



**McHenry Public Library District**

809 North Front Street

McHenry, Illinois 60050

Phone: 815.385.0036

[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org)

**McHenry Public Library District  
Board of Library Trustees Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday February 21, 2017**

**7:00 p.m.**

**2nd Floor Board Room**

**Agenda**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Kathy Baderstadt, President
- II. ROLL CALL** – Monica Leccese, Secretary
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT AND RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING (Action)**
  - SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Monica Leccese, Secretary  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, January 17, 2016
  - TREASURER'S REPORT** – Charles Reilly, Treasurer  
Monthly Financial Statements and Interim Check Report through  
January 31, 2016 and Bill Reports for January/February 2017  
Additional Bills (Distributed night of meeting)  
Petty Cash and Credit Card Reports
- VII. COMMUNICATIONS**
  - Edminster to Susan J. Buchholz—Thank you for donation in memory of Robin Fossum Weber
  - Edminster to Jay Weber—Notice of donation in memory of Robin Fossum Weber
  - Edminster to Anne Brown—Thank you for donation of indoor/outdoor sound system

### **VIII. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**

1. Update on CCS decision regarding ILS
2. Update on MPLD staff/board outings to other RFID libraries (Algonquin, Fox Lake, Cary, Barrington, Shorewood (WI), Oswego... others?)

### **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

To discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body in compliance with the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 section 2(c)(1) and review and release of the December 13, 2016 Executive Session Minutes.

### **X. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Continued discussion on prioritization of projects (memo)

### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approval and release of the December 13, 2016 Executive Session Minutes. **(Action)**
2. Discussion and approval of agreement with McHenry Area Historical Society for digital access to various local papers **(Action)**
3. Approval of RFID RFP and consent to send out to vendors, place on MPLD website **(Action)**

### **XII. ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD**

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

\*Any person with a physical disability may contact the MPLD (815-385-0036) within 4 hours of any meeting date to request special access to any board meeting. The MPLD will make all board meetings accessible to people with physical disabilities under the current ADA requirements.

**MINUTES**  
**MCHENRY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**  
**PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING**

**Date:** January 17, 2017

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.

**Location:** Library Board Meeting Room

**Members Present:** Kathy Baderstadt, Margaret Carey, Delphine Grala, Monica Leccese, Charles Reilly, Bradley Schubert, and Jill Stone

**Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** James Scholtz, Executive Director  
Bill Edminster, Assistant Director  
Debbie Gunness, Business Manager  
Suzanne Yazel, HR Generalist

**I. Call to Order:**

President Baderstadt called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**II. Roll Call:**

Roll was called and a quorum was established. See #1 on attached sheet.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Corrections or Additions to the Agenda**

None

**V. Public Comment and Recognition of Visitors**

The Board recognized staff member Suzanne Yazel, HR Generalist.

**VI. Consent Agenda for this meeting**

**Secretary's Report – Margaret Carey, Secretary Pro Tem**

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, December 13, 2016

**Treasurer's Report – Charles Reilly, Treasurer**

Monthly Financial Statements and Interim Check Report through December 31, 2016 and Bill Reports for December 2016/January 2017

Additional Bills (Distributed night of meeting)

Petty Cash and Credit Card Reports

The Board reviewed the regular board minutes, financial statements and bills.

Grala moved and Stone seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting for December 13, 2016, the monthly financial statements for the fiscal year through December 31, 2016, the Bill Reports for December 2016/January 2017, and payment of the bills.

Motion passed 7-0. See #2 on attached sheet.

## **VII. Communications**

- D. Gaudio request for reimbursement of tuition
- D. Gaudio upcoming courses to be taken

## **VIII. Librarian's Report**

- Scholtz reported that a new Circulation Manager has been hired. Her name is Barbara Majka and she has been Assistant Circulation Manager at Algonquin Public Library. Her start date here is February 6, 2017.
- Round Lake Library's Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meeting here on February 22, 2017.
- The AARP tax preparers will be offering their services again this year, starting on February 6, 2017. Scholtz has asked them to hand out a survey to their clients so that we can find out if they are regular users of this library among other questions.
- On February 1, 2017, CCS's Governing Board will be meeting and will decide on a circulation system. We will either stay with SirsiDynix's system or migrate to Innovative Interfaces' Polaris system.
- Scholtz reported that he attended Cary Public Library's post-renovation Open House this last week. Scholtz plans to schedule a visit by Board members to Cary, as well as Barrington and Algonquin to see their RFID system, especially the sorting system.
- Scholtz will be attending the January 27, 2017 McHenry County Librarians meeting.
- Scholtz reports that he has been working with the McHenry County Historical Society on a project to digitize local historical newspapers. Some of these newspapers are available through database companies, but this project would give local libraries and organizations control over access to the papers. The library has been asked to donate towards the project but Scholtz wants any money given to the project to be a payment entitling the library to some say in the future of the digital content.
- In the past, staff from the County Clerk's office has come to train and swear in library staff as voter registrars. The current County Clerk won't send her staff so our staff needs to go to their office to be sworn in.
- On January 23, 2017, Comcast will change our phone service to their company. The process has been delayed because Comcast failed to contact our previous service.
- Youth Services will be adding two 20-hour part time staff members to fill what was a single person's position. This change will allow for more flexibility in scheduling.
- Scholtz announced that the trustees should expect their Statement of Economic Interest forms to be coming soon. The County Clerk's office has not provided us with an online option so far this year.
- Scholtz said that the library is prepared for the April election.
- Scholtz and Gunness distributed and explained the MPLD staff calendar, which shows payroll deadlines, closed dates, and Board meetings for 2017.
- Scholtz showed the Board the new LED lighting for the pendant lights in the library's main room. He said that using LED lights could be expected to save about \$5,500 per year. Gunness reported that the electric bills have dropped by about a third since LED lights were installed.
- Scholtz expects that the new solar panels will be installed in March or April depending on the weather.
- Stone stated that she will not be able to attend the February meeting and Carey said she would miss the March meeting.

**IX. Executive Session**

To discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body in compliance with the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 section 2(c)(1) and review and release of the December 13, 2016 executive session minutes.

The Board did not go into Executive session. No action was taken.

**X. Old Business**

**1. RFID Project – Discuss scheduling visits to other area libraries, RFP process**

Scholtz covered these topics during his Librarians Report.

**2. Board self-evaluation process – Ongoing**

This was postponed to another meeting.

**XI. New Business**

**1. Approval and release of the December 13, 2016 Executive Session Minutes.**

The Board did not go into executive session, no action was taken.

**2. Review 2017 calendar for board meeting dates and holidays**

**3. Discussion/prioritization of projects for FY2016/17 and beyond**

Scholtz discussed some potential future projects, such as the RFID, gates, and self-check project; repair/replacement of the main floor; discussion with Gillespie Design concerning a new annex; and installation of a lift station for a sanitary sewer to replace the current shared system. The Board directed Scholtz to speak with Gillespie Design to discuss a possible new annex.

**4. Resolution 2016/2017-7 authorizing the execution of an Employment Separation Agreement, General Release and Waiver between the MPLD and Joseph Drinka.**

Leccese moved and Schubert seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-7 authorizing the execution of an Employment Separation Agreement, General Release and Waiver between the MPLD and Joseph Drinka. Motion passed 7-0. See # 5 on attached sheet.

**5. Resolution 2016/2017-8 authorizing NIMEC to be our agent in procuring electricity for up to a 36-month period.**

Leccese moved and Carey seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-8 authorizing NIMEC to be our agent in procuring electricity for up to a 36-month period.

Motion passed 7-0. See # 6 on attached sheet.

**6. Change in MPLD sick leave policy (employee/staff manual).**

Schubert moved and Leccese seconded a motion to adopt a policy to allow the accumulation of unused and unpaid sick time for the benefit of additional service credit under IMRF up to the maximum allowed by IMRF (currently 240 days) effectively retroactively to available records as of 1/1/2001. Motion passed 7-0. See # 3 on attached sheet.

Leccese moved and Schubert seconded a motion to adopt a policy to allow the carryover of unused and unpaid sick time up to a maximum of 25 days to be used during FMLA-qualified absences effective 1/1/2017. Motion passed 7-0. See # 4 on attached sheet.

**XII. Any and All Other Business Which May Properly Come Before the Board**  
None

**XIII. Adjournment**

Stone moved and Grala seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.  
Motion passed 7-0. See # 7 on attached sheet.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Monica Leccese, Secretary**

**Text for Motion Sheet**

1. Roll Call at 7:10 p.m.
2. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting for December 13, 2016, the monthly financial statements for the fiscal year through December 31, 2016, the Bill Reports for December 2016/January 2017, and payment of the bills.
3. Motion to adopt a policy to allow the accumulation of unused and unpaid sick time for the benefit of additional service credit under IMRF up to the maximum allowed by IMRF (currently 240 days) effectively retroactively to available records as of 1/1/2001.
4. Motion to adopt a policy to allow the carryover of unused and unpaid sick time up to a maximum of 25 days to be used during FMLA-qualified absences effective 1/1/2017.
5. Motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-7 authorizing the execution of an Employment Separation Agreement, General Release and Waiver between the MPLD and Joseph Drinka.
6. Motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-8 authorizing NIMEC to be our agent in procuring electricity for up to a 36-month period.
7. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

<b>DATE: January 17, 2016 Called to Order: 7:10 p.m.</b>	<b>Kathy Beaderstadt</b>	<b>Margaret Carey</b>	<b>Delphine Grala</b>	<b>Monica Leccese</b>	<b>Charles Reilly</b>	<b>Bradley Schubert</b>	<b>Jill Stone</b>
1. Roll call at 7:10 p.m.	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>
2. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting for December 13, 2016, the monthly financial statements for the fiscal year through December 31, 2016, the Bill Reports for December 2016/January 2017, and payment of the bills.	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(M)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(S)Y</b>
3. Motion to adopt a policy to allow the accumulation of unused and unpaid sick time for the benefit of additional service credit under IMRF up to the maximum allowed by IMRF (currently 240 days) effectively retroactively to available records as of 1/1/2001.	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(S)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(M)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
4. Motion to adopt a policy to allow the carryover of unused and unpaid sick time up to a maximum of 25 days to be used during FMLA-qualified absences effective 1/1/2017.	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(M)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(S)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
5. Motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-7 authorizing the execution of an Employment Separation Agreement, General Release and Waiver between the MPLD and Joseph Drinka.	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(M)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(S)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
6. Motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-8 authorizing NIMEC to be our agent in procuring electricity for up to a 36-month period.	<b>Y</b>	<b>(S)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(M)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
7. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(S)Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>(M)Y</b>

A=Abstain, M=Motion, N=No, NP=Not Present, P=Present, S=Second, Y=Yes

**MCHENRY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**

**COMPILED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**January 31, 2017**

McHenry Public Library District

4:37 PM

Balance Sheet

02/17/2017

As of January 31, 2017

Cash Basis

Jan 31, 17

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1060 - First Midwest Bank-Money Market

1060100 - MM - General - First Midwest 631,108.17

1060200 - MM - Spec Reserve-First Midwest 1,748,217.15

1060300 - MM - Grant & Gift-First Midwest 442,694.05

Total 1060 - First Midwest Bank-Money Market 2,822,019.37

1070100 - HSA/Building - First Midwest 358,206.45

1615100 - General Account - First Midwest 35,561.61

1625100 - Payroll Account - First Midwest 131,555.07

1635100 - Imprest Account - First Midwest 4,775.98

1045100 - PROPAY 8,222.76

1150100 - FirstMerit-MoneyMarket- 4/22/11 200,220.79

Total Checking/Savings 3,560,562.03

Other Current Assets

1005100 - Petty Cash 800.00

Total Other Current Assets 800.00

Total Current Assets 3,561,362.03

TOTAL ASSETS 3,561,362.03

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

3010100 - Fund Balance - General 1,607,104.80

3010200 - Fund Balance - Special Reserve 1,744,332.86

3010300 - Fund Balance - Grants & Gifts 465,934.67

Net Income (256,010.30)

Total Equity 3,561,362.03

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 3,561,362.03

**McHenry Public Library District**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures**  
 January 2017

**4:38 PM**  
**02/17/2017**  
**Cash Basis**  
**Jan 17**

<b>Income</b>	
6030100 · Interest Income - General	53.72
6030200 · Interest Income - Spec Reserve	59.67
6030300 · Interest Income - Grant & Gifts	15.67
6035100 · Dividends	43.00
6050100 · Fines	5,478.90
6055100 · Collection Fees	50.00
6060100 · Photocopier & Fax Income	663.69
6070300 · General Fund Gifts	95.10
6105100 · Staff Cobra/Insurance Payments	1,584.04
6120100 · Meeting Room Fees	100.00
6130100 · Misc Income - General	238.75
6150100 · Lost & Damged Materials	242.12
6200100 · Over/Short	5.01
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,629.67</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>8,629.67</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
8010100 · Adult Books	4,530.20
8020100 · Youth Books	2,523.96
8025100 · Professional Resources	16.94
8028100 · Administrative Resources (GA)	125.99
8030100 · Magazines & Newspapers	41.49
8040300 · Operating Fund Gifts	1,545.16
8050100 · Adult AV Materials	5,810.85
8060100 · Youth AV Materials	1,200.01
8080100 · Video Games	31.99
8090100 · eBook & eMagazine Services	757.13
8095100 · Electronic Subscriptions	2,300.00
8120100 · Library Supplies	214.37
8130100 · Tech Services Supplies	1,704.99
8140100 · Adult Programs & Supplies	2,736.19
8145100 · Circulation Supplies	826.30
8150100 · Youth Programs & Supplies	1,654.82
8215100 · Collection Agency Fees	152.15
8245100 · Comp/OfcEqp/CopierRepairs/Contr	105.00
8310100 · CCS & SIRSI Expenses	11,804.00
8320100 · Network Expenses	4,478.83
8330100 · OCLC Services (cataloging)	1,612.00
8410100 · Payroll Exp, Acctg & Audit Serv	1,279.60
8440100 · In Service Honorarium	164.85
8530100 · Public Notices & Ads	1,240.58
8540100 · Postage	98.19
8550100 · Public Relations/Promotions	295.90
8610100 · Electricity	2,286.48
8620100 · Gas	579.39
8630100 · Telephone	466.99
8635100 · T-1 & other Telecommunications	833.47
8740100 · Building & Grounds	1,757.37
8760100 · Hospitality	665.00

	<u>Jan 17</u>
8770100 · Interlibrary Loan Fees & Losses	14.95
8800311 · Adult Materials - PER CAPITA	1,544.82
8800341 · Other Equipment - PER CAPITA	13,500.00
8910100 · Salaries	125,702.62
8920100 · FICA/Medicare	9,304.85
8930100 · IMRF	13,991.54
8940100 · Health & Life Insurance	2,814.09
8950100 · Tuition Reimbursement	630.00
8960100 · Memberships & Dues	160.99
8970100 · Meetings & Travel	426.37
9060100 · Library Furnishings	778.00
9090100 · Additional Capital Projects	4,584.35
Total Expense	<u>227,292.77</u>
Net Income	<u><u>(218,663.10)</u></u>

**McHenry Public Library District**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures by Class**  
 July 2016 through January 2017

4:39 PM  
 02/17/2017  
 Cash Basis

	100 General Fund	200 Special Reserve Fund	300 Grant and Gift Fund	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>				
6010100 · Property Taxes	1,565,210.51	0.00	0.00	1,565,210.51
6020200 · Developer Fees	0.00	3,470.00	0.00	3,470.00
6030100 · Interest Income - General	404.90	0.00	0.00	404.90
6030200 · Interest Income - Spec Reserve	0.00	414.29	0.00	414.29
6030300 · Interest Income - Grant & Gifts	0.00	0.00	108.61	108.61
6035100 · Dividends	238.20	0.00	0.00	238.20
6040100 · Nonresident & Enhanced Cards	475.00	0.00	0.00	475.00
6050100 · Fines	27,969.44	0.00	0.00	27,969.44
6055100 · Collection Fees	180.00	0.00	0.00	180.00
6060100 · Photocopier & Fax Income	8,719.58	0.00	0.00	8,719.58
6070300 · General Fund Gifts	0.00	0.00	2,092.47	2,092.47
6105100 · Staff Cobra/Insurance Payments	9,428.29	0.00	0.00	9,428.29
6110100 · Program Fees/Misc Fees	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
6120100 · Meeting Room Fees	395.00	0.00	0.00	395.00
6130100 · Misc Income - General	1,908.58	0.00	0.00	1,908.58
6150100 · Lost & Damged Materials	1,926.28	0.00	0.00	1,926.28
6200100 · Over/Short	9.65	0.00	0.00	9.65
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,619,265.43</b>	<b>3,884.29</b>	<b>2,201.08</b>	<b>1,625,350.80</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,619,265.43</b>	<b>3,884.29</b>	<b>2,201.08</b>	<b>1,625,350.80</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
8010100 · Adult Books	51,151.82	0.00	0.00	51,151.82
8020100 · Youth Books	21,205.11	0.00	0.00	21,205.11
8025100 · Professional Resources	4,767.93	0.00	0.00	4,767.93
8028100 · Administrative Resources (GA)	475.94	0.00	0.00	475.94
8030100 · Magazines & Newspapers	12,911.59	0.00	0.00	12,911.59
8040300 · Operating Fund Gifts	0.00	0.00	5,632.44	5,632.44
8050100 · Adult AV Materials	30,489.80	0.00	0.00	30,489.80
8060100 · Youth AV Materials	6,443.04	0.00	0.00	6,443.04
8080100 · Video Games	6,042.92	0.00	0.00	6,042.92
8090100 · eBook & eMagazine Services	19,545.28	0.00	0.00	19,545.28
8095100 · Electronic Subscriptions	40,889.81	0.00	0.00	40,889.81
8110100 · Bank Service Charges	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.81
8120100 · Library Supplies	2,859.58	0.00	0.00	2,859.58
8130100 · Tech Services Supplies	16,582.16	0.00	0.00	16,582.16
8140100 · Adult Programs & Supplies	12,140.30	0.00	0.00	12,140.30
8145100 · Circulation Supplies	3,919.86	0.00	0.00	3,919.86
8147100 · Summer Reading Club	24.08	0.00	0.00	24.08
8150100 · Youth Programs & Supplies	13,727.01	0.00	0.00	13,727.01
8215100 · Collection Agency Fees	760.75	0.00	0.00	760.75
8245100 · Comp/OfcEqp/CopierRepairs/Contr	15,916.74	0.00	0.00	15,916.74
8270100 · Finance/Late Fee Charges	38.10	0.00	0.00	38.10
8310100 · CCS & SIRSI Expenses	41,314.00	0.00	0.00	41,314.00
8320100 · Network Expenses	12,184.35	0.00	0.00	12,184.35
8330100 · OCLC Services (cataloging)	5,642.00	0.00	0.00	5,642.00
8410100 · Payroll Exp, Acctg & Audit Serv	15,112.66	0.00	0.00	15,112.66
8420100 · Legal Services	739.47	0.00	0.00	739.47
8430100 · Automation & Misc Consultants	770.00	0.00	0.00	770.00

	100 General Fund	200 Special Reserve Fund	300 Grant and Gift Fund	TOTAL
8440100 · In Service Honorarium	764.85	0.00	0.00	764.85
8510100 · Printing	17,176.24	0.00	0.00	17,176.24
8530100 · Public Notices & Ads	1,347.88	0.00	0.00	1,347.88
8540100 · Postage	4,792.56	0.00	0.00	4,792.56
8550100 · Public Relations/Promotions	5,271.42	0.00	0.00	5,271.42
8610100 · Electricity	14,217.98	0.00	0.00	14,217.98
8620100 · Gas	1,192.43	0.00	0.00	1,192.43
8630100 · Telephone	3,454.78	0.00	0.00	3,454.78
8635100 · T-1 & other Telecommunications	3,839.47	0.00	0.00	3,839.47
8640100 · Water & Sewer	3,447.55	0.00	0.00	3,447.55
8720100 · Building/Auto Insurance	20,698.00	0.00	0.00	20,698.00
8730100 · Bonding & Officers Liability	5,243.00	0.00	0.00	5,243.00
8740100 · Building & Grounds	29,344.36	0.00	0.00	29,344.36
8760100 · Hospitality	3,276.61	0.00	0.00	3,276.61
8770100 · Interlibrary Loan Fees & Losses	118.70	0.00	0.00	118.70
8800311 · Adult Materials - PER CAPITA	0.00	0.00	6,309.26	6,309.26
8800341 · Other Equipment - PER CAPITA	0.00	0.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
8910100 · Salaries	1,028,341.66	0.00	0.00	1,028,341.66
8920100 · FICA/Medicare	77,402.50	0.00	0.00	77,402.50
8930100 · IMRF	113,455.95	0.00	0.00	113,455.95
8940100 · Health & Life Insurance	153,431.10	0.00	0.00	153,431.10
8950100 · Tuition Reimbursement	1,248.84	0.00	0.00	1,248.84
8960100 · Memberships & Dues	2,215.89	0.00	0.00	2,215.89
8970100 · Meetings & Travel	4,314.94	0.00	0.00	4,314.94
9060100 · Library Furnishings	1,722.79	0.00	0.00	1,722.79
9080100 · Small Equipment Under \$250	(9.30)	0.00	0.00	(9.30)
9090100 · Additional Capital Projects	23,954.09	0.00	0.00	23,954.09
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,855,919.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>25,441.70</b>	<b>1,881,361.10</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(236,653.97)</b>	<b>3,884.29</b>	<b>(23,240.62)</b>	<b>(256,010.30)</b>

**McHenry Public Library District**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2016 through January 2017

**4:43 PM**  
**02/17/2017**  
**Cash Basis**

	<b>Jul '16 - Jan 17</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>				
6010100 · Property Taxes	1,565,210.51	3,180,652.28	(1,615,441.77)	49.21%
6020200 · Developer Fees	3,470.00	25,000.00	(21,530.00)	13.88%
6030100 · Interest Income - General	404.90	5,000.00	(4,595.10)	8.1%
6030200 · Interest Income - Spec Reserve	414.29	3,000.00	(2,585.71)	13.81%
6030300 · Interest Income - Grant & Gifts	108.61	2,500.00	(2,391.39)	4.34%
6035100 · Dividends	238.20	500.00	(261.80)	47.64%
6040100 · Nonresident & Enhanced Cards	475.00	1,000.00	(525.00)	47.5%
6050100 · Fines	27,969.44	55,000.00	(27,030.56)	50.85%
6055100 · Collection Fees	180.00	1,000.00	(820.00)	18.0%
6060100 · Photocopier & Fax Income	8,719.58	17,000.00	(8,280.42)	51.29%
6070200 · Reserve Fund Gifts	0.00	25,000.00	(25,000.00)	0.0%
6070300 · General Fund Gifts	2,092.47	20,000.00	(17,907.53)	10.46%
6090100 · Annexation Impact Fees	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.0%
6090200 · Transfer from General Fund	0.00	800,000.00	(800,000.00)	0.0%
6105100 · Staff Cobra/Insurance Payments	9,428.29	17,000.00	(7,571.71)	55.46%
6110100 · Program Fees/Misc Fees	2,400.00	4,200.00	(1,800.00)	57.14%
6120100 · Meeting Room Fees	395.00	1,000.00	(605.00)	39.5%
6130100 · Misc Income - General	1,908.58	25,000.00	(23,091.42)	7.63%
6130200 · Misc Income - Special Reserve	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.0%
6150100 · Lost & Damged Materials	1,926.28	6,000.00	(4,073.72)	32.11%
6170300 · Per Capita Grant	0.00	84,893.43	(84,893.43)	0.0%
6200100 · Over/Short	9.65	0.00	9.65	100.0%
6210300 · Miscellaneous Grants	0.00	50,000.00	(50,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,625,350.80</b>	<b>4,326,745.71</b>	<b>(2,701,394.91)</b>	<b>37.57%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,625,350.80</b>	<b>4,326,745.71</b>	<b>(2,701,394.91)</b>	<b>37.57%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
8010100 · Adult Books	51,151.82	85,000.00	(33,848.18)	60.18%
8020100 · Youth Books	21,205.11	59,000.00	(37,794.89)	35.94%
8025100 · Professional Resources	4,767.93	3,500.00	1,267.93	136.23%
8028100 · Administrative Resources (GA)	475.94	6,400.00	(5,924.06)	7.44%
8030100 · Magazines & Newspapers	12,911.59	15,000.00	(2,088.41)	86.08%
8040300 · Operating Fund Gifts	5,632.44	448,381.10	(442,748.66)	1.26%
8050100 · Adult AV Materials	30,489.80	62,000.00	(31,510.20)	49.18%
8060100 · Youth AV Materials	6,443.04	16,000.00	(9,556.96)	40.27%
8080100 · Video Games	6,042.92	15,000.00	(8,957.08)	40.29%
8090100 · eBook & eMagazine Services	19,545.28	55,500.00	(35,954.72)	35.22%
8095100 · Electronic Subscriptions	40,889.81	80,000.00	(39,110.19)	51.11%
8110100 · Bank Service Charges	0.81	500.00	(499.19)	0.16%
8120100 · Library Supplies	2,859.58	10,000.00	(7,140.42)	28.6%
8130100 · Tech Services Supplies	16,582.16	57,200.00	(40,617.84)	28.99%
8135100 · Bindery	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	0.0%
8140100 · Adult Programs & Supplies	12,140.30	22,000.00	(9,859.70)	55.18%
8145100 · Circulation Supplies	3,919.86	12,000.00	(8,080.14)	32.67%
8147100 · Summer Reading Club	24.08	7,000.00	(6,975.92)	0.34%
8150100 · Youth Programs & Supplies	13,727.01	21,500.00	(7,772.99)	63.85%
8215100 · Collection Agency Fees	760.75	1,500.00	(739.25)	50.72%
8245100 · Comp/OfcEqp/CopierRepairs/Contr	15,916.74	59,000.00	(43,083.26)	26.98%

