NEA Big Read Peoria Reads! Chooses Silver Sparrow for 2017

Two teenage African-American girls living in 1980s Atlanta live very different lives, except for one thing they share: a father. One mother and daughter know of their father’s second family. What happens when the other mother and daughter find out?

Contemplate the dilemma brought to life in the beautifully written book Silver Sparrow by Tayari Jones during this year’s Peoria Reads! Ripe for discussion of family dynamics, truth and deception, Silver Sparrow is a book that lives up to Peoria Reads! goals. Sure to spark interest and thought, the book is being read across the city by book clubs, schools and individuals alike. To read an excerpt of the novel, visit arts.gov/writers-corner/bio/tayari-jones and for more information about Peoria Reads! visit www.peoriareads.org.

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America’s rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts and the agency is celebrating this milestone with events and activities through September 2016. Go to arts.gov/50th to enjoy art stories from around the nation, peruse Facts & Figures, and check out the anniversary timeline.

Arts Midwest promotes creativity, nurtures cultural leadership, and engages people in meaningful arts experiences, bringing vitality to Midwest communities and enriching people’s lives. Based in Minneapolis, Arts Midwest connects the arts to audiences throughout the nine-state region of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. One of six non-profit regional arts organizations in the United States, Arts Midwest’s history spans more than 25 years. For more information, please visit artsmidwest.org.
Peoria Reads! Author Tayari Jones to Visit

The author of Silver Sparrow, this year’s Peoria Reads! selection, Tayari Jones, will visit Peoria and meet with the public during two events. On Thursday, February 23 at Peoria Public Library Lincoln Branch, 6:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, February 25 at 1:00 p.m. at North Branch, Tayari Jones, will talk about her book, answer questions and sign books. Both events are free and open to the public.

Tayari Jones was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia where (with the exception of one year in Nigeria) she spent most of her childhood. Even though she has not lived in her hometown for more than a decade, most of her writing centers on the urban South. “Although I now live in the Northeast,” she explains, “my imagination lives in Atlanta.”

Silver Sparrow, her third novel, was published in 2011 by Algonquin Books. The Village Voice wrote that “Tayari Jones is fast defining black middle class Atlanta the way that Cheever did for Westchester.” The American Booksellers chose Silver Sparrow as the #1 Indie Next pick for June 2011. Library Journal, O Magazine, Slate and Salon all selected the novel among the best of the year. National media coverage of the book has included O Magazine, Vogue, Poets and Writers, and NPR’s All Things Considered, among other sources. In addition to being chosen by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association as an Honor Book, Silver Sparrow was nominated for an NAACP Image Award and the 2013 IMPAC Dublin International Literary Award.

A recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award in Fine Arts from the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Tayari Jones is a graduate of Spelman College, the University of Iowa, and Arizona State University. Her work has been supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the United States Artists Foundation and the arts councils of Arizona and Illinois. She spent the 2011-12 academic year at Harvard University as a Radcliffe Institute Fellow, researching her forthcoming novel, Dear History.

Getting Started in Genealogy by Amber Lowery

The holidays are over and boy, were they fun! The presents, the food, the stories... Especially the one about how Uncle Harold proposed to Aunt Mabel after two days of knowing each other... wow! But that’s got you thinking too...what other great stories does your family know? And just WHO was that couple in that one picture in Grandma Marie’s hallway? Do you know your family stories? Are you sure? The holiday season is a great time of year to collect these stories to pass on to the next generation, but what do you do with them once you have them? How accurate are they? And do you really know just how you and Cousin Sue are related?

Maybe a quick trip to the library to check out Ancestry Library Edition or updating your library card so that you can check out Heritage Quest from home will solve your mystery. Then again, it might also help you figure out where your mom got that ‘family’ name she suggested for your son. It also may lead you on an exciting adventure of fleeing families, new worlds, dangerous travels and clashing cultures. Did your family flee persecution, war, famine? Were your ancestors pioneers to the Great Plains? Did they have itchy feet and desire to move on to the next great thing?

