-of-copyright books from our Illinois Room collection and now have over 275 items in our archive.org collection. Some of our newest digitized books are Shurtleff College Retrospect yearbooks, Monticello College Echo yearbooks, Lewis & Clark Community College TREK yearbooks, which join our Alton Tatlers, Western Military Academy Recalls, and Marquette High School Explorers. Many of these items are unique to the Hayner Library collection. All books are text searchable. No library card login necessary: https://archive.org/details/@hayner_genealogy_amp_local_history_library.

Branching Out genealogy research tutorials have been filmed and are available on The Hayner Public Library District Facebook page. You can also find direct links to the Branching Out videos on the Genealogy & Local History page of the Hayner Library website. Visit www.haynerlibrary.org, click on the Genealogy & Local History link at the top of the page, and select “About” from the drop-down menu.

The Genealogy & Local History Library has secured an extension of remote access to Ancestry Library Edition through at least June 30, 2021. Free remote access to Newspaper Archive (Illinois edition), Fold 3 Military Records, and NewsBank has been extended indefinitely. The links can be found on the Online Resources and Genealogy & Local History pages of the Hayner Library website.

We continue our partnership with the Illinois State Library to create the Alton Area Local History Collection as part of their Illinois Digital Archives collection. To view the Alton Area Local History Collection online, please visit http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/p16614coll61/search/.

We wish you luck in your research, and look forward to seeing you in person at the library.

Newly Available VIRTUALLY in Our Illinois Room

The Genealogy & Local History Library continues to digitize out-of-copyright books from our Illinois Room collection while also identifying books that have already been digitized elsewhere. With the help of our cataloger, these full-text books can now be accessed by anyone directly from the SHARE online catalog: https://search.illinoisheartland.org/.

Here are a few of the books available to view online. You do not need a library card to view these books. Some of these books have been reprinted, so make sure you’re on the record of the original printing (year shown in parenthesis) to access the digital book.


Abridged Speech of Jehu Baker, Delivered at Alton, October 2, 1858 IR 328.773 BAK and also available digitally through the SHARE online catalog

Alton Cemetery Register. November 28, 1851 Through September 29, 1875 IR 977.386 ALT

Alton Cemetery Register. August 20, 1875 Through September 13, 1903 IR 977.386 ALT

Alton Cemetery Register. September 22, 1903 Through January 30, 1926 IR 977.386 ALT

Alton Eats: The Restaurants of Alton Cookbook (2020) IR 641.5 ALT

Arthur Towata. 1933-2019 IR B TOWATA

The Captive’s Quest for Freedom: Fugitive Slaves, the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, and the Politics of Slavery IR 973.7115 BLA

Corn Kings & One-Horse Thieves: A Plain-Spoken History of Mid-Illinois IR 977.3 KRO

Descendants of Mattheisen Horn and Anna Maria Welters : Ten Generations of Family Group Sheets by Casper Stephen Horn IR 929.2 HORN

Fight Like a Tiger: Conway Barbour and the Challenges of the Black Middle Class in Nineteenth-Century America IR 305.8960730904 HAR

Findings and Recommendations of the Survey of the Alton Public Schools: Made During the School Year 1917-1918 IR 371.01 ALT and also available digitally through the SHARE online catalog

In Their Letters, In Their Words: Illinois Civil War Soldiers Write Home IR 973.7473 INT

Lincoln in Alton by Tom Emery IR 973.7092 EME

The Macoupin County Boys Track Meet: Milestones and Memories, Vol. 2—1979-2019 IR 977.383 EME

The Macoupin County Girls Track Meet: Milestones and Memories, Vol. 3—1979-2019 IR 977.383 EME

Meisenheimer Family Favorite Recipes IR 641.5 MEI

Merchant Vessels of the United States, 1964 IR 387.2 UNI 1964

Welcome to Lucy Haskell’s Neighborhood: Historic House Illustrations by Patrick Dailey IR 977.386 DAI

Year Book of the First Baptist Church of Alton, Illinois, January 1st, 1906 IR LOCKED CASES 286.77386 YEA and also available digitally through the SHARE online catalog

Your Edible Yard: Landscaping with Fruits and Vegetables by Crystal Stevens IR 712.6 STE
Highlights of the Hayner Art Collection – View of Alton from Maple Island by Mrs. Rice

Welcome to the second installment of a series on some of our most treasured artwork. We invite you to come into the Genealogy & Local History Library to see this and other beautiful works in person.

