

connect

-  MahometPublicLibrary.org
-  staff@mahometpubliclibrary.org
-  217-586-2611
-  mahometpubliclibrary.org/chat OR text your message to 447-442-1898
-  Monday-Thursday: 9 am-8 pm
Friday: 9 am-6 pm
Saturday: 9 am-5 pm
Sunday: 1-5 pm
-  1702 E Oak St. Mahomet, IL 61853



Mahomet Public Library



OUR MISSION: Together we create a welcoming community that empowers everyone to learn, connect, create, and grow.



BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN
 You can always stop by the Library any time for quick answers to your questions but what if you need more individual, uninterrupted help?
 Welcome to Book-a-Librarian! Schedule 30 minutes of time during business hours with one of our friendly librarians in person at the Library. Librarians can help with things such as eResources, using a computer, updating your resume, and more!

THE LIBRARY BOOKLET



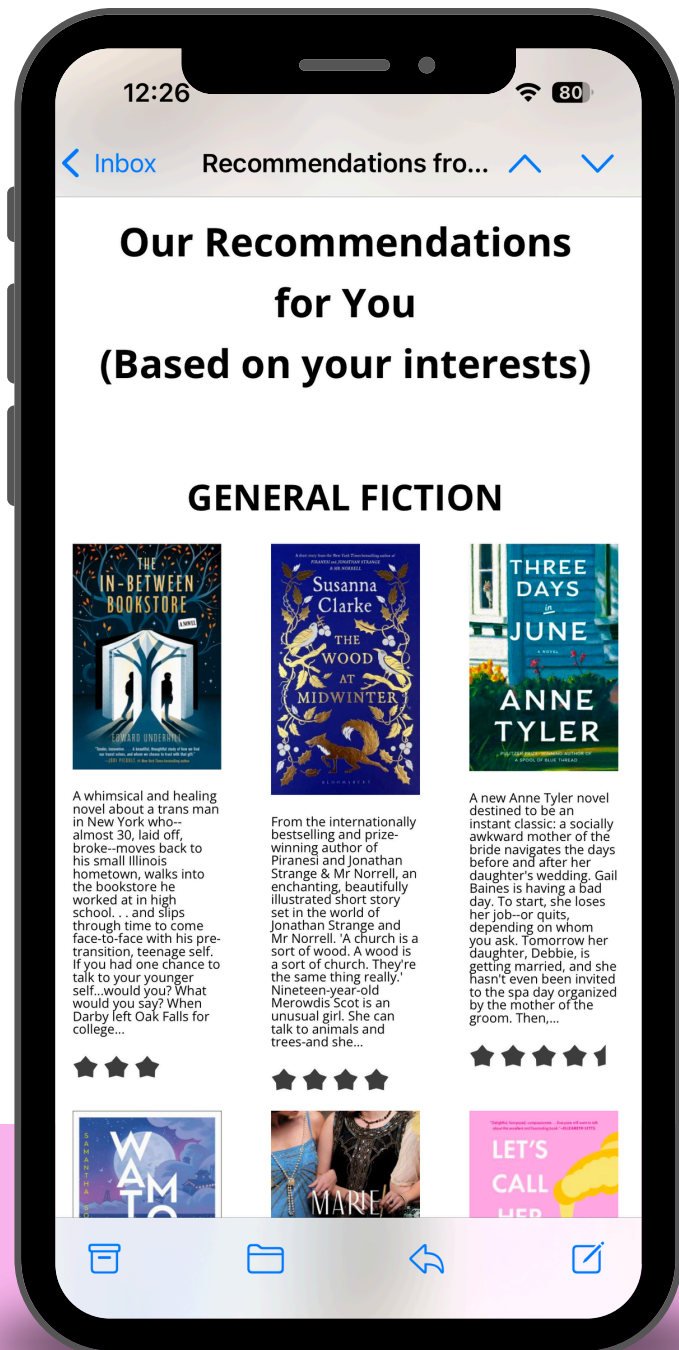
Get Emailed Book Recs!
 Page 2

Programs & Events
 Pages 4-9

**MAHOMET PUBLIC LIBRARY
 WINTER/SPRING 2025**

READ MORE OF WHAT YOU *love*

GET READING RECOMMENDATIONS DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX EACH MONTH!



Wondering what to read next? Sign up to receive ONE email every month with personalized book recommendations!