The Local History and Genealogy staff at the Main Library are more than happy to help you discover your family history and to guide you through the sometimes murky trails of tracing your ancestors. We have many resources and ideas to try and aid your search. Please come down and see us sometime soon so that you can get started on exploring your roots and branches.

The Sign Language Storytelling Series is Now Available at Peoria Public Library

Peoria Public Library has a new DVD series, The Sign Language Storytelling Series, that can be enjoyed by both deaf and hearing children. These DVDs have original music, voice and sign language and include read-along text, ASL vocabulary, an interactive quiz and activity guide. Titles in the series are: Big Al by Andrew Clements; A Creature Was Stirring, One Boy’s Night Before Christmas, Blue Burt and Wiggles by Derek Anderson; There’s Something In My Attic by Mercer Mayer; Little Quack by Lauren Thompson; Five Little Monkeys, Jumping on the Bed by Eileen Christelow; and Gladys Goes Out to Lunch by Derek Anderson. These DVDs are available to check out at the Main Library and the North Branch. You may also reserve them and have them sent to the branch closest to you.

Correction: We are sorry, the description of the Music in the McKenzie band for August 20 was incorrect in the January Passages.

February Children’s Book Review
by Madison Gailus

Hug Machine By Scott Campbell
Watch out! Here comes the hug machine! A small boy dubs himself the hug machine after he decides that everyone and everything can benefit from a hug. Hugs can calm people down and cheer them up. They can make the biggest feel small and the smallest feel big.

Everything from moody teenagers, to police officers, to benches and trees and balloons get a hug. Even the ever-so-spiky porcupine finds himself in the loving embrace of the hug machine after he’s donned some oven mitts, a facemask and pillow for protection. Images are done in soft watercolors with white spaces and handwritten text that only adds to the warmth of book. Adamently, we don’t want our children hugging strangers but the main message is clear, hugs can make the world a better place.

(Picture Book, PreS- Grade 2) –

February
by Robin Helenthal

Norse Mythology by Neil Gaiman brings to life the great Norse myths. The story begins with the great Norse king, Odin and his sons Thor (the strong) and Loki (the trickster). Gaiman stays true to the myths telling of the legend of the nine worlds and then moving on to the exploits of the deities, dwarfs and giants that inhabit these worlds. Gaiman covers myths from Thor and his powerful hammer, to Kvasir, the god whose blood is turned into mead that fills the drinkers minds with poetry. He closes the book with the story of Ragnarok, which is the twilight of the gods and the beginning of a new time and people.

The Typewriters Tale: A Novel by Michiel Heyns tells the story of Frieda Wroth, the typist of the great writer Henry James. Although she admires the writer, she feels very insignificant and not very appreciated for the work she does. When Morton Fullerton comes to visit James, he flatters the young woman by asking her to do him a favor but this causes conflict with Edith Wharton and compromises her dependability to James. Henry James had a saying: “Live all you can; it’s a mistake not to” and in this novel Frieda tries to do just that.

In honor of

PRESIDENTS’ DAY

All locations will be closed
MondAy, FEBRUARY 20

North Branch always closed Tuesday

My Not So Perfect Life: A Novel by Sophie Kinsella begins with Katie Brenner envying the life that her boss Demeter Farlowe lives. Demeter has cool clothes, lives with her perfect family and is both dazzling and artistic, all the things that Katie longs for. Katie moved to London to pursue her dreams but has ended up with offbeat roommates and a stressful job. When things seem to be looking up, Demeter fires Katie and she beats a hasty retreat back home to Somerset where she works with her family to set up a vacation business. Demeter shows up as a guest and Katie starts to question what really makes a truly successful, meaningful life. This novel is a clever critique of the judgments we make in our social media fixated world.
January 29 to February 1
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Will He See His Shadow?
Thursday, February 2 is Groundhog Day!
Do you think the groundhog will see his shadow? Stop by and make one of our DIY groundhog and shadow crafts. On the back write if you think he'll see his shadow or not on Groundhog Day. Correct guesses will be entered into a drawing to win a gift certificate to Peoria Playhouse! The winner will be announced on Friday, February 3!

February
LAKEVIEW BRANCH & MCCLURE BRANCH
1 to 1 Tech Help
Pick a time slot that works with your schedule and provide some information about the computer or device you would like help with. At the meeting, a librarian will be ready to help and focus on you. Drop in or call to schedule your session.