This oil painting depicts a beautifully detailed view of Alton, Illinois, from Maple Island on a bright sunny day, with a grassy area to the foreground, a tree to the left, and a shrub to the right; the river with two steamboats and a canoe in the middle ground and Alton on the far shore, framed in a carved giltwood frame. The painting bears a plaque that reads, “Alton 1867 painted by Mrs. Rice.”

The painting survives in overall good condition, having been relined on the original strainer, cleaned, and inpainted along the bottom edge. It retains the original gilded frame. The painting was given to the library in 1910 by George Roper of Rock Island, Illinois. Nothing about the painting or the artist appears in the local historical literature until the March 3, 1910, issue of the Alton Evening Telegraph. There, a brief article announced the painting’s donation and identified the artist as “Mrs. Rice, who lived near Fourth Street on Langdon [in Alton] many years ago.”

George’s uncle, John Roper, lived in Alton and told the Alton Evening Telegraph that Maple Island, when this picture was made by Mrs. Rice, was not so far down the river as it is now. The action of the Mississippi’s current has washed off the upper end of the island and added to the lower end, thus gradually moving the island downstream. In support of his statement, Mr. Roper cites that a few years ago someone made application to the government to take up and enter Maple Island. The government instructed an engineer to make a survey of the island, and it was found that from the time of the last survey the island had moved completely away and that where the island was formerly described, there was nothing but deep water. The island is covered with big trees, but this is explained by the fact that the movement has not been rapid enough to interfere with the growth of trees, and as fast as the trees on the upper end were washed away, others grew below; thus a wooded island was moving steadily down the river.

The painting remained at the library for three and a half decades without attracting significant further attention. Then, in 1944, Margery Quigley of Montclair, New Jersey, visited her elderly aunt in Alton and, when visiting the library, was quite taken with the scene. She asked her aunt, Miss Alice Quigley, then 86 years old, if she knew anything about Mrs. Rice in her youth and was surprised to find that she did. More to the point, Mrs. Rice had painted a double portrait of Miss Quigley with her twin sister when the two were just six years old.

Hoping to find out more about the artist, the visitor asked Mrs. Eberlein, Hayner reference librarian, to assist with research and shortly thereafter followed-up with a letter to the editor of the Alton Evening Telegraph to announce the findings: Mrs. Eberlein revealed that the 1868 Alton City Directory included among the citizens “Mrs. F. Rice, widow,” and that a subsequent directory several years later identified her more specifically as “Mrs. Victoria Rice.”

Close inspection of View of Alton from Maple Island reveals the artist’s great skill as a technician who paid remarkable attention to detail. She carefully lettered the signs on buildings, which can be read under magnification. She identified a riverboat as the “J. H. Johnson,” and subsequent research reveals that the ship was launched in 1863 and destroyed by 1877, and helps to verify the date of 1867 provided by the label.

Bibliography


Margery Quigley, “Case of the Mysterious Mrs. Rice’: Letter to the Editor”, in Alton Evening Telegraph, May 4, 1944, p. 4.

Research and writing by Robert Morrissey, of Robert Morrissey Antiques and Fine Art in St. Louis, and Lacy McDonald, Genealogy & Local History Library Manager.
Staff Recommendations from the Hayner Library Collection

Jean
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- *Sula* by Toni Morrison
- *The Women of Brewster Place* by Gloria Naylor
- *Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century* by Jessica Bruder
- *Eventide* by Kent Haruf
- *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *The Children’s Blizzard* by Melanie Benjamin