Signing Up for Email Recommendations:

To sign up, simply fill out the email preferences form on our library website. This form includes options to add or remove specific genre/subject categories to your personalized email list based off your interests.

The genre/subject categories include both fiction and nonfiction categories. Some of the fiction genre categories are mystery, thriller/suspense, inspirational fiction, and historical fiction. Nonfiction subject categories include, home, garden, and crafts, travel, spirituality, health and wellbeing

In addition to the genre/subject categories, you'll also be able to select categories of books based on specific age groups that you're interested in, including picture books, kids, middle school, and teens.

When You Receive an Email:

All of the books recommended in the emails you'll receive are available in the Illinois Heartland Library System, the system our Library is a part of. If you are interested in a specific title, simply click on the picture of the book. This link will take you to the book in our Aspen catalog, where you can log into your library account and place a hold on it. Log into your account with your library card barcode (the number on the back of your library card, no spaces), and your pin (typically the last four digits of the phone number associated with your account).

Happy browsing!



SIGN UP TO RECEIVE MONTHLY BOOK RECOMMENDATION EMAILS

RESOURCES

for your RESEARCH

NEW DATABASE ACCESS PROVIDES INFORMATION AND RESOURCES COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS

Whether you're researching a topic for a school project, teaching yourself a new skill, looking for a new book to read, or starting a job search, a wealth of information exists! The Illinois State Library recently funded access to over 50 databases for patrons across the state of Illinois. We've provided a brief overview of a few "top interest" databases below.

Access to a full list of databases can be found on our library website. Click on the "EBSCO Databases" link under the "Online Resources" menu.

HOME IMPROVEMENT SOURCE



Remodeling? Planning a house project? Explore and search articles, journals, books, and other resources covering a wide variety of home-related topics. Some of these include electrical and plumbing, painting and decorating, vacation homes, gardening, green design and more!

JOB & CAREER ACCELERATOR



Whether you are preparing for college, high school, a new career, or looking to improve your computer skills, use this database to achieve your goals. It includes a variety of tests, tutorials, lessons, and skill-building resources for a range of ages. Build your resume, prepare for interviews and more!

NOVELIST (& NOVELIST K-8)



Not sure what to read next? Looking for books in a specific genre? Browse thousands of books in a variety of categories, including genres, ages, sagas (feel-good and likeable books, anyone?), and readalikes. You can also search for books based on a description.

POINTS OF VIEW



Explore a range of perspectives in a variety of subject areas. Some of the topics include issues relating to energy and conservation, government funding, health and medicine, religion, schools and education, sports, and technology.

KIDS PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

STORYTIME

Tuesdays & Wednesdays (January 14-April 30)



Baby Storytime: Tuesdays, 9:30 am (ages 0-18 months)
Toddler Storytime: Tuesdays, 10 am (ages 18-36 months)
Preschool Storytime: Wednesdays, 10 am (ages 3-5)
No Storytime on April 1 & 2 due to the election.
No registration required.

ELEMENTARY EXPLORERS

Wednesdays (January 15-April 30)

Join us every Wednesday for a fun, one-hour after school program! Activities will rotate monthly. We'll usually meet from 3:30-4:30 pm, but we'll move it up to 1:30-2:30 pm on early dismissal days.



January: LEGO Club

- Jan 15 & 29 regular time (3:30-4:30 pm)
- Jan 22: early dismissal (1:30-2:30 pm)

February: Art Club

- Feb 5, 12, 26: regular time (3:30-4:30 pm)
- Feb 19: early dismissal (1:30-2:30 pm)



March: Pokémon Club

- Mar 5 & 26: regular time (3:30-4:30 pm)
- Mar 12: early dismissal (1:30-2:30 pm)
- Mar 19: no meeting



April: Maker's Club

- Apr 2: no meeting
- Apr 9: early dismissal (1:30-2:30 pm)
- Apr 16, 23, 30: regular time (3:30-4:30 pm)



Grades K-5. No registration required.

PRESCHOOL PLAYDATE

Fridays (January 17-April 18) | 10:00-11:00 am



Enjoy open-ended play time every Friday! Each session will feature a different assortment of toys and activities.
Ages 3-5 (younger siblings welcome).
No registration required. No playdate on April 25 due to Book Sale.

