Dial-A-Story is Back!

For over twenty years, Hayner Library patrons adored Dial-A-Story. It was a safe, free, educational, and entertaining activity for children—available from the comfort of home! We are very excited to be able to offer this service once again.

The Dial-A-Story service was available to Hayner Library patrons from the early 1980s until the early 2000s, when it was disconnected for technical reasons. Parents and grandparents who have fond memories of the service have repeatedly asked us to bring it back.

Dial-A-Story is once again available twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year! Children may call (618) 462-TALE to listen to a short story recorded by the staff of our children's department. Each story lasts approximately five minutes and is geared toward young children. A different story will be available each week. Dial-A-Story is an outreach service offered to the public by The Hayner Public Library District.

StoryWalk® Continues This Winter at Alton Square Mall!

StoryWalk®, Hayner Library’s interactive story and walking trail program offered at The Nature Institute in Godfrey, will be moved to Alton Square Mall for the winter months.

With the chill of winter and the trails closing at The Nature Institute until spring, Hayner Library has moved the StoryWalk® program to an indoor location at Alton Square Mall. Families can enjoy a new story each month from December through March.

Our indoor StoryWalk® will begin to the right of the upper level J.C. Penney entrance, run down the corridor and around the corner, and stop just before The Cookie Factory. At the end of each story, children ages 2-12 will have the opportunity to purchase a half-price cookie from The Cookie Factory after correctly answering a question about the story (limit one half-price cookie per child, per month). StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and exercise all at the same time. Laminated pages from a children’s book are attached to story boards which are installed along an path or trail. As you stroll down the path, you are directed to the next page in the story. The StoryWalk® program was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and was developed with the help of Rachel Senechal, of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Hayner Library is excited to be able to share this program with our patrons during the winter months, too!
Celebrate Black History Month: February 1 – February 28

In honor of Black History Month, celebrate the creative spirit of the black experience—read a book. You will find the books in this list to be inspiring, moving, and illuminating. They are just a part of the outstanding collection of diverse reading available at Hayner Library.

**Nonfiction—**
- Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow*
- Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
- Austin, Nefertiti. *Motherhood So White: A Memoir of Race, Gender, and Parenting in America*
- Baldwin, James. *The Fire Next Time*
- Bennett, Juda. *The Toni Morrison Book Club*
- Berry, Daina. *A Black Women’s History of the United States*
- Coates, Ta-Nehisi. *Between the World and Me*
- Lawrence, Jacob. *The Migration Series*
- Perry, Imani. *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons*
- Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric*
- Wilkerson, Isabel. *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*
- Wilkerson, Isabel. *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration*

**Fiction—**
- Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. *Americana*
- Butler, Octavia. *Kindred*
- Cole, Alyssa. *An Unconditional Freedom*
- Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible Man*
- Gaines, Ernest J. *A Gathering of Old Men*
- Hurston, Zora Neale. *Hitting a Straight Lick with a Crooked Stick: Stories from the Harlem Renaissance*
- Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
- Locke, Attica. *Bluebird, Bluebird*
- Mathis, Ayana. *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie*
- Morrison, Toni. *The Bluest Eye*
- Naylor, Gloria. *The Women of Brewster Place*
- Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple*
- Walker, Margaret. *Jubilee*
- Whitehead, Colson. *The Nickel Boys*

Celebrate Women’s History Month
March 1 - March 31 - Read a Good Book.

Celebrate strong, smart women in books and in your life. Read books featuring women of various backgrounds, viewpoints, and strength of character to enlighten and expand your world. These books, and more like them, are found at Hayner Library:

- *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate
- *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson
- *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker
- *Daughter of Fortune* by Isabel Allende
- *Enemy Women* by Paulette Jiles
- *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson
- *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah
- *The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood
- *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See
- *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd
- *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
- *Outlander* by Diana Gabaldon
- *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain
- *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant
- *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- *Sula* by Toni Morrison
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* by Ayana Mathis
- *Westering Women* by Sandra Dallas
- *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
- *The Women of Brewster Place* by Gloria Naylor

**Book Bundles: A Free Book Recommendation Service**

Book Bundles is a free book recommendation service offered by Hayner Library. We select books for you based on your reading preferences. Sign up now to get your first Book Bundle! You can drop the registration form off at either Hayner Library location (Downtown or Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall) and you will soon receive your bundle of books. The registration form is also offered online at www.haynerlibrary.org. For further information, contact reference@haynerlibrary.org or call (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849.
Genealogy & Local History Library

Please continue to contact us with all of your research 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.

Are you a student? Do you know a student who would be interested in interviewing a librarian about local history? Are you a teacher who would like to have your class ask questions about Alton area history? We are thrilled to let you know that we offer Zoom interviews with Genealogy & Local History staff members. We have recently done school project interviews and podcast interviews with elementary school, high school, and college students. Here is the link to a podcast interview Lacy McDonald did in October with YouthBuild/AmeriCorps at Lewis & Clark Community College: https://buildingfutures.libsyn.com/website/e18-the-hayner-public-library-district-a-dynamic-community-resource.

The Genealogy & Local History Library Branching Out 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.

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.

The Advancement of Alton, Illinois, A General City Plan Study for the Board of Trade (1914)

Alton City Directories (various years 1858-1923)

Art Loan Exhibition Catalogue. Art Loan exhibition given by the ladies of The First Presbyterian Church of Alton in Grove’s Hall, December 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1881. (1881)

Addresses & C by Thomas Dimmock (1894)

Lecture on Early Reminiscences of Alton: Delivered at Alton, Ill., in the Opera House, February, 21, 1896 (1896)

Class Poems: Alumnae, Memorials, Monticello Specials, Ramblers, Personsals (Intime) by Emily Gillmore Alden (1910)

Genealogy of the Loveland Family in The United States of America from 1635 to 1892 (1892)

An Index of Ancestors and Roll of Members of the Society of Colonial Wars: The Honor Roll, Services of Members of the Society During the World War, 1917-1918 (1922)

The Life and Public Services of Richard Yates, the War Governor of Illinois. A Lecture Delivered in the Hall of the House of Representatives, Springfield, Illinois, Tuesday Evening, March 1st, 1881 (1881)

Lovingly Contributed to Mrs. Cora D. Robland Upon the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary as Director by the Members of The Dominant Ninth Choral Society (1917)

Memorial Volume of the Diamond Jubilee of St. Louis University, 1829-1904 (1904)

Patriotism in Poetry and Prose: Being Selected Passages From Lectures and Patriotic Readings by James E. Murdoch (1866)

Photographic Views of the Great Cyclone at St. Louis, May 27, 1896: Giving a Graphic and Accurate Resume of Its Deadly and Destructive Work, by Means of the Pen and Camera (1896)

The Piasa, or, the Devil Among the Indians (1887)

The Pioneer History of Illinois: Containing the Discovery, in 1673, and the History of the Country to the Year Eighteen Hundred and Eighteen, When the State Government was Organized (1852)

Proceedings: of the State Convention of Colored Citizens of the State of Illinois: Held in the City of Alton, Nov. 13th, 14th and 15th, 1856 (1856)

The Spirit of Labor (1907)

Transactions of the Illinois State Agricultural Society (covers years 1853-1870)

Transactions of the Illinois State Horticultural Society (covers years 1862-1924)

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/. 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.

We are also still working to make more resources available online. We are digitizing out-of-copyright books from our Illinois Room collection. We have over 200 items in our archive.org collection, including yearbooks, city directories, local church histories, organization minutes written in script, and souvenir programs. 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_ampa Local History Library

The Genealogy & Local History Library has secured an extension of remote access to Ancestry Library Edition through at least March 31, 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’re also extremely excited about partnering with the Edwardsville Public Library and the Madison County Historical Society for the 2020 Historian Project (https://www.edwardsilledlibrary.org/teen-historian-challenge).

We miss seeing you at the Genealogy & Local History Library and we hope you have over 200 items in our archive.org collection, including yearbooks, city directories, local church histories, organization minutes written in script, and souvenir programs. 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_ampa_local_history_library

We’re also extremely excited about partnering with the Edwardsville Public Library and the Madison County Historical Society for the 2020 Historian Project (https://www.edwardsilledlibrary.org/teen-historian-challenge).

We miss seeing you at the Genealogy & Local History Library and we hope you have all staying healthy and having good luck in your research!
**Virtual Story Times** – Virtual story times, designed for young patrons ages 2–7, will be available at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays (Mary Kay’s Story Time) and Thursdays (Stories & Puppets) on the Hayner Library Facebook page. Mary Kay’s Story Time dates are: Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19, and 26; February 2, 9, 16, and 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2021. Stories & Puppets dates are: Thursdays, January 7, 14, 21, and 28; February 4, 11, 18, and 25; March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2021. These themed story times will offer children the opportunity to read books, sing songs, perform fingerplays, and watch puppet shows. Visit www.facebook.com/HaynerLibrary each week to view the virtual story times.

**Virtual Legos @ Your Library** – On the second Thursday of each month, we will post a theme on our Facebook page. Participants then have one week to create a Lego build-at-home and email a picture to child.programming@haynerlibrary.org. We will pick a few staff favorites each week to post on our Facebook page. Be sure to check the Hayner Library Facebook page the following week to see if your creation is featured! Dates for this program are January 14, February 11, and March 11, 2021. Visit www.facebook.com/HaynerLibrary each week to view the Lego challenges and featured challenge submissions.

**Take-Home Crafts** – Each Thursday young patrons ages 3–8 will be offered a take-home craft from Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall. Dates for craft distribution are Thursdays, January 7, 14, 21, and 28; February 4, 11, 18, and 25; March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2021. The craft will be available for pick-up at 10:00 a.m. We will have a limited amount of each craft. We will offer crafts until they are all gone.

**Easter Basket Giveaway** – Stop by KidsSpace at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall and see if you can guess how many chocolate eggs are in our jar. The closest guess will win a fun themed Easter basket full of yummy candy, books, and a plush bunny. Guessing begins Monday, March 22, 2021 and ends Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. We will notify our winner by phone on Thursday, April 1, 2021.

**BYOB TEEN BOOK CLUB**

Hey, teens! Come join Hayner Library’s “Bring Your Own Book” book club. Once a month, get together with other teens online to share your thoughts about that month’s read. Meetings will be held via Zoom on Wednesdays, January 6, February 3, and March 3, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. For more information, or to join, please call Shannon at (618) 433-2872.

**TEEN CRAFT**

Do you love making crafts? If so, stop by Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall and pick up a teen take-home craft. Each month’s craft will feature a different theme. Dates are: Tuesdays, January 19, February 23, and March 23, 2021.

**REEL VIRTUAL MOVIE EXPERIENCE**

This program is for teens in middle school and high school (grades six through twelve). Please join other teens while watching a new release. We’ll host this movie through Discord on Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. Please call (618) 433-2872 to register. Please register by Thursday, January 21, 2021, to receive your invite to Discord. Each participant will be offered a snack bag for the movie. Snack bags can be picked up at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall beginning Wednesday, January 27, 2021, through showtime. Don’t forget to register at (618) 433-2872.

**TEEN BOOK CRATE PROGRAM**

Hey, Hayner teens! Subscribe to our new fun-to-open book subscription crate service. Which book will you receive? Each month we will supply you with a new-release book based on your reading preferences, as well as some surprise items. When you have enjoyed your book, simply return it (and the box) for a new selection.

Registration is easy! Simply fill out a My Library Crate book form and drop it off at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall. Registration is also available online at https://www.haynerlibrary.org/kids-teens/teenspace. The library will do the rest!

This program is restricted to Hayner Library cardholders ages 12–18 only. Once contacted, participants have five days to pick up their checked-out book crate from Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall.

**HARRY POTTER VIRTUAL EVENT**

We are thrilled to announce “Discover the Secrets of Diagon Alley” as the theme of this year’s Harry Potter Book Night 2021. Make a date in your diary for Saturday, February 20, 2021, at 10:30 a.m., when once again, fans will have the chance to celebrate J.K. Rowling’s wonderful series. Teens and their families will have the opportunity to join a chef from Sticky Fingers Cooking as they create the following Harry Potter-themed recipe online: golden snitch pineapple cake pops with fast-as-lightning pineapple icing and Madame Pomfrey’s iced pineapple smoothie. To participate in this online cooking class, please register with Shannon no later than Wednesday, February 3, 2021. Hayner Library will contact you before the class with a shopping list and instructions for the recipes. To register, please call (618) 433-2872 or e-mail shannon.french@haynerlibrary.org.

**VALENTINE’S DAY “NAILED IT”**

On February 11, 2021, teens and tweens can join us at 4:00 p.m. on Zoom to participate in this fun virtual challenge. Teens will have 20 minutes to decorate two cupcakes. The secret design will be given at the beginning of the Zoom call. Teens will be asked to have supplies on hand before the challenge begins. A $25.00 gift card will be given to the winning design. To register, please call Shannon at (618) 433-2861 or e-mail shannon.french@haynerlibrary.org by Wednesday, February 10, 2021. You will receive a supply list and your Zoom invitation when you register.
Reading Lists for Upcoming Special Dates

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Children
- *I Have a Dream* by Kadir Nelson (illustrator)
- *My Daddy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Martin Luther King III
- *A Sweet Smell of Roses* by Angela Johnson
- *Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop* by Alice Faye Duncan
- *Child of the Civil Rights Movement* by Paula Young Shelton
- *As Good as Anybody* by Richard Michelson
- *Martin Rising: Requiem For a King* by Andrea Davis Pinkney
- *Martin’s Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Doreen Rappaport
- *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson

Adults
- *Citizen: An American Lyric* by Claudia Rankine
- *Let the Trumpet Sound: A Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Stephen Oates
- *All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds
- *Strength to Love* by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?* by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- *Behind the Dream: The Making of the Speech that Transformed a Nation* by Clarence B. Jones
- *My Life, My Love, My Legacy* by Coretta Scott King
- *Freedom's Daughters: The Unsung Heroines of the Civil Rights Movement From 1830 to 1970* by Lynne Olson
- *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63* by Taylor Branch

Young Adults
- *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone
- *The Rock and the River* by Kekla Magoon
- *March: Book One* by John Lewis
- *The Radical King* by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- *Loving Vs. Virginia: A Documentary Novel of the Landmark Civil Rights Case* by Patricia Powell
- *The Freedom Summer Murders* by Don Mitchell
- *Warriors Don’t Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock’s Central High* by Melba Beals
- *Brave, Black, First: 50+ African American Women Who Changed the World* by Cheryl Hudson
- *Just Mercy: Adapted for Young People: A True Story of the Fight for Justice* by Bryan Stevenson
- *Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March* by Lynda Lowery

VALENTINE’S DAY

Children
- *Snowy Valentine* by David Petersen
- *Junie B. Jones and the Mushy Gusby Valentine* by Barbara Park
- *Happy Valentine’s Day, Mouse!* by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- *Love Monster* by Rachel Bright
- *Llama Llama I Love You* by Anna Dewdney
- *Groundhog Day* by Anne Marie Pace
- *Click, Clack, Moo: I Love You!* by Doreen Cronin
- *Duck ‘n’ Pug: The Love Bug* by Jennifer Gordon Sattler
- *The Love Letter* by Anika Denise
- *You’re My Little Cuddle Bug* by Nicola Edwards

Young Adults
- *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell
- *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* by Jenny Han
- *The Geography of You and Me* by Jennifer E. Smith
- *When Dimple Met Rishi* by Sandhya Menon
- *Meant to Be* by Lauren Morrill
- *Geekarella* by Ashley Poston
- *Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon
- *Opposite of Always* by Justin A. Reynolds
- *You Know Me Well* by Nina LaGour
- *Fire* by Kristin Cashore

Adult
- *Unmarriageable* by Soniah Kamal
- *The Wedding Date* by Jasmine Guillory
- *The Boyfriend Project* by Farrah Rochon
- *When Katie Met Cassidy* by Camille Perri
- *Convenience Store Woman* by Sayaka Murata
- *The Hating Game* by Sally Thorne
- *The Kiss Quotient* by Helen Hoang
- *An Extraordinary Union* by Alyssa Cole
- *Love Your Life* by Sophie Kinsella
- *A Duke, the Lady, and a Baby* by Vanessa Riley

Presidents’ Day

Young Readers
- *So You Want to Be President?* by Judith St. George
- *I am Abrahalm Lincoln* by Brad Meltzer
- *I am George Washington* by Brad Meltzer
- *Those Rebels, John and Tom* by Barbara Kerley
- *Grace for President* by Kelly DiPucchio
- *Presidents’ Day* by Anne Rockwell
- *Arthur Meets the President* by Marc Brown
- *The White House* (Fly Guy Presents series) by Tedd Arnold
- *What Presidents Are Made Of* by Hanoch Piven
- *Our Country’s Presidents* by Ann Bausum

Adults
- *Speeches and Writings, 1859-1865* by Abraham Lincoln
- *Speeches of the American Presidents* by Janet Podell and Steven Anzovin (editors)
- *Grant* by Ron Chernow
- *Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution* by Nathaniel Philbrick
- *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* by Edmund Morris
- *Presidents of War* by Michael R. Beschloss
- *Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow
- *You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington* by Alexis Coe
- *Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America, 1789-1989* by Michael R. Beschloss
Nonfiction—

Asprey, Dave. Fast This Way: Burn Fat, Heal Inflammation, and Eat Like the High-Performing Human You Were Meant to Be

Axe, Dr. Josh. Ancient Remedies: Secrets to Healing with Herbs, Essential Oils, CBD, and the Most Powerful Natural Medicine in History

Bergreen, Laurence. In Search of a Kingdom: Francis Drake, Elizabeth I, and the Perilous Birth of the British Empire


Cameron, Julia. The Listening Path: The Creative Art of Attention (Artist’s Way)


Duster, Michelle. Ida B. the Queen: The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of Ida B. Wells

Gates, Henry Louis, Jr. Our Song: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song

Grant, Adam. Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don’t Know

Gundry, Steven R., M.D. The Plant Paradox: What to Do When Your Get-Up-And-Go Has Got Up and Gone (Plant Paradox)

Gupta, Sanjay, M.D. Keep Sharp: Build a Better Brain at Any Age

Hyman, Mark, M.D. The Pegan Diet: 21 Practical Principles for Reclaiming Your Health in a Nutritionally Confusing World


Lamott, Anne. Dusk, Night, Dawn: On Revival and Courage

Larman, Alexander. The Crown in Crisis: Countdown to the Abdication

Lieber, Ron. The Price You Pay for College: An Entirely New Road Map for the Biggest Financial Decision Your Family Will Ever Make

Lofitis, Larry. The Princess Spy: The True Story of World War II Spy Alina Griffith, Countess of Romanones

McElroy, Justin. Everybody Has a Podcast (Except You): A How-To Guide from the First Family of Podcasting

Nimura, Janice P. The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women and Women to Medicine

Patterson, James. Till Murder Do Us Part

Patterson, James. Walk in My Combat Boots: True Stories from America’s Bravest Warriors

Rosen, Ira. Ticking Clock: Behind the Scenes at 60 Minutes

Stewart, Martha. Martha Stewart’s Very Good Things: Clever Tips & Genius Ideas for an Easier, More Enjoyable Life

Taraborrelli, J. Randy. Grace & Steel: Dorothy, Barbara, Laura, and the Women of the Bush Dynasty

Teichner, Martha. When Harry Met Minnie: A True Story of Love and Friendship

Tyson, Cicely. Just as I Am: A Memoir

Weir, Alison. Queens of the Crusades: England’s Medieval Queens

Winchester, Simon. Land: How the Hunger for Ownership Shaped the Modern World

Wise, Beau. Three Wise Men: A Navy SEAL, a Green Beret, and How Their Marine Brother Became a War’s Sole Survivor

Fiction—

Andrews, V. C. The Umbrella Lady

Atkins, Ace. Robert B. Parker’s Someone to Watch Over Me (Spenser)

Benjamin, Melanie. The Children’s Blizzard

Berenson, Alex. The Power Couple

Berry, Steve. The Kaiser’s Web

Brennan, Allison. Tell No Lies (Quinn & Costa)

Child, Lincoln. The Scorpion’s Tail (Nora Kelly)

Childs, Laura. Egg Shooters

Childs, Laura. Haunted Hibiscus (Tea Shop Mystery)

Coben, Harlan. Win

Cornwell, Patricia. Spin (Captain Chase)

Cussler, Clive. Fast Ice (NUMA Files)

Dailey, Janet. Calder Brand

De Rosnay, Tatiana. Flowers of Darkness

Deveraux, Jude. Meant to Be

Dorsey, Tim. Tropic of Stupid

Evansovich, Janet. The Bounty (Fox and O’Hare)

Feehan, Christine. Lightning Game (Ghostwalker)

Finch, Charles. An Extravagant Death (Charles Lenox)

Fluke, Joanne. Triple Chocolate Cheesecake Murder

Gardner, Lisa. Before She Disappeared

Graham, Heather. Danger in Numbers

Greenay, Mark. Relentless (Gray Man)

Griffiths, Elly. The Postscript Murders

Grippando, James. Twenty: A Jack Swyteck Novel

Hannah, Kristin. The Four Winds

Harper, Jane. The Survivors

Harris, Charlaine. The Russian Cage

Hart, John. The Unwilling

Hawkins, Rachel. The Wife

Upstairs

Hood, Joshua. Robert Ludlum’s The Treadstone Exile

Hurwitz, Gregg. Prodigal Son: An Orphan X Novel

Jance, J. A. Missing and
Kate Hayner: A Dedicated Benefactor of Hayner Memorial Library

By Robyn Couch Harders and Lacy McDonald

Laura Scott Hayner (1823–1859), Jennie Drury Hayner (1837–1888), and Mary Caroline Keith (Kate) Hayner (1827–1917) were the three wives of John E. Hayner, a self-made Alton businessman and philanthropist who donated the money that built our original library building, now the Genealogy & Local History Library, at 401 State Street. Laura Hayner is best known as the mother of Florence Hayner Haskell and grandmother of Lucy Haskell. She died young. Jennie D. Hayner and Kate Hayner were both very involved in the community and instrumental in the creation and continuation of what is now The Hayner Public Library District. The nineteenth annual Vintage Voices performance at the Alton City Cemetery in October 2020 included fantastic performances by Diana Kay, Gabi Maul, and Robyn Couch Harders as Laura Scott Hayner, Jennie D. Hayner, and Kate Keith Hayner.

Because our building was named for Jennie D. Hayner, Jennie is often the first person Altonians associate with the library, but Kate was a dedicated contributor of time, energy, and money, and The Hayner Public Library District would not be what it is today without her support at the turn of the century.

Mary Caroline Keith Hayner, called Kate, was born on March 28, 1846 in Sheldon, Vermont to Alfred and Anna Keith. After her formative education, she became a teacher herself and taught for over twenty years in select Eastern schools for girls.

In the fall of 1892, Kate met Mr. John Hayner while he was visiting the Pittsburgh area. She was forty-six and he was sixty-five. They fell in love and married on December 14 of that same year, and Kate made Alton her new home.

Kate took to Alton and its people quickly. She enjoyed meeting people from all walks of life and helping them in any way that she could. She and Florence (who by this time was married and often listed as Mrs. William Haskell in newspaper articles) grew close, and often hosted social events together. One of Kate’s favorite things to do was to help provide the holiday meals for the residents of the local Women’s Home. She always proudly made two turkeys and the cranberry sauce.

John Hayner was a spiritual man, but didn’t regularly attend church. But Kate did, and she became deeply involved in her adopted church, St. Paul’s Episcopal. She helped with projects such as the Dominant Ninth Choral Society and the beautification of the church and its parsonage.

The Hayner family was deeply committed to the library and it was only natural that Kate should take up Jennie’s mantle. In fact, Jennie and Kate were distant cousins! In 1894, Kate became a member of the board of the Jennie D. Hayner Library Association, and eventually became president of the Board.

John’s love and vision for the library was ever present, and when he proposed to provide the library with an endowment in 1901, Kate and John’s daughter Florence encouraged him and cheered him on. The endowment and proposal were extraordinary: it would allow the library to operate as a “free library,” without charging membership fees or accepting tax support, which was unheard of at the time.

After John’s death in 1903, the endowment was completed by Kate, Florence, Florence’s husband Dr. William Haskell, and their son, John A. Haskell. John A. Haskell was John Hayner’s only surviving grandchild. In 1907, the younger John donated an additional $13,000 to build the library annex, an addition which doubled the size of the building.

Also in 1907, Kate established the first children’s department in the library. Children’s services in a public library was a new and innovative idea. Many libraries did not see the value in having a children’s collection, but Kate made sure that our library provided books and services to all Alton residents, even the very young. Many of Kate’s personal books, adorned with her book plates, can still be viewed in the library.

Kate was active in the library until a long illness confined her to her home for several months. She passed away on February 3, 1917. When she died, her obituary included this quote from one of her closest friends, “No worthy cause ever appealed to Mrs. Hayner in vain but were sure to have her loving sympathy and generous support.”

Mystery Authors You May Have Overlooked

Looking for a new mystery author? You may have missed these authors. Some write police procedurals in a series, some of them write thrillers or suspense mysteries, and others feature amateur sleuths. The settings vary from the United States, England, Cambodia, Tibet, and elsewhere. Whether you like your mysteries soft-boiled, hard-boiled, or traditional, you can find something here to satisfy your tastes!

- Alan Bradley. The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie (Flavia de Luce series)
- Simon Brett. The Body on the Beach (Fethering series)
- Ann Cleeves. Raven Black (Shetland series)
- Colin Cotterill. The Coroner’s Lunch (Dr. Siri Paiboun series)
- Phillip DePoy. The Witch’s Grave (Fever Devlin series)
- Allen Eskens. The Life We Bury (Detective Max Rupert series)
- E.X. Ferrars. A Hobby of Murder (Andrew Basnett series)
- Michael Koryta. Those Who Wish Me Dead (thriller, suspense)
- William Kent Krueger. Iron Lake (Cork O’Connor series)
- Donna Leon. Death in a Strange Country (Commissario Brunetti series)
- Attica Locke. Bluebird, Bluebird (Highway 59 series)
- G.M. Malliet. Wicked Autumn (Max Tudor series)
- Sharyn McCrumb. She Walks These Hills (Ballad series)
- Eliot Pattison. Bones of the Earth (Inspector Shan Tao Yun series)
- Louise Penny. Still Life (Chief Inspector Gamache series)
- Ruth Rendell. Harm Done (Inspector Wexford series)
- Dorothy Simpson. Suspicious Death (Inspector Thanet series)
- Charles Todd. A Divided Loyalty (Inspector Ian Rutledge series)
- Minette Walters. The Ice House (psychological suspense)

For more information on these authors and others, please contact the Reference department at reference@haynerlibrary.org or call (618) 462-0677, ext. 2849.
A New Online Crafting and Arts Video Service – Creativebug

Hayner Library is happy to announce the newest addition to our digital collection: 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 on drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, baking, 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.

Creativebug is a great way to spend time this winter. Be inspired to learn a new hobby—or hone your existing skills. Enjoy!