



Paul Goebbel

Historical Presentations

The Dred Scott Decision

Thursday, February 2, 6 pm, Maple Valley Branch Library

Monday, February 27, 6:30 pm, Green Branch Library

The story of Dred Scott is really three stories in one. First, there is the story of a slave, Dred Scott, struggling hard to gain his freedom through the courts and eventually taking his case to the United States Supreme Court. The second story is about the Supreme Court, its role in interpreting the Constitution and federal law, and the limits of its power to resolve political problems. The third story is about the politics of slavery and the coming of the Civil War. The Supreme Court decision sparked enormous political reaction and destroyed any chance of agreement between the North and the South over slavery in the territories. It would be an exaggeration to say that the Dred Scott decision caused the Civil War, but it certainly pushed the nation far closer to that war.

The Underground Railroad

Wednesday, February 8, 6:30 pm, Goodyear Branch Library

Wednesday, February 15, 7 pm, Richfield Branch Library

The Underground Railroad is the exciting story of when brave individuals risked their personal finances, and faced possible jail time, to help an enslaved race. We trace slavery from its beginnings in the Western Hemisphere to the Civil War. Was the Underground Railroad treason, or a higher moral calling?

The Lincoln Inaugural Train

Thursday, February 23, 6:30 pm, Mogadore Branch Library

The Lincoln Inaugural Train tells the story of Lincoln's election and the use he made of his trip to Washington via the railroad. This trip allowed the president-elect to meet the people that he was going to lead in this divided nation. It also gave the population the chance to see and meet their new president. This presentation is done in the period dress of a newspaper's correspondent, and in first person as if the correspondent actually was an eyewitness reporting on the trip for his paper, *The New York Herald*.



**Akron-Summit County
Public Library**

www.akronlibrary.org