ACTING OUT: THEATRE WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 18 | time based on grade level
Grades K-3: 10:00-11:30 am
Grades 4-6: 12:30-2:00 pm
Grades 7-12: 3:00-4:30 pm



Theatre kids from all backgrounds and experience levels are welcome to join us for a workshop focusing on basic acting skills and exercises. Students will learn about characterization, improvisation, and interpreting a script. There will be separate sessions for different age groups.
Grades K-12. Register for the session that corresponds to your age group.

LITTLE GROOVERS! MUSIC & MOVEMENT

Every other Thursday (January 23, February 6 & 20, March 6 & 27, April 10) | 10:00-10:30 am



Join us for a fun-filled music and movement program designed for toddlers and preschoolers ages 2-5 and their caregivers. In this interactive program, children will sing, dance, and move to a variety of exciting songs that engage their imaginations, enhance motor skills, and encourage social interaction.
Children ages 2-5 and their caregivers.
No registration required.

GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB

Friday, January 31 & March 28 | 4:00-5:00 pm



Calling all graphic novel enthusiasts! Join us as we read and discuss a set graphic novel at each book club session. Participants are also welcome to bring other graphic novels they've enjoyed.

January: *The Night Librarian* by Christopher Lincoln

March: *Wings of Fire: the Dragonet Prophecy Graphic Novel* by Tui Sutherland
Grades 3-7. Registration required.

CARTOON CLUB

First Thursdays (February 6, March 6, & April 3) | 3:30-5:00 pm

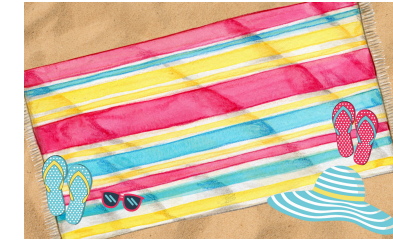


Are you a cartoon fanatic? Join our Cartoon Club, a club for discussing cartoons instead of books! We'll come together, watch two episodes of a cartoon, and then discuss it in the same way a book club would.

Grades 6-8. No registration required.

BEACH BLANKET BINGO

Thursday, March 20 | 10:00-11:30 am



Dive into Spring Break fun at the Library! Grab your beach blanket or towel, take a seat, and join the BINGO extravaganza for a shot at scoring some awesome prizes. This special program is exclusively for little beachgoers. Let the Spring Break celebration begin!

Ages 5-12. No registration required.

TRASH TO TREASURE: EARTH DAY CRAFTS FOR KIDS

Tuesday, April 22 | 3:00-4:30 pm



Exchange trash for treasure! Celebrate Earth Day by making some fun, upcycled crafts. We will provide all the supplies and materials for the crafts; you bring your creativity!

Grades K-8. No registration required.

TEEN PROGRAMS

WARM UP WITH A GOOD BOOK! WINTER READING PROGRAM

Thursday, January 2 - Friday, February 28



Cozy up and read this winter with our Winter Reading Challenge for Teens & Adults! Pick up a reading log from the Library and earn a raffle entry for every 10 hours you spend reading. Four prize baskets are up for grabs! Whether you like novels, audiobooks, or graphic novels, every hour counts. **Teens and Adults. No registration required.**

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

Every other Sunday (January 12 & 26, February 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6) | 1:30-4:30 pm



Join us for exciting DnD adventures that encourage creativity, strategy, and teamwork! There's sure to be fun at every session. This is a continuous campaign beginning from character level 1. Players should expect to attend each session. **Grades 6-12. Registration required.**

ACTING OUT: THEATRE WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 18 | time based on grade level (Grades 7-12: 3:00-4:30 pm)



Theatre kids from all backgrounds and experience levels are welcome to join us for a workshop focusing on basic acting skills and exercises. Students will learn about characterization, improvisation, and interpreting a script. There will be separate sessions for different age groups. **Grades K-12. Register for the session that corresponds to your age group.**

TEEN AFTER HOURS CRAFT NIGHT

First Fridays (February 7, March 7, April 4) | 5:30-7:00 pm



Craft with friends each month at the Library! You bring yourself; we'll provide all the materials for the project, plus pizza and snacks! **February:** Needle Felted Hearts **March:** Tote bag decorating **April:** Mini terrariums **Grades 6-12. Registration required for each session.**