February
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Mardi Gras Display
Stop by our Mardi Gras display to learn more and check out a book, movie or CD inspired by this fun holiday. Make-it Take-it masks will also be available while supplies last.

February
MCCLURE BRANCH
African-American Past, Present, and Future Reading Challenge
Explore African-American past, present, or future according to your interests with this reading challenge! Each week, you’ll be challenged to learn about an African-American individual or event of your choosing. There will be a display of books you can choose from, or library staff members are always happy to assist you in finding materials that interest you. Each week that you participate, you’ll receive a small prize and be entered into a drawing for a Barnes & Noble gift card. For grade school and older.

February
NORTH BRANCH
Black History Month Coloring Pages
Stop by the information desk to pick up a coloring page and learn some history! Each page will teach about an inventor, athlete, scientist, politician, or other person who made a difference in the world!

February
NORTH BRANCH
28 Days of Black History
Visit the Youth Services page of the Peoria Public Library website to explore the people and events that make up our Black Heritage and History.

February
MAIN LIBRARY
Crafts-to-Go – 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Kids ages 5-12 can pick up a craft packet at the 1st Information Desk. Pick up a Groundhog Day craft from Feb. 1-9.

February
MAIN LIBRARY
Valentine Seek and Find – 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Are you good at finding things? You can earn a piece of candy if you can find one of the paper hearts hidden all over the Children’s Room during the month of February. Children ages 3 through 10 are invited to give it a try. If you find a hidden heart turn it into the 1st Floor Information Desk for a candy treat. Limit one per day. While supplies last.

February
MAIN LIBRARY
Find the Wizard and Snap a Picture
Harry Potter is waiting for you to find him! He’ll be moving from place to place, so be sure to search for him each day and take a selfie with him! Show your selfie to a staff member at the Information Desk to get an entry slip for a chance to win a Barnes & Noble gift card! Share your picture with the Peoria Public Library Facebook page as well!

February
NORTH BRANCH
Don’t Judge a Book By Its Cover!
Not sure what to read? Take a chance and maybe you’ll fall in love with one of our books! Children of all ages.

February
NORTH BRANCH
Blind Date with a Book for Adults
Get in the Valentine’s Day mood by going on a blind date with a book! Visit our display and take home a new favorite!

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 8, 15 & 22
NORTH BRANCH
Brainy Baby Storytime – 1:30-2:00 p.m.
Develop your baby’s pre-literacy skills with this lapsit program, designed to introduce children and their caregivers to books, songs, rhymes and finger plays that will help them understand new concepts and enhance their love of learning. Caregivers will be encouraged to engage their child, making reading time fun. Age 0 to 23 months.

Wednesday, February 1
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Groundhog Day Celebration – 5:00-7:45 p.m.
Adults are invited to join us in making some Groundhog Day crafts, predict if Punxsutawney Phil will see his shadow, and take our trivia challenge! Crafts and games will be from 5:00 to 6:00. At 6:00, we’ll have a screening of Groundhog Day starring Bill Murray (1993, rated PG).
Wednesday, February 1
NORTH BRANCH
Harry Potter Trivia Night – 6:30-7:30 pm
Trivia night is back and this time we’re calling wizards and muggles of all ages to test your knowledge on the world of Harry Potter! Prizes will be awarded to the top scoring team! Please register your teams of 4 via email to programmingdept@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us by January 29. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult on their team. Space is limited, so please register soon! Spectators are welcome and costumes are encouraged!

February 2-7
LINCOLN BRANCH
Find the Fantastic Beasts
Go on an adventure to locate 8 Fantastic Beasts that have escaped and are roaming our shelves! Pick up your journal when you arrive, log your finds, and turn it in to the information desk to collect your reward for helping Newt track down his Fantastic Beasts!

Thursday, February 2, 9, 16, 23
MCCLURE BRANCH
Fun Time Storytime – 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

Thursday, February 2, 9, 16, 23
NORTH BRANCH
A-Z Storytime – 10:30-11:00 a.m.
Join us for letter-themed stories, songs, and crafts as we learn the shapes of letters and the sounds they make! Ages 2 to 3.