Janice
- *The Instant Pot Bible: More than 350 Recipes and Strategies: The Only Book You Need for Every Model of Instant Pot* by Bruce Weinstein
- *Instant Pot Italian: 100 Irresistible Recipes Made Easier Than Ever* by Ivy Manning
- *Nancy Martin (Blackbird Sisters mystery series)*
- *Janet Evanovich (Stephanie Plum mystery series)*

Emily
- *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara
- *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by TJ Klune

Morgan
- *The Peach Truck Cookbook: 100 Delicious Recipes for All Things Peach* by Jessica Rose

Katie
- *Big Lies in a Small Town: A Novel* by Diane Chamberlain
- *The Exiles: A Novel* by Christina Baker Kline
- *The Girl Who Lived* by Christopher Greyson
- *Anxious People: A Novel* by Fredrik Backman
- *The Book of Lost Friends: A Novel* by Lisa Wingate
- *We Begin at the End* by Chris Whitaker

Mary Kay
- Jane Cleland
- G.A. McKevett
- Sara Graves
- Carlyle O’Connor (Cozy mystery authors)

Shari
- Frontier Follies: Adventures in Marriage and Motherhood in the Middle of Nowhere by Ree Drummond

Stephanie
- *The Crown* (DVD)
- *Six Sister’s Stuff Simple One Pan Dishes: 100 Quick and Easy Recipes* by Six Sisters

Mary
- *The Splendid and the Vile* by Erik Larson
- *Florography: An Illustrated Guide to the Victorian Language of Flowers* by Jessica Roux
- *Delights & Shadows* by Ted Kooser
- *Strokes of Genius: Feder, Nadal, and the Greatest Match Ever Played* by L. Jon Wertheim
- *For the Love of Europe: My Favorite Places, People and Stories* by Rick Steves
- *Raise Hell: The Life and Times of Molly Ivins* (DVD)
- *The Death of Expertise: The Campaign Against Established Knowledge and Why It Matters* by Thomas M. Nichols
- *The Great American House: Tradition for the Way We Live Now* by Gil Schafer, III
- *Modern Comfort Food: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook* by Ina Garten
- Simon Brett (Fethering mystery series)

Jan
- Amy Stewart (Constance Kopp mystery series)

Crafting with Creativebug
Do you enjoy crafting, cooking, drawing, painting, sewing, and other creative pursuits? If so, use your Hayner Library card to enjoy free access to Creativebug!

Creativebug is a high-quality, on-trend arts and crafts instructional video platform that allows users on-demand access to over 1,000 art and craft classes for artists and makers of all levels. Users can enjoy award-winning HD instructional videos pertaining to drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, baking, Cricut projects, and more. All classes are taught by experts, with new classes added daily. The platform also offers downloadable patterns, templates, and recipes. Creativebug offers classes for adults and children.

Creativebug is optimized for mobile and tablet access, so it’s easy to use and enjoy from all of your favorite devices. The Creativebug app is available via iTunes and Google Play. Please note that you must first create a Creativebug account online before downloading the app.

Creativebug is available to Hayner Library cardholders 24/7. To create a free Creativebug account using your Hayner Library card:
- Visit www.haynerlibrary.org
- Click/tap on the Online Resources link at the top of the page
- Scroll to the Arts and Crafts category
- Click/tap on the Creativebug link
- Enter your Hayner Library card number into the appropriate text box and click/tap on the Log In button
- Enter your first name, last name, email address, and a password (of your choice) into the appropriate text boxes and click/tap on the Submit button

Once you create a Creativebug account online, you can continue to access it through the Hayner Library website or you may download the Creativebug app to your phone or tablet.

Be inspired to learn a new hobby—or hone your existing skills. Enjoy!
To register for any of our spring programs, please call KidsSpace at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall at (618) 433-2881 or the Downtown Library KidsSpace at (618) 462-0677, ext. 2836. Our online story times can be viewed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HaynerLibrary.