	<b>Jul '16 - Jan 17</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
8260100 · Misc Contracted Services	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.0%
8270100 · Finance/Late Fee Charges	38.10	500.00	(461.90)	7.62%
8310100 · CCS & SIRSI Expenses	41,314.00	80,000.00	(38,686.00)	51.64%
8320100 · Network Expenses	12,184.35	25,000.00	(12,815.65)	48.74%
8330100 · OCLC Services (cataloging)	5,642.00	8,000.00	(2,358.00)	70.53%
8410100 · Payroll Exp, Acctg & Audit Serv	15,112.66	28,000.00	(12,887.34)	53.97%
8420100 · Legal Services	739.47	1,500.00	(760.53)	49.3%
8430100 · Automation & Misc Consultants	770.00	14,000.00	(13,230.00)	5.5%
8440100 · In Service Honorarium	764.85	1,000.00	(235.15)	76.49%
8510100 · Printing	17,176.24	36,000.00	(18,823.76)	47.71%
8530100 · Public Notices & Ads	1,347.88	3,000.00	(1,652.12)	44.93%
8540100 · Postage	4,792.56	18,000.00	(13,207.44)	26.63%
8550100 · Public Relations/Promotions	5,271.42	10,000.00	(4,728.58)	52.71%
8610100 · Electricity	14,217.98	25,000.00	(10,782.02)	56.87%
8620100 · Gas	1,192.43	2,500.00	(1,307.57)	47.7%
8630100 · Telephone	3,454.78	13,500.00	(10,045.22)	25.59%
8635100 · T-1 & other Telecommunications	3,839.47	7,000.00	(3,160.53)	54.85%
8640100 · Water & Sewer	3,447.55	3,500.00	(52.45)	98.5%
8720100 · Building/Auto Insurance	20,698.00	32,000.00	(11,302.00)	64.68%
8730100 · Bonding & Officers Liability	5,243.00	5,500.00	(257.00)	95.33%
8740100 · Building & Grounds	29,344.36	54,000.00	(24,655.64)	54.34%
8760100 · Hospitality	3,276.61	13,000.00	(9,723.39)	25.21%
8770100 · Interlibrary Loan Fees & Losses	118.70	700.00	(581.30)	16.96%
8795100 · Miscellaneous (FH)	0.00	4,000.00	(4,000.00)	0.0%
8800300 · Per Capita Grant expense for FY	0.00	32,393.43	(32,393.43)	0.0%
8800311 · Adult Materials - PER CAPITA	6,309.26	0.00	6,309.26	100.0%
8800341 · Other Equipment - PER CAPITA	13,500.00	0.00	13,500.00	100.0%
8910100 · Salaries	1,028,341.66	1,810,000.00	(781,658.34)	56.81%
8920100 · FICA/Medicare	77,402.50	145,000.00	(67,597.50)	53.38%
8930100 · IMRF	113,455.95	180,000.00	(66,544.05)	63.03%
8940100 · Health & Life Insurance	153,431.10	260,000.00	(106,568.90)	59.01%
8950100 · Tuition Reimbursement	1,248.84	9,000.00	(7,751.16)	13.88%
8960100 · Memberships & Dues	2,215.89	8,000.00	(5,784.11)	27.7%
8970100 · Meetings & Travel	4,314.94	14,000.00	(9,685.06)	30.82%
9030300 · Misc Grants	0.00	25,000.00	(25,000.00)	0.0%
9050200 · Library District Act	0.00	150,000.00	(150,000.00)	0.0%
9060100 · Library Furnishings	1,722.79	35,000.00	(33,277.21)	4.92%
9070100 · Library Equipment	0.00	70,000.00	(70,000.00)	0.0%
9080100 · Small Equipment Under \$250	(9.30)	10,000.00	(10,009.30)	(0.09%)
9090100 · Additional Capital Projects	23,954.09	320,000.00	(296,045.91)	7.49%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,881,361.10</b>	<b>4,492,724.53</b>	<b>(2,611,363.43)</b>	<b>41.88%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(256,010.30)</b>	<b>(165,978.82)</b>	<b>(90,031.48)</b>	<b>154.24%</b>

## Statement of Revenue and Expenditures Budget vs. Actual

02/17/2017

July 1, 2016 - January 31, 2017 - General Fund

Cash Basis

	Jul '16 - Jan 17	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
6010100 · Property Taxes	1,565,210.51	3,180,652.28	(1,615,441.77)	49.21%
6030100 · Interest Income - General	404.90	5,000.00	(4,595.10)	8.1%
6035100 · Dividends	238.20	500.00	(261.80)	47.64%
6040100 · Nonresident & Enhanced Cards	475.00	1,000.00	(525.00)	47.5%
6050100 · Fines	27,969.44	55,000.00	(27,030.56)	50.85%
6055100 · Collection Fees	180.00	1,000.00	(820.00)	18.0%
6060100 · Photocopier & Fax Income	8,719.58	17,000.00	(8,280.42)	51.29%
6090100 · Annexation Impact Fees	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.0%
6105100 · Staff Cobra/Insurance Payments	9,428.29	17,000.00	(7,571.71)	55.46%
6110100 · Program Fees/Misc Fees	2,400.00	4,200.00	(1,800.00)	57.14%
6120100 · Meeting Room Fees	395.00	1,000.00	(605.00)	39.5%
6130100 · Misc Income - General	1,908.58	25,000.00	(23,091.42)	7.63%
6150100 · Lost & Damged Materials	1,926.28	6,000.00	(4,073.72)	32.11%
6200100 · Over/Short	9.65	0.00	9.65	100.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,619,265.43</b>	<b>3,314,352.28</b>	<b>(1,695,086.85)</b>	<b>48.86%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,619,265.43</b>	<b>3,314,352.28</b>	<b>(1,695,086.85)</b>	<b>48.86%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
8010100 · Adult Books	51,151.82	85,000.00	(33,848.18)	60.18%
8020100 · Youth Books	21,205.11	59,000.00	(37,794.89)	35.94%
8025100 · Professional Resources	4,767.93	3,500.00	1,267.93	136.23%
8028100 · Administrative Resources (GA)	475.94	6,400.00	(5,924.06)	7.44%
8030100 · Magazines & Newspapers	12,911.59	15,000.00	(2,088.41)	86.08%
8050100 · Adult AV Materials	30,489.80	62,000.00	(31,510.20)	49.18%
8060100 · Youth AV Materials	6,443.04	16,000.00	(9,556.96)	40.27%
8080100 · Video Games	6,042.92	15,000.00	(8,957.08)	40.29%
8090100 · eBook & eMagazine Services	19,545.28	55,500.00	(35,954.72)	35.22%
8095100 · Electronic Subscriptions	40,889.81	80,000.00	(39,110.19)	51.11%
8110100 · Bank Service Charges	0.81	500.00	(499.19)	0.16%
8120100 · Library Supplies	2,859.58	10,000.00	(7,140.42)	28.6%
8130100 · Tech Services Supplies	16,582.16	57,200.00	(40,617.84)	28.99%
8135100 · Bindery	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	0.0%
8140100 · Adult Programs & Supplies	12,140.30	22,000.00	(9,859.70)	55.18%
8145100 · Circulation Supplies	3,919.86	12,000.00	(8,080.14)	32.67%
8147100 · Summer Reading Club	24.08	7,000.00	(6,975.92)	0.34%
8150100 · Youth Programs & Supplies	13,727.01	21,500.00	(7,772.99)	63.85%
8215100 · Collection Agency Fees	760.75	1,500.00	(739.25)	50.72%
8245100 · Comp/OfcEqp/CopierRepairs/Contr	15,916.74	59,000.00	(43,083.26)	26.98%
8260100 · Misc Contracted Services	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.0%
8270100 · Finance/Late Fee Charges	38.10	500.00	(461.90)	7.62%
8310100 · CCS & SIRSI Expenses	41,314.00	80,000.00	(38,686.00)	51.64%
8320100 · Network Expenses	12,184.35	25,000.00	(12,815.65)	48.74%
8330100 · OCLC Services (cataloging)	5,642.00	8,000.00	(2,358.00)	70.53%
8410100 · Payroll Exp, Acctg & Audit Serv	15,112.66	28,000.00	(12,887.34)	53.97%
8420100 · Legal Services	739.47	1,500.00	(760.53)	49.3%
8430100 · Automation & Misc Consultants	770.00	14,000.00	(13,230.00)	5.5%
8440100 · In Service Honorarium	764.85	1,000.00	(235.15)	76.49%
8510100 · Printing	17,176.24	36,000.00	(18,823.76)	47.71%

	<b>Jul '16 - Jan 17</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
8530100 · Public Notices & Ads	1,347.88	3,000.00	(1,652.12)	44.93%
8540100 · Postage	4,792.56	18,000.00	(13,207.44)	26.63%
8550100 · Public Relations/Promotions	5,271.42	10,000.00	(4,728.58)	52.71%
8610100 · Electricity	14,217.98	25,000.00	(10,782.02)	56.87%
8620100 · Gas	1,192.43	2,500.00	(1,307.57)	47.7%
8630100 · Telephone	3,454.78	13,500.00	(10,045.22)	25.59%
8635100 · T-1 & other Telecommunications	3,839.47	7,000.00	(3,160.53)	54.85%
8640100 · Water & Sewer	3,447.55	3,500.00	(52.45)	98.5%
8720100 · Building/Auto Insurance	20,698.00	32,000.00	(11,302.00)	64.68%
8730100 · Bonding & Officers Liability	5,243.00	5,500.00	(257.00)	95.33%
8740100 · Building & Grounds	29,344.36	54,000.00	(24,655.64)	54.34%
8760100 · Hospitality	3,276.61	13,000.00	(9,723.39)	25.21%
8770100 · Interlibrary Loan Fees & Losses	118.70	700.00	(581.30)	16.96%
8795100 · Miscellaneous (FH)	0.00	4,000.00	(4,000.00)	0.0%
8910100 · Salaries	1,028,341.66	1,810,000.00	(781,658.34)	56.81%
8920100 · FICA/Medicare	77,402.50	145,000.00	(67,597.50)	53.38%
8930100 · IMRF	113,455.95	180,000.00	(66,544.05)	63.03%
8940100 · Health & Life Insurance	153,431.10	260,000.00	(106,568.90)	59.01%
8950100 · Tuition Reimbursement	1,248.84	9,000.00	(7,751.16)	13.88%
8960100 · Memberships & Dues	2,215.89	8,000.00	(5,784.11)	27.7%
8970100 · Meetings & Travel	4,314.94	14,000.00	(9,685.06)	30.82%
9060100 · Library Furnishings	1,722.79	35,000.00	(33,277.21)	4.92%
9070100 · Library Equipment	0.00	70,000.00	(70,000.00)	0.0%
9080100 · Small Equipment Under \$250	(9.30)	10,000.00	(10,009.30)	(0.09%)
9090100 · Additional Capital Projects	23,954.09	320,000.00	(296,045.91)	7.49%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,855,919.40</b>	<b>3,836,950.00</b>	<b>(1,981,030.60)</b>	<b>48.37%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(236,653.97)</b>	<b>(522,597.72)</b>	<b>285,943.75</b>	<b>45.28%</b>

**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Budget vs. Actual**

02/17/2017

July 1, 2016 - January 31, 2017 -Special Reserve Fund

Cash Basis

	<b>Jul '16 - Jan 17</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>				
<b>6020200 · Developer Fees</b>	3,470.00	25,000.00	(21,530.00)	13.88%
<b>6030200 · Interest Income - Spec Reserve</b>	414.29	3,000.00	(2,585.71)	13.81%
<b>6070200 · Reserve Fund Gifts</b>	0.00	25,000.00	(25,000.00)	0.0%
<b>6090200 · Transfer from General Fund</b>	0.00	800,000.00	(800,000.00)	0.0%
<b>6130200 · Misc Income - Special Reserve</b>	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,884.29</b>	<b>855,000.00</b>	<b>(851,115.71)</b>	<b>0.45%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>3,884.29</b>	<b>855,000.00</b>	<b>(851,115.71)</b>	<b>0.45%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>9050200 · Library District Act</b>	0.00	150,000.00	(150,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>(150,000.00)</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>3,884.29</b>	<b>705,000.00</b>	<b>(701,115.71)</b>	<b>0.55%</b>

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Budget vs. Actual

02/17/2017

July 1, 2016 - January 31, 2017 - Grant and Gift Fund

Cash Basis

	<b>Jul '16 - Jan 17</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>				
6030300 · Interest Income - Grant & Gifts	108.61	2,500.00	(2,391.39)	4.34%
6070300 · General Fund Gifts	2,092.47	20,000.00	(17,907.53)	10.46%
6170300 · Per Capita Grant	0.00	84,893.43	(84,893.43)	0.0%
6210300 · Miscellaneous Grants	0.00	50,000.00	(50,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,201.08</b>	<b>157,393.43</b>	<b>(155,192.35)</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>2,201.08</b>	<b>157,393.43</b>	<b>(155,192.35)</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
8040300 · Operating Fund Gifts	5,632.44	448,381.10	(442,748.66)	1.26%
8800300 · Per Capita Grant expense for FY	0.00	32,393.43	(32,393.43)	0.0%
8800311 · Adult Materials - PER CAPITA	6,309.26	0.00	6,309.26	100.0%
8800341 · Other Equipment - PER CAPITA	13,500.00	0.00	13,500.00	100.0%
9030300 · Misc Grants	0.00	25,000.00	(25,000.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>25,441.70</b>	<b>505,774.53</b>	<b>(480,332.83)</b>	<b>5.03%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(23,240.62)</b>	<b>(348,381.10)</b>	<b>325,140.48</b>	<b>6.67%</b>

**McHenry Public Library District  
 INTERIM CHECKS ISSUED - January 2017  
 (NOT INCLUDED ON BILL REPORT)**

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>Account - Money Market</u> <u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCT#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK</u>
	(no checks written on this account)				
	<b>subtotal for account</b>	<b>\$ -</b>			

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>Account - General Fund</u> <u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCT#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK</u>
Comcast	T-1 and other Telecommunications	\$ 247.80	8635-100	01/05/17	EFT
Comcast	T-1 and other Telecommunications	\$ 247.80	8635-100	01/06/17	EFT
Harland Clarke Check Order	Library Supplies	\$ 184.37	8120-100	01/19/17	EFT
	<b>subtotal for account</b>	<b>\$ 247.80</b>			

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>Account - HSA/Building</u> <u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCT#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK</u>
First Midwest Bank	employee contributions HSA	\$ 219.00	8940-100	01/03/17	EFT
First Midwest Bank	<b>employer contributions HSA</b>	\$ 300.00	8940-100	01/03/17	EFT
First Midwest Bank	employee contributions HSA	\$ 922.68	8940-100	01/18/17	EFT
First Midwest Bank	<b>employer contributions HSA</b>	\$ 1,700.00	8940-100	01/18/17	EFT
First Midwest Bank	employee contributions HSA	\$ 922.68	8940-100	01/30/17	EFT
	<b>subtotal for account</b>	<b>\$ 4,064.36</b>			

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>Account - Payroll</u> <u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCT#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK</u>
IL Municipal Retirement Fund IMRF		\$ 31,671.27	8930-100	01/30/17	EFT
	<b>subtotal for account</b>	<b>\$ 31,671.27</b>			

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>Account - Imprest</u> <u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCT#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHECK</u>
VSP - Vision Service Plan (IL) Health Insurance		\$ 224.02	8940-100	01/26/17	1132
	<b>subtotal for account</b>	<b>\$ 224.02</b>			

**GRAND TOTAL CHECKS ISSUED \$ 36,207.45**



809 North Front Street

McHenry, Illinois

60050-5578

Phone: 815.385.0036

Fax: 815.385.7085

[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org)

Anne Brown  
5203 Winslow Circle, Apt. A  
McHenry, IL 60050  
January 18, 2017

Dear Anne Brown:

Thank you for your donation of a NXG brand 360° Wireless Indoor/Outdoor Speaker System, Model NX-WRLS1, to the McHenry Public Library District. It will be a useful addition to our library's technology, especially for outdoor children's programs.

Your donation, which was made on November 1, 2016 but only brought to my attention recently, is very much appreciated by the staff here at McHenry Public Library District and will be appreciated in the future by the residents of the library district.

Sincerely,

Bill Edminster  
Assistant Director

**James C. Scholtz**

Executive Director

[jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org)



809 North Front Street

McHenry, Illinois

60050-5578

Phone: 815.385.0036

Fax: 815.385.7085

[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org)

Susan J. Buchholz  
921 South Emerson  
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056  
January 13, 2017

Dear Susan Buchholz:

Thank you for your donation in memory of Mrs. Robin Fossum Weber to the McHenry Public Library.

The books that we ordered are *The Chemist* by Stephenie Myers, *Home Sweet Home* by April Smith, *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, and *The Owl Always Hunts at Night* by Samuel Bjork.

As each book arrives, we will put a bookplate in it commemorating your donation and your regard for Mrs. Weber.

We are honored that you chose to express your appreciation for Mrs. Weber with a gift to our library.

Sincerely,

Bill Edminster  
Assistant Director

**James C. Scholtz**

Executive Director

[jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org)



809 North Front Street

McHenry, Illinois

60050-5578

Phone: 815.385.0036

Fax: 815.385.7085

[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org)

Mr. Jay Weber  
807 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> North Street  
Mt. Olive, IL 62069  
January 13, 2017

Dear Mr. Weber:

Susan J. Buchholz has made a donation in memory of Robin Fossum Weber to the McHenry Public Library. She told us that Mrs. Weber was an avid reader and we have used her donation to order four books. We anticipate that these books will be very popular and hope that Mrs. Weber might have enjoyed reading some of them.

The books that we ordered are *The Chemist* by Stephenie Myers, *Home Sweet Home* by April Smith, *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, and *The Owl Always Hunts at Night* by Samuel Bjork.

As each book arrives we will put a bookplate in each so that readers will appreciate the regard that Susan Buchholz feels toward Robin Fossum Weber.

We here are honored to have been chosen to commemorate Mrs. Weber's life and the affection that Mrs. Buchholz felt for her.

Sincerely,

Bill Edminster  
Assistant Director

**James C. Scholtz**

Executive Director

[jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org)

## McHenry Public Library District

### LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

January 2017

#### Administration

- J. Scholtz attended McHenry County Library Directors meeting at Cary 1/27 + city ad hoc mtg. 2/16 (Mayor Low's last meeting).
- B. Edminster attended the RAILS Assistant Directors' Networking Group at Addison, 1/27. He was able to share McHenry's experience with Career Online High School.
- CCS makes decision for new ILS - Polaris (Innovative) chosen. 2/1 CCS Governing Bd. Voted to engage in negotiations with Polaris with switchover ending Spring 2018. Also, CCS will be remodeling headquarters to include a centralized training center – invaluable for new ILS training.
- Scholtz attended Rte. 31 remodel/expansion meeting at Shah Center, 2/8. Scholtz is trying to coordinate building of sanitary sewer with the tear-up of Rte. 31 (working with State and City), if possible. Calls to city, state project manager and Eriksson Engineering.
- Scholtz – calls to Northern Micrographics and Shaw Media with emails to McHenry County Historical Society to authorize/coordinate the digitization of the *Plaindealer* (1875-1985) and make it available on the web via Rescarta. Hopefully, Shaw Media will give us permission to digitize the film. The *Plaindealer* is already available through Newsbank.
- B. Edminster represented the library at the Character Counts! Coalition meeting, 2/9.
- B. Edminster represented the library at the Friends of the Library meeting, 2/16.
- B. Edminster led the Classic Book Group in its discussion of *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo, 2/20.
- B. Edminster and a library team will be shaving their heads to raise money to fight pediatric cancer at the St. Baldrick's Community Shave, 3/16.
- Scholtz met with Iver Johnson 2/8. Sanitary sewer issue was hopefully resolved with help from original work vendor.
- Scholtz completed RFP for RFID project. Will be sending RFP out to vendors within next 2 weeks pending board approval, 2/21.
- Travel and miscellaneous reimbursements will now be paid out on the employees payroll checks every two weeks instead of monthly by D. Gunness.
- D. Gunness is collecting the necessary sick time information for the changes in the new MPLD sick leave policy.

#### Adult Services

- Bidding a fond farewell to a wonderful colleague, L. Mann after ten years of devoted service to this library from page to Librarian I. We wish you all the best in your new position as Head of Adult Services at Sycamore Public Library.
- Compiling microfilm count for J. Scholtz. T. Hillier
- Scanned and uploaded donated telephone directories. T. Hillier
- Nonfiction has been weeded. Re-shifting of nonfiction materials due to more room on shelves will begin the middle of March.
- Attended People in Need Forum. Z. Terrill
- Jamie from the Steger-South Chicago Heights Library contacted me in regards to our homebound program. Steger-South Library is looking to start their own program and wanted information on how MPLD runs the homebound program. I shared with her copies of the forms we use, also the Senior Services and Outreach brochures which we distribute to local community organizations. LM

- I had a patron who had been looking at some of our pictures and plaques outside the study rooms and was curious about the history of the library. He wanted to know when and why the library moved over from the Green Street building. I spoke to him a little bit about what I remembered from the library's history that is outlined on the library's website. I also printed the history of the library from the website. He was very grateful and told me that this is the nicest library that he has been to in a long time. ZT

## **Building Services**

- Main Library red rubber flooring is in the process of being waxed.
- This winter thus far, we have used 18 pallets of salt which equals 44,100 pounds.
- Partition wall in main meeting room was recently maintained by contractor.
- Zero turn plow additions were made by adding handle and a spring upgrade.

## **Circulation**

- S. Willis reports 122 expired holds were pulled.
- It was announced that Barb Majka would be the new Circulation Manager, Barb started 2/6 (Welcome!!).
- S. Willis and L. Rex worked to cover all the opening and closing hours in January.
- J. Stevens and K. Johnson worked extra hours to help cover the loss of A. Nicholls.