Thursday, February 2
LINCOLN BRANCH
Punxsutawney Party – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
For Tweens and Teens ages 10-18. It’s Groundhog Day, again! In celebration, we’ll watch the classic movie Groundhog Day (rated PG), learn to draw zentangles, try some trivia, and have a snack three ways. Thursday Nights Are For Teens!

Thursday, February 2
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Harry Potter Book Read Night – 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Join us as we celebrate the Harry Potter books with discussions, crafts, and more! Please register by calling 309-497-2150 or emailing programmingdept@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us.

Friday, February 3, 10, 17 & 24
NORTH BRANCH
Busy Bees Storytime – 10:30-11:00 a.m.
Children of all ages.

Friday, February 3, 10, 17 & 24
MCCLURE BRANCH
Friday Fun Game Night – 4:00-5:00 pm
Join us on Friday afternoons in February to play video, board, or card games, and more! Light snacks and drinks provided. Grade school and middle school ages welcome.

February 4-25
MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY
A Glimpse into Bradley University History
Get a glimpse into the long and fascinating history of Bradley University with items and images seldom seen off campus. Curated by Linda Aylward, Special Collections Assistant at the Cullom-Davis Library, the exhibit will explore topics including: Lydia Moss Bradley; early Bradley Polytechnic Institute; Bradley’s contributions to the war effort in WW I and II; the Manual Arts program; the School of Horology; growth of the school once it became a university; leadership through the 120-year history; the five colleges and graduate school at Bradley University today; campus life and a very brief look at history of athletics.

February 4 & 5
NORTH BRANCH
Valentine Cards for Seniors
Stop by our crafting table and put together a special card for somebody who will appreciate the love. All cards will be delivered to local nursing homes.

Saturday, Feb. 4, 11, 18 & 25
MCCLURE BRANCH
Black History Month Movie Series – 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Join us to learn about important black history events and figures with these stirring movies and a themed book display in the McClure Room. All movies in the series are rated PG-13, so bring age-appropriate family and friends, along with any (covered) drinks you might desire – water and popcorn provided!
February 4: Selma; February 11: Malcolm X; February 18: Race; February 25: Red Tails

Friday, February 3
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Laura Ingalls Wilder 150th Birthday Celebration – 1:00-3:00 p.m.
The girl who wrote about growing up in Little House on the Prairie would have been 150 years old on February 7. Celebrate her birthday by participating in crafts and games that Laura and her sisters would have enjoyed. Children of all ages welcome.

Saturday, February 4
NORTH BRANCH
Valentine’s Make It! Take It! – 12:00-5:00 p.m.
Drop in to make a Valentine’s Day craft for your “special someone.” While supplies last. Children of all ages welcome.

Saturday, February 4
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Front & Center: DIY Snowman Tote Bag – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Decorate your own snowman tote bag. Paint or draw to personalize your bag. While supplies last.
Tuesday, February 7
LINCOLN BRANCH
100th Day of School Celebration
Join us for fun activities, including: 100 second Exercise dance challenges; Stories and Songs about the number; 100; Making a number 100 cookie snack.
10:00 am-12:00 pm – Preschool Activities 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Grade School Activities 6:00-8:00 p.m. – High School Activities
Ages 3 to 6.

Tuesday, February 7, 14, 21, 28
LINCOLN BRANCH
Terrific Tattletale Storytime – 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

Tuesday, February 7, 14, 21, 28
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Preschool Storytime – 10:30-11:00 a.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

Tuesday, February 7
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Bibliophiles Book Club – 1:30-2:30 p.m.
This month: Fences by August Wilson

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28
LINCOLN BRANCH
A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture – 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Join us for films and display tables that will feature important contributions by African Americans to art, literature, sports and pop culture.
February 7: The Great Debaters
February 14: Race
February 21: Do the Right Thing

Wednesday, February 8
NORTH BRANCH
Lincoln Center Local: Free Screenings – 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Bringing intimate, exciting, and masterful performances from the New York Philharmonic, American Songbook, Great Performers, Out of Doors and more to audiences right here in your community! Join us each month as we view an exciting and entertaining FREE cultural event. Most screenings last approximately one hour. Major funding is provided by the Oak Foundation. Additional support is provided by the Altman Foundation and the Booth Ferris Foundation. For more information, call 309-497-2143.