GAME NIGHT: WINGSPAN

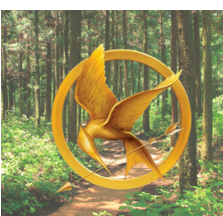
Thursday, February 27 | 6:00-8:00 pm



Join us for a fun game night featuring *Wingspan*, a popular strategy board game about birdwatching and conservation! Perfect for beginners and experienced players, don't miss this opportunity to play and connect with fellow board game enthusiasts! **Ages 14+. Registration required.**

HUNGER GAMES BOOK DISCUSSION & WATCH PARTY

Tuesday, March 25 | 5:30-8:30 pm



Celebrate the release of *Sunrise on the Reaping* with a book club discussion of the first Hunger Games novel by Suzanne Collins. After our discussion, we'll watch the first movie on the big screen at the Library! **Grades 6-12. Registration required.**

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY! SCAVENGER HUNT & HOT COCOA BAR

Saturday, February 1 | 2:00-4:00 pm



Help us celebrate "Take Your Child to the Library Day" and join us for a scavenger hunt in the Library, along with a cozy hot cocoa bar! **All ages. No registration required.**

SPRING BOOK SALE

Thursday, April 24-Sunday, April 27



Thursday, April 24*: 5:00-8:00 pm
*Friends only - join at the door!
Friday, April 25: 9:00 am-6:00 pm
Saturday, April 26: 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Sunday, April 27: 1:00-4:00 pm
All ages. No registration required.

SIXTH ANNUAL JIGSAW PUZZLE COMPETITION

Saturday, May 3 | 1:00-3:00 pm



This popular event is back! Get ready to piece together a victory at the Library's yearly puzzle competition. Race against the clock and complete a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle faster than competing teams. Are you up for the challenge? **All ages. Registration (as a team of up to 4 people) is required.**

ARTS & CRAFTS SUPPLY SWAP

Saturday, May 10 | 10:00-11:00 am
*Supply drop-off from Sunday, May 4-Friday, May 9



Got a surplus of gently-loved or even brand-new art and craft supplies collecting dust at home? Eager to dive into a new hobby without breaking the bank on fresh materials? From May 4-9, drop off supplies in good condition that you're ready to part with. Then, at the swap, snag some supplies for your creative adventures, free of charge!
Swap Schedule:
10:00-10:15 am: Those who donate will receive a voucher for early entry to the swap.
10:15-11:00 am: Public entry (everyone who did not donate supplies) begins
11:00 am: Anyone is welcome to take the remaining materials, even if you have already filled a bag.
All ages. No registration required.

VISIT THE EVENTS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE!

Learn more about any of our upcoming programs and events, and sign up for the ones that require registration. In addition, if there are any changes or updates to programs, updated information can be found on the website.

Visit: mahometpubliclibrary.org/events

ADULT PROGRAMS

WINTER READING PROGRAM

WARM UP WITH A GOOD BOOK!

Thursday, January 2 - Friday, February 28



Cozy up and read this winter with our Winter Reading Challenge for Teens & Adults! Pick up a reading log from the Library and earn a raffle entry for every 10 hours you spend reading. Four prize baskets are up for grabs! Whether you like novels, audiobooks, or graphic novels, every hour counts. **Adults and Teens.**

BOOK CLUBS

TUESDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB

Second Tuesdays (January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13) | 6:30-8:00 pm



Join us each month at the Library as we discuss that month's great read!
January: *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge
February: *The Rom-Comers* by Katherine Center
March: *Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel
April: *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn
May: *True Biz* by Sara Novic
Adults. No registration required.

COOKBOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 4 & Thursday, April 3 | 6:00-7:30 pm



This book club is perfect for adults who enjoy cooking and sharing food together! Choose a recipe from the selected cookbook to make and share with the group.
February: *Cook This Book* by Molly Baz
April: *Indulge* by Valerie Bertinelli
Adults. Registration required.

ADULT CRAFT CONNECTION



STITCHING CIRCLE

First Saturdays (January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5) | 10-11:30 am



Connect with fellow crafters, share your skills, and learn from others! Whether you are an expert or novice, there is something for everyone in our circle. We'll provide some materials, or you can bring your own project (maybe one you've been procrastinating on!). **Adults. No registration required.**

ADULT CRAFTERNOON

Monthly Tuesdays (January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15) | 1:00-2:30 pm



Join us for creativity, conversation, and fun! Learn a new skill and make a craft with supplies provided by the Library.
January: Yarn-wrapped letter craft
February: Tote bag decorating
March: Intro to paper quilling
April: Decoupage wooden boxes
Adults. Registration required.