**April**

Thursday, April 1, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, April 1, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Thursday, April 8, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, April 8, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Thursday, April 15, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, April 15, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 – After School Fun Take Home Craft: Ages 6-11, Pick up at the Downtown Library

Thursday, April 22, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, April 22, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Thursday, April 29, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

**May**

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Thursday, May 6, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, May 6, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Thursday, May 13, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, May 13, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 – Mary Kay’s Story Time (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 3-5

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 – After School Fun Take Home Craft: Ages 6-11, Pick up at the Downtown Library

Thursday, May 20, 2021 – Stories & Puppets (via Facebook): 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-5

Thursday, May 20, 2021 – Take Home Craft: Ages 3-6, Pick up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall

**Summer Reading Program 2021**

“Reading Colors Your World”

This year’s Summer Reading Program, “Reading Colors Your World,” is a theme which gives participants the opportunity to enjoy some entertaining activities and exciting books! Participants can expect virtual performers, virtual story times, virtual puppet shows, take home crafts, and prizes that reflect this year’s theme.

Participants will be asked to register on our Beanstack online software (https://haynerlibrary.beanstack.org) or by downloading the Beanstack mobile app. Each week, participants will be asked to read at least five books, magazine articles, newspaper articles, or listen to five audiobooks to earn some awesome prizes. Prizes will be available for pick up only at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall.

Patrons who participate during all six weeks of the program will be invited to stop by Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall to pick up their free book, book bag, and certificate. All participants will also have the opportunity to enjoy Wild Hearts’ “Color Me Wild” virtual performance on the Hayner Library Facebook page. We will announce the Summer Reading Program big prize winners before the Wild Hearts’ Facebook performance.

Registration for our Summer Reading Program begins on Monday, June 7, 2021. Please register at www.haynerlibrary.beanstack.org.

Summer Reading Program Kickoff – Monday, June 7, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 – Stories & Art (Downtown) – 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 - Abra-Kid-Abra Presents “Fizz Boom Seuss” – 10:00 a.m. All Ages

Thursday, June 10, 2021 – Drop-In Craft – 10:00 a.m. Ages 5-12

Monday, June 14, 2021 – Stories & Puppets – 10:00 a.m. Ages Birth-6

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 – Stories & Art (Downtown) – 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – Animal Tales Presents “Tails & Tales” – 10:00 a.m. All Ages

Thursday, June 17, 2021 – Drop-In Craft – 10:00 a.m. Ages 5-12

Monday, June 21, 2021 – Stories & Puppets – 10:00 a.m. Ages Birth-6

Tuesday, June 22, 2021 – Stories & Art (Downtown) – 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 – Celia’s Colorful Dance Party – 10:00 a.m. All Ages

Thursday, June 24, 2021 – Drop-In Craft – 10:00 a.m. Ages 5-12

Monday, June 28, 2021 – Stories & Puppets – 10:00 a.m. Ages Birth-6

Tuesday, June 29, 2021 – Stories & Art (Downtown) – 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6

Wednesday, June 30, 2021 – Mad Science Presents “Color Your World with Science” – 10:00 a.m. All Ages

Thursday, July 1, 2021 – Drop-In Craft – 10:00 a.m. Ages 5-12

Monday, July 5, 2021 – Stories & Puppets – 10:00 a.m. Ages Birth-6

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 – Stories & Art (Downtown) – 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6

Wednesday, July 7, 2021 – OMG Josh Presents “Mystery of the Narwhal Nose” – 10:00 a.m. All Ages

Thursday, July 8, 2021 – Drop-In Craft – 10:00 a.m. Ages 5-12

Saturday, July 10, 2021 – LAST DAY TO TURN IN READING SHEETS!

Monday, July 12, 2021 – Stories & Puppets – 10:00 a.m. Ages Birth-6

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 – Stories & Art (Downtown) – 10:00 a.m. Ages 2-6

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 – Chef Bananas – 10:00 a.m. All Ages

Thursday, July 15, 2021 – End-of-the-Summer-Reading-Program Party – 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Alton High School Commons, Performer: Wild Hearts – 6:00 p.m.
Please note: Depending upon the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the library may need to switch from in-person programming to virtual programming. This information will be available on the library’s website (www.haynerlibrary.org) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/HaynerLibrary) if it is determined that a change will take place.

**TEENSPACE**

**SPRING 2021 ACTIVITIES**

**APRIL & MAY**

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 – BYOB Virtual Book Club (via Zoom) – 4:00 p.m.

