

April/May News



Ongoing Events for Adults

Death Cafe and Navigating Grief Book Club, 2nd Saturday. Talk: 11 am to 1pm, Book Club: 1 to 2pm. Watts-Midtown Branch. Led by Jackie Hauer, Sacred Mournings.

Knitting Club: 3rd Monday, 2 pm to 4 pm, Downtown Library. April 21 and May 19. Bring a project to work on in company!

Downtown Movie Club: 3rd Thursday. Movies and popcorn, **April 17: Woman in Gold** (2015) and **May 15. A Complete Unknown** (2024). 1 pm to 3pm, Downtown Library.

Silent Book Club: 3rd Thursday, 5:30 pm, Watts-Midtown.

Seniors Read Banned Books: 4th Tuesday. 2pm, Downtown. April 29: I Am Not your Perfect Mexican Daughter, Erika Sanchez; May 27: Flamer, by Mike Curato.

Additional book clubs on page 3

Last Tuneful Tuesday until Winter!

Tues, April 1
(no foolin'!)
Noon to 1 pm
Downtown Library



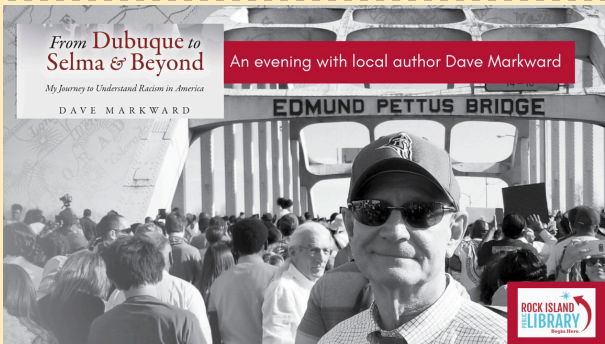
Featuring Deborah Dakin & Friends!



Deborah is an Augustana adjunct assistant professor, Viola, and principal violist for the QC Symphony Orchestra.

Sponsored by James & Carol Horstmann

Free & Open to the Public.
Suitable for All Ages!



Rescheduled Again! From Dubuque to Selma & Beyond, with Dave Markward:

MONDAY, April 7,
6 pm, Watts-Midtown


A powerful memoir by a former RIMSD #41 superintendent that explores his personal journey and the complexities of race in America.



Film & Discussion:
Free for All, The Public Library
Tuesday, April 8
2pm to 3:30 pm
Downtown Library






Story of the U.S. public library system, from the quiet revolutionaries who made it happen, to the stories that happen inside. Presented with ITVS, Independent Lens, during National Library Week!



Drawn to the Library

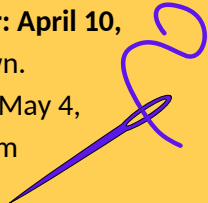
National Library Week
April 6-12, 2025



Sewing/Crafts for Adults:

- **Mental Health Journal Cover:** April 10, 10:30 to 12:30 pm, Downtown.
- **Paper Flower Arrangement,** May 4, Watts-Midtown, 5pm-7:30 pm

Registration Required!



April/May 2025

Library Services & Events, Page 2



**Grow with
your library!**

Spring Vegetable Gardening Series

University of Illinois Extension classes, 11 am to 12:30 pm, Watts-Midtown Branch. Free!

- **April 7:** Warm Season Vegetables
- **April 21:** Insects & Diseases

Native Plant Gardening

April 24 2 pm–3pm

Watts–Midtown Branch

Free! Presented by Ken Wellnitz, QC Wild Ones chapter



**The Art of Foraging with
Alexis Nikole Nelson**

Thu, Apr 10 | 7 PM

This event is made possible by ILP, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering high-quality events.

April Illinois Libraries

Present Author:

Thurs, April 10 | 7pm

**Free, register at library
website or call.**

Funded in part by grant from the Illinois State Library, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

Meet Harriet Tubman

**2pm, April 16
Downtown**

Movie. Go behind the legend to meet the inspiring woman who risked her own life and freedom to liberate others from bondage. Free.



Formal portrait taken post-Civil War, Library of Congress image

Coffee & Conversations

MEET NEIGHBORS
CREATE COMMUNITY

**10 am –
Noon**



April 10 & 24

May 8 & 22

Southwest Branch

Smart Strategies for Aging in Place

**With Dr. Cathy
Rosenbaum**



**Friday, April 18
2pm – 3:30 pm,
Downtown Library**

Review options for graceful aging at home, resources, and support services for optimal wellness.