ADULT TAKE & MAKE KITS

Beginning January 27, February 24, March 31, April 28



Pick up a kit with supplies and instructions to make a craft at home!
January: Wool dryer balls
February: Hand warmers
March: Seed starter kit
April: Wind chime
Adults. First come, first served. While supplies last.

OTHER EVENTS

BEGINNER SOURDOUGH WORKSHOP

Thursday, January 23 | 6:30-8:00 pm



Sourdough bread is trending, but do you know how to make it? Join us for an interactive beginner class at the Library! We'll learn how to make and maintain a starter, the science behind the sourdough fermentation process, and tips for making the perfect loaf. Attendees will make starter to take home. **Adults. Registration required.**

LOTUS FLOWER LANTERN CRAFT

Tuesday, January 28 | 6:00-7:30 pm



Make a lovely lotus flower lantern using colored paper and wireframes! The Korean Spirit & Culture Promotion Project will give us step-by-step instructions to make this fun project. Participants will meet at the Library, with the presenter on Zoom. **Adults. Registration required.**

MURDER MYSTERY FUNDRAISER DINNER

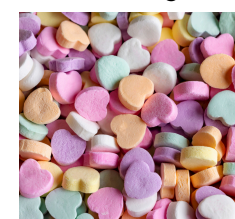
Saturday, February 8 | 6:00 pm | Location: at the Farm Credit Union



Sutter's Hill used to be one of the biggest and richest ranches in California, until hard times hit. The matriarch of the ranch has just announced a business venture that may save it. But not everyone wants the venture to succeed. Put on your best "Yellowstone-style" duds and come out for good chow, drinks, and a chance to solve the murder. **Adults. Ticket (\$55) required.**

VALENTINE BINGO

Thursday, February 13 | 1:00-2:30 pm



Get ready to shout "BINGO!" in an afternoon filled with fun and anticipation. Local businesses have generously donated exciting prizes. Join us for this delightful Valentine-themed event! **Adults. Registration required.**

NO MORE TECHNOLOGY TANTRUMS

Monday, February 24 | 6:00-7:30 pm



Tackle the challenges of technology in today's homes. Parenting coach Christine Leeb will help us learn how to set healthy boundaries, foster strong relationships with your kids, and use technology to support your parenting efforts. Don't miss this opportunity to take control of your family's tech use and promote healthier connections at home. **Adults. Registration required.**

GAME NIGHT: WINGSPAN

Thursday, February 27 | 6:00-8:00 pm



Join us for a fun game night featuring *Wingspan*, a popular strategy board game about birdwatching and conservation! Perfect for beginners and experienced players, don't miss this opportunity to play and connect with fellow board game enthusiasts! **Ages 14+. Registration required.**

PLANT SWAP

Saturday, March 29 | 11:00 am-12:00 pm



Attention green thumbs and leaf enthusiasts! It's time for a plantastic exchange! Bring your beloved plants, cuttings, and seeds to the Library. Share the plant love and take home some new leafy pals. Just remember to bring your plants in pots you're ready to bid farewell to, then let the "plant swap" commence! **Adults. No registration required.**

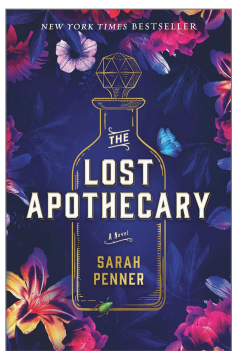
SAVE MONEY WITH ZERO-WASTE

Thursday, April 17 | 6:00-8:00 pm



Join Linda Stroh, Zero-Waste Advocate, to learn money-saving strategies that also sustain the future of our planet. Discover the benefits of the five R's and how to implement them to detox your home and reduce clutter. Walk away with resources and tips to lessen consumption, improve your health, and preserve the Earth. **Adults. Registration required.**

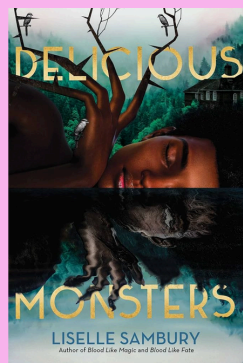
**LINDA'S PICK:
THE LOST APOTHECARY**



In 18th century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to women who want to poison the oppressive men in their lives. Present day Caroline, an aspiring historian, searches for answers to these unsolved apothecary murders.