## **Human Resources**

- One employee terminated: A. Nicholls (1/03)
- As of 2/01/2017, we have 50 employees (29 full-time and 21 part-time) and our FTE is now at 39 employees.
- Offer extended and accepted for the Circulation Manager position. Hire date of 2/6/17 is planned.
- Approval received to hire two (2) part-time Associate Librarians – both at 20 hours per week. Received approx. 20 applicants and pre-screened six (6) applicants and scheduled those individuals for on-site interviews with the YPS Manager.
- Salary Increase Information: Data is pulled from a minimum of 3 months (vs. monthly) to maintain confidentiality and also provide meaningful numbers.
  - Average Salary increase for the Last 3 months – 3%
    - This average calculation is missing data from one employee whose salary increase has not yet been submitted.
  - Average Salary increase for the FY 2016-2017 (year-to-date) – 2.72%
    - This average calculation is missing data from two employees whose salary increases have not yet been submitted.
    - Fiscal YTD: two employees did not receive an increase due to performance and two employees have received lump-sum merit payments vs. an increase to their base salary
- Had several discussions with department managers regarding employee issues of low-mid level complexity.
- Resolved final issues regarding open enrollment for 1-01-17 benefits (Dental and Supplemental Life).

- Worked with Debbie G and our payroll vendor to resolve issues & errors on our system following our switch to display PTO (vacation, personal, sick) accruals per pay period (vs. per calendar year).
- MPLD was one of many area businesses invited to participate in the “Break Your Boundaries” weight-loss challenge. We enrolled 22 participants (over 40% of our staff) in this health initiative. Centegra representatives conducted pre-challenge weigh-ins and measurements on January 4<sup>th</sup> and also presented a nutritional educational session on January 20<sup>th</sup>
- In addition to the weekly information provided by Centegra, I have provided a weekly “healthy tip” and collaborated with the AS Manager for library resources (books) on weight loss/healthy lifestyles.
- Participated in HR Roundtable (sponsored by Management Association) at the Palatine Public Library.
- Attended the Manager’s Meeting and led discussion on a few HR-related agenda items.
- Attended Board of Trustees meeting to discuss revisions to Sick Leave policy and accounting for IMRF credited service benefit based on unused/unpaid sick days.
- Met with representatives from ADP and Paylocity regarding their HRIS/Payroll products.
- Met with representative from CAFCU for introductory meeting.

## **Public Relations**

- Laid out March/April/May *Preface* newsletter, which will be mailed to 21,000 households on February 10.
- Coordinated with McHenry County Land Conservancy to display their annual photography contest entries in our Meeting Room hallway during the month of February.
- Prepared printed materials for Winter Reading Program; promoted program through various media.
- Promoted upcoming events via website, Social Media, indoor/outdoor electronic signage and e-newsletter.
- Updated website and staff intranet as needed.
- Coordinated AARP Tax Aide program with its coordinator to have Storytime Room booked and set up for their Feb. 7 start date. Promoted the service to the community.
- Assisted Sunshine Committee with monthly birthday celebration.
- Attended management team meeting.
- Attended Centegra “Break Your Boundaries” corporate weight loss challenge workshop.

## **Technical Services**

- K. Meadows coordinated with D. Lavin and P. Radic to complete the annual magazine shifting and withdrawal of the old magazines.
- K. Kimbrel worked with D. Lavin to solidify recently acquired knowledge of the RDA (Resource Description and Access) cataloging standard.
- D. Lavin worked with K. Meadows and P. Radic to teach Google spreadsheets.
- K. Walker completed a project updating the status of materials orders prior to FY2016-2017.
- K. Walker ran the Dungeons and Dragons event, Jan. 10.
- K. Kimbrel, D. Lavin, K. Meadows, P. Radic, K. Walker and K. Milfajt participated in Technical Services Department meeting, Jan. 18.
- D. Lavin attended an Infopeople webinar, Jan. 19.
- K. Meadows, K. Walker and K. Milfajt attended Break Your Boundaries workshop, Jan. 20.

- K. Milfajt participated in Collection Development meeting, Jan. 3, attended the Project Laulima Cataloging online meeting with Polaris, Jan. 4, facilitated Contemporary Book Group, Jan 9, participated in Management Team meeting, Jan. 10, attended Polaris Simply Reports online demo, Jan. 16, and attended SCRAP, Jan. 18.

## Technology

- Patrons accessed the Wi-Fi 1000 unique users during December.
- This month MPLit closed 58 Helpdesk tickets.
- MPLit performed our routine maintenance of our patron and staff workstations
- MPLit added a phone to Deb Lavin's desk
- MPLit bought and setup new laptops for Adult and youth.
- We made the switch from CallOne to Comcast for our Phone provider.

## Youth Services

- Afterschool Snack Program: 15 snacks served this month and 28 adults attendee with their child.
- Spanish Language Interactions: Adult: 88, Teen: 29, Children: 160
- The Youth Services Department rolled out the *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten* reading program. Families are encourage to read every day with their child and aim to read 1,000 book before the child starts kindergarten as this will help close the vocabulary gap. The program has been well received as 40 kids were signed up in the first 2 weeks. This program is funded in part by the Friends of the McHenry Library. M. Dineen and R. Raleigh were instrumental in getting the program started by creating the reading logs, pulling together materials and promoting the program.
- J. Velasquez visited Valley View's Bilingual K/1 classroom on January 18, with an Invierno (Winter) theme. Kids loved *Oso polar, oso polar, ¿que es ese ruido?* because they could make animal sounds! We also shared selections from the Award-winning *Iguanas in the Snow* and *Other Winter Poems/Iguanas en la nieve y otros poemas de invierno* by Francisco Alarcón, with die cut snowflakes falling as "nieve" (snow).
- G. Doolan hosted a family night for Shepard of the Hills Preschool. The kids were treated to a storytime and then the parents were given a tour of the library, learned about library services for their children and given an introduction to our newest online service *Miss Humblebee's Academy*.
- C. Bergan hosted Valley View 5th grade tours and book talks at the library. This was the first time that we had 5th graders come for a tour in a long time. C. Bergan has since helped about five or six students find books from the book talks, helped them place holds, or suggest read alikes when books were out.
- M. Cairo worked with a variety of special needs groups in January. She hosted groups from Prairiewood School in Woodstock, Valley View School and Pioneer Center residents. These groups have a variety of cognitive abilities and M. Cairo works to tailor the tours and storytimes to a level that engages them and adds sensory features to the activities.
- L. Jakacki chaired the January meeting of the North Suburban Digital Consortium. Again the main topic of the meeting was funding to purchase new materials and fill holds at a rate similar to print copies in libraries. The consortium saw a 18% increase in circulation and a 8% increase in users in 2016.
- Tawnee Calhoun and Steffanie Baseley have been hired as new Assistant Librarian's in YS Dept. Starting dates TBD. Welcome!!

## **Statistics and Highlights Narrative**

Legend – ABk – Adult Books; JBk – Children's Books; PBk – Paperback Books; AudBk – Audio books; JAudBk – Children's Audio books; ILL – Interlibrary loan; Vid/DVD – Videos/DVDs; JVid/DVD – Children's Videos/DVDs; Oth - Other

The TS Dept. added xxxx items (-xxx%) and withdrew xxx (+xx%) compared with August 2016. Staff also mended 1424 items (-22%) and processed 1582 new items (-21%). Overall circulation decreased by (-1%) from the previous year/month and we were open 2 more days (29). All areas except AAud and Vid/DVD decreased in Circulation. Holds increased (+13% but renewal decreased (-4%). Patron traffic increased by +10% (16,750 but the video count ave. was only 15,094.

Also our eMagazine/Zinio was at (-19%) with digital downloads (+1%, 2228), Zinio and Hoopla were at (-19% and +25% respectively. Internet use (Adult +8 and youth +15%) but overall, use declined by -4%). Our study room use increased by (+17%) but meeting room use declined (-16%). Programs for all age groups were up – (adult +38%; child +11%; teen +50%).

## **UpComing Events and Projects**

- Solar panels/array to be installed March/April – 1<sup>st</sup> construction mtg 2/20.
- Round Lake PL board coming for visit-tour + board meeting 2/22.
- State of McHenry luncheon – J. Scholtz attending 2/22 (11:30-2pm)
- McHenry Chamber Business Expo – library exhibiting (2/25 – 10am – 4pm) K. Lambert, J. Scholtz + possible other staff) – McHenry West High School
- Consolidated election – 4/4 (MPLD is polling place) – 3 library trustees up for re-election.
- Meet with Gillespie Design, Eriksson Engineering, IDOT and City about site expansion plans/entry re-location, lift station idea, land acquisition for Rte 31 expansion and sanitary sewer solution.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**  
**MCHENRY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

**Date:** December 13, 2016

**Time:** 7:58 p.m.

**Location:** Library Board Meeting Room

**Members Present:** Kathy Baderstadt, Margaret Carey, Delphine Grala, Monica Leccese, Charles Reilly, Bradley Schubert, and Jill Stone

**Members Absent:** None

During Executive Session, the Board discussed the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body in compliance with the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 section 2(c)(1) and review and release of the November 15, 2016 executive session minutes.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Leccese, Secretary

Text for Motion Sheet

1. Roll Call

<b>DATE: December 13, 2016 Called to Order: 7:58 p.m.</b>	<b>Kathy Baderstadt</b>	<b>Margaret Carey</b>	<b>Delphine Grala</b>	<b>Monica Leccese</b>	<b>Charles Reilly</b>	<b>Bradley Schubert</b>	<b>Jill Stone</b>
1. Roll call	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>

A=Abstain, M=Motion, N=No, NP=Not Present, P=Present, S=Second, Y=Yes



**McHenry Public Library District**  
**809 N. Front St.**  
**McHenry, IL 60050**  
**815.385.0036; FAX 815.385.7085**

## MEMO

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**TO:** MPLD Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Jim Scholtz, Executive Director, MPLD  
**RE:** **2017 Potential Projects – NEW board update**  
**DATE:** 2/21/2017

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The purpose of this memo is to outline some of the potential projects looming before the MPLD in 2017 and beyond so that the board/administration can prioritize them relative to the budget, calendar of events and the strategic plan. I would like to elicit board and staff opinions regarding these projects, budget and time schedules. Hopefully, we will begin discussion of these projects in January 2017 and beyond:

1) Retrofit and enlarge the existing solar panel array (scheduled for 4/2017, weather dependent)

Retrofitting and enlarging the solar array will hopefully begin in Mid-March 2017, weather dependent. P. Labera, Magiteck Energy Solutions, Inc. will meet with me 2/20. 20kWh total new panels + new structure, SREC credits to enhance payback. Est. \$53,000.

2) Staff/board visits to other area libraries concerning RFID, gates, self-checks, etc.

J. Scholtz completed RFID RFP. Board will authorize document to be sent out 2/21/17. Envisionware, MK Solutions, 3M, and Tech Logic will be sent RFP. Implementation of system to correspond with new ILS (CCS – Polaris) implementation, Spring 2018. Est. \$250,000.

3) Repair/replacement of main floor carpeting – project involves closing library, moving books/stacks, carpet removal + floor prep for new carpet, new carpet installation. Original carpet cannot be repaired easily/well and may cause a tripping issue for staff/patrons – needs to be replaced but only if we plan to occupy this building for 5+ years.

Mueller Interiors (Crystal Lake) contacted. Depending upon price/vendor, we may have to go out for bid but they have done work for us before – GSA pricing?? No pricing on carpeting removal/replacement yet. I've also been in contact with Hallett Moving Co. to look at moving library stacks relative to this project – \$19,760 for moving stacks.

4) Discussion with Gillespie Design concerning a new annex (for YS Dept.+ meeting rooms). This project could be combined with #3 (a necessity) and/or #5? Could we site the annex for use now and continued use if attached to a new building to the North/West? (Sometime in future)

5) Installation of a lift station for sanitary sewer to replace shared system (must this project be done to accommodate #4? It involves the DOT.) (est. \$256,000)

I attended 1<sup>st</sup> IDOT meeting for re-construction of Rte 31 (2/8). We can barter land acquisition of our property for replacement of our community sanitary sewer line (not recommended) or attachment to an already installed lift station (attaching to city owned sewer on East side of Rte. 31). Est. for lift station project, \$256,000). When is IDOT doing the project?

What kind of carpet repairs can we make to the existing carpet/seams to extend the life of the carpet (originally installed in 1994)? Could we do #3 without doing #4? – Yes. But, if we are thinking about doing #4, how long should we wait to do it because #3 only gets worse? How do we fund #3 and 4? Do we need to do #5 before OR co-incidentally with #4 (due to state/city building codes)? In terms of moving YS, what would we use the existing space for – how would we rearrange space for Adult? For # 3 and #4, we would need to be closed to the public for a period of time – possibly to staff as well. If there is a short period of time between the 2 projects, it would be best to link them together to be closed for the shortest amount of time, accomplishing the most activities/changes at one time (my opinion). We would also spend less money relative to the two projects.

Underlying these projects is the ultimate question – Are we going to stay in this building and, if ‘yes’, how long? Will it be worth it to build an addition/annex, install new carpeting, etc.? My initial answer to this question after being in the community for 9+ years is “Yes.” It would be much more expensive to build a new library and building referendums don’t have much success in this area. We could potentially do all of these projects with ‘saved’ money - very little financing.

**McHenry Public Library District Request for Proposal**

RFP# 2-03-2017-1  
RFID Equipment Purchase, Installation and Item Conversion

Date: 2-03-2017

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## **Introduction**

The McHenry Public Library District (MPLD) (here after referred to as the Library or MPLD) is seeking proposals for a turnkey Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) total solution from qualified companies to replace and enhance an existing, outdated but functioning 3M/Checkpoint magnetic solution. The RFID System will be used for staff assisted and patron check-in and check-out processes, theft prevention, and inventory. Preference will be given to the vendors who can provide an 'all-in-one' solution, rather than providing piecemeal equipment and software. The proposed solution should include the following items, specifications and pricing:

RFID equipment, hardware, software, non-proprietary ISO15963 RFID tags, RFID workstation kits, RFID compatible self-checkout stations, security gates, hand-held inventory wand [and/or associated equipment], and one or more tagging stations and in/out security gates for 1 exit/entrance (+ gate/people counter) plus automated sorting system (AMH, 3-5 bins) with capability for additional bins in the future. The successful bidder will also include professional services for installation, implementation, project management, initial software/hardware training for staff and the provision of ongoing support/maintenance contract along with valid warranties on work/installed equipment. Payment will be made after successful on-site bench testing, either as an entire unit or after certain benchmark goals have been met.

## **Pertinent Library Statistics**

The McHenry Public Library District (MPLD) is located in McHenry, IL (McHenry County).

# Circulations:	729,000 (2016)
# Patrons:	42,023 patrons served
# Branches:	1 main library, no branches, no bookmobiles
# Library Items:	Approximately 155,000 total items (see breakdown by media type)
Library ILS	MPLD is part of a 24-member library consortium, CCS sharing an ILS (currently Sirsi-Dynix, Horizon system, moving to Polaris, Spring 2018)

## **Scope of Project**

Proposals are sought for a turnkey RFID system consisting of complete solution, hardware and software for all required functions (see Requirements): hardware, software (preferably web-based), installation, training, on-going maintenance and enhancements. The hardware and software interface seamlessly with the Library's consortium-based ILS and also provide basic system diagnostic and calibration functions of equipment plus work with all existing PCs and internal network components as well as staff workflows. The project can be seen to be realized in three distinct phases (possibly installed in a sequence relative to the phase):

Installation of all hardware/software (circulation side/patron side, self-check machines, connection of devices to ILS via SIP2 (or other protocol relative to ILS), staff training for all functions/modules (on-line and print copies of manuals); security gates installed (with public gate counters);

Training for staff on equipment for retrospective RFID tagging of existing collection;  
Installation of automated check-in/sorting (AMH) system installed + inventory control + staff training for all of these functions

## Project/System Requirements

The McHenry Public Library District (MPLD or the Library) is seeking to convert from an electromagnetic 3M security system to an RFID security system, adding self-checks, software and hardware for self-checkout, staff assisted checkout, security, collection management/inventory control, gate counter, RFID system software, automated materials return/sorting hardware and software (an AMH 3-5-bin system, available for add-on), as well as providing a number of statistical controls/counts, seamlessly working with the library's ILS (currently Sirsi-Dynix, Horizon based via CCS 24-member library consortium; moving to Polaris/Innovative system by Spring 2018). We are looking for an **all-in-one vendor** who can do the following: supply tags, purchase/lease of an automated tagging system, purchase of all hardware, software + software upgrades, staff RFID tagging/software/hardware use training; and self-checkout system hardware/software and installation for all equipment/software previously described. All this equipment/software should be able to be easily used by library staff and patrons to create a seamless user experience. The vendor will provide on-site set-up/troubleshooting upon initial set-up, as well as staff training and training manuals will be made available to all staff. The vendor should be in a position to refer to an operational site or sites of similar functionality and purpose, and be prepared to give demonstrations, if asked, on the use and functions of the following integrated modules. Site visits by board/library staff may be involved. Following are elements of the entire project:

- Conversion from barcode to RFID tag regardless of medium of the item, (barcodes will be retained on existing items and still added to new items)
- Tagging requirements from various library vendors (e.g. B&T, Midwest Tape, Follett, etc.) of newly acquired items, regardless of medium,
- Retrospective tagging of existing collection – recommendation methodology, equipment and tagging supplies regardless of medium,
- Real-time interface to Sirsi-Dynix Horizon (ILS) circulation modules and cataloging interface using self-check hardware provided + possibility of using some existing self-check units (if adaptable),
- Staff check-out and check-in of all materials – practice and methodology,
- Patron self-serve check-out stations,
- Performing inventory with a portable RFID reader,
- Generating, gathering and displaying/printout of various activity statistics relative to RFID functionality and interface with Circulation system (self-check counts, uses, items, etc.) - compilation and display,
- RFID security gate system to read items not disabled at checkout process,
- Automated materials sorting (AMH) equipment consisting of at least 4 -7 bins, that are UL listed, OSHA certified and designed to fit in available space and current dimensions but that have expansion capability. Prefer system that is scalable with 'drop-in,' replaceable components + also enclosed for safety.
- Our current circulation system utilizes Codabar 31 barcodes and we will still be adhering barcodes to items due to the consorcial nature of Illinois libraries and interlibrary loan requirements. So self-check systems and staff assisted check out stations must also be compatible for Codabar scanning.

**Purpose of RFP:**

To evaluate and select a provider for a turn-key, self-service RFID solution for library customers while achieving better inventory control for staff. Among other benefits, the proposed RFID system should provide significant productivity gains through reduction in key labor-intensive workflow processes, enhanced customer service, reduced material losses, reduced incidents of staff repetitive motion injuries, and improved inventory accuracy.

Proposals are sought for a total software/hardware solution with one company including the following: all necessary hardware/electronics, preferably web-based software that integrates with the ILS, shipping, installation, conversion, staff training, project management, and ongoing maintenance. The proposal is to be for a turn-key, total package system.

Achieve meaningful knowledge transfer for new solution such that the Library can support the system without significant long-term supports from the vendors after the customer post implementation support phase of the project.

**Timeline**

Scheduled Item:	Date:
RFP Released	3/1/2017
Date & Time Deadline for Questions	3/27/2017 questions may be asked up to 4/9 pertaining to RFP submission requirements.
RFP Due Date and Time	4/10/2017 (4p.m. CDT)
Bid Award Date	5/12/2017
Project Start Date	Vendor and library dependent, ASAP relative to ILS migration progress

**Contact Information and Proposal Delivery – Submittal Agreement**

(See Exhibit A, Submittal Agreement in this packet for cover page/inclusive material)

	Proposals should be delivered before or by The RFP due date to:
Contact:	James C. Scholtz, Executive Director
Library Name:	McHenry Public Library District
Address:	809 N. Front St.
Address 2:	
City, State, & Zip:	McHenry, IL 60050
Phone:	815-385-0036 (9am – 5pm, weekdays)
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org">jscholtz@mchenrylibrary.org</a>

**Procedure to Submit Questions**

Questions must be submitted to the above email address before or by the RFP questions due date of 3/27/2017. See timeline above. Phone calls 815-385-0036 (ask for Executive Director, James Scholtz)

## **Library Computer Specifications**

The system (hardware and software) must be compatible with the MPLD's standard circulation:

- Windows 7 and 10, 64-bit, I5 processor or better
- 4-8Gb RAM
- 500Gb+ Hard Drive (some units only have a solid-state hard drive, no CD-RW)
- 17" widescreen LCD Monitor, some 19"
- Gigabit NIC
- USB Barcode Scanner (keyboard wedge scanner/USB)
- Star Metronics Receipt Printer (USB port)

The Library seeks RFID solutions that include tags, hardware, software, installation, project management, staff training and on-going support, maintenance and trouble/shooting.

Bidders must be able to demonstrate a proven ability to provide and implement the following items:

- Seamless integration with the Library's ILS that updates constantly and automatically and streamlines staff and patron workflows
- All tags and devices writing to the tags must conform to ISO 28560-2 per NISO RP-6 2012 and ISO 15693, ISO 18000-3 Mode 1 standards; durable tags - ISO compliant RFID tags that easily affix to all circulating library items regardless of format and which are guaranteed for the lifetime of the item to which they are affixed (i.e. 10 yrs. 100,000 write/read; data stored on protected transponder chip with different sizes and types of labels for different library materials)
- Interoperability with the Library's existing computers and ILS coupled with an easy-to-use system interface (prefer web-based GUI allowing access to statistics, connections, etc.). Dashboard control with seamless access to ILS for staff configuration highly desirable
- RFID pads and staff workstation upgrades that enable staff to use either barcode scanners or RFID pads to input barcodes in all ILS modules; pads require no SIP connection; readers meet ISO 18000-3/15693 standards
- Shelf-reading and inventory tools which are easy to use and make it viable to inventory the entire collection at least once per year
- ADA-compliant, theft deterrent but attractive gates, modular in design to minimize problems in wiring/connection initial installation, upgrades and repairs. Patron counter integrated within units, Gates should have alarm activated to outgoing (not incoming) items with the ability to adjust RFID antenna sensitivity due to environment/circumstances (DSP) along with ability in software to determine alarm triggers;
- Self-check units. (3-7 count depending upon placement within the Library). To provide a number of different types of self-check units relative to operations/library placement, etc. Units should have built-in barcode scanners with easy-to-access receipt printers for printing receipts + capability for email receipts for all transactions (check-outs, renewals, fine/fee payments. Capability for patrons to see items currently checked out and to renew items 'not in hand' is highly desirable. Ease of roll paper replacement and ink is also highly desired.
- Easily maneuverable mobile tagging station (rental/lease/purchase options should be presented)
- Security options, other than locking cases, for AV materials which provide effective theft-deterrence while reducing library handling requirements.

## **Submission of Proposals**

Submit one (1) original and (1) copy of your proposal clearly marked as such. In addition, include an electronic copy of your proposal on a flash drive with USB port, CD or DVD, in PDF format. **Please include Exhibit A as your cover page for ease of identification.**

The outside of the box or package and the cover or title page of each proposal shall be marked with the following information (see Exhibit A for completion form) plus inclusion of Exhibit A (cover page):

RFP # 2-03-2017-1  
RFID Equipment, Purchase, Installation, and Item Conversion for MPLD  
Due Date Monday, April 10, 2017 by 4:00pm (CST)

## **Selection Criteria**

The following information will be considered in the vendor selection process:

Being a one-vendor/total vendor solution

- Ability to successfully integrate (operational level) with our ILS
- Ease of use of (simplicity and seamless integration) self-check integrated software (prefer web-based)
- Evaluation of Functionality
- Customer Reference Checks
- Customer Support Ratings
- Third-Party Product Integration (if needed)
- Development History
- Design Quality
- Features
- Total Cost + various features/options costs
- Possible Vendor Demonstrations/Discussions
- Possess all insurance and workman's compensation documents required in order to do business in IL (be able to produce/show documents)

The selection process will determine the best responsible bidder meeting all of the specifications. The Library reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any technicalities in bids when it determines it is in the Library's best interest.

## **Contract Documents**

The successful respondent(s) will be expected to enter into a contract with the Library pursuant to the documents that include the RFP, the vendor's proposal, the summary of negotiation, and any and all other additional materials submitted by the vendor. The only official answer or position of the Library will be the one stated in writing.

## **Late Proposals**

Late proposals shall be rejected and returned to the proposer. This deadline is absolute and proposals received after the due date and time shall not be considered. Proposers must select a method of delivery that ensures proposals will be delivered to the correct location by the due date and time.