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2021**

**“Reading Colors Your World”**

- Monday, June 7, 2021 – Summer Reading Program Kickoff – All participants who register on this day will be entered into a drawing for a $50 gift card. Register at www.haynerlibrary.beanstack.org.
- Wednesday, June 9, 2021 – Shrinky Dinks Key Chain Craft – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 9, 2021 – Teen Movie Day – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 14, 2021 – Teen Color Me Club – (via Facebook)
- Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – Washer Necklace Craft – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Monday, June 21, 2021 - Teen Color Me Club – (via Facebook)**

- Wednesday, June 23, 2021 – Sharpie Tie Dye Bag Craft – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 28, 2021 - Teen Color Me Club – (via Facebook)
- Wednesday, June 30, 2021 – Fleece Tie Smile Pillow Craft – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, July 5, 2021 - Teen Color Me Club – (via Facebook)
- Wednesday, July 7, 2021 – End-of-the-Summer Color Me Party – 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**Unless otherwise stated, all teen programs will take place at the Riverbender.com Community Center.**

**REFERENCE SERVICES**

The Reference service desk is located near the adult computers at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall. Here you will find helpful information relating to current issues, bus schedules, employment and job search tips, our Community Support Services booklet, area information, and more. The Reference collection itself consists of books on art, religion, legal forms, Illinois Statutes, Chilton’s Automotive Repair manuals, investment reports, atlases, dictionaries, and more. Our Reference department is more than just books; Reference offers services to Hayner patrons through readers’ advisory and research.

A popular Reference service is **Book Bundles**, a reading recommendation service offered to Hayner Library patrons during curbside pickup. Even though we are open to in-person library visits, this service is still available! If you would like help in selecting books based on your reading preferences, please register for this service. Approximately six books will be selected for you. Book Bundles can be picked up at either library location. The Book Bundles registration form is available online at www.haynerlibrary.org or by contacting Jean, our Reference librarian, at reference@haynerlibrary.org or (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849.

Also at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall, near the entrance to KidsSpace, you will find the **Readers’ Corner**. The Readers’ Corner offers curated book displays, book lists, book marks, and other featured materials. Books are changed out periodically to reflect different reading interests. The Readers’ Corner is a quick way to browse for a good book!

Our **readers’ advisory service** can help fiction and nonfiction readers with reading needs. For readers’ advisory service, please stop by the Reference service desk or contact Jean at reference@haynerlibrary.org or (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849.

The Reference department can also help patrons locate materials and information for research and pleasure. Hayner Library subscribes to **online databases** for in-library use, and remotely to patrons with a Hayner Library card. Useful databases for research include, MasterFILE Premier, Primary Search, Auto Repair Source, Consumer Reports and more. Whether you are writing a research paper or looking for information on a product, these databases will provide authoritative information. Databases can be found on the Online Resources page of the library’s website.

Reference also offers **ebook assistance**. Please call or stop by the Reference Service Desk for one-on-one assistance in operating your ereader device and downloading ebooks from Cloud Library, our free ebook app.

For more information about our Reference services, please contact reference@haynerlibrary.org or call (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849.
Join Us On a Journey Through Black History in Southwest Illinois
By Charlotte E. Johnson & Renée B. Johnson

Charlotte E. Johnson is a retired educator and local historian. Her daughter, Renée B. Johnson, is a consultant, member of the Hayner Genealogy & Local History Library staff, and author of the children’s picture book, Alton ABC. Mrs. Johnson has long collected and researched the stories of Illinois. Her work has resulted in numerous family revelations, museum holdings and exhibits, presentations, and listings on both The National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Johnson shares her mother’s interest in history and genealogy, supporting the effort to tell the true story of people and their lives. Over the next several issues of the Hayner Library newsletter, the Johnsons will take us on a journey through Black history in Southwest Illinois.