Find it on our fiction shelves and in the Hoopla, Libby and CloudLibrary apps.

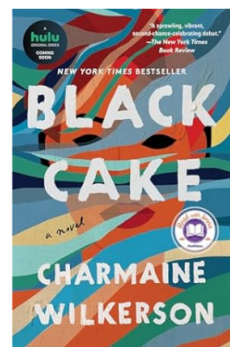
**STAFF PICK:
DELICIOUS MONSTERS**



Delicious Monsters is a creepy mystery novel, at the heart of which is a complex conversation about trauma and family dynamics. It was a very invigorating read, and the book was hard to put down!

Request it from another library.

**CAROL'S PICK:
BLACK CAKE**



Siblings must come to terms with the death of their mother and find out who she really was and the story of her struggles. Her last request was for them to share the Black Cake when the time is right. It was the glue that held the family together. Black Cake is now a series on Hulu and was a Read with Jenna book pick.

Find it on our fiction and Large Print shelves and the Hoopla, Libby, & CloudLibrary apps.

CHAT WITH THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Public libraries do quite a lot in Illinois! Check out these statistics.



Illinois Public Libraries by the Numbers FY2022



Illinois has **640** Public libraries with a service area population of **11,795,276**.*



4,018,681 Illinois residents have library cards, about **33%**.



Illinoisans checked out **90,669,914** materials – that's **6** per resident.



E-books, e-audiobooks, and e-videos were downloaded **16,761,285** times.



Illinois residents visited libraries **36,250,320** times.



4,091,202 Illinoisans attended **217,940** library programs either in person or virtually.



Illinois residents connected to library Wi-Fi **23,701,627** times.



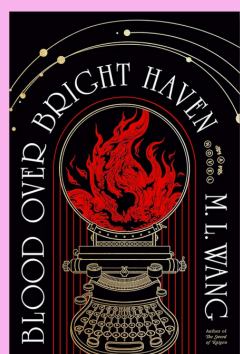
Illinois libraries do all this for only **\$70** per person!

Infographic/stats provided by the Illinois Library Association and compiled by the Illinois State Library

*1 million Illinois residents do not have public library services.

STAFF PICKS

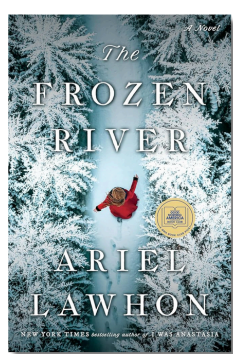
**TY'S PICK:
BLOOD OVER BRIGHT HAVEN**



Wang's *Blood Over Bright Haven* features fascinating world-building with a plot that encourages the reader to think about their impact on the world.

Find it on our fiction shelves.

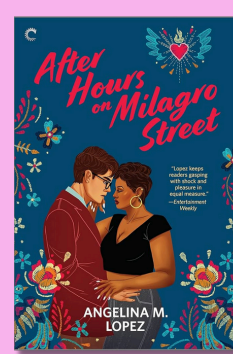
**LEAH'S PICK:
THE FROZEN RIVER**



Martha Ballard is a midwife during the late 1700s. Martha documents the details of an alleged rape committed by two of the town's men—one of whom has just been found dead in the ice. But when the new local doctor undermines her conclusion, declaring the death an accident, Martha is forced to investigate the murder on her own. Based on the life of the real midwife Martha Ballard, this story is an interesting tale of a remarkable woman.

Find it on our fiction shelves and in the Libby and CloudLibrary apps.

**MEGAN'S PICK:
AFTER HOURS ON MILAGRO STREET**



Alejandra "Alex" Torres barges into her grandmother's rundown bar in Kansas. She does NOT expect to crash into Dr. Jeremiah Post. Their chemistry is immediate. The main characters are complex and both work to heal their childhood wounds. I loved how the author incorporated the rich, real-life pocket of history that informed Alex's family and community: Mexican Americans who originally immigrated to help build the transcontinental railroads.

Find it on our fiction shelves and in the Hoopla and Libby apps.