



# The Word on the Shelves



Your Monthly Dose of  
Books  
News  
and  
Library Happenings

## Books, Blocks and a Sip of History...

May Has Arrived—Ready or Not! The birds are chirping, the flowers are blooming, and your local library is buzzing with programs, people, and possibly LEGOs underfoot. Whether you're here to chase a preschooler through Storytime, sip whiskey with a side of history, or finally return that book you borrowed last summer (no judgment), we're glad you're with us.

### On the Shelves Now:

*"From a Dark Horizon"*

by Luke McCallim

Uncover the truth in the shadows of war—  
From a Dark Horizon is a gripping WWI thriller  
where loyalty is tested and secrets can kill

*"Nobody's Fool"*

by Harlan Coben

A razor-sharp thriller where the sudden return  
of a long-lost woman shatters the past and  
ignites a deadly search for the truth

*"Beautiful Ugly"*

by Alice Feeney

Feeney delivers a chilling thriller where a grieving  
author meets a woman who looks just like his  
missing wife, unraveling a dark web of secrets

*"Sunrise on the Reaping"*

by Suzanne Collins

Return to Panem with a gripping prequel as  
young Haymitch faces the brutal 50th Hunger  
Games and a world steeped in rebellion

### Coming in May:

*"South of Nowhere"*

by Jeffrey Deaver (May 6)

A rogue agent races against time through the  
sweltering American South to stop a deadly  
conspiracy that could upend the nation

*"An Unexpected Grace"*

by Tracie Peterson (May 20)

In a rugged Montana town, a woman fleeing  
her past finds faith, love, and the healing  
power of second chances

*"Going Home in the Dark"*

by Dean Koontz (May 20)

A quiet man's ordinary life unravels into a  
chilling nightmare when his past sins claw  
their way back in the dead of night

*"Hidden Nature"*

by Nora Roberts (May 27)

When a botanist uncovers a long-buried secret  
in the woods of Vermont, danger, desire,  
and destiny bloom in equal measure

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"A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life." – Henry Ward Beecher

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# Not to be missed...



## Better Not Bitter

with Michelle Cowan

**Thursday, May 15 | 5:30 PM |  
Heritage Room**

Ready to be inspired?

Michelle Cowan brings her powerful personal story of choosing resilience over resentment in this uplifting talk.

Bring your heart, your questions, and maybe a tissue or two.

Books will be available for purchase after the event with the author signing.

## Coming Soon: Summer Reading Mayhem!

Registration Opens May 1

Are you ready to unlock new levels of fun, and your imagination? Our annual Summer Reading Program is back—and this year, it's got major game energy.

The summer program is open to all children and provided free of charge. Registration starts May 1. Prizes, bragging rights and major fun await.

Full schedule will be released Mid-May.



## Moonshine by Moonlight

with Ann Hanigan

**Thursday, May 29 | 5:30 PM |  
Skate Palace**

Bootleggers, stills, and small-town rebellion—join historian Ann Hanigan as she spills the tea (or rather, the whiskey) on Iowa's wild Prohibition era.

Bonus: a complimentary whiskey tasting for adults 21+ because, hey, history is best experienced with a little context...

***Please note this event will be  
held at the Skate Palace***



## Ongoing Book Sale – All Month Long!

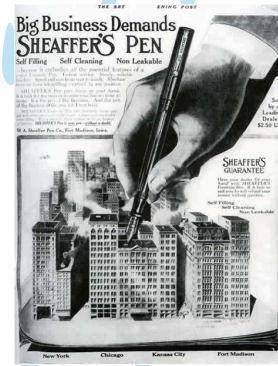
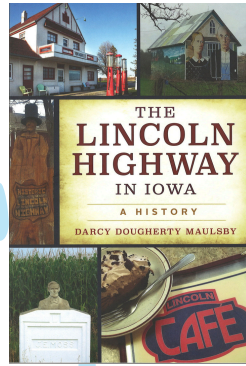
You know what's better than a good book? A \$0.25 book!

We're making room for new materials, which means BIG savings for you. Stop by our Clearance Book Sale and fill your shelves with hidden gems:

- All books, preowned DVDs & CDs – just \$0.25 each
- New, in package DVDs are excluded from this sale
- Inventory is refreshed throughout the month!

Come early and often to score the best finds!

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## April Showers Brought Smiles and Stories at the Library

April was a busy month filled with laughter, learning, and a little bit of everything in between. From story-time to thought-provoking programs, our library was buzzing with activity—and we're grateful for the community that makes it all possible.

Our preschool story-time blossomed this month with a fun holiday theme and bunny crafts. Little ones enjoyed interactive stories, while parents and caregivers joined in the fun and made new connections. It's clear our youngest readers are ready to explore the world—one story at a time.

We also hosted two excellent local history programs in April:

- Darcy Maulsby took attendees on a fascinating ride through the story of the Lincoln Highway, America's first coast-to-coast road, and its impact on Iowa communities.
- Jeff Stein brought to life some of the state's most interesting but lesser-known figures in his engaging talk, "Iowans You Should Know." Both programs drew strong crowds and sparked lively conversation.

April reminded us how powerful a library can be—not just as a place for books, but as a place for people to connect, share, and grow. Thanks for being part of our story. We love seeing your faces, hearing your questions, and helping you find just the right book. Here's to a May full of curiosity, caffeine, and a little shot of the good stuff. See you soon!

### May Children's Programs

Check out what's coming up in our children's department for May:

#### **Preschool Storytime**

May 2 & May 16 | 10:30 AM

Perfect for preschoolers, these interactive sessions include stories, crafts, and fun! Each date features a different theme—join us for both!

#### **After School Adventures - LEGO Day**

May 7 | 1:30-2:30 PM

Bring your imagination—we'll supply the bricks! Drop in after school and get creative. Great for kids in grades K-6.

### Good to Know

#### **Closed Monday, May 27**

In honor of Memorial Day, we'll be closed. Don't worry—we'll be back Tuesday, May 28th at 10 AM

#### **Library Hours:**

Monday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Tuesday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Thursday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Sunday: Closed

#### **Contact Us:**

Phone: (712) 364-2306  
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Website: [www.idagrove.lib.ia.us](http://www.idagrove.lib.ia.us)

Until next time, keep turning pages, asking questions, and showing up—  
because the library is better with you in it.