## **General Information**

- Responding firms are prohibited from communicating in any other manner about this project with any other Library employee from the date of issuance of this proposal until the final selection. Other means of communications or contact may disqualify the submitting firm.
- Award will not be awarded to more than one vendor unless the marketplace or technology dictates that course of action/bid award.
- The Library reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any informalities, irregularities or technical defects in proposals, and unless otherwise specified by the Library to accept any item or groups of items in the proposal, as may be in the best interest of the Library.
- The Library is not required to accept the lowest price proposal. Responses will be evaluated to determine the most advantageous proposal on a variety of factors including but not limited to price, evaluation of functionality, customer reference checks, customer support ratings, third-party product integration, development history, design quality and features.
- The Library reserves the right to verify any information provided during the RFP process and may contact references listed or any other persons known to have contracted with the Proposer.
- All items are new manufacture unless otherwise specifically stated in this solicitation or in the response by the vendor.
- All products must have passed the first line quality standard as set by the manufacturer and no seconds, blemished articles or items having defective workmanship are included.
- Vendors and/or parent companies must have ISO9001 Quality Management Certification Vendors must include a valid certificate in the RFP proposal.
- Respondents shall notify the Library immediately of any changes to specifications made by the manufacturer for the equipment listed.

## **Critical Requirements**

The vendor of the RFID system proposed should be in a position to meet the following critical requirements by the date proposals are due. The vendor should have available for review and be in a position to refer to an operational site or sites to showcase the following functionality:

## **Conversion to RFID Regardless of Item Type**

- Interface to the MPLD's current ILS Currently Sirsi-Dynix, Horizon. The library will be moving to a Polaris, Innovative system. Migration will be completed by Spring 2018. More information regarding the migration (via our consortium CCS) can be made available upon request.
- Durable, ISO 28560–2 compliant RFID tags that easily affix to an item,
- Patron self-service with the ability to collect fines and fees and to print receipts
- Payment system must be PCI 3.0 Compliant. (Currently, the Library does not have a separate PCI 3.0 compliant network for processing payments via credit/debit cards. All payments for overdue fees are checks/cash are through secure 3<sup>rd</sup> party bank (Wells Fargo). This procedure will NOT be available after migration to Polaris and its replacement functionality has not been detailed by CCS. The Library also uses wireless cellular service for other payments (copies/scans/FAXes).
- RFID conversion for the library's existing staff circulation and technical services stations
- Inventorying with portable RFID equipment
- Shelf-reading with portable RFID equipment
- Activity statistics compilation and display that includes comprehensive reporting capabilities
- Security gates with exit only alarm with secured item(s). No alarm when entering with secured items(s)
- Security gates equipped with bi-directional radar people counter. The counter data must be accessible via network
- Maneuverable and mobile automatic tagging station(s) for loan or lease to ensure a tagging capacity of at least 800 items per hour equaling 32,000 per 5 working days (8 hours daily) by using an automatic tagging station for 80% of the library's collection
- Easy to use self-check stations that are customizable to match the library's existing interior colors, branding and furnishings
- Self-check stations must be made from stainless steel and provide a powder coated finish

## **Submission Requirements**

### **Technical Requirements**

The RFP represents the functional capabilities, performance characteristics, and hardware minimums desired. The requirements are intended for the protection of the library and vendors by reducing the possibility of misinterpretation of the Library's needs. Vendors must respond to every requirement contained in the Technical Requirements section of the RFP using the following criteria specified in Exhibit B – Technical Requirements in this RFP.

### **Pricing**

Prices reflected in the proposal shall include any discounts extended. Unit prices shall be quoted for all components and costs for hardware, software, installation, and service. Vendor must include shipping in the pricing proposal. Vendor must include prices of all equipment and any options (as well as any one time and/or repetitive license fees) needed to meet all specifications. Pricing must include installation and successful testing of all software, hardware, and connections. Acceptance and payment of contract based on interface and 100% usability by library staff/patrons and integration with ILS within 30 days of contract work completion and acceptance by Library. Vendors must use the Exhibit C - Pricing Sheet section in this RFP for submitting costs of products proposed. Vendors submitting other pricing documentation can be rejected and/or subject to disqualification.

## **Guarantees and Warranties**

All guarantees and warranties should be stated in writing and submitted as part of the proposal.

The vendor shall warrant that the system will meet the reliability and performance requirements set forth in the RFP and will continue to do so as long as the system remains under vendor maintenance.

## **Corporate Experience and Capacity**

The proposer shall provide information that documents its firm's experience and capacity to produce the required outcomes. The proposer is defined as the company, entity, parent/subsidiary companies or partnerships who are submitting a proposal under this RFP, not individual companies in a partnership of joint venture. This information shall include:

1. A brief history of the company, including incorporation and ownership, and experience installing the products and services requested in this RFP, especially at/in libraries using the Polaris ILS.
2. List details of parent company, partners, and suppliers, as well as the nature of the vendor's relationship to them
3. Details of any litigation instigated against the vendor or cancellation of contract for non-performance of the vendor in the past five (5) years
4. Any other information regarding the vendor's experience that will assist the library in evaluating the proposal and making a decision
5. Vendor should list at least three customer references comparable to this RFP
6. Failure to provide the above information may result in the proposer being disqualified and its proposal not considered. The Library reserves the right to contact any and all references to obtain information without limitation and regardless of the proposer's performance on the listed jobs.

## **Hardware/Software Technical Support**

1. Specify normal operating hours for tech support, and describe procedures for obtaining assistance during off hours.
2. Installation Requirements and library's responsibilities.
3. The proposed system must be installed according to a schedule determined in coordination with library staff to minimize disruption.
4. Vendors must recommend and provide an installation plan. The library anticipates starting the retrospective conversion-tagging project as soon as a proposal is accepted.
5. Vendor must also be available for consultation on placement of hardware to accommodate network infrastructure, power and ventilation requirements, building restrictions, etc., and to maximize workflow, staffing, and patron convenience issues.
6. Warranty and Service Requirements
7. The circulation RFID tags must be guaranteed to be effective for the life of the item to which they are originally affixed and, if found to be defective, they must be replaced at no cost to the library.
8. The vendor must provide an all-inclusive, 12-month extended warranty on equipment, software, and components and offer extended maintenance/service contract thereafter.
9. Software warranty: Software patches and service pack releases must be supplied
10. The library shall be able to request service using a toll-free 800 number.
11. Service technicians will be equipped with parts normally required to service the equipment and reduce downtime. Library can request a spare part package to be stored at the library – please provide pricing.
12. Average on-site response time must be no longer than eight hours
13. The service agreement must include remote maintenance for expert technical consultation and software support.

### **Training and Service Requirements**

1. The Library seeks to train key circulation, technical services, system administration, and public services staff in the use of all equipment.
2. Training will be performed by the vendor and will take place at the Library
3. The Library requires user manuals, plus any other materials that are typically distributed during training.
4. The Library requires that manuals be available in electronic format with unlimited distribution within the library, and shall be supplied free of charge.
5. The Library requires unlimited interaction with the vendor sales staff and technical support staff during installation planning, the installation phase, and follow-up immediately after such installation.
6. Indicate options and pricing for additional staff training periods and topics. Indicate the cost for refresher training (separate in remote and onsite).

### **Health and Safety**

- All equipment must be UL or CE Listed
- All equipment must be FCC compliant.
- The system must be in compliance with ADA guidelines
- Detection or security corridors must be in compliance with relevant ADA requirements

## Insurance

### **INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE McHENRY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT "SMALL EXPOSURE JOBS"**

It is hereby agreed and understood that the insurance required by the McHenry Public Library District is primary coverage and that any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Library, its officers, board members, agents, employees or authorized volunteers will not contribute to a loss. All insurance shall be in full force prior to commencing work and remain in force until the entire job is completed or the length of time that is specified in the contract. By submitting a bid for this RFP, vendors agree to the terms and conditions regarding the following insurance requirements:

#### **GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE**

- Commercial General Liability
- \$1,000,000 general aggregate
- \$1,000,000 products - completed operations aggregate
- \$500,000 personal injury and advertising injury
- \$500,000 each occurrence limit
- Claims made form of coverage is not acceptable.
- Insurance must include:
- Premises and Operations Liability
- Blanket Contractual Liability
- Personal Injury
- Explosion, collapse and underground coverage
- Products/Completed Operations
- The general aggregate must apply separately to this project/location

#### **BUSINESS AUTOMOBILE COVERAGE**

- Limits - \$250,000 each person/\$500,000 each accident for Bodily Injury and
- \$100,000 for Property Damage
- OR
- \$500,000 Combined Single Limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage each accident
- Must cover liability for "Any Auto" - including Owned, Non-Owned and Hired Automobile Liability

**WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS LIABILITY** – As required by Illinois State Statute and/or any Workers Compensation Statutes of a different state must carry coverage for Statutory Workers Compensation and Employers Liability limit of:

- \$100,000 Each Accident
- \$500,000 Disease Policy Limit
- \$100,000 Disease - Each Employee

#### **BUILDER'S RISK/INSTALLATION FLOATER**

The Library will not assume responsibility for loss, including loss of use, for damage to property, materials, tools, equipment, and items of a similar nature which are being either used in the work being performed by the contractor or are to be installed or erected by the contractor.

If coverage is desired for this exposure, the contractor may, at his own cost, procure insurance to cover same.

## **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

- Additional Insured - On the General Liability Coverage, Comprehensive Automobile Coverage and Umbrella Coverage. McHenry Public Library District, its officers, employees, agents and authorized volunteers shall be Additional Insureds.
- Endorsement -
- The Additional Insured Policy endorsement must accompany the Certificate of Insurance.
- Certificates of Insurance -
- A copy of the Certificate of Insurance must be on file with the Library Business Manager.
- Notice -
- NOTE: The Library requires 30 day written notice of cancellation, non-renewal or material change in the insurance coverage.
- The insurance coverage required must be provided by an insurance carrier with the "Best" rating of "A-VII" or better. All carriers shall be admitted carriers in the State of Illinois.

## **Contract Documents**

The documents that shall constitute the contract between the parties shall include this RFP and Exhibits within, the vendor's response, the summary of negotiation, and any and all other additional materials submitted by the vendor.

All vendors should be aware of the following contractual requirements which will be incorporated into the final contract document and, as a result, should price their proposals accordingly:

The vendor must comply with all requirements under the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act in the performance of all work under this contract;

The vendor will be required to provide a performance bond in the amount of 10% of the total bid price (upon acceptance of bid) issued by a surety company acceptable to the Library. This bond will be held by the Library until completion/acceptance of work.

## **Library Check List**

Proposal Requirements (to be checked off by Library staff for vendors having/not having items)

### **General**

- Vendor has provided corporate information
- Vendor has provided descriptions of comparable, relevant projects completed and references of at least three libraries of similar size using a Polaris Systems ILS.
- Vendor has provided single point of contact (yes) and qualifications of individual(s) responsible for project management.
- Vendor has provided a summary of the proposed approach to the project including what equipment to purchase, the implementation steps or phases, project milestones, key input points, and project timeline.
- Vendor has completed Submittal Form (EXHIBIT A)

### **Technical**

- All equipment will work in MPLD's current ILS environment with minimal modifications (note that Sirsi-Dynix SIP2 license requirements are different than Polaris)
- The system's components conform to all existing federal, state, and local regulations concerning ADA accessibility and OSHA requirements
- System is interoperable with all other vendors' components (if needed)
- Options are provided for all materials, regardless of format or owning Library

### **Training**

- Introductory training will occur on site and be provided by the vendor. The successful vendor(s) will train key circulation, technical services, administrative, and public service staff in the use of all System equipment and software
- Training will be provided by vendor staff (combination of on-site, distance learning, etc.)
- All training for components included in this proposal will occur on-site at the MPLD
- All training shall be provided at no additional charge
- Both print and electronic user manuals will be provided. Electronic copies will allow for unrestricted distribution within the Library
- Samples of training documentation were provided for all components in this proposal
- The timetable identifies installation responsibilities
- Vendors will be available for consultation on placement of hardware to accommodate network infrastructure, power and ventilation requirements, building restrictions, and other conditions, and to maximize the workflow, staffing, and patron convenience issues

### **Warranty, Support, Maintenance, Upgrades**

- Proposal provides at minimum, a 12-month all-inclusive warranty on equipment, software, and components
- Equipment and software warranties begin the day received by the Library, or if installation by the successful vendor(s) is required, the day following the successful installation date
- All warranty services are provided by a service provider that is fully trained and certified by the manufacturer
- Software upgrades, patches and replacement for defective equipment are supplied at no additional charge to the Library
- Post warranty maintenance services are available, renewable on an annual basis
- All proposed maintenance/service contracts are subject to negotiation by the Library
- Vendor provides remote maintenance for expert technical consultation and software support 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Initial response time will be within two hours of the Library reporting the problem
- Resolution of problems shall be achieved within the shortest timeframe possible with vendor communicating anticipated timeframes, limitations and expectations.
- Vendor will maintain an inventory of parts that will permit resolution in accordance with the above provisions
- Vendor will provide a clear process for reporting problems, guaranteeing response time
- Vendor will address in writing problems that require longer response time including anticipated solution and date
- Vendor provides a clear description of support and costs for disaster-related emergencies
- Vendor will have the risk of loss until delivery and inspection by the Library

### **Cost Information**

- Vendor has provided a complete cost proposal that includes annual maintenance agreement plans at all levels offered
- Cost information was provided in a separate, sealed envelope marked "Price Proposal-Do Not Open"
- All costs associated with the implementation and ongoing operation and maintenance of the system are identified
- The costs of optional equipment is provided and clearly identified as optional
- Any required APIs not provided by the vendor, but required to make the system work effectively, are identified and explained
- Work that the vendor does not provide but must be provided separately by the Library is clearly identified

**EXHIBIT A - SUBMITTAL AGREEMENT**

RFID Equipment Purchase, Installation and Item Conversion Project SUBMITTAL AGREEMENT  
(Please Complete and Include Form with Proposal)

I herewith offer to supply the McHenry Public Library District, on or before the stated delivery date, in accordance with the specifications, upon execution of a contract, the items called for in the attached specifications.

I understand that the price quoted is the total cost for providing all requirements according to these specifications and standard conditions as originally provided by the agency. It is expressly understood that the Library reserves the right to correct any and all deviations if the supplier fails to correct such deviations after due notice.

I hereby certify that I am authorized to make this offer on behalf of the named company and to bind said company to all conditions of this quotation.

**VENDOR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STREET:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY AND STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINTED NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FAX#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE SUBMITTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Due date for proposals: **April 10, 2017, 4:00 PM CDT**

Send proposals to: James C. Scholtz, Executive Director  
McHenry Public Library District  
809 N. Front St.  
McHenry, IL 60050

**PROPOSALS MUST BE PAPER COPIES. NO PROPOSALS RECEIVED EXCLUSIVELY VIA EMAIL, FAX OR IN DIGITAL FORMAT WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

## **EXHIBIT B - TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **Response to Specifications**

**Y:** YES. Feature, function, product, or service is available as requested and is fully operational using the version proposed for the MPLD.

**D:** IN DEVELOPMENT. Feature, function, product, or service is under active development and is operating in a test environment.

**P:** PLANNED. Feature, function, product, or service is planned. No development has begun.

**N:** NO. Feature, function, product, or service is not available, in development, or planned.

For any specifications to which the vendor answers other than YES, the vendor must describe:

- a. The feature, function, product, or service being planned or developed and the date after which it will be available in general release in operation in the system proposed to the library.
- b. Whether the MPLD will incur any added cost for the feature, function, product, or service once it becomes available; either as a direct cost of the feature, function, product, or service, or because the feature, function, product, or service will require replacement of, or addition to, hardware or software originally proposed for initial installation.
- c. If the feature, function, product, or service is not available, in development, or planned, an explanation of how the specification might otherwise be met using alternative features, functions, products, or services available from the vendor, including availability dates for any such alternative and any added costs, either direct or indirect.

Any such exception taken to any specification must be stated immediately following the specification in question. Vendors are advised that the Library is interested in receiving only proposals for a production RFID system already installed and in use by a library customer base and proposals for systems in an Alpha or Beta phase of development will not be considered. Furthermore, the Library reserves the right to evaluate all proposals solely on the basis of currently existing features, functions, products, or services meeting the specifications as stated.

### **General Requirements**

1. Vendor and/or parent company must be ISO9001 Certified. Vendor must provide valid certificate
2. The proposed system and all of its components must be entirely compatible with, and in no manner interfere with, the Library's Integrated Library System, its computer clients, or other components.
3. The proposed system must provide application-specific software to incorporate all hardware (detection systems, staff station readers, patron self-check stations, portable handheld readers), RFID tags, and any other RFID-related hardware into the system.
4. The proposed system must be able to function on either wired or wireless (existing network) TCP/IP networks at speeds of up to 1 Gbit/s wired and up to 50 Mbit/s wireless to the off-site ILS database (SIP2 connections, RJ45 plugs – 7 pairs). MPLD uses a fiber optic backbone network connection front area to back area.
5. The RFID system must be compliant with the latest ISO standards
6. Vendor must be willing to work with the Library's ILS vendor to resolve any RFID equipment related functionality problem. Preferred: ILS certified partner
7. The proposed system must provide performance statistics that can be accessed through the library network. Data must be broken down by year, month, day and hour. Data to include, but not limited to: number of transactions, type of transaction, number of successful and unsuccessful transactions, patron count, and an exit alarm data log.

## Self-Check Stations

1. The proposed system should have the ability to function with all major ILS, including open source products. ILS system of MPLD is Polaris (Spring 2018).
2. The proposed system must be able to read item-specific identification numbers (barcode), communicate to the ILS via SIP2, and turn the RFID security on and/or off, depending on check-in or check-out.
3. The proposed system must be dual function – capable of processing RFID tags (to be prepared for the future) or item barcodes with RFID security in the same transaction.
4. In regards to RFID, the proposed system must use an anti-collision algorithm that does not limit the number of tags that can be simultaneously identified and read up to twelve inches (12”) high.
5. The proposed system must read the existing barcode patron cards and item barcodes (Codabar 31 standard).
6. The proposed system must have the ability to be placed on or built into the existing circulation desk with receipt printer, touch screen monitors that display instructions for use. Preference will be given to units NOT requiring SIP connections and having a measure of portability.
7. The proposed system must have the ability to print out all information for a patron check- out or check-in transaction on a single receipt. Such receipt should be customizable to incorporate library identity, hours, and so forth.
8. Staff members must be able to make any screen and receipt changes such as, but not limited to messages, appearances, etc. easily without going back to the vendor and from a centralized web-based administration tool to submit any change to one or multiple stations at the same time without the need of rebooting any stations.
9. The proposed system must display ILS system information relating to the patron or item status. Option must be available to notify a staff person whenever a patron is blocked in any part of the transaction. Notification should be in the form of a pop-up window that appears on a staff computer screen in real time.
10. The proposed system must provide visual and audible feedback during the transaction.
11. Self-check system software and hardware must meet ADA guidelines, and include features such as a large touch-screen interface, user-selectable high-contrast interface, possibly audible instructions (in English + other languages, esp. Spanish, see #13) and large type size.
12. The proposed system must have the ability to display select information from the patron record, such as number of items checked out, number of items on hold, and outstanding fine information, without compromising patron privacy
13. The proposed system must be able to display multiple language options on self-check unit banners, instructions, receipts, and messages. Proposer must offer a wide variety of languages to meet the current and future needs of our community and provide a list of the languages currently available. The system must allow the library to select at least nine languages to be used on one self-checkout system. The proposed system must allow remote access to self-check machines from staff workstations.
14. The proposed system must turn on/off the security to allow secure library operation during offline situations.
15. The proposed system must renew items at the self-check stations without having the items in hand.
16. The proposed system should have the capability of listing library events directly from the library`s online event calendar.

17. The proposed self-checkout system software should be multi-functional; allowing staff to promote library events, recommended read lists, and eBook and eAudiobook (i.e. digital) suggestions.
18. The self-checkout system must provide the ability for staff to easily customize on-screen graphics and promotional banners and change information.
19. The self-checkout system must provide the ability for staff to access self-checkout units remotely from a smartphone or tablet to customize on-screen features or run reports.
20. The proposed self-checkout system must include features that recommend like reads for each item a patron checks out, as well as the ability to check those items out during the transaction.
21. Self-checkout software must allow staff to quickly and easily customize the user interface with minimal instruction
22. The proposed system must offer the patron the option of email, paper receipt, or no receipt.
23. The proposed system must offer Web-based remote monitoring and diagnostics, which must include instant email notification, monitoring of check-in and checkout rates, Web- based troubleshooting, configuration, and the ability to obtain statistics for each machine from any location. These features should be standard. Specify the back-end hardware and software requirements necessary to perform these functions.
24. The proposed system must offer the option of a repositionable stand-alone kiosk, tabletop model, or the ability to build into the existing furniture.
25. The proposed system must be capable of checking out or checking in all types of print and non-print media.
26. The proposed system must allow multiple (in regards to RFID) and single (in regards to barcode/EM) item check-outs and check-ins with either first choosing the number of items that you want to check out or not. Both options must be configurable when doing RFID.
27. Cover images of each detected item will be shown in the check-out and check-in item list.
28. Switch between account/check-out or vice versa does not require another authentication if the patron already logged-in.
29. Staff must be able to configure individual or multiple self-check stations by logging in to a Web interface on any staff station.
30. Credit card processing for the proposed system must interface to the library's approved credit card vendor and must use encrypted card swipes/chip and be PCI 2/3 and EMV compliant.

### **Optional Software Functionality**

1. Vendors must provide screen shots, and sample reports. Vendor may need to provide an online or live demonstration of all optional software features.

### **General**

1. The entire software including its GUI (graphic user interface) must be 100% web- browser-based.
2. The software must run within a web-browser and run on ALL operating systems (Mac, Windows, Linux, Android, etc.). Currently, the Library's operating system is Windows 10.
3. Access levels by staff must be able to be varied, changed and chosen by in-house IT and Library staff by individual permissions based on location and software security features.

## **Hardware Status Reporting Feature**

1. Real-time detailed monitoring key components.
2. Real-time monitoring must work with multiple self-check devices at a single and also multiple location(s).
3. Real-time monitoring must allow for additional self-check devices to be added to the network in the future.
4. The hardware component monitoring must communicate performance changes to library personnel through a Web-based dashboard display that intuitively communicates status changes in real time.
5. Hardware status reporting must allow other library-networked devices to be connected to the server, and must validate this connection.

## **Reporting, Management, & Configuration Tools**

1. Vendor offers comprehensive messaging and monitoring solution that allows staff to receive alerts in real-time for activity at self-checkout stations. Describe.
2. Self-checkout unit must be able to be remotely monitored from any staff station within the Library that also is connected to the ILS in the same network.
3. Self-checkout unit must be able to be remotely monitored from any computer with internet access.
4. Monitoring of transactions and the status of each unit or other connected solutions can be done via a web-based system, which can monitor one self-checkout or many across a library system.
5. The proposed system must provide performance statistics. Describe available reporting features and the statistics that can be seen.
6. Staff must be able to configure individual or multiple self-checkout stations or system-wide by within one web-based administration tool, with these changes being pushed to all units across a system or a branch in real time without rebooting of systems or staff having to physically be at the stations.
7. Staff must be able to monitor the status of individual or multiple self-checkout stations within a site or system-wide, and will be alerted to the status of each station, including if patron requires assistance, receipt paper is running low, station has gone offline, etc.
8. Staff must be able to perform this function by logging in to a web interface on any computer with internet access.
9. Explain how staff are alerted to any issues and by what means.
10. Self-Check must be UL listed and please specify the UL number in the proposal.
11. Staff must be able to run and view diagnostic logs for each self-checkout station to ensure they are operating properly by logging in to a web interface on any staff station.
12. Describe how reports are generated and in what formats they can be exported.

## **Fines/Fees Option**

1. Please include a payment system option for self-check system. Include pricing for a payment system separately.
2. The fines and fees system shall be integrated into a self-check system.
3. The fines and fees system shall utilize a seamless user interface that is integrated into the self-service process.
4. The fines and fees system must provide both audible and visual feedback when responding to the interaction with the user interface.
5. The fines and fees system shall allow the library to determine minimum, partial, or full payment of the fines or fees.
6. The fines and fees system shall accommodate cash, credit, and/or debit card payment methods.
7. The fines and fees system shall print a credit/debit card receipt using the same receipt printer from the self-check.
8. The fines and fees system shall have the capability to provide the patron with change if cash funds tendered are greater than the outstanding fines and/or fees balance.
9. Payment system must include high capacity coin changer and bill recycler (not only acceptor). Please specify how much coins/bills your high capacity payment station holds.

## **Circulation Staff Workstations**

1. The proposed system must have a shielded reader pad.
2. The proposed system shall be compatible with the Library's standard circulation desk computers, barcode scanners, and receipt printers.
3. RFID client software must be capable of running on any operating system at a non-administrative level, and vendor must demonstrate a commitment to support all operating systems.
4. Identify if the RFID client software is capable of running in Linux.
5. The RFID staff application client interface must not be intrusive to the ILS staff client and it should also not require a SIP2 connection. It must take only a small amount of screen real estate and remain easily accessible in a small application window.
6. The proposed system must not require a separate staff application that is modeled on the patron self-check application. The system should be optimized for staff use.
7. The proposed system hardware must be attractive and contemporary, and be able to be integrated into Library's own furniture
8. The proposed system must be able to mount in, on, or under the work surface of a circulation station.
9. The proposed system must be dual function: capable of processing RFID tags or barcodes in the same circulation transaction.
10. The proposed reader pads must be able to read tags and display the information contained on the tag.
11. The proposed system must be able to be used for charge and discharge of library materials.
12. The proposed system must simultaneously process multiple RFID-tagged items for check-in/out.
13. The proposed system must provide a displayed count of the number of items processed simultaneously to ensure complete check-in/out transaction processing.

14. The proposed system must use an anti-collision algorithm that does not limit the number of tags that can be simultaneously identified and read up to twelve inches (12") high with a book tag.
15. The proposed system must have the ability to read, program, reprogram and delete RFID tags.
16. The proposed system must not require mouse activations to process most items. (Exceptions made for configuration changes, error handling, or tag reprogramming situations.). Any keyboard keys can be configured for individual functions.
17. The proposed system must allow configuration of item identifier parameters to automatically prevent programming of partially scanned or incorrectly scanned barcodes.
18. The proposed system must be able to handle varying barcode locations and orientations.
19. The proposed system must offer a hold notification message for the staff member who checks an item in, and the ability to print hold slips.
20. The proposed system must be able to work with a weed list (a list of items to be removed from the library) to automatically alert staff to weed an item upon scanning the barcode, before applying/programming an RFID tag on conversion.
21. The proposed system must have the option to integrate into an ILS circulation client so that it accepts and responds to commands from the ILS client. Note that all circulation transactions are taking place in terminal server sessions with the ILS client.
22. The proposed system must have the option to allow the ILS circulation client to turn on or off security without requiring any additional steps, and proposed system must secure item within one second of discharging the item.
23. The proposed system must permit the operator to access commands to set or reset tag security independent of the ILS.
24. The proposed system must be configurable to turn off the reader transmitter when the ILS is not requesting RFID reads.
25. The proposed system must be able to read multiple tag data formats in a combination without impacting performance.
26. Proposed system must be able to check-in and check-out multiple items at one time.
27. System must be able to use ILS hot key functions for checking in and out or another method for easy transition getting to the check-in and/or check-out screens

## Security Gates

1. The proposed system must have a read range of at least eighteen inches (18") in aisle direction of each gate. The proposed system must be able to perform optimally when located within fifteen inches (15") of a steel beam.
2. The proposed system must use the latest ISO15693 standard for RFID technology.
3. The proposed system must use the latest ISO standard for RTF (Reader Talks First) architecture.
4. The detection systems must be shielded from external interference from light fixtures, Wi-Fi and cellular signals, etc.
5. The proposed detection system must include a radar patron counter.
6. The proposed system must be able to provide total patron count data via a remote Web- based software application on hourly, daily, monthly, etc. counts.
7. Security pedestals should perform bi-directional patron counting.
8. The proposed system must be able to issue visible and audible warnings.
9. The audible alarm volume must be adjustable by staff.
10. The alarm duration should be adjustable on each individual system (entry gate alarm).
11. Tags with theft or security status that is "on" must immediately trigger an alarm.
12. The proposed system must have the option to only trigger an alarm when a patron is present in the corridor (entry gate alarm).
13. The proposed system must have the option to only trigger an alarm (entry gate alarm) when a patron is exiting the library.
14. Dual-aisle exit detection systems must create an opening of at least 36 inches (36"), preferably 42", for ADA accommodation. The proposed system must offer a base plate installation to avoid any floor modifications. Current library layout dictates a 2 gate (in/out) system with 3 panels (1 entrance/1 exit).
15. The proposed system must provide it RFID security even when the library's ILS host system or network is offline or not functioning.
16. The proposed system (gates, self-check units and AMH units) must have multiple finish options available to better match the décor of the Library.
17. The proposed system must provide CSA or UL listing number and FCC listing for complete detection system.
18. The proposed system must display that it is functioning correctly and, if not, be easy for staff members to tune/calibrate without calling vendor or a technician.
19. The proposed software should process statistics as well as provide a pop-up window on one or more staff workstations to show alarm triggered items including title, item number and circulation status.
20. The proposed system must have a low-power consumption mode.
21. The proposed system should only require a single data connection.
22. The proposed system must have an option to connect to the network wirelessly.
23. The proposed system must have a secure on/off switch accessible to staff.

## AMH System

1. Transport needs media gently, be safe, durable and low maintenance.
2. The system must be modular and expandable.
3. Transport must be safe also suitable for "light" media (e.g. magazines). Full-length conveyor belts are preferred. Multi track tapes and/or rolls are not desired. Please enclose a detailed description and visual documentation. Please note, while some flexibility in exterior materials drop height is expected from the vendor for AMH installation; it may be expected for the Library to physically change the exterior/interior position of the drop relative to vendor equipment requirements.
4. Must be UL Listed
5. The book bins are ergonomic to use and equipped with an automatically adjustable bottom.
6. The filling of the bins is always monitored. If a book bin/trolley/tote is full, a message will be shown at the staff screen(s) as well as alerted by a signal lamp. Furthermore, on the staff display a message is displayed by text and graphics. Messages can also be sent via email.
7. The sorting of the books into individual bin must be according to the specifications of the Library (e.g. for literature departments, media types, branches, holds).
8. Hold and transit items must be sorted into one or more separate sorting bin(s).
9. A hold slip will be printed automatically or via batch print at a dedicated hold slip printer.
10. The system should be able to keep operation if the ILS is not available and an automatic synchronization once the ILS is online must be ensured.
11. Configuration changes must be possible from the centralized location and must not require a restart of the software and/or PC.
12. Multiple sorting tables must be configurable by library staff.
13. The software must allow for remote diagnosis and also automatically be able to send each e-mail to a freely selectable recipient (e.g. employees) in the case of disturbances
14. Terminals should permit the user to log into the system by unique (Dept. or person) password and keep track of various data (who, when the terminal has used (recording date, time and user number, etc.). This data should be able to be stored, recorded and retrieved if necessary.
15. The relevant safety regulations must be observed and a CE Declaration of Conformity must be guaranteed.
16. The system should display an error message and do not perform updates in case of interruption or disruption of connection to the database or server.
17. An offline operation for self-check in the event of ILS disconnect (not power outage) is highly desirable.
18. The system must be automatically switched on at certain times and let off. Furthermore, the selection of a "night program" (time-controlled) must be integrated by the possibility exists; the priority is set to the media instead of sorting withdrawal. That is, if it turns out that outside the opening times certain books carts are full and others remain almost empty, allowing the "night program" books to systematically fill. AMH System must be able to activated and deactivated night program.
19. The items have to be transported on all-surface conveyor belts.
20. The sorter should (preferably) be built in lightweight construction (aluminum) and all moving parts must be covered to ensure maximum safety for patrons and library staff.

21. The system must not require separate and additional enclosures (glass walls or similar fence system).

### **RFID Tags**

The proposed system tag must be tested for over 100,000 read/write cycles and be guaranteed for the life of the item on which it is originally affixed or 10 years.

1. The proposed system must provide RFID tags with a minimum of 1,024 bits of memory.
2. All data (including the Unique ID) on the rewritable RFID tag, including the item identifier field, must be fully rewriteable.
3. The proposed system tags must enable the security status to be stored directly on the tag and must trigger an immediate alarm if an item not charged is read by the detection system.
4. The vendor must provide the option of custom-printing blank tags with a barcode or library logo.
5. The proposed system tags must provide both security and inventory control functionality.
6. The proposed system tags must use an anti-collision algorithm that does not limit the number of tags that can be simultaneously identified and read.
7. The proposed system tags must be highly durable, adhesive-backed, and one piece (tag and label integrated into one piece) to adhere to library materials without addition of an adhesive cover label. Tags must use a low acid or neutral pH adhesive.
8. The Library wants to enhance its' chances for RFID interoperability for the future. The proposed system must be fully compliant with and include both mandatory and optional commands specified in the latest ISO standard for North American libraries.
9. The proposed system tags must be easily applied in one step, with no need for mouse clicks, keyboard input, or touch-screen entries for most item conversion.
10. The proposed RFID tags must have an operating range of -25°C to 70°C (-13°F to 158°F).
11. The proposed system must offer RFID tags that utilize the RTF (Reader Talks First) architecture. The proposed tag must also be compatible with use of the AFI Security Model.
12. The vendor must test tags for long-term reliability using accelerated aging testing and provide failure rate of tags.
13. The vendor must show the test methods used to test RFID tags for long-term reliability, and replace any defective tags at no cost to the library.
14. The vendor must offer a portfolio of tag options and provide samples.
15. The proposed RFID tags must offer opaque flood coat to hide antenna.
16. The proposed RFID tags must remove all inoperative tags (not just mark them) and replace them with usable tags. Therefore, all tags on the rolls should be usable and not marked.
17. The proposed RFID system must offer a "punched tags" feature to mark those that are inoperative.
18. Tags should be able to be read by different vendors – both ILS and RFID vendors – as well as future replacement scanners in accordance to ISO15693.
19. Tags must be able to be dropped to vendors for out-sourced processing as well as delivered to Library for conversion process and ongoing, normal processing of materials.

### **Portable Handheld Reader Option**

1. The portable handheld reader must feature an integrated barcode scanner, and a simple method of inputting information.
2. To be able to read items that may not be tagged with RFID, the portable handheld reader must support barcode scanning.
3. The proposed portable handheld reader must accommodate data collection with other functions. These other functions must include shelf reading, inventory, identifying items on search lists, claimed return, weeding, and items with incorrect security.
4. The proposed portable handheld reader must accommodate shelf-order checking to locate items that are out of place on the shelves. This capability must be sensitive enough to locate items that are out of place by as little as six inches (6").
5. The proposed system must accommodate searching to identify items on multiple user- defined search lists (e.g., missing, claims returned, lost, etc.).
6. The proposed system must accommodate secure status checking to allow a user to identify individual items that have not been properly checked out and have caused an alarm of the detection system.
7. Secure status checking capability also must allow the user to scan items on library carts or shelves before re-shelving to identify individual items that have not been properly checked in.
8. The proposed portable handheld reader must have the ability to upload barcodes to the Library's circulation system in various text file formats that can be customized to match the circulation system requirements.
9. The proposed system must accommodate finding to allow a user to quickly enter search criteria directly into the device, then search for items that meet those criteria. The system must allow display of the title of item on the device.
10. The proposed system must accommodate sorting to assist a user with sorting items on a shelf or cart.
11. The proposed system must accommodate pulling to assist the user with finding items on hold (reserve) or weed lists, or other user-defined lists available from the circulation system.
12. The portable handheld reader must be easy to set down on a library shelf or cart when necessary to free the user's hands.
13. The portable handheld reader must incorporate an ergonomic design to aid user in reading shelves at all levels, must be easy to use, and must be relatively non-stressful to wrist, arm, shoulder, and elbow.
14. Portable handheld reader battery life that allows the user to work for at least eight hours before charging or changing batteries is required. Extra charged batteries must be available to replace depleted batteries while they recharge. A battery charger must be included, if necessary.
15. The portable handheld reader must have built-in diagnostics for troubleshooting.
16. The portable handheld reader must use an anti-collision algorithm that does not limit the number of tags that can be simultaneously identified and read.
17. The portable handheld reader system must have the capacity to read multi-line, fixed- length-field, or delimited-field records from an electronic file containing shelf or search lists and then create a portable database for use in a portable, handheld RFID reader.
18. The handheld reader must direct the user to items on "pull" lists and provide a method to keep track of which items have been found and which have not been found.
19. The search capability must be active during order checking, data collection, sorting, pulling, and finding functions, with option to turn it off if desired.
20. The proposed system must validate item identifier (barcode) data from input lists and provide a log of errors found.
21. The proposed system must process results of data collection sessions or pull sessions, reading these results from the memory device and creating PC files containing lists of collected data, lists of items pulled, and lists of items not pulled.
22. The proposed portable handheld reader must have an audible tone and visible indicators to verify item has been identified. The audible tones shall be adjustable by the user.

23. The proposed portable handheld reader should have a flexible swivel or movable RFID antenna for easier use.
24. The proposed system must be able to scan shelves by waving a wand along the base of book shelves without having to stop for each item.
25. The proposed portable handheld reader must have the ability to turn the security bit on the RFID tag on and off.
26. An optional USB connection should be available on the handheld reader to link it directly with a workstation, if desired.

### **Conversion Station**

1. The proposed system must require no more than a computer/laptop, barcode scanner, and RFID reader/antenna in addition to software, all of which can be placed on mobile cart, so that the complete operation can be performed in the stacks.
2. The proposed system must have a high-efficiency scanner to ensure accurate reading of all barcodes, including damaged and worn barcodes.
3. The proposed system must be able to dispense tags
4. The proposed system must function in standalone mode, not requiring an interface with the Integrated Library System.
5. The proposed system must be easy to use for all staff. Paper and electronic versions of all operations/set-up manuals will be provided.
6. Vendors will describe and demonstrate their tagging software and the tagging process.
7. The proposed system must have a visible scan line to facilitate correct placement of material on the conversion station.
8. The proposed system must be able to handle varying barcode locations and orientations.
9. The proposed system must automatically interrupt if barcodes are not fully scanned.
10. The proposed system must be able to convert items from a list (when an optical barcode on the item is unavailable or unreliable).
11. The application software must be able to report various levels of program completion or activity, including hourly totals, daily totals, etc.
12. The proposed system must provide visual and audible feedback when the tag has been successfully programmed.
13. The proposed system software must keep a log file of all converted items by date and item ID.
14. Conversion of collection size must take place with a capacity of 800 items per hour per station to finish the conversion ASAP. The maximum time window (number of days) is based on collection size (minus media and magazines) divided by 800 items per hour 8 hours per day divided. Vendor must provide total hours and the amount of stations and staff needed for the conversion to take place in this time frame.
15. Does the vendor have an automated process for converting from barcode to RFID? If so, please provide details on how many items per hour one automatic station can achieve and how this is done.

**EXHIBIT C - PRICING SHEET**

Please complete the table with pricing. Pricing should be F.O.B. destination. Please include, training, and installation, and any other items necessary for complete system operation.

\* Vendors must use the pricing sheet in this proposal and do not include any other proposal documentation. All addition pricing included can be rejected and subject to disqualification.

Products	Quantity	Price Per Unit	Extended Price
<b>Equipment</b>			
RFID Book Tags	155,000		
Conversion Station – Lease (3 months)	1		
Circulation Staff Stations	3		
Self Checkout – Kiosk	5		
Fines & Fees Functionality – Credit/Debit terminal	5		
Security Gates – Dual Aisle	1		
Portable Inventory Wand	1		
External AMH Sorter – 3 Bin	1		
Staff Induction	1		
Spare Book Bins	3		
Other, if any			
Other, if any			
<b>Installation, Shipping, and Training</b>			
Installation			
Shipping			
Training			
Other, if any			
Other, if any			
First year Hardware and Software Maintenance			
<b>Total RFID Solution:</b>			

**Annual Maintenance after the First Year**

Please provide annual maintenance costs for the system quoted above after the final year warranty. Vendor should indicate annual support and maintenance charges for the proposed solution for a period of five years following installation.

Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5

**Notice**  
**Confidentiality of Proposals, Contracts, and Supporting Materials**

Please be aware that Illinois' Open Records Act and FOIA (Freedom of Information Access) requires that all records kept by the McHenry Public Library District are available for inspection by the public as well as available for a period of time after awards by FOIA request, with only very limited exceptions. Records include bids, proposals, supporting documents, etc. in response to the Library's requests for information and proposals for various services and products as well as board documents.

Please remember that the materials submitted in response to an RFP (Request for Proposal) will be part of that public record and, after a contract is awarded, they will be available to the public. Marking these documents as 'confidential' will have no effect. If you must submit material that you feel are trade secrets and, as such, can't be disclosed to the public, then please contact the MPLD Executive Director to discuss the issue. Per ILCS code, awarded Bids, Specifications and Proposals are retained for a period of ten (10) years while unsuccessful bids are retained for (3) three years after bid award.

**Bid-Bond Requirements and Change Orders**

Once contract is awarded and before any work is performed or equipment ordered, the successful bidder will provide a bid bond/check equivalent to 10% of the accepted bid price. This bid bond is to be held in escrow by MPLD until the project is complete/successful sign-off and successful punch list performed. In certain circumstances, the bid bond may be used to compensate for any unperceived change orders. All project change orders must be approved by the Executive Director and Vendor Project Manager before implementation/installation of software/equipment.

# NEIGHBORS

## Plan!

THINGS TO DO  
IN & AROUND  
McHENRY COUNTY

### WRITING WORKSHOP FOR TEENS

**WHEN:** 3:30 to 5 p.m. Feb. 6  
**WHERE:** McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry  
**COST & INFO:** Presented by E.K. Johnston (below), author of "The Story of Owen," "Star Wars: Ahsoka" and "Exit, Pursued by a Bear." Open to sixth-through 12th-graders. Free. Registration required. Information: [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org) or call 815-385-0036.

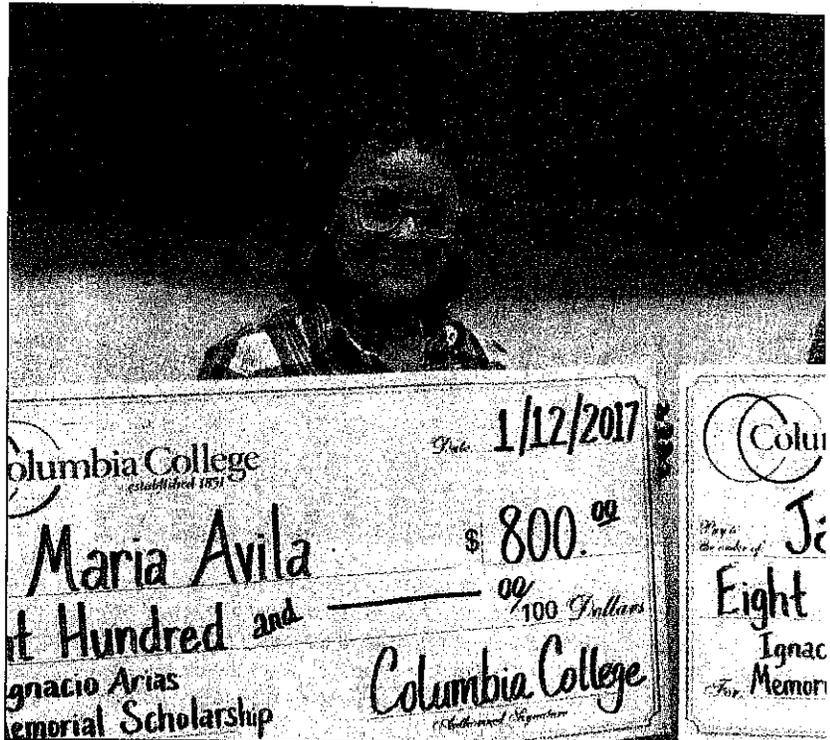


### VALENTINE CARD CRAFT

**WHEN:** 6 to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 6  
**WHERE:** Harvard Diggins Library, 900 E. McKinley St., Harvard  
**COST & INFO:** Participants must be 16 or older. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-943-4671 or [www.harvard-diggins.org](http://www.harvard-diggins.org).



### Crystal Lake



**SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS** - Columbia College of Missouri - Crystal Lake students Maria Arias Memorial Scholarships Jan. 12. Yvette Arriaga (not pictured) also was awarded College alumnus Ignacio Arias, who completed a degree in art after being diagnosed wi

### McHenry



**GUEST SPEAKER** - Bill McLemore (left), president of the Rotary Club of McHenry, welcomed Barb Swanson, director of development for Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County, to a recent club meeting. Swanson discussed programs offered by the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a nonprofit housing organization.

### Crystal Lake

#### Senior Services to host introduction to tai chi

Allison Deputy, a tai chi instructor for more than 25 years, will present a free tai chi class at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 16 at Senior Services Associ-



**COMMUNITY SERVICE** - St. John's Preschool students celebrated Lutheran Schools Week giving back to the community by collecting fleece to make blankets for homebound church members and gathering items for patients battling cancer. Pictured (back row, from left) are Phillip Calhoun, Bryce Buehler and Aiden Shanks; and (front row) Colton Graff, Laney Myshkowec, Reid Amelse, Noah Riley, Gretta Schellhas and Jack Dhooghe.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Feb. 2

• 3:30 to 5 p.m. - **High School Tech Club**, Algonquin Area Public Library, 2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin. Open to high school students interested in tech tools, computer programming, 3D printing, Minecraft and more. Free. No registration required. Information: 847-458-3146 or [www.aapld.org](http://www.aapld.org).

• 6:30 to 8 p.m. - **Time management seminar**, Crystal Lake Park District Administration Building, 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. Open to ages 18 and older. Brian Halwix will help participants learn ways to accomplish goals and dreams and achieve peace of mind. Cost: \$21 residents, \$25 nonresidents. Information: [www.crystallakeparks.org](http://www.crystallakeparks.org).

• 7 to 8:30 p.m. - **"Polish Immigration to America: When, Where, Why and How,"** McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Steve Szabados will discuss Polish immigration and provide some insight into the history of Poland. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

## Crystal Lake



### REGISTRATION OPEN

- Nonprofit art studio Creative Arts Inc. is now accepting registration for its summer art camps for youth. Four-day camps are available from June through August. Campers draw, paint, sculpt, sew and more, with new art projects featured each week. For information or to register, visit [www.creativeartsinc.org/summer](http://www.creativeartsinc.org/summer) or call 815-219-9243. Summer 2016 art camper Blake Bajak (left) is shown painting a giant monarch butterfly.

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WHAT TO DO  
AROUND  
MC HENRY COUNTY

WINNING  
WOODHOG

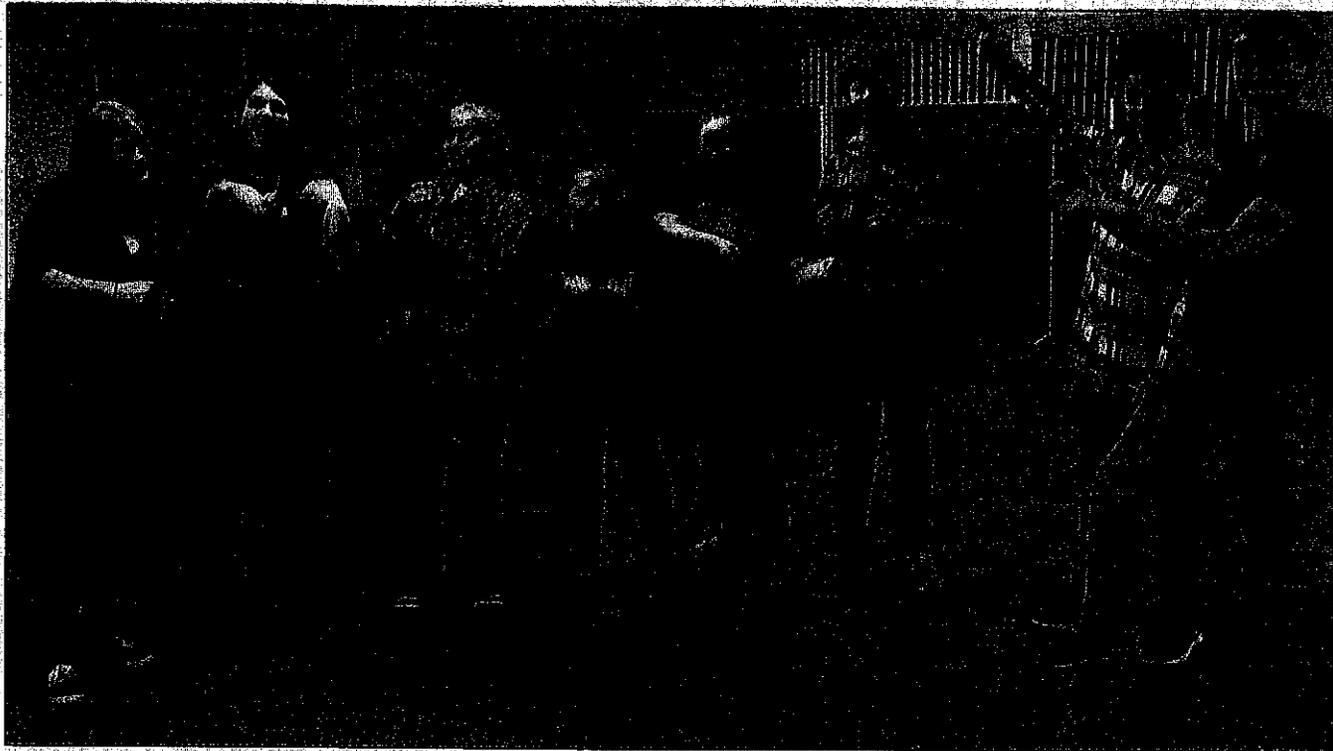
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to begin the  
days celebra-  
rations. Join  
us for a trivia  
game at Left Café.  
Information: www.  
woodhog.org.



TO GET  
BEER  
PARTY

Feb. 1  
Ballroom,  
Woodstock  
Craft beer tast-  
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auction for the Child  
Center of McHenry  
County. Informa-  
tion: 597 or www.  
woodhog.org.



**JUST DANCE - RINGS**, the combined high school youth group from Grace Lutheran Church of Richmond and St. John's Lutheran Church of Helmsburg, hosted a Just Dance competition. Pictured (from left) are the winner, Anna Carlson, Brittany Nelson, Katie Rosio, Chey Knoll, Brea Knoll, Iliana Higgins, Evan Bode and Robert Schenk.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Feb. 1

• 11:30 a.m. - **McHenry Senior Citizens Club Lunch Bunch**, Olive Garden, 3451 Shoppers Drive, McHenry. Visitors welcome. Reservations required. Information: 815-578-1224

• 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. - **Speed Dating with Books for Teens**, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Sixth- through 12th-graders will have three minutes to read a book's blurb or some pages from it, then pass the book on and continue with another. At the end, participants decide which book to take home. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

• 5 to 7 p.m. - **Green Drinks**, Duke's Alehouse and Kitchen, 110 N. Main St., Crystal Lake. On the first Wednesday of each month, environmentally minded people gather to network and talk about "greening" the future. Feb. 1 topic: Visit McHenry County staff members will discuss how they promote ecotourism in the area. Information: [www.facebook.com/greendrinksmchenrycounty](http://www.facebook.com/greendrinksmchenrycounty).

• 6:30 p.m. - **Physical health and nutrition event**, 1st Choice Physical Therapy & Balance Center, 10719 Dundee Road, Huntley. Co-hosted by Chris Wiedenfeld of Juice Plus. Free. Registration required. Information: 847-515-3366.

## Crystal Lake

### McHenry County College offers trip to Irish-themed show

The McHenry County College Trips and Tours Program offers a day trip to an Irish-themed show and meal at the Jacob Henry Mansion in Joliet from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 15.

The mansion is a National Historic Landmark. Participants can get in

the spirit of St. Patrick's Day as they enjoy an Irish-themed show featuring the Celtic band Mulligan Stew and Irish meal. The cost is \$135.

To register, call 815-455-8588. For information, call Tracy Berry at 815-455-8758.

## McHenry County

### DNR seeks volunteer docents for state parks

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is seeking volunteers for positions at Volo Bog State Natural Area, 28478 W. Brandenburg Road, Ingleside; Moraine Hills State Park, 1510 S. River Road, McHenry; and McHenry Dam, McHenry Dam Road, off River Road, McHenry.

Docents are needed at Volo Bog to greet visitors, answer questions and promote awareness of programs and events at the site. Weekend bog naturalists also are sought to lead guided bog tours. A three-day training workshop for docents and naturalists will be Feb. 11, 19 and 25.

Docents also are needed at Moraine Hills State Park, with training beginning in April.

Volunteers also are needed for the Habitat Restoration and Stewardship Team at Volo Bog, Moraine Hills and McHenry Dam to help with planting, seed-gathering and more. In addition, volunteer gardeners are needed to tend the native prairie woodland gardens at the three sites from late March through mid-November.

For information, contact Stacy Iwanicki at [dnr.volobog@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.volobog@illinois.gov) or 815-344-1294.



**Receive an award?**  
Let Neighbors know!  
[neighbors@nwherald.com](mailto:neighbors@nwherald.com)

• Continued from page 10

**DOWNLOADING HELP DROP-IN SESSIONS**

7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 17, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. A how-to download lesson. Information: 815-338-0542.

**BOOKIES - ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

9:30 to 11 a.m. Jan. 18, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Share your views in a friendly setting.

This month's book is "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman. Books are available at the circulation desk. New members welcome. Free. Information: 815-459-1687.

**STORYTELLING SESSIONS: THE ART OF STORYTELLING**

9:30 a.m. to noon Jan. 18, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Local resident Joy Aavang, speaker, author and storyteller, will be present to encourage interested parties to tell their stories and practice the art of storytelling. Light refreshments will be served. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4436>.

**CREATIVE LIVING SERIES: MARY FON'S**

10 a.m. Jan. 19, Woodstock Opera House, 121 Van Buren St., Woodstock. Fons is co-host of the nationally airing PBS show "Love of Quilting" and co-hosts the "Quilt Your Heart Out" podcast with her mom, quilt legend Marianne Fons. As a writer, Mary Fons has been published widely and is pursuing a Writing MFA at the School of the Art Institute. She teaches writing and performance at the University of Chicago. Her fabric line, Small Wonders, launched in 2015, and she writes the Quilt Scout column at [Quilts.com](http://Quilts.com) as well as her blog, Papergirl. Cost: \$25. Tickets and

information: 815-338-5300 or [www.woodstockoperahouse.com](http://www.woodstockoperahouse.com).

**PIZZA & PAGES TEEN BOOK GROUP:**

"EVERY DAY" BY DAVID LEVITHAN, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Jan. 19, Jimano's Pizza, 366 Bank Drive, McHenry. For ages 12 to 18. The first 10 people to sign up will receive a free copy of the book. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org).

**BARK FOR BOOKS**, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Jan. 21, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Read to a dog! They are great listeners and can listen in any language. Sign up at the children's desk starting at 9 a.m. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=5009>.

**POP-UP LIBRARY AT THE FARMER'S WINTER MARKET**

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 21, McHenry County Fairgrounds Building D, 1051 Country Club Road, Woodstock. Get a library card, register for programs, renew materials and more. Featuring stories and crafts as well. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4464>.

**WINTER READING PROGRAM**

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 23, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Today is the first day of the Winter Reading Program "Read, Dream, Imagine ..." Children from birth to eighth grade may sign up with their CLPL card. Record the minutes you read in the log, and when it is complete, you are awarded prizes. Free. Sponsored by the Chicago Wolves Hockey team and the Rotary Club of Crystal Lake, Dawnbreakers. Information: <http://evanced.crystallakelibrary.org/evanced/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=17302>.

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**What did you enjoy most about writing this book? What was the hardest part?**

The best part? I couldn't wait to see what my characters were going to do next.  
The hardest part? Creating an interesting story line where the characters grow/mature over the course of the story.

**What is your education/background?**  
Bachelor of Arts in education.

**How/why did you decide to write a book?**  
I wanted to write stories that entertain and educate. I want my readers to experience life from the safety of their armchair.

**Who are your favorite authors?**  
C.S. Lewis, J.K. Rowling, Dave Barry, Ridley Pearson, Dale Brown, Dan Brown.

**Pick one: Danielle Steel or John Grisham?**



John Grisham.

**Pick one: Ebooks or hard/paperbacks?**  
Paperbacks.

**Have you written anything else?**  
Yes, the first two books in the series of the Culver Falls Chronicles. Book one, "The Mystery of Maywood Mansion," and book two, "The Battle of Culver Falls."

**What's next for you?**  
Book four in the Culver Falls series.

**"SECRET OF CULVER FALLS"**

**RELEASE:** May 16, 2016

**INFO:** [www.amazon.com/T.S.-Benjamin/e/B01FYHC2I4/ref=ntt\\_dp\\_ep\\_wbk\\_0](http://www.amazon.com/T.S.-Benjamin/e/B01FYHC2I4/ref=ntt_dp_ep_wbk_0)

Book featured in Style: Fill out the form at [NWHerald.com/forms/authorspotlight](http://NWHerald.com/forms/authorspotlight).

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**"RED CARPET READS" - WINTER READING 2017**, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 15, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Kids in K-8 and adults can pick up a book log at the questions desk and turn it in by Feb. 19. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org).  
**CLASSIC LITERATURE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**, 7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 16, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry.

Read and discuss "Kidnapped" by Robert Louis Stevenson. Copies available at the checkout desk. For ages 18 & up. No registration needed. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mpref@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:mpref@mchenrylibrary.org).  
**FAMILY BOOK CLUB GOES TO THE MOVIES**, 9:30 a.m. to noon Jan. 16, Classic Cinemas Woodstock, 209 Main St., Woodstock. Read a book then join us at Classic Cinemas in Woodstock to watch the movie

"How to Train Your Dragon" based on the book by Cressida Cowell, and then stay for some trivia and prizes. The first 25 families to sign up will receive a free copy of the book to read beforehand. For kids in Grade 2 and older with an adult. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org).

• Continued on page 11

## LITERARY EVENTS

To have an event listed in this calendar, fill out the form at [PlantNorthwest.com](http://PlantNorthwest.com).

**BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK**, 1 p.m. Feb. 5, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Spice up your reading this month. Choose one of our wrapped books from the display and check it out for a "blind date." No peeking until you get home. Free. Information: 815-526-5108.

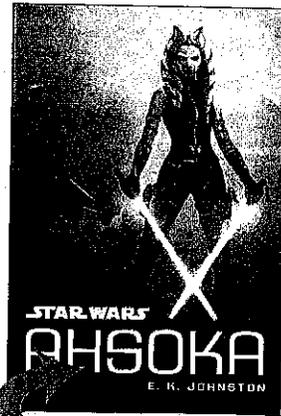
**CUENTOS EN ESPAÑOL**, 6:30 to 7 p.m. Feb. 6, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Families who speak or are learning to speak Spanish can enjoy stories, crafts and songs at our Spanish-language storytime. Program conducted entirely in Spanish. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4954>.

**DROP-IN STEM CRAFT**, 3:30 p.m. Feb. 6, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. For grades K-3. In February we celebrate Valentine's Day with some sweet science experiments involving candy. Free. Information: 815-526-5108 or <http://evanced.crystalakelibrary.org/evanced/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=16370>.

**WRITING WORKSHOP FOR TEENS WITH AUTHOR E.K. JOHNSTON**, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Feb. 6, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Emily Kate Johnston is a forensic archaeologist by training, a bookseller by trade and a grammarian by nature. She had several jobs and one vocation before she became a published writer. If she's learned anything, it's that things turn out weird sometimes, and there's not a lot you can do about it. This program is funded by the Friends of the Library. For grades 6-12. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org).

**BOOKS AND BABIES STORYTIME**, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Feb. 7, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Babies and caregivers will share books, songs, activities, and playtime during each lap-sit program. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4914>.

**CHILDREN'S STORYTIME**, 10:30 a.m. Feb. 7, Read Between the Lines, 111 E. Van Buren St., Woodstock. A free Storytime each Tuesday and Saturday. Children of all ages



**E.K. JOHNSTON**

**WHEN:** 7 p.m. Feb. 10

**WHERE:** Read Between the Lines, 111 E. Van Buren St., Woodstock  
**COST & INFO:** Johnston returns with "Spindle" and "Star Wars: Ahsoka," the No. 1 New York Times bestseller. In Spindle, the world is made safe by a woman ... but it is a very big world. Free. Information: 815-206-5967, [arlene@readbetweenthelines.com](mailto:arlene@readbetweenthelines.com) or [www.readbetweenthelines.com/event/ek-johnston-returns](http://www.readbetweenthelines.com/event/ek-johnston-returns).

welcome. Information: 815-206-5967 or [arlene@readbetweenthelines.com](mailto:arlene@readbetweenthelines.com).

**DOWNLOADING HELP DROP-IN SESSIONS**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 7, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Help downloading free library eBooks to your eReader or smart device. Information: 815-338-0542, <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4736>.

**FAMILY STORYTIME**, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Feb. 8, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Families with children of all ages are welcome. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup>.

[asp?ID=4934](https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4934).

**DROP-IN FAMILY STORYTIME**, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Feb. 9, Algonquin Area Public Library - Harnish Main Library, 2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin. Fun stories, songs and fingerplays. Free. No registration required. Information: 847-458-3139, [aparmete@aapld.org](mailto:aparmete@aapld.org) or [www.aapld.org/do/](http://www.aapld.org/do/).

**GET LITERARY**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 9, Le Petit Marché, 19 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake. Every Second Thursday, the café and bistro across from Raue Center hosts Williams Street Repertory (WSR) for a reading series based around monthly themes. Readers include community members as well as WSR actors and staff members. Free. Information: 815-477-3296 or [petitmarche2@yahoo.com](mailto:petitmarche2@yahoo.com).

**LEGO NIGHTS**, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Little Builders get the Duplos. Master Builders free-build with regular LEGO. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=5001>.

**MURDER & MAYHEM BOOK CLUB**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 9, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. The library's longest-running book club meets the second Thursday of the month. Group members read two to three mysteries on a certain theme each month. No registration required. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=5055>.

**STEM HANDS-ON SCIENCE**, 4 p.m. Feb. 9, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. For grades 3-5. Learn scientific concepts using a hands-on approach. In February, we'll be building a model lean-to for display in the library and then take yours home. CLPL cardholders only. Free. Registration required. Information: [www.cipl.org](http://www.cipl.org) or 815-526-5108.

**DROP-IN STORYTIME**, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Feb. 10, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Stories, crafts and fun. Open to all. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4944>.

**AUTHOR PROGRAM - LAUREL MELLIAN**, 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 11, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Mellian's

"History and Stories of the McHenry County Cemeteries" takes readers on a journey through our counties cemeteries and burial grounds. She'll be discussing her book's unique features and share interesting, unusual and even humorous stories. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4724>.

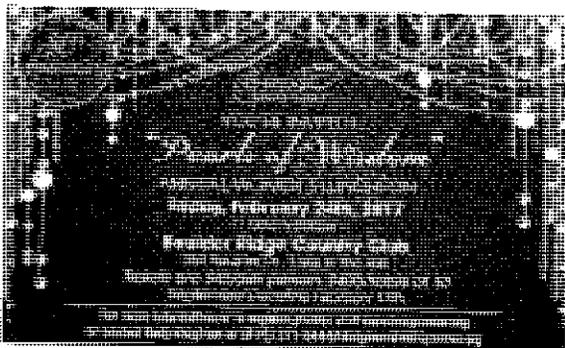
**OF BOGS AND BOOKS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Feb. 11, Volo Bog State Natural Area, 28478 W. Brandenburg Road, Ingleside. The group meets the second Saturday of each month to discuss natural history and outdoor and environmental literature. The Feb. 11 topic will be "The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man's Love Affair with Nature" by J. Drew Lanham. Registration requested at 815-344-1294 or [dnr.volobog@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.volobog@illinois.gov).

**SECOND SATURDAY SENSORY STORYTIME**, 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. Feb. 11, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. A storytime designed for children with special needs. We engage children through movement, music, stories and hands-on activities. Siblings are welcome. Registration required. Information: <http://evanced.crystalakelibrary.org/evanced/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=16871>.

**MEET THE AUTHOR - BRIGHID COLEMAN**, 2 p.m. Feb. 12, Barnes & Noble, 5380 Route 14, Crystal Lake. The local author of "Sawyer's Visit to the Pumpkin Patch" based her story off of her daughter, Sawyer, and the family's favorite fall trip - to the pumpkin patch. Information: 815-444-0824.

**31 WEEK BIBLE STUDY - "THE STORY"**, 10 to 11 a.m. Feb. 12, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 932 McHenry Ave., Crystal Lake. "The Story" is a book of selections from the Bible, arranged chronologically, that reads like a novel. Designed for the first-time Bible reader and the seasoned pro. Information: [info@clchamber.com](mailto:info@clchamber.com).

**CONTEMPORARY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 13, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Read and discuss "The Last Time I Was Me" by Cathy Lamb. Copies available at the checkout desk. Registration not required. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mpref@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mpref@mcHenrylibrary.org).



## Valentine's Celebration!

Reservations - 847.658.5441

Seafood Steaks

Couple's Menu  
Sat. - Sun. - Tues.

Port Edward



Classic Cinemas Woodstock Theatre, 209 Main St. The movie chronicles Ernest Hemingway's time in Cuba in the 1950s and explores his friendship with journalist Denne Bart Petittlerc, portrayed by Giovanni Ribisi. Adrian Sparks plays Hemingway. Tickets: \$6 for matinees and seniors, \$8 for evening shows. Tickets and information: [www.classiccinemas.com](http://www.classiccinemas.com).

## FEB. 14

**NORTHLAND AREA ART LEAGUE MEETING**, 7 p.m. Feb. 14, Woodstock Opera House Community Room, 121 Van Buren St., Woodstock. A presentation of acrylic skins application by Judith Hollister. The meeting is open to members and anyone interested in art. Refreshments. Meetings at 7 to 9 p.m. second Tuesdays September through April. Information: [northlandareaartleague@gmail.com](mailto:northlandareaartleague@gmail.com).

## FEB. 15

**INDIE AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING & READING**, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 15, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Adela Crandell Durkee will talk about what led her to become an author and share stories from her journey. Free. Copies of her books will be for sale. Information: 815-459-1687 or [www.cpl.org](http://www.cpl.org).

## FEB. 16

**CREATIVE LIVING SERIES: DAVID CATLIN**, 10 a.m. to noon Feb. 16, Woodstock Opera House, 121 Van Buren St., Woodstock. Presented by the Woodstock Fine Arts Association. Actor, playwright, director and teacher Catlin is a founding ensemble member of Looking-glass, a theater company that has created and produced more than 50 world premieres. Tickets: \$25 all seats. Information: [www.woodstockoperahouse.com](http://www.woodstockoperahouse.com) or [www.facebook.com/events/356480948054019](http://www.facebook.com/events/356480948054019).

**"EDISON, THE BROTHERS LUMIERE AND THE BIRTH OF MOTION PICTURES"**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 16, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Presenter Craig Pierce takes you back 120 years to the birth of motion pictures. Discover rare clips of the earliest motion pictures ever made. Learn how inventors such as Edison and the Lumiere brothers established the path leading to today's blockbusters. For ages 18 and older. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

**WSR COMEDY SKETCH & IMPROV SHOW**, 8 p.m. Feb. 16, Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake. Presented every third Thursday by the William Street Repertory's Comedy Improv Troupe. A mixed set based on audience suggestions and original sketches. Doors open 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10 at the door. Tickets and information: 815-356-9212 or [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org).

## FEB. 17

**"HA HA LAND" IMPROV SHOW**, 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 17, Crystal Lake Central High School Auditorium, 17 W. Franklin Ave., Crystal Lake. The Crystal Lake Central Laughletes, a student improv and sketch



## "ONE WOMAN SEX AND THE CITY"

**WHEN:** 8 p.m. Feb. 18

**WHERE:** Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake

**COST & INFO:** A parody on love, friendship and shoes. This tribute, starring Kerry Ipema (above), takes audiences through a laughter-infused version of all six seasons of the show. Tickets start at \$20. Tickets and information: 815-356-9212 or [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org).

comedy group, will perform. Directed by CLC teacher Craig Kingston. Featured on WGN. Tickets: \$5 adults, \$8 adult couples; \$3 students, \$4 student couples. Information: [www.facebook.com/clcimprov](http://www.facebook.com/clcimprov) or [elizabethharmon84@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethharmon84@gmail.com).

## FEB. 18

**JOE DIAMOND STUDIO SERIES: THE 13TH**

**HOUR**, 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 18, Joe Diamond Studio Series, 401 Country Club Road, Crystal Lake. A journey through the unknown. The details of this new psychic show are being kept a complete secret. Only 13 people will be admitted to each show. Tickets: \$25 to \$100. Tickets and information: 815-347-5481 or [www.joediamondlive.com/studioseries](http://www.joediamondlive.com/studioseries).

**BUTTER THE COMFORT DOG CHARITY DANCE**

7:30 to 11 p.m. Feb. 18, St. John Lutheran Church Activity Center, 300 Jefferson St., Algonquin. Fundraiser in honor of Butter, a Golden Retriever K-9 comfort dog, hosted by The Greater Fox Valley Chapter of USA Dance. A free Rumba dance lesson taught by Frank and Jackie Penze. Music provided by DJ Dr. Rod. Dress code is dressy casual. No jeans or gym shoes. Cake, coffee and prizes. Admission: \$8 members, \$10 seniors, \$12 nonmembers. Doors open 7:15 p.m. Donations for the church food pantry requested. Information: 847-639-8699, [www.dancefoxvalley.org](http://www.dancefoxvalley.org) or [www.dancewithfrankandjackie.com](http://www.dancewithfrankandjackie.com).

## FEB. 19

**ARTFUL WOMEN: ANDREA DARLAS & PATTI**

**VASQUEZ**, 3 p.m. Feb. 19, Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake. Award-winning radio and TV news anchor/reporter at WGN Radio and WGN TV, Andrea Darlas, and stand-up comedian Patti Vasquez, host of the "Patti Vasquez Show" on Chicago's WGN Radio, talk about women in the fields of broadcasting

and comedy. Tickets: \$15. Tickets and information: 815-356-9212 or [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org).

**WILLIAMS STREET REPERTORY AUDITIONS**

Feb. 19-21, 140 W. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake. Williams Street Repertory, the professional in-house theater company for the Raue Center for the Arts, is looking for actors for the summer and fall 2017-2018 season. General auditions for "Guys and Dolls" and "Little Shop of Horrors" are scheduled for noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 19, 4 to 8 p.m. Feb. 20 and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 21. Information: "Play with us" at [www.wsrep.org](http://www.wsrep.org).

## FEB. 23

**SHROUD OF TURIN EXHIBIT**, noon through 8 p.m. Feb. 23-24, St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church Community Center, 451 W. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake. Featuring the work of scientists who have spent more than 25 years researching the Holy Shroud. Free. Information: 815-455-5400 or [www.saintthomascatholic-church.org](http://www.saintthomascatholic-church.org).

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## FEB. 11

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All Month Long!

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 2436 Bushwood Drive ELGIN 847.551.9006  
 12220 Princet Dale (Rt. 47) HUNT 847.669.98

## LITERARY EVENTS

To have an event listed in this calendar, fill out the form at [PlanitNorthwest.com](http://PlanitNorthwest.com).

**3- AND 4-YEAR-OLD STORYTIME, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Jan. 31, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake.** Storytime for children ages 3 and 4 years old. Information: <http://evanced.crystal-lakelib.org/evanced/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=16439>.

**CHILDREN'S STORYTIME, 10:30 a.m. Jan. 31, Read Between the Lines, 111 E. Van Buren St., Woodstock.** Held every Tuesday and Saturday for children of all ages. Free. Information: 815-206-5967 or [arlene@readbetweentheelines.com](mailto:arlene@readbetweentheelines.com).

**BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK, 9 a.m. Feb. 1, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake.** Choose one of our wrapped books from the display and check it out for a "blind date." No peeking until you get home. Free. Information: 815-526-5108.

**GROUNDHOG DAY STORYTIME, 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. Feb. 1, Woodstock Opera House, 121 W. Van Buren St., Woodstock.** Join us for stories, then step outside for the awakening of the groundhog. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4988>.

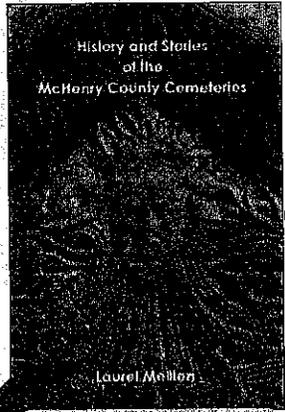
**CHAT 'N CHEW TWEEN BOOK GROUP, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 2, Jimano's Pizza, 366 Bank Dive, McHenry.** For this session of Chat 'n Chew, we'll all read "The Fourteenth Goldfish" by Jennifer Holm. For grades 4-6. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mchenrylib.org](mailto:mplyps@mchenrylib.org).

**DROP-IN FAMILY STORYTIME, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Feb. 2, Algonquin Area Public Library - Harnish Main Library, 2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin.** Storytime helps children develop language skills, learn new words, promote communication skills, boost listening skills and expand their imagination. Free. No registration required. Information: 847-458-3139, [aparmeale@aapl.org](mailto:aparmeale@aapl.org) or [www.aapl.org/do/](http://www.aapl.org/do/).

**GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB, 4 to 5 p.m. Feb. 2, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake.** A book club for grades 6-8 to discuss only graphic novels. This month we will read and discuss "Jedi Academy" by Jeffrey Brown. Free. CLPL cardholders only. Registration required. Information: [www.clpl.org](http://www.clpl.org) or 815-459-1687.

**HISTORY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 2, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry.** Read and discuss "The Audacious Crimes of Colonel Blood: The Spy Who Stole the Crown Jewels and Became the King's Secret Agent" by Robert Hutchinson. Copies available at the checkout desk. Starting in March, the group will begin discussing mysteries. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplref@mchenrylib.org](mailto:mplref@mchenrylib.org).

**CHILDSPACE STORYTIME FOR 2-3 YEAR OLDS, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Feb. 3, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock.** Stories, songs and crafts. Information:



### HISTORY AND STORIES OF THE MCHENRY COUNTY CEMETERIES

**WHEN:** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 4  
**WHERE:** Harvard Diggins Library, 900 E. McKinley St., Harvard  
**COST & INFO:** Journey through the cemeteries and burial grounds of McHenry County learning about Native American burial grounds and tales of accidents, suicide and murder. All this and more is in the book "History and Stories of the McHenry County Cemeteries" by author Laurel Mellien. Join us for a presentation, reading and signing of her new book at Harvard Diggins Library. Free. Information: 815-943-4671, [letelag@harvard-diggins.org](mailto:letelag@harvard-diggins.org) or [www.facebook.com/events/1807018972870010/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1807018972870010/)

<https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4491>.

**GROUNDHOG TALES, 10 to 11 a.m. Feb. 4, Home State Bank, 124 S. Johnson St., Woodstock.** Jim May is an Emmy Award-winning storyteller and writer. Bring the family to listen to his stories about groundhogs and their prognostications. Event sponsor is Home State Bank. Free. Information: [www.woodstockgroundhog.org](http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org).

**SWEET REPEATS THRIFT SHOPPE BOOK SIGNING FOR "IN A HEARTBEAT," 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 4, Sweet Repeats Thrift Shoppe, 10514 Route 47, Huntley.** A book signing for local author Cindy Heigl, author of "In a Heartbeat: My Miraculous Experience of Sudden Cardiac Arrest." Books will be available for \$15 at the event or can be bought at Amazon.com. Free. Information: [inaheartbeatbook@gmail.com](mailto:inaheartbeatbook@gmail.com) or [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)

events/1639222823039002/  
**CUENTOS EN ESPAÑOL, 6:30 to 7 p.m. Feb. 6, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Families who speak or are learning to speak Spanish can enjoy stories, crafts and songs at our Spanish-language storytime. This program is conducted entirely in Spanish. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4954>.**  
**WRITING WORKSHOP FOR TEENS WITH AUTHOR E.K. JOHNSTON, 3:30 to 5 p.m.**

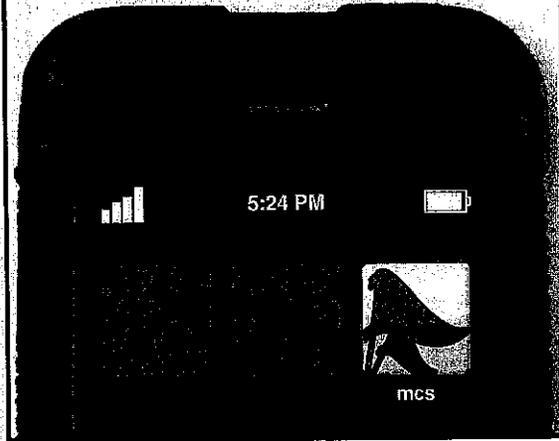
Feb. 6, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Emily Kate Johnston is a forensic archaeologist by training, a bookseller by trade and a grammarian by nature. She had several jobs and one vocation before she became a published writer. If she's learned anything, it's that things turn out weird sometimes, and there's not a lot you can do about it. This program is funded by the Friends of the Library. For grades 6-12. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mchenrylib.org](mailto:mplyps@mchenrylib.org).

## Prep sports on your phone? *Appsolutely.*

The McHenry County Scores app allows you to view up-to-date scores and more on boys and girls sports throughout the school year.

And best of all, it's free! To upload the McHenry County Scores app, visit iTunes today!  
<http://itunes.com/apps/McHenryCountyScores>

### MCHENRY COUNTY SCORES





Parents: Nancy and  
Jeremy Gieseke  
Marengo



Parents: Kristin and  
Scott Gustafson  
Algonquin



Dana Adkins  
McHenry

ONLINE: Neighbor  
EMAIL: neighbor  
MAIL: Birthday C  
Crystal Lake, IL 6

• Continued from page 16

## Jan. 29

• 1 p.m. – **Bowl 2 Build fundraiser**, Crystal Bowl, 4504 E. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake. A fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County, which builds and repairs houses using volunteer labor and donations. Qualified families buy homes through nonprofit, no-interest mortgage loans. Featuring one game of "crazy" bowl followed by regulation bowling. Cost: \$25 a person, which includes shoe rental. Information: 815-759-9002 or [www.habitatmchenry.org](http://www.habitatmchenry.org).

• 5 to 6:30 p.m. – **Sunday evening community dinner**, First United Methodist Church, 236 W. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. A free dinner for those in need. Information: 815-459-0785 or [foodministries@firstchurchcl.org](mailto:foodministries@firstchurchcl.org).

## Jan. 30

• 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. – **Fox River Grove School District 3 kindergarten registration**, Algonquin Road School, 975 Algonquin Road, Fox River Grove. Any child who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2017, is eligible to register for kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Parents should bring the original birth certificate from the county where their child was born. Parents also must provide four documents to prove residency within the district. A fee is due at the time of registration. Information: 847-516-5101 or [www.dist3.org](http://www.dist3.org).

• 7 to 8 p.m. – **"Decades of Dress - Garbo to Mid-Century 1930-1949,"** McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Ruth Thomas and Sanni Judy will showcase a collection of dresses from the 1930s and '40s, and will discuss fashion trends, women's history and women's impact on contemporary events. For ages 15 and older. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

## Jan. 31

• 10 a.m. – **"Everybody's Hero: The Jackie Robinson Story,"** Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake. Presented by Mad River Theatre Works. Robinson became the first African-American to play major league baseball when he signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. Tickets start at \$20, \$6 students. Information: 815-356-9212 or [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org).

• 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – **Health care hiring**

**event**, McHenry County Workforce Network, 500 Russel Court, Woodstock. Centegra Hospital, Bright Star Care, Homelife Health Care, AA Health Care Management, Valley Hi Nursing and Rehabilitation and Visiting Angels will be on site recruiting for various positions. Free. Information: 815-338-7100, ext. 2771.

• 7 to 8:30 p.m. – **"The Straight Dope: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Medical Marijuana,"** Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Attorney Phillip Robertson will discuss the new laws regarding medical marijuana in Illinois and across the country. Topics will include which conditions qualify for registration as a patient and how to register for the program. Free. Registration required. Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).

## Feb. 1

• 11:30 a.m. – **McHenry Senior Citizens Club Lunch Bunch**, Olive Garden, 3451 Shoppers Drive, McHenry. Visitors welcome. Reservations required. Information: 815-578-1224.

• 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. – **Speed Dating with Books for Teens**, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Sixth- through 12th-graders will have three minutes to read a book's blurb or some pages from it, then pass the book on and continue with another. At the end, participants decide which book to take home. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

• 5 to 7 p.m. – **Green Drinks**, Duke's Alehouse and Kitchen, 110 N. Main St., Crystal Lake. On the first Wednesday of each month, environmentally minded people gather to network and talk about "greening" the future. Feb. 1 topic: Visit McHenry County staff members will discuss how they promote ecotourism in the area. Information: [www.facebook.com/greendrinks-mchenrycounty](http://www.facebook.com/greendrinks-mchenrycounty).

• 6 to 7 p.m. – **Awakening of the Groundhog**, Woodstock Opera House, 121 Van Buren St., Woodstock. Welcome Woodstock Willie, the resident groundhog, as he makes his appearance on the roof of the Woodstock Opera House to begin the Groundhog Days celebration. Then, go inside to join other movie fans for a trivia contest with prizes at Stage Left Café. Free. Information: [www.woodstockgroundhog.org](http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org).

• 6 p.m. – **Woodstock Willie's Beer**

**Tasting Party**, Waverly Ballroom, 214 Main St., Woodstock. Craft beer tasting paired with appetizers and a silent auction will help support the Child Advocacy Center of McHenry County. Cost: \$30. Information: 815-334-9597 or [www.woodstockgroundhog.org](http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org).

## Feb. 2

• 7 to 7:30 a.m. – **Groundhog Prognostication**, Woodstock Square, Woodstock. Celebrate Groundhog Day as Woodstock Willie emerges from his tree trunk home just as he did during the "Groundhog Day" movie filmed in Woodstock in 1992. Free. Information: [www.woodstockgroundhog.org](http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org).

• 6:30 to 8 p.m. – **Time management seminar**, Crystal Lake Park District Administration Building, 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. Open to ages 18 and older. Cost: \$21 residents, \$25 nonresidents. Information: [www.crystallakeparks.org](http://www.crystallakeparks.org).

• 7 to 8:30 p.m. – **"Polish Immigration to America: When, Where, Why and How,"** McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Steve Szabados will discuss Polish immigration and provide some insight into the history of Poland. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

## Feb. 3

• 10 to 11 a.m. – **"Discovery Day,"** Lost Valley Visitor Center in Glacial Park, Route 31 and Harts Road, Ringwood. McHenry County Conservation District program. Children ages 2 to 6 accompanied by an adult will enjoy a game, craft, snack and other educational activities based on the theme of the day. Free for county residents, \$5 for nonresidents. Registration deadline: Jan. 30. Information: [www.mccdDistrict.org](http://www.mccdDistrict.org).

• 6 to 8 p.m. – **First Fridays with Food Shed Co-op**, Crystal Lake Brewing, 150 N. Main St., Crystal Lake. Representatives of the Food Shed Co-op will discuss McHenry County's food system and economy. Free. Information: [info@foodshed.coop](mailto:info@foodshed.coop) or [www.foodshed.coop/first\\_fridays\\_20170106](http://www.foodshed.coop/first_fridays_20170106).

• 6 to 11:30 p.m. – **Groundhog Day Charity Dinner Dance**, Woodstock Moose Lodge No. 1329, 406 Clay St., Woodstock. A buffet dinner with a roast beef carving station will be available from 6 to 7:30 p.m. followed by classic rock by the band Hookset and a silent auction. Tickets are available at the door. Proceeds benefit Heart of the Community. Cost: \$15, \$5 after 8

p.m. Inform: woodstockg  
• 7 p.m. – Prairieview Road, Cryst: vation Distri and pioneer west witho to ages 14 a Jan. 30. Free: www.mccd

## Feb. 4

• 8 a.m. to **Lacrosse** (The Loft, 21 Proceeds by club. Cost: \$ 847-961-87 events/185

• 10 a.m. **workshop** W. Judd St., ogists from Daughters i help spece tions. Men the patriots for America required. In marciaflani

• 10 a.m. **Bowling**, Woodstock high school raffles and two games Information stockgrou

• 10 a.m. **by-sitting** Community Cary. Ages necessary care. Cost: dents. Info carypark.c

• 11 a.m. **Victorian** House, 660 Lake. Child by a paren and learn a Drop-in pr Ott at 815- crystallake

# Plan!

THINGS TO DO  
IN & AROUND  
McHENRY COUNTY

## "BIT O' WIT IN THE BURBS"

**WHEN:** 7 to 9:30 p.m. Jan. 30

**WHERE:** Raue Center for  
the Arts, 26 N. Williams St.,  
Crystal Lake

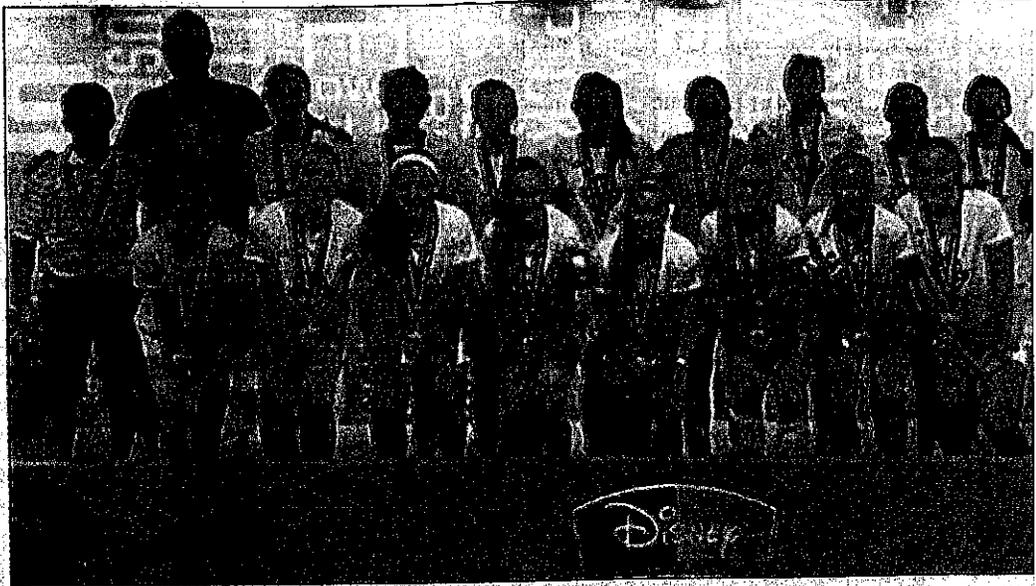
**COST & INFO:** Two English  
artists make a bet as to  
which one of them can steal  
the affections of their fellow  
ex-patriot from her moneyed  
French fiancé. The farcical  
romp, part of the Williams  
Street Repertory LAB Series  
of staged readings of new  
works, is by Phil Denofrio,  
poet-in-residence at the Raue  
Center for the Arts. The LAB  
Series goal is to give audienc-  
es an artist's perspective of  
the play on the page. Come  
for the reading and stay for  
discussion afterward. Free.  
Information: [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org)  
or 815-356-9212.

## "DECADES OF DRESS – GARBO TO MID-CENTURY 1930-1949"

**WHEN:** 7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 30

**WHERE:** McHenry Public  
Library, 809 Front St., McHenry

**COST & INFO:** Ruth Thomas  
and Sanni Judy will showcase a  
collection of dresses from the  
1930s and 1940s, and discuss  
fashion trends, women's  
history and women's impact  
on contemporary events. The  
program is open to those age  
15 and older. Free. Information:  
[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).



**SHOWCASE CHAMPS** – The Crystal Lake Force U17 girls Elite Plus team recently won the Disney Girls Soccer World of Sports Complex. The team includes girls from Cary-Grove, Crystal Lake Central, Crystal Lake South Wauconda high schools. Pictured (back row, from left) are Coach Dennis Crouse, Coach Kristian Rockall, Berkland, Taylor Bittenbender, Natalie Dombrowski, Brooke Dunteman, Katelyn Glowinski, Madison Kachelr Wiegand and Coach Darren Llewellyn; and (front row) Abbey Kramer, Kayla Llewellyn, Eve Meintz, Cameron S Sinnot, Kelly Stayart and Abby Wiegand.

## Huntley



**HONORED GUEST** – Deacon Lou Farinella appeared at St. Nicholas during the annual St. Mary Huntley Knights of Columbus Council 11666 Breakfast with St. Nicholas Dec. 4.

## CAMPUS REPORT

**CHARLESTON** – The following local residents were awarded degrees after the 2016 fall semester at Eastern Illinois University:

Algonquin resident **Haley Muller**, Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science; Carpentersville resident **Jessica Reed**, Bachelor of Arts; Crystal Lake residents **Bailey Kingston**, Bachelor of Arts, **Cammie Leonard**, Bachelor of Arts, and **Jordyn Reitz**, Bachelor of Science; Huntley resident **Rachel Bushnell**, Bachelor of Science; Lake in the Hills residents **Aldona Fudala**, Bachelor of Arts, and **Casey Reppinger**, Bachelor of Arts; Lakewood resident **Bryar Rodman**, Bachelor of Science; McHenry resident **Jenna Dietz**, Bachelor of Arts; Spring Grove residents **Gerard Ganshirt**, Bachelor of Science, and **Tyler Kahanec**, Bachelor of Science; and Woodstock resident **Megan Schaffter**, Bachelor of Science.

**WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.** – McHenry resident **Mark Adams** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Purdue University.

**LA CROSSE, Wis.** – The following local residents were named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse:

Algonquin residents **Aidan Donahoe** and **Alysson Reformado**; Bull Valley resident **Zachary Delgado**; Crystal Lake residents **Michaela Hader**, **Shannon Janeczko**, **Tyler Jenkins** and **Elaina Pagliarulo**; Harvard resident **Tate Miller**; Huntley resident **Nicole Levra**; Island Lake resident

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# Plan!

THINGS TO DO  
IN & AROUND  
McHENRY COUNTY

## "BETTE DAVIS LIVING HISTORY"

**WHEN:** 7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 26

**WHERE:** McHenry Public  
Library, 809 Front St., McHenry

**COST & INFO:** Actress and  
historian Leslie Goddard (be-  
low) will portray the star from  
the golden age of Hollywood.  
Open to ages 18 and older.  
Free. Registration required.  
Information: 815-385-0036 or  
[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).



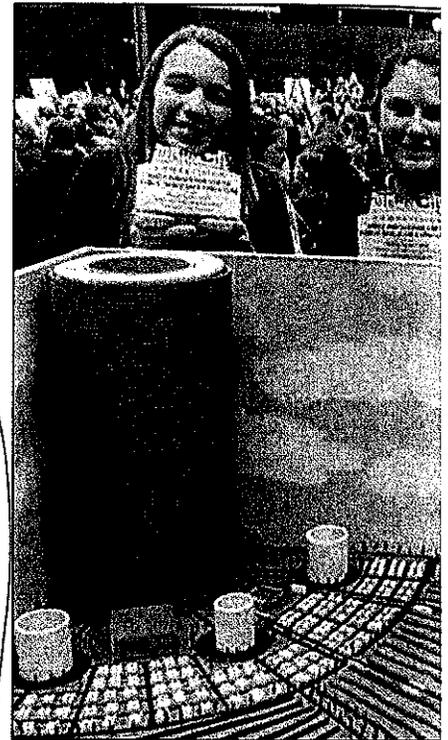
## "FLARES" ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION

**WHEN:** 5 to 7 p.m. Jan. 26

**WHERE:** Satellite Gallery  
inside the Old Courthouse  
Arts Center, 101 N. Johnson  
St., Woodstock

**COST & INFO:** Featuring works  
by six advanced painting stu-  
dents of McHenry County Col-  
lege Art Department instructor  
Mark Arctander. Free. Exhibit  
on display through March 3.  
Gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## McHenry



**FUTURE CITY** - The seventh- and eighth-grade members participated in the National Engineers' Week members designed a virtual city, wrote a rese "Prasinos Poli" creators Grace Adams (from le Innovative Use of Public Spaces in a Structure:

## Woodstock

### Rotary to host bags tournament

The Woodstock Rotary Bags Tournament will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 4 at C mann's Red Iron Tavern, 101 E. Church

The tournament will take place outdoors as part of Woodstock's Groundhog Day festivities. Teams check in at noon the tournament begins at 1 p.m. Entry is \$30 a team through Feb. 3; \$40 day of event. Proceeds will benefit the Woods Food Pantry.

For information, call Joe Starzynski at 815-245-4954 or visit [www.woodstockgroundhog.org](http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org).

## McHenry County

### SWCD taking orders for trees

The McHenry-Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District is hosting annual tree sale.

All residents of McHenry and Lake ties are eligible to buy trees and shrubs through the sale, which continues until March 31. Plants can be used for windbreak establishment, wildlife habitat improvement, Christmas trees, screening or sha

**NEW EXHIBIT** - The family of Jean Handle, Crystal Lake Park District outdoor education director from 1974-1986, donated a new history exhibit to the Crystal Lake Park District Nature Center, 330 N. Main St. The exhibit outlines the natural history of the land, the story of early settlers, the construction of the Nature Center and its outdoor education program. The Nature Center offers programs, hands-on activities and seasonal exhibits. It is open year round, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. Admission is free. For information, call 815-455-1763. Pictured (from left) are Richard Hodges, Beverly Hodges, Linda Roth, Gary Handle and Louis Handle-Roth.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

or dessert to pass and a minimum donation of \$2 a person for the church's food pantry. Admission: \$8 members, \$10 seniors, \$12 nonmembers. Information: 847-639-8699 or [www.dancefoxvalley.org](http://www.dancefoxvalley.org).

## Jan. 22

• 9 to 11 a.m. - **Restoration ecology work day**, Sterne's Woods & Fen, 5617 Hillside Drive, Crystal Lake. Volunteers are sought to help cut and burn invasive buckthorn to allow rare native plant species to thrive. Bring a water bottle and a pair of work gloves. Information: [bricemaier@htmail.com](mailto:bricemaier@htmail.com).

**Jan. 21**  
 • 8:30 to 10:45 a.m. - **Crystal Lake Toastmasters**, Exemplar Financial Network, 413 E. Terra Cotta Ave, Crystal Lake. Free. Information: 847-899-1210 or [www.crystallake.toastmastersclubs.org](http://www.crystallake.toastmastersclubs.org).  
 • 9 to 11 a.m. - **Literacy volunteer information session**, McHenry County College, 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake. Find out about becoming a tutor for reading, math and/or English language skills for adult students. No registration required. Free. Information: 815-455-8542 or [www.mchenry.edu/volunteer](http://www.mchenry.edu/volunteer).  
 • 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **Un-Finished Craft Object**, Crystal Lake Park District Administration Building, 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. Open to ages 18 and older. Drop-in program. Bring a craft project and supplies. Cost: \$5. Information: [www.crysstalkeaparks.org](http://www.crysstalkeaparks.org).  
 • 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **Preschool Fair**, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Featuring representatives of several local preschools. Free. Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).  
 • 6 p.m. - **Greater Fox Valley Chapter of USA Dance 20th Anniversary Celebration**, St. John Lutheran Church Activity Center, 300 Jefferson St., Algonquin. Includes buffet, merengue dance lesson, music by DJ Dr. Rod. Dress code is dressy casual. Attendees asked to bring an appetizer

## GET LISTED!

Do you want your club or organization event listed in our Community Calendar? Visit [PrintNorthwest.com](http://PrintNorthwest.com) and select Add Event. Your submission will appear weekly in the Northwest Herald and online. For information, call Barb Grant at 815-526-4523.

Information: [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org) or 815-385-0036.

• 1:30 to 3 p.m. - **Author appearance**, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Historic illustrator and cartographer Tom Willcockson will discuss his recently released book, "Passage to Chicago: A Journey on the Illinois & Michigan Canal in 1860." Free. Registration required. Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).

• 5 to 6:30 p.m. - **Sunday evening community dinner**, First United Methodist Church, 236 W. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. A free dinner for those in need. Information: 815-459-0785 or [foodministries@firstchurchcl.org](mailto:foodministries@firstchurchcl.org).

## Jan. 23

• 3:30 to 5 p.m. - **Crypto Club**, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Using treasure hunts, puzzles and games, fifth-through eighth-graders will learn how to make and break secret codes and ciphers. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

## Jan. 24

• 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. - **Movie screening**, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Featuring "The Light Between Oceans," rated PG-13. Free. Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).

• 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. - **Coffee with the Chief**, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. McHenry Police Chief John Jones will discuss the state of the department and what is happening in the community, after which there will be a presentation on police technologies. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).  
 • 7 to 8 p.m. - **Taize service**, First Congregational Church, 461 Pierson St., Crystal Lake. The service incorporates song, chant, scripture, candles and silence to foster reconciliation and peace. Free. Information: 815-459-3321 or [www.fcc-cl.org](http://www.fcc-cl.org).  
 • 7 p.m. - **Lecture by Antarctica explorer**, McHenry County College's Luecht Conference Center, 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake. Environmental Defenders of McHenry County, Citizens' Climate Lobby McHenry County Chapter and the MCC Sustainability Center will host a presentation by Betty Trummel, retired District 47 educator, who has just returned from a scientific expedition to Antarctica. "Homeward Bound: Our Planet. In Your Hands" will focus on the remote, harsh and unique environment, and how the polar regions are affected by a warming Earth. Free. Information: 815-479-7765, 815-338-0393 or [www.mcdet.org](http://www.mcdet.org).

Continued on page 16

**LITERARY EVENTS**

To have an event listed in this calendar, fill out the form at [PlanItNorthwest.com](http://PlanItNorthwest.com).

**LOCAL AUTHOR TOM WILLCOCKSON**, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Jan. 22, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Historic illustrator and cartographer Tom Willcockson offers insights into how he conceived and produced his recently released book, "Passage to Chicago: A Journey on the Illinois & Michigan Canal in 1860." Using highly detailed drawings, maps, cutaway diagrams and perspective views, the 84-page, full-color book shows the life and times of a mule-drawn, family-owned canal boat as it made its way filled with cargo from LaSalle-Peru to downtown Chicago just before the advent of the Civil War. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4718>.

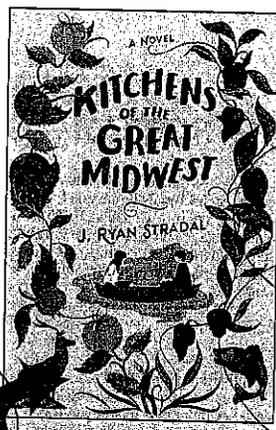
**"RED CARPET READS,"** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 22, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Kids in K-8 and adults can pick up a book log at the questions desk and turn it in by Feb. 19 for a chance to win a prize. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org).

**WINTER WONDER READ CELEBRATION - HOT COCOA BAR**, 1 to 3 p.m. Jan. 22, Wauconda Area Library, 801 N. Main St., Wauconda. Marking the end of the winter reading program with hot cocoa bar and winter treats. The snowmen artwork made by our reading program participants will be displayed for all to see. Free. Information: [www.wauconlib.org](http://www.wauconlib.org) or [www.waucondachamber.org/events/details/winter-wonder-read-celebration-hot-cocoa-bar-6413](http://www.waucondachamber.org/events/details/winter-wonder-read-celebration-hot-cocoa-bar-6413).

**WINTER READING PROGRAM**, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 23, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Today is the first day of the Winter Reading Program. Children from birth to eighth grade may sign up with their CLPL card. Record the minutes you read in the log and receive a prize when it is completed. Sponsored by the Chicago Wolves Hockey team and the Rotary Club of Crystal Lake, Dawnbreakers. Free. Information: <http://evanced.crystal-lakelibrary.org/evanced/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=17302>.

**DOWNLOADING HELP DROP-IN SESSIONS**, 7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 24, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Help downloading free library eBooks to your eReader or smart device. Information: 815-338-0542 or <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4734>.

**BOOK FOLDING 101**, 2 to 4 p.m. Jan. 26, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Mike Penkava will teach participants the necessary techniques and lead a simple book folding project. You may bring your own book (at least 100 pages in length) or we will provide one for you. Registration required. Free. Informa-



**LITERARY BOOK CLUB**  
**WHEN:** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Jan. 26  
**WHERE:** Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock  
**COST & INFO:** The book club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. This month is "Kitchens of the Great Midwest" by J. Ryan Stradal. Come for just the book that interests you or for the whole series. Books and reading guides are available at the circulation desk. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=5058>.

tion: [www.clpl.org](http://www.clpl.org) or 815-459-1687.  
**DROP-IN FAMILY STORYTIME**, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Jan. 26, Algonquin Area Public Library - Harnish Main Library, 2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin. Storytime helps children develop language skills, learn new words, promote communication skills, boost listening skills, and expand their imagination. Free drop-in program. Information: 847-458-3139, [aparme@aapl.org](mailto:aparme@aapl.org) or [www.aapl.org/do](http://www.aapl.org/do).  
**CLFOGE BOOK SALE**, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Jan. 27, Algonquin Township Hall, 3702 Route 14, Crystal Lake. Crystal Lake Friends of Gifted Education is hosting its annual Bargain Book Sale fundraiser. The book sale will feature thousands of titles in most genres for readers of all ages. Children's books are 50¢ and adult books range from 50¢ to \$1. Free. Information: 847-890-2599, [htmurawski@comcast.net](mailto:htmurawski@comcast.net) or <http://clfoge.org/2016/12/clfoge-annual-book-sale/>.  
**GROUNDHOG DAY STORYTIME**, 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. Feb. 1, Woodstock Public Library,

414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. The library is joining in on the Groundhog Day fun at the Opera House. Join us for stories, then step outside for the awakening of the groundhog. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4988>.

**CHAT 'N CHEW TWEEN BOOK GROUP**, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 2, Jimano's Pizza, McHenry. For this session of Chat 'n Chew we'll all read: "The Fourteenth Goldfish" by Jennifer Holm. For grades 4-6. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org).

**HISTORY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 2, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Read and discuss "The Audacious Crimes of Colonel Blood: The Spy Who Stole the Crown Jewels and Became the King's Secret Agent," by Robert Hutchinson. Copies are available at the checkout desk. Starting in March, the group will begin discussing mysteries. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org).

**CHILDSPACE STORYTIME FOR 2-3 YEAR OLDS**, noon Feb. 3, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Join us for stories, songs, and crafts. This group provides an opportunity for children to meet and make new friends. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=4491>.

**GROUNDHOG TALES**, 10 to 11 a.m. Feb. 4, Home State Bank, 124 S. Johnson

St., Woodstock. Jim May is an Emmy Award-winning storyteller and writer. Bring the family to listen to his stories about groundhogs and their prognostications. Sponsored by Home State Bank. Free. Information: [www.woodstockgroundhog.org](http://www.woodstockgroundhog.org).

**HISTORY AND STORIES OF THE MCHENRY COUNTY CEMETERIES**, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 4, Harvard Diggins Library, 900 E. McKinley St., Harvard. Journey through the cemeteries and burial grounds of McHenry County, Illinois learning about Native American burial grounds and tales of accidents, suicide and murder. All this and more is in the book "History and Stories of the McHenry County Cemeteries" by author Laurel Meilien. Join us for a presentation, reading and signing of her new book. Free. Information: 815-943-4671, [leticiag@harvard-diggins.org](mailto:leticiag@harvard-diggins.org) or [www.facebook.com/events/1807018972870010/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1807018972870010/).

**SWEET REPEATS THRIFT SHOPPE BOOK SIGNING FOR "IN A HEARTBEAT,"** 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 4, Sweet Repeats Thrift Shoppe, 10514 Route 47, Huntley. Sweet Repeats Thrift Shoppe will host a book signing for local author Cindy Heigl. Pick up a signed copy of Cindy's book, "In a Heartbeat - My Miraculous Experience of Sudden Cardiac Arrest." Books will be available for \$15 at the event, or can be bought ahead of time on Amazon.com. Free. Information: [ina-heartbeatbook@gmail.com](mailto:ina-heartbeatbook@gmail.com) or [www.facebook.com/events/1639222823039002/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1639222823039002/).

# FIRST

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# Plan!

THINGS TO DO  
IN & AROUND  
McHENRY COUNTY

## POETRY NIGHT

**WHEN:** 8 p.m. Jan. 23

**WHERE:** Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake

**COST & INFO:** Poet and puppeteer Phil C. Denofrio (below); poet in residence for the Raue Center for the Arts, hosts poetry nights the fourth Monday of every other month and regular open mic nights. The events include poets from McHenry County and throughout the Chicago area presenting their own contemporary verses. Free admission. Coffee, wine and beer will be for sale at the bar. Information: 815-356-9212 or [www.rauecenter.org](http://www.rauecenter.org).



## CRYPTO CLUB

**WHEN:** 3:30 to 5 p.m. Jan. 23

**WHERE:** McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry

**COST & INFO:** Using treasure hunts, puzzles and games, fifth- through eighth-graders will learn how to make and break secret codes and cyphers. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).



**THEATRE OLYMPICS** – Four Woodstock High School theater students won second place in the 2017 Tech Theatre Olympics, which are part of the Illinois Theatre Association's Illinois High School Theatre Festival. The team won first place in three of the eight events, including button sewing, platform construction and sound system set-up. Pictured (front row, from left) are Micah Muhlenfeld, Ryan Baier and Connor Zankle; and (back) Samantha Jones.

## CAMPUS REPORT

**AURORA** – The following local residents were named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Aurora University:

Algonquin residents **Sarah Kolodziejski, Brian Richter** and **Cassidy Serafin**; Bull Valley resident **Nicole Pinheiro**; Cary resident **Darren Stass**; Crystal Lake residents **Mika Kaiser** and **Kyle Pierce**; Huntley resident **Ashley Knutsen**; Lake in the Hills residents **Lauren Hoebbel, Marilyn Lopez, Leslie Martinez** and **Jorge Roman**; Marengo resident **Cynthia Silva**; McHenry resident **Troy Damask**; Spring Grove resident **Kelli Brossart**; Union resident **Heather Segura**; Wonder Lake residents **Alexandra Aguilar** and **Haley Jarvis**; and Woodstock residents **Danielle Flowers, Tania Guarneros Martinez, Quinette King, Julia Kranenburg, Thomas Neese** and **Melanie Vrasich**.

**BLOOMINGTON** – The following local residents were named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Illinois Wesleyan University:

Carpentersville residents **Bradley Jenisch** and **Brandon Chang**; Cary residents **Erin Fisher** and **Jason Gregoire**; Crystal Lake residents **Fiona Breyer, Nicholas MacDonald, Megan Mink** and **Jacob Nowakowski**;

Hebron residents **Jeremiah Lindquist** and **Alec O'Halleran**; Huntley resident **Jessica Ehredt**; Ingleside resident **Richard Von Helms**; Johnsburg resident **Zachary Kinney**; Lake in the Hills resident **Haley Rojek**; McHenry residents **Kasie Floden, Caroline Monsen, Taylor Nimrick** and **Sarah Pila**; and Woodstock residents **Bradley Blalock, John Gelasi** and **Kathleen Holub**.

**TEXAS CITY, Texas** – Woodstock resident **Aireal Mauriello** was inducted into the Sigma Delta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at College of the Mainland. She is majoring in nursing practice.

**MADISON, Wis.** – The following local residents earned semester honors for the 2016 fall semester at Edgewood College:

Crystal Lake resident **Kourtnei Kelley**; Johnsburg residents **AJ Conant** and **Noah Miller**; Marengo resident **Sarah Hendle**; and Spring Grove resident **Ashley Mathis**.

**MILWAUKEE, Wis.** – Algonquin resident **Amanda Schuessler** and Crystal Lake resident **Mary Herzog** were named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Mount Mary University.

## help at three

McHenry County tax assistance at state returns for 21 through April. Income Tax Assistance closed March 25.

Walk-in hour Saturdays and 5 in Room A102 at Crystal Lake. Available from 5:30 to Harvard School 401 N. Division 3 p.m. Thursdays, the McHenry County Russell Court, W

The VITA Center individuals or households with income over \$55,000 and returns with income tax.

All tax forms should bring the main taxpayer's cards or Individual Tax Identification Number letters reported on the statements (W2s) documents, a copy available, and direct deposits needed.

For information call 260-VITA or email

## Woodstock McAnd Bog Vo

Woodstock draws with Illinois Department of Volunteer Year for State National

She is teering a in 2014 as document active officer

She has a variety site's educational events, international Board also send for Volo and McHenry draws joint board of scholars members the organizer volunteer

McHenry



**GETTING TO KNOW YOU** – The Rev. Mark Buetow (left) and the Rev. George Borghardt participated in the “get to know your pastors” segment of Zion Lutheran Church’s Higher Things youth retreat.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Jan. 19**

• 1 to 3 p.m. – **Literacy volunteer information session**, McHenry County College, 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake. Also presented 9 to 11 a.m. Jan. 21. Find out about becoming a tutor for reading, math and/or English language skills for adult students. Free. No registration required. Information: 815-455-8542 or [www.mchenry.edu/volunteer](http://www.mchenry.edu/volunteer).

• 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. – **Pizza & Pages Teen Book Group**, Jimano’s Pizzeria, 366 Bank Drive, McHenry. McHenry Public Library program open to ages 12-18. January’s book is “Every Day” by David Levithan. Free. Registration required. Information: [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org) or 815-385-0036.

• 6 to 8:30 p.m. – **Women’s Night Out**, First Congregational Church, 461 Pierson St., Crystal Lake. Life strategist Jessica Homelka will discuss women’s roles as mothers, students, leaders and more. Includes dinner. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-459-6010 or [kelli@fcc-cl.org](mailto:kelli@fcc-cl.org).

• 7 p.m. – **Elgin Genealogical Society meeting**, Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin. The program will be a pre-recorded webinar by Lisa Louise Cook on “Sanborn Maps.” Free. Information: [www.elginroots.com](http://www.elginroots.com).

## CAMPUS REPORT

**JOLIET** – The following local residents were named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at the University of St. Francis:

Lake in the Hills resident **Collin Tatone**; Marengo residents **Taylor Conroy** and **Cierra Volpendesta**; and McHenry residents **Charles Heintzelman** and **Jessica Roberts**.

**WEST HAVEN, Conn.** – Lake in the Hills resident **Cal Reinert** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at the University of New Haven.

**VALPARAISO, Ind.** – Crystal Lake resident **Andrew Tieman** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at Valparaiso University.

He also was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

**Brittany Koss** were named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at Wisconsin Lutheran College.

**LONGVIEW, Texas** – Huntley resident **Meagan Cufu** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at LeTourneau University.

**VALPARAISO, Ind.** – Crystal Lake resident **Jon Tieman** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at Valparaiso University.

He is a 2016 graduate of Prairie Ridge High School.

**PEORIA** – The following local residents were named to the 2016 fall semester dean’s list at Bradley University:

Crystal Lake residents **Sudayu McNally** and **Man-**

## Richmond



**GIFT OF GREENERY** – Members of the Richmond Garden Club donated a Christmas wreath to Nippersink Middle School. Pictured (from left) are Nora Bowgren, Naomi Peterson, Principal Tim Molitor and Margot Foley.



# NEIGHBORS

## McHenry County



**MISSION TRIP - RINGS**, the combined high school youth group from St. John's Lutheran Church of Hebron and Grace Lutheran Church of Richmond, returned to some of the sites of its 2016 mission trip to Milwaukee. Members painted the kitchen at Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church and helped serve at the Tricklebee Café, a pay-as-you-can restaurant. Pictured (back row, from left) are Dean Wiersum, Seth Billig, the Rev. Andy Tyrrell and Keith Nelson; and (front row) the Rev. Sarah Wilson, Jamie Wikman, the Rev. Christie Melby-Gibbons, Brittany Nelson, Megan Fallar, Bailey Jones, Julia Wikman, Noah Higgins, Anna Carlson, Sophie Rogers, Maddy Vole and Brea Knoll.

## Crystal Lake

### MCC to host I on Antarctic

Retired local educator Trummel will present "H Our Planet. In You about her education Antarctica, at 7 p.m. ry County College's ence Center, 8900 R

Trummel returned from a three-week Antarctica, where women from around participate in science will discuss the role technology, engineering in working in the r unique environmental regions are affected Earth. The event is the McHenry County ability Center, the Defenders of McHe Citizens' Climate L County Chapter. A

For information or visit [www.mccde](http://www.mccde)

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Jan. 17

• 2 to 4 p.m. - **Computer Basics**, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Four part-class continues 2 to 4 p.m. Jan. 18-20. Learn the basics of using a personal computer, including how to create and save a file, how to get on the internet and create an email account. For ages 18 and older. Free. Registration required. Information: 815-385-0036 or [www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).

• 6 to 7:30 p.m. - **Club House Artists**, Crystal Lake Park District Administration Building, 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. Open to ages 6-13. Students will learn how to draw more realistically, using perspective techniques. Materials will be provided. Cost: \$15. Registration required. Information: 815-459-0680 or [www.crystallakeparks.org](http://www.crystallakeparks.org).

• 7 to 8 p.m. - **"Young Ribbons" breast cancer survivor support group for women**, Centegra Gavers Breast Center, 360 N. Terra Cotta Road, Crystal Lake. For those diagnosed younger than the age of 45. Each session is facilitated by a breast cancer survivor, a breast health navigator and a health system chaplain. Information: [www.centegra.org](http://www.centegra.org) or 877-236-8347.

• 7 to 8:30 p.m. - **Quilters Discussion Forum**, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Open to any topic related to the art of quilting, including construction, design, tools, books and more. Free. No registration required. Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).

• 7 to 9 p.m. - **McHenry County Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby**, Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church, 8505 Church St., Crystal Lake. The pre-recorded call will feature Yoram Bauman, co-author of the book that inspired the revenue-neutral carbon tax. Free. Information: 815-728-7002 or [www.citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/il\\_mchenry\\_county](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/il_mchenry_county).

## CAMPUS REPORT

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. - Algonquin resident **Kaitlin Costantino** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Austin Peay State University.

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Crystal Lake resident **Vincent Benedetto** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at South Dakota State University.

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. - Crystal Lake resident **Kevin Avers** was among 25 criminal justice and forensic investigation students from the University of Wisconsin - Platteville who facilitated three sessions of victim impact programming for 42 inmates at Prairie du Chien Correctional Institution in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. The students are enrolled in the Victimology and Restorative Justice course.

CRYSTAL LAKE - The following local residents were named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Columbia College:

Algonquin residents **Nicholas Hackl** and **Dorothy Lin**; Cary residents **Jessica Maka** and **Cindy Shabez**; Crystal Lake residents **Cheryl Barnhart**, **Donas Bradford**, **Lorrie Janeczko**, **Alma Landa**, **Joshua Meadows**, **Christie Pylyp**

**Urvinkumar Patel**, **Traci Nicholas**; McHenry residents **Mindy Auld**, **Kacie Flathau**, **Gayle Hai** and **Valeria Lagun**; Woodstock residents **Melissa Gonzalez**, **Janelle D Piechota**, **Dane Sa** and **Lauren Whiting**; Crystal Lake residents **Kimberly Eisenmenger**, **Chr Hannah Wienke**.

LEWISBURG, Pa. - **Abigail Kreznor** was named to the 2016 fall semester dean's list at Green

GREENVILLE - **Kristin Knudsen** and **Christie Pylyp** were named to the dean's list at Green

EVANSVILLE, Ind. - **Christie Pylyp** and **Kristin Knudsen** were named to the dean's list at Evansville:

Crystal Lake resident **Christie Pylyp** and McHenry resident **Kristin Knudsen** were named to the dean's list at Evansville:

## Woodstock

### Unity Spiritual Center to host documentary screenings

The documentary "A Sound Called Unity: The Twelve Powers" will be

screened by Twyman and a group of Jewish rabbis, Muslim imams and Christian ministers

Question the timing as you want, but last week's legal filing by Attorney General Lisa Madigan to stop paying state employee wages without an official appropriation is long overdue and is completely consistent with a 2016 Illinois Supreme Court ruling and with her (and the governor's) opposition to a similar lawsuit brought by social service providers.

Back in 2015, after the General Assembly and the governor couldn't come to terms on a budget deal, AFSCME and other unions went to court and asked a judge to force the state to pay state workers even though there was no official appropriation for the salaries. That ruling remains in place today.

But this passage in the Illinois Constitution pretty much says it all: "The General Assembly by law shall make appropriations for all expenditures of public funds by the State."

So the Illinois Supreme Court ruled in March 2016 on a different case the portion of AFSCME's contract with the state requiring payment of back wages could not be honored without a proper legislative appropriation. In other words, no appropriation, no payment, even with a contract.

It was a completely reasonable decision. The governor shouldn't be able to sign contracts and then force



Rich Miller

state payment without an actual appropriation. The potential for abuse is mind blowing. Just imagine if Rod Blagojevich could've paid whomever he wanted, however much he wanted without any legislative permission.

Gov. Bruce Rauner's position against a lawsuit brought by human service providers also is completely in line with that 2016 Supreme Court decision. The service providers say their signed state contracts mean they should be paid in full even though the General Assembly hasn't approved the appropriations to do so. Never once has Gov. Rauner said those providers ought to be paid without a formal budget in place.

But there he was last week saying Attorney General Madigan's motion would "directly harm" state workers while urging her to drop her legal motion. He's been fighting the state employee unions since Day One and has said he wants to help social service groups, yet he wants state workers paid without an appropriation but doesn't want social service providers paid the same way?

C'mon, man. I was born at night,

to? Give me a minute, and I'll get to it.

House Republican Leader Jim Durkin's reaction to AG Madigan's move appeared to fly in the face of common sense: "This decision clearly undermines the legislature's duty to negotiate a bipartisan solution."

I was in Decatur to give a speech last week about the prospects for the Senate's much-touted "grand bargain" when I found out about AG Madigan's motion. My speech, as initially written, gave that bipartisan effort no better than a 50-50 chance to spur a final deal.

If the attorney general had filed her motion last year after the Supreme Court ruling, we wouldn't be in this mess today, and Durkin most certainly knows it. Nothing focuses the General Assembly's bipartisan attention quite so much as a massive crisis.

So, why didn't she file it last year? I'm told she wanted to give the General Assembly and the governor some time to work things out. They eventually agreed to a stop-gap budget, so she laid low. But that stop-gap budget expired at the end of December, and the General Assembly left town last week without making significant progress.

There naturally will be widespread suspicions that AG Madigan

## IT'S YOUR WRITE

### Get off the sidelines

To the Editor:

Steve Willson regularly protests any proposed tax increase, but his letter accusing the Crystal Lake Library Board and staff (and by association the City Council) of unethical behavior is outlandish even for him. He demands government officials provide voters with complete, accurate and objective information. Too bad he doesn't hold himself to the same standards.

Fact: The Library Board is composed of nine Crystal Lake residents, appointed by the mayor with the approval of the City Council. They are responsible for the library's budget, policies and strategic plan, and they pledge to "provide the highest level of service to all library users." Despite serving on the board, individual members are just city residents and will benefit from and pay for a new library like any other citizen.

Misleading: Mr. Willson lives in Lakewood, but as an owner of rental properties in Crystal Lake, he does

have a personal interest in fighting tax increases here.

Misleading: Mr. Willson does his own math and claims his answers are the right ones. His calculation of how much it costs to circulate a library item might make sense to him, but there are several ways to make that calculation - and none of them are the "right" one.

I worry that the Good Government Association, of which Mr. Willson is chairman, has similarly self-defined ideas of what is "right" for everyone else. I would prefer they participate in the process (volunteer, attend, study, learn, discuss and decide) rather than proclaim to know what's best from the sidelines.

Bill Weller  
Crystal Lake

### Support for community garden

To the Editor:

In 