**Tea Blending
Workshop
Sat, April 19**



**11 am to 1 pm, also
Downtown Library
Registration required**

Tea-blending fun with Sunlight Apothecary's owner Rebecca Sebastian. Call or sign up online.

April/May '25

Library events for adults/all ages



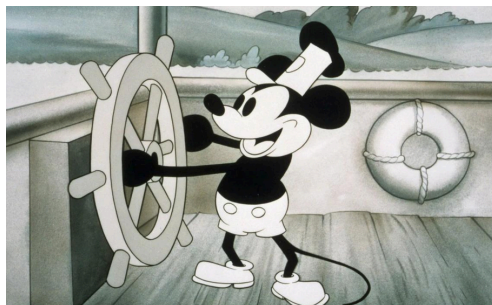
The Birth of Mickey Mouse

Part 1: April 30

Part 2: May 7

2 pm, Downtown

Vintage cartoons, now in the public domain. See calendar for running order.



Visit Our Seed Library!

Full collection: Downtown: Seed bundles: Southwest or Watts-Midtown Branches. Free, 5 packets/1 bundle per month.



April Book Sale

Friday & Saturday 10 am to 1 pm on:
April 25/26

Rock Island Downtown Library

More dates: www.rockislandlibrary.org



Monster Movie Monday

April 21, 6pm-7:30 pm

Bride of Frankenstein



May 19, 5:30 to 7:30 pm,
Love and Monsters, PG-13



Both at Watts-Midtown Branch



Rock Island Arsenal Series

250 Years of the US Army

April 9 & May 14
2pm, Downtown



Army Sustainment Command historians explore 250-year history of the US Army:

- April 9: Army Expeditionary Forces
- May 14: WW1 and a Modern Army

2pm, Downtown. Free, open to anyone

Nutrition and Wellness Series Starts May 15!



2pm-3pm, Watts-Midtown Branch

Healthy behaviors for a healthy immune system. Ages 18 plus.

See calendar for June/July.



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

More Book Clubs:



- Midtown Readers: 3rd Tues, Watts-Midtown
- Alpha Book Club: 1st Mon., Downtown
- Southwest Book Club: 4th Wed, at Southwest

More info: www.rockislandlibrary.org | 309-732-READ

April/May News

Events for Teens, Kids, Adults



More Illinois Libraries Present Authors

Free. Register online or call



Art and Adventures
with Author/Illustrator
Dan Santat

May 3: Dan Santat, youth
author/illustrator, 2pm
online: For school ages/teens.



Poverty: A Discussion with
Matthew Desmond

May 13: Matthew Desmond,
on poverty, 7 pm, online.
For adults.

Learn how to use our Cricut Heat Press!

Tues, April 22
5:30-7:30pm
Watts-Midtown



Bring a t-shirt or small item, and
we'll show you how to use our
Library of Things Cricut Heat Press.
Teens and Adults welcome!

Elementary

AFTERSCHOOL Activity

3:30-4:30PM

Tuesdays @ Watts-Midtown

Thursdays @ Southwest



Library2Go Routes



Mondays:

- Martin Luther King Center: 1:30-2:30pm
- Lions Club: 3pm to 4pm

Thursdays:

- Centennial Shelter (Big Island): 1:30 - 2:30 pm

See website for school stops

Teen Voices

Watts-Midtown

Branch:

Sat, Apr. 19/May 17!

- **Teen Graphic Novel**

Book Club, 11 am:

Apr: Satoko & Nada, Vol 1

May: A first time for everything

- **Teen Advisory Group,**

11:30 am

Donuts & bagels provided! Earn
volunteer service hours.



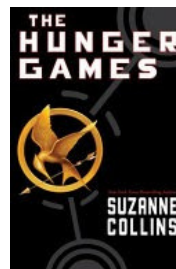
Hunger Games

Escape Room

Apr 25, 28, 29

5 pm-8pm

Southwest



Game for 3 to 6 tributes, ages 10
and up. 45 minutes per group. May
the odds be ever in your favor!
Reservations required, Emily will
contact you for a time slot.

Preschool Ages:

- **Toddler Storytimes:** 10:30 am
Tues/Fri at Watts-Midtown;
11 am most Wednesdays at
Southwest.
- **Petite Picassos:** Apr 9 and
May 14 at 11 am, Southwest
- **Family Storytime,** Apr 16 and
May 21, 6 pm,
Watts-Midtown.