Though Illinois was admitted to the union as a free state in 1818, it was not, nor had it been, a welcoming place for those of African ancestry. In the late 1700s, when what is now Illinois became part of the Northwest Territory, slavery was prohibited. However, current owners were allowed to keep people in bondage. From shortly after statehood until the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865, Illinois enacted numerous laws known as the Black Codes. These laws placed restrictions on the lives of freemen and allowed the continuation of slavery throughout the state. Under these laws, free Blacks could not vote, own or carry firearms, gather in groups of more than three, or sue a white person. They were required to have freedom certificates at all times or were assumed to be escaped slaves. As such, they were subject to arrest, fines, and sale. Later laws required immediate registration and the payment of a cash bond when entering a county. By 1829, that bond was $1,000 per person, the equivalent of $24,000 to $28,000 today. These laws also allowed for slave-hunting and the return of escapees to bondage. They created an extreme indenture period allowing slaves to be brought into the state and classified as “indentured servants” without an actual change in their circumstances.

Even with the Black Codes in place, people of African ancestry built homes, businesses, and communities across the state. Many of the stories regarding people of African ancestry in what is now Southwestern Illinois begin with enslavement. Many: not all. Written into the landscape of the region are countless instances of how those enslaved, freedom-seeking, free-born, and their descendants have shaped the communities we share today. By teasing apart family stories, church histories, and vague recollections, one may begin to build a list of questions. Searching in probate and land records, newspapers and city directories, cemetery and military logs, and other formal documents bring to light the names, circumstances, and contributions of these people.

As we journey, we trust that you will consider your Southwestern Illinois story and how it intertwines with those we present. We challenge you to seek out those connections, to tease apart the recollections of your forbearers, and bring to light the stories of you, yours, and our communities.

To learn more about researching your stories or to continue your journey of discovery, visit the Hayner Genealogy & Local History Library.

Hayner Library Community Support Services Booklet

Public libraries connect people to information and services. In an effort to reach out to all in the community, Hayner Library has updated our Community Support Services resource guide. The booklet is meant to help those in our community who are in need of social services. The booklet offers a list of local shelters, food sources, free legal services, aging assistance, crisis help, disabilities support, homeless assistance, veterans support, warming/cooling centers, and more. Booklets are distributed throughout the community at hospitals, clinics, crisis centers, and other local organizations. You can pick up a free copy at any Hayner Library location. If you would like some booklets for your organization, please contact the Reference department at (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849, and we will be happy to supply you with copies.

Sign Up for Text and Email Notifications

Hayner Library offers text message and email notifications for requests and overdue notices.

Please ask for assistance at the Circulation Desk if you would like to receive a text message or email message when your requested items are ready for pickup. The staff will be happy to assist you in making this change to your library account.

Text message and email notifications are automated. You will receive a separate text message for each item that is ready to be picked up or is overdue. If you sign up for text or email notifications, you will no longer receive a phone call from a staff member regarding on-hold or overdue materials.

Please note: All email and text notifications will be sent by SHARE Notifications and not from Hayner Library. SHARE is the automated network of libraries within the Illinois Heartland Library System.

As always, you can view your library account online at www.haynerlibrary.org.
Madison County Employment and Training Department: Free Assistance for Job Seekers

Are you a resident of Madison County who needs assistance in finding and applying for employment? Are you interested in vocational or on-the-job training? Then the Madison County Employment and Training Department might be able to help!

The Madison County Employment and Training Department’s primary responsibilities are to administer employment and training programs under the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) and other state and federal funding sources. A focus of Madison County Employment and Training is to create partnerships between businesses and government that will establish services that prepare customers for employment.

All the services offered by the department are designed to assist either businesses or job seekers. These services include job listings, employment training, skills assessment, career counseling, job search assistance, vocational training, on-the-job training, recruitment assistance, youth employment and training, job and career fairs, referral services, and many other types of employer/employee assistance.

The Madison County Employment and Training Department is located at 101 E. Edwardsville Road, Suite 1302, Wood River, IL 62095. For more information, or to contact the department’s help desk, please call (618) 296-4301 or visit https://www.co.madison.il.us/departments/employment_and_training/index.php.