February 9 & 14
LINCOLN BRANCH
Puppet Show: "Witch's Valentine" – 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

Thursday, February 9
LINCOLN BRANCH
Author Visit: Matt de la Peña – 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Newbery Medal-winning author Matt de la Peña is coming to Peoria! Learn about his award-winning book, Last Stop on Market Street, and purchase a signed copy. Parents and children will love this wonderful book about a little boy's adventure riding the city bus with his grandmother. A portion of the proceeds from book sales will benefit the Friends of Peoria Public Library.

Friday, February 10
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Toddler Art – 10:15-10:45 a.m.
Let your child explore the world of colors and shapes while learning fine motor skills along the way. Please dress for a mess. For ages 2-4 with a caregiver.

Friday, February 10
MCCLURE BRANCH
Valentine’s Make It! Take It! – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Drop by to make a special craft for someone you love! While supplies last.

Saturday, February 11
MCCLURE BRANCH
Valentine’s Make It! Take It! – 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Drop by to make a special craft for someone you love! While supplies last.

Saturday, February 11
LINCOLN BRANCH
Minecraft – 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Ages 8 to 14 can join us for Minecraft in the computer lab. Our theme for this month is “Let’s Build a Business.” Space is limited, so call 497-2600 to register.

Saturday, February 11
NORTH BRANCH
Music in the McKenzie Presents: The Brother Brothers – 2:00-4:00 p.m.
The Brother Brothers are a fiddle, cello, guitar harmony duo based out of Brooklyn, NY but born and raised in Peoria, IL. Get a preview at thebrotherbrothersmusic.com. A portion of CD sales support The Friends of Peoria Public Library.

Saturday, February 11
LINCOLN BRANCH
Front & Center: DIY Photo Pillow Cover – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Give mom the perfect Valentine’s Day gift by drawing and painting a pillow cover. Place your favorite photo or a beautiful keepsake card in photo area. While supplies last. Ages 10 to 12.

Sunday, February 12
NORTH BRANCH
Black History Month Movie – 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Join us for a showing of Selma (2015, PG-13). This retelling of the historic march from Selma, Alabama to the state capital to fight for equal voting rights was nominated for four Golden Globe Awards and two Academy Awards.

Monday, February 13
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Valentine’s Drop-in – 12:00-7:00 p.m.
Come make some valentines for your friends in celebration of February 14th. We’ll have all the supplies you’ll need to make a few cards to take home.

Monday, February 13
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Sci Fi & Fantasy Book Club – 6:30-7:30 p.m.
This month: The Rook by Daniel O’Malley

Monday, February 13
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
“Gal-entine’s” Day – 7:00-7:30 p.m.
Come celebrate everything girl friends by decorating your own journal to take home. Snacks will be provided. While supplies last. For ages 11 to 17.

Monday, February 13
NORTH BRANCH
Pajama Storytime – 7:00-7:45 p.m.
We’ll enjoy stories, songs, and a craft! Wear your pajamas and bring a blanket or stuffed friend to snuggle --- you’ll be ready for bed when you head home! Children of all ages.

Tuesday, February 14
LINCOLN BRANCH
Front & Center: DIY Photo Pillow Cover – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Give mom the perfect Valentine’s Day gift by drawing and painting a pillow cover. Place your favorite photo or a beautiful keepsake card in photo area. While supplies last. Ages 10 to 12.
Wednesday, February 15
NORTH BRANCH
Creative Crafternoon – 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Join us each month for an exploration of a different crafting medium. Supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Ages 12+. This month: Weaving

Wednesday, February 15
NORTH BRANCH
Genre Evolution Book Club – 6:30-7:30 p.m.
This month, we’re discussing early works in the historical fiction genre. Please read any of the books below! Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott, Castle Rackren by Maria Edgeworth, I, Claudius by Robert Graves, The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco

Thursday, February 16
NORTH BRANCH
Third Thursday Film Fest – 2:00-5:00 pm
This month: Some Like It Hot (1959)

Thursday, February 16
LINCOLN BRANCH
TNT Movie of the Month: The Lego Movie – 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Tweens and teens ages 10 to 18, join us for a movie up on the big screen! In The Lego Movie, Emmet, an ordinary Lego construction worker, is recruited to join a quest to stop an evil tyrant from gluing the Lego universe into eternal stasis. Thursday Night is for Teens!