May Extra News



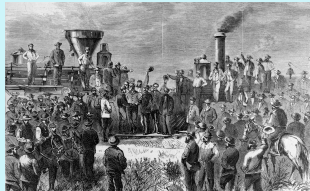
**READ ALL
THE COMICS!**

**Free
Comic
Book Day!
Sat, May 3**

Downtown Library

Grab a free comic while they last. Sign up for a **free drawing class with Bill Douglas, 12:30 to 2 pm.** Register for class: open to school age, teens, adults, family.

**The Transcontinental
Railroad - and the Workers
Who Made It
May 6, 2 pm
Downtown
Library**

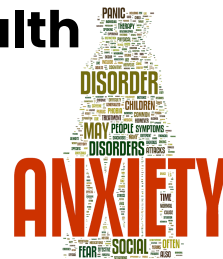


Video travelogue.
Rich history of railroads via a 3,000 mile journey. Includes a tribute to the Chinese workers whose labor, among others, made the national project possible.

**Mental Health
Spotlight:
Anxiety**

**May 22 at
6 pm-7pm
Watts-Midtown Br**

Join us as certified mental health therapist from Vera French Mental Health Center shines a light on anxiety in teens and adults.



May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Genesisius Guild Presents:

**Tues, May 13
6pm to 7:30 pm
Watts-Midtown Branch**

"Sounds and Sweet Airs"
A readers' theater "super cut" of Shakespeare's greatest works. Celebrate Shakespeare!



Founded in 1956, Genesisius Guild presents free live theater every summer weekend at Lincoln Park. Check it out at genesius.org

**Celebrating Artist Mary Cassatt with
Gloria Burlingame**



**Sat, May 17, 11:30am-1:30 pm
Downtown Library**

Celebrate Cassatt's life and art with this soft pastel class for adults. Register starting May 3!

Retirement University



**6:30 pm, Watts-Midtown
Branch**

- **May 21: Social Security & Medicare**
- **May 28: Investments & Taxes**
- **June 4: Estates, Long-term Care, Legacy Planning**

Presented by the Society for Financial Awareness (SOFA)
Free, open to all!

Libraries closed May 26 for Memorial Day. Visit us Online!

More for you

ROCK ISLAND
PUBLIC LIBRARY
Begin Here.

Get ready for summer: Free Summer Reading Kickoff!

LEVEL
UP
AT YOUR
LIBRARY

THURS, MAY 29
4PM-6:30 PM

QC Botanical Center
2525 4th Ave, Rock Island

Register for summer
reading, free fun for all!



Check it out:



New Health and Wellness Library of Things Items!

Spring Flowers at Watts-Midtown!

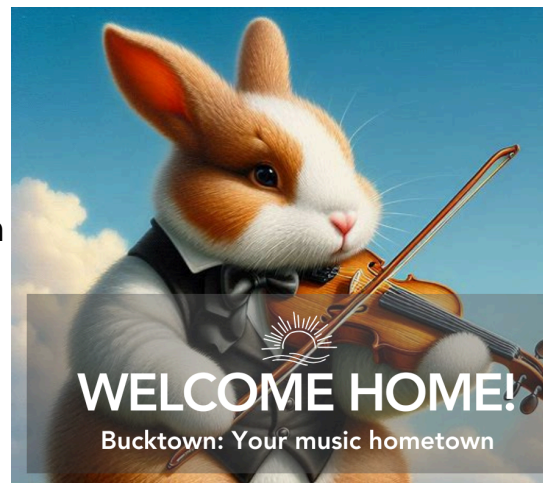


Thanks to a Rock Island Rotary fundraiser in honor of Rotarian Mary Fislar, we'll be installing outdoor musical sculptures in the Mayeski Reading Garden. Details coming soon!

New home for Bucktown!

Starting Friday, May 16 at 7pm, the Rock Island Library Watts-Midtown Branch auditorium will be the new home for the Bucktown Americana Music Show. (Their previous location is being redeveloped.)

This is a ticketed after-hours event.
For details, see
www.bucktownamericana.com



Free Gunlocks Available

Free gunlocks from the UTH Riders Foundation are available at the Downtown Reference Desk, while supplies last. Our thanks for Antaeus Simmons for these resources to help keep firearms safe at home!



Downtown Library | Southwest Branch | Watts-Midtown Branch | Library2Go | Online Services