Here is a partial list of services offered by the Madison County Employment and Training Department:

Universal Services (No eligibility requirement)

- Resource computers for job searches
- Resume software for development and review
- Job board postings
- Employer hiring events
- Fax, telephone, and photocopier available for job searches only
- Job search workshop (pre-register for every other Monday afternoon)
- After attending the job search workshop, attendees can make an appointment with a Career Specialist
- Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) offers one-on-one assistance with resume creation and updating, job searches, and Illinois Job Link usage
- Referrals and direct linkage to partner agencies for services
- GED classes through Lewis & Clark Community College

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Services

- Eligibility required
- Dislocated worker (laid off or terminated from an employer) OR
- Low income adults (must meet income requirements for poverty level or self-sufficiency, based on family size in last six months)
- Training programs
- Approved customers can receive up to two years of paid tuition and fees (not to exceed $20,000) and paid books, tools, uniforms, testing, and licenses (not to exceed $10,000)
- Training at community colleges, SIUE (junior and senior years only), and some private institutions
- Occupational training (must be on the Illinois State Demand Occupation list)
- Career Specialist will pre-screen any interested person and then schedule for orientation
- On-the-job training (WIOA-eligible customers may be approved for on-the-job training with an employer)

Youth Programs

- E-Learning for those ages 17-24, who have dropped out of high school
- High school diploma recovery program, or attain GED
- Offer online classes for credit and paid work experience

Trade Act Customers

- Services available due to Trade Petition Certification

Please note: Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
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The Piasa Bird

When you think about the Piasa Bird, what comes to mind? Is it the current version painted on the cliffs at Piasa Park? Is it the fire-breathing metal incarnation now guarding the Southwestern High School football field? Is it the modern day original that decorated Lovers's Leap before it was blasted off the cliffs to make way for the River Road? No one alive today ever saw the original, so whatever artwork the words “Piasa Bird” conjure in your mind, it likely comes from a myth created by a local professor named John Russell in 1836.

The first record we have of what we now refer to as the Piasa Bird did not even mention wings. In 1673, Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet travelled down the Mississippi River through this area from Canada on their way to find the mouth of the Mississippi. The land belonged to France, and they hoped the river would empty into the Pacific Ocean. They could not cross Spanish lands south of us, and so ended their journey in Arkansas without reaching the Gulf of Mexico. But on the way, Marquette and Jolliet did discover not one, but two paintings on the side of the cliffs near Alton that left them thunderstruck.

“While skirting some rocks, which by their height and length inspired awe, we saw upon one of them two painted monsters which at first made us afraid, and upon which the boldest savages dare not rest their eyes. They are as large as a calf; they have horns on their heads like those of a deer, a horrible look, red eyes, a beard like a tiger’s, a face somewhat like a man’s, a body covered with scales, and so long a tail that it winds all around the body, passing above the head and going back between the legs, ending in a fish’s tail. Green, red, and black are the three colors composing the picture. Moreover, these two monsters are so well painted that we cannot believe that any savage is their author; for good painters in France would find it difficult to reach that place conveniently to paint them. Here is approximately the shape of these monsters, as we have faithfully copied it.”

In 1836, Shurtleff College professor John Russell wrote a story to explain the painting on the cliffs. He called his story “The Piasa: An Indian Tradition of Illinois” and it was first published in the August 1836 issue of The Family Magazine. Many Illinois newspapers, including the Alton Telegraph, printed the story in their pages. Alton was incorporated as a city the next year, in 1837. Russell’s legend of the Piasa Bird, likely one you’ve heard many times before, has been a part of Alton’s history since before the city officially existed. Here’s a quick summary: a winged monster called the Piasa Bird, which means “devourer of men” lived in the cliffs and, well, devoured men. Chief Ouatoga, a brave Illini chief, prayed to the Great Spirit and offered himself as bait to lure the monster out of its cave. The Piasa Bird flew down to grab Chief Ouatoga in its claws, but twenty hidden warriors emerged to shoot poisoned arrows at their foe. The Piasa Bird let out a terrible scream and flew into the Mississippi River, never to be seen again.