Friday, February 17
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Random Acts of Kindness Jar
Celebrate "Random Acts of Kindness Day" with us by choosing a random act of kindness from our jar and then do it. Open a door for someone, shovel your neighbor’s driveway, or write a thank you note. If you’re looking for inspiration, we’ve got you covered.

Saturday, February 18
MAIN LIBRARY
Minecraft – 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Ages 8 to 14 are invited to join us for three hours of uninterrupted play. Space is limited, so call 497-2150 to register.

Saturday, February 18
MAIN LIBRARY
Autism Resource Group – 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Are you a parent with a tween or teen with Autism Spectrum Disorder? Join us for resource sharing and support.

Saturday, February 18
NORTH BRANCH
Teen STEM Challenge – 3:00-4:00 p.m.
There’s a puzzle in the library, and all you have to solve it is your brain and a box of scraps. The most successful team will get a prize! Grades 6 to 12.

Saturday, February 18
NORTH BRANCH
Black History Month Movie – 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Bring the whole family to watch The Wiz Live! (2015, G). This retelling of The Wizard of Oz has celebrated the achievements of black singers and actors since its Broadway debut in 1975!

Saturday, February 18
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Bird Feeder Creations – 10:00-11:00 am
Join us as we learn what types of food attract different birds and create a feeder for all the birds returning during National Wild Bird Feeder Month.

Saturday, February 25
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
NEA Big Read Peoria Reads! Author Visit – 1:00-3:00 p.m.
The author of Silver Sparrow, the 2017 Big Read Peoria Reads! book, Tayari Jones, will talk about her book, answer questions and sign books.

Monday, February 27
MCCLURE BRANCH
Front & Center: STEM Tales – 5:00-6:00 pm
Join us for a hands-on STEM twist on “Goldilocks and the Three Bears”. Design a new bed for Goldilocks through an engineering design process. Ages 5 to 8.

Tuesday, February 28
LINCOLN BRANCH
Read On Book Club – 5:30-7:00 p.m.
This month: Queen Sugar by Natalie Basile

Tuesday, February 28
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
1,001 Movies You Must See Before You Die Film Showing – 6:00-7:45 p.m.
Join us this month for the space adventure Gravity. (2013, PG-13)
March Book Clubs
At Peoria Public Library

Join a book club at Peoria Public Library this month. New members are always welcome!

The Biography and Non-Fiction Book Club will meet on Sunday, March 12 at 3:00 p.m. at North Branch to discuss The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789 by Joseph Ellis. In The Quartet, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Joseph Ellis tells the unexpected story of America’s second great founding and of the men most responsible—Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, John Jay, and James Madison: why the thirteen colonies, having just fought off the imposition of a distant centralized governing power, would decide to subordinate themselves anew. These men, with the help of Robert Morris and Gouverneur Morris, shaped the contours of American history by diagnosing the systemic dysfunctions created by the Articles of Confederation, manipulating the political process to force the calling of the Constitutional Convention, conspiring to set the agenda in Philadelphia, orchestrating the debate in the state ratifying conventions, and, finally, drafting the Bill of Rights to assure state compliance with the constitutional settlement, created the new republic. Ellis gives us a dramatic portrait of one of the most crucial and misconstrued periods in American history: the years between the end of the Revolution and the formation of the federal government. The Quartet unmasks a myth, and in its place presents an even more compelling truth—one that lies at the heart of understanding the creation of the United States of America.