Russell completely changed the narrative several times over the years, and admitted to Alton author William McAdams that his story was “somewhat illustrated.” But by then the legend was already part of Alton’s cultural heritage. And even though the Chief Ouatoga story itself is a fabrication, the fact that local Indigenous American artists painted incredible artwork on the cliffs is true. The ancient mural we call the Piasa Bird was created prior to 1673, and possibly done by the residents of Cahokia to signify that strangers were entering Cahokia territory. Cahokia was the largest pre-Columbian settlement north of Mexico during the Mississippian Period. It also may have been painted by members of the Illinois Confederation (also called Illiniwek or Illini) in the years after the Cahokian settlement was abandoned.

Regardless of the origins, residents of the Riverbend have embraced the Piasa Bird as a symbol of our area. Businesses from the 1800s to present, like Piasa Lumber Company and Piasa Paper Company, have used the name. The Boy Scouts of America Piasa Bird District covers parts of Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, and Madison counties in Illinois and the Boy Scouts were crucial in drumming up interest in the Piasa Bird story in the early 1900s. Piasa Brand Canned Goods were available at grocery stores in the area and used at the Alton Evening Telegraph’s Cooking School in the 1920s and 1930s.

The original Piasa Bird painting stood guard on the cliff face above the Alton Penitentiary, but the rock was quarried in the 1800s. In 1924, Herbert Forcade, Boy Scout and Alton High School student, was chosen to paint his version of the Piasa Bird on Lovers’s Leap. The painting remained there until 1952, when the cliff was blasted away to widen the River Road. It was repainted right away further down the cliffs, then demolished again a decade later. The next version, painted in 1963, was based on artwork by Ruth Means. From 1983 to 1995, a metal version (also based on Means’s artwork) at Norman’s Landing greeted travelers along the River Road, before it was moved to its current home at Southwestern High School. The present Piasa Bird painting is perched on the bluffs at Piasa Park, which was built in 1998. Dave Stevens was the artist, but community members could make monetary donations to the project and then help paint the Piasa.

We have numerous books and other items in our Genealogy & Local History Collection covering the Piasa Bird’s history and significance, from Records of Ancient Races in the Mississippi Valley… written by William McAdams in 1887, to children’s picture book Seymour Bluffs and the Legend of the Piasa Bird written by Phyllis Bechtold in 2006. There are scholarly articles, such as “The Piasa Bird: Fact or Fiction?” written by Wayne C. Temple and published in the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society in 1956, and recent works by local author John Dunphy that you can read in the library or search for online. Come visit the Hayner Genealogy & Local History Library to read these books, look at Piasa Bird artwork, or read early newspaper articles. There are 5,915 references to the Piasa Bird in our Alton Telegraph archives alone. An article from 1875 states, “It is a great pity that the utilitarian pioneers of Alton blasted away this cliff for building stone, and thus effaced the most wonderful relic of a past age that could have been found on the continent.” It is a great pity indeed, but although the original painting is gone, the legacy of the Piasa Bird lives on.
**The Hayner Public Library District**

401 State Street  
Alton, Illinois  62002

Downtown Library  (618) 462-0677  
Alton Square Library  (618) 462-0677  
Genealogy & Local History Library  (618) 462-0677  
Administrative Office  FAX (618) 462-4919

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**Hours of Operation**

Downtown Library  
Mon.–Thurs., 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Alton Square Library  
Mon.–Sat., 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Genealogy & Local History Library  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Wed., 12:00 Noon to 7:00 p.m.  
Sat., 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Closed Sunday

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www.haynerlibrary.org

*The Hayner Public Library District is currently operating under modified service hours. Please visit www.haynerlibrary.org or call (618) 462-0677 to confirm our current hours of operation.*

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**FRIENDS OF HAYNER LIBRARY**

**Sidewalk Book Sale**

The Friends of Hayner Library will hold a sidewalk book sale:

- Friday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 8, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The book sale will take place outside the Friends of Hayner Library building.

327 State Street, Alton, IL 62002.

This sale will also feature a bag sale ($3 per bag). Masks required. For more information, please contact the Friends of Hayner Library at 618-462-4396.