Sherlock Holmes Story Society will meet at North Branch on Thursday, March 23 to discuss “A Case of Identity.” “A Case of Identity” is one of the 56 short Sherlock Holmes stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and is the third story in The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes. The story revolves around the case of Miss Mary Sutherland, a woman with a substantial income from the interest on a fund set up for her. She is engaged to a quiet Londoner who has recently disappeared. Sherlock Holmes’s detective powers are barely challenged as this turns out to be quite an elementary case for him, much as it puzzles Watson.

The Genre Evolution Book Club will meet on Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. at North Branch to discuss the evolution of the Adventure genre. Please read any of these books: The Pirate by Sir Walter Scott, The Three Musketeers by Alexandre Dumas, Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson, The Scarlet Pimpernel by Baroness Orczy, any of the “Richard Sharpe” novels by Bernard Cornwell.

The Bibliophiles Book Club will meet on Tuesday, March 7 at 1:30 p.m. at Lakeview Branch to discuss What We Talk About When We Talk About Love by Raymond Carver. In his second collection, Raymond Carver establishes his reputation as one of the most celebrated short-story writers in American literature. These stories are a haunting meditation on love, loss, and companionship, and finding one’s way through the dark.

The Book ‘Em Mystery Book Club will meet on Sunday, March 19 at 2:00 p.m. at Lakeview Branch to discuss Killer Smile by Lisa Scottoline. An historically enlightening reminder of the internment camp relocation of over 10,000 Italian-Americans during the outbreak of World War II. Scottoline drew on her own family history to write this fantastic mystery about a stolen invention, and murder.
Club Read will meet on Wednesday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. at Lakeview Branch to discuss *Silver Sparrow*, the 2017 Peoria Reads pick.

The Read on Book Club will meet on Tuesday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. at Lincoln Branch to discuss *Man on the Run* by Carl Weber. New York Times bestselling author Carl Weber delivers a riveting, action-packed drama full of the twists and turns for which he’s become known. It was the night before his wedding, fifteen years ago, that the nightmare began for Jay Crawford–locked up for a crime he never committed. Now, he’s escaped prison and wants nothing more than to clear his name and protect his family. To get justice, he’ll need the help of the three best friends who have always had his back—Wil, Kyle and Allan. But a man on the run requires absolute trust…and Jay may just be setting himself up for the ultimate betrayal.

The Sci-Fi Fantasy Book Club will meet on Monday, March 13 at Lakeview Branch at 6:30 p.m. to discuss classic science fiction. Choose from *Magic, Inc.* by Robert Heinlein and *Neuromancer* by William Gibson or read them both. Under the guise of an agency for magicians, Magic Inc has systematically squeezed out all the small independent magicians. Until one business stands firm. With the help of an Oxford educated African shaman and a little old lady adept at black magic, he is willing to take on the demons of Hell to solve the problem”—In *Neuromancer* Henry Dorsett Case was the sharpest data- thief in the Matrix, until an ex- employer crippled his nervous system. Now a new employer has recruited him for a last- chance run against an unthinkably powerful artificial intelligence. With a mirror- eyed girl street- samurai riding shotgun, he’s ready for the silicon- quick, bleakly prophetic adventure that upped the ante on an entire genre of fiction.

The YA Book Club for Adults will meet on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *The Wrath and the Dawn* by Renee Ahdieh. In a land ruled by a murderous boy- king, each dawn brings heartache to a new family. Khalid, the eighteen- year- old Caliph of Khorasan, is a monster. Each night he takes a new bride only to have a silk cord wrapped around her throat come morning. When sixteen- year- old Shahrzad’s dearest friend falls victim to Khalid, Shahrzad vows vengeance and volunteers to be his next bride. Shahrzad is determined not only to stay alive, but to end the caliph’s reign of terror once and for all. Night after night, Shahrzad beguiles Khalid, weaving stories that enchant, ensuring her survival, though she knows each dawn could be her last. But something she never expected begins to happen: Khalid is nothing like what she’d imagined him to be. This monster is a boy with a tormented heart. Incredibly, Shahrzad finds herself falling in love. How is this possible? It’s an unforgivable betrayal. Still, Shahrzad has come to understand all is not as it seems in this palace of marble and stone. She resolves to uncover whatever secrets lurk and, despite her love, be ready to take Khalid’s life as retribution for the lives he’s stolen. Can their love survive this world of stories and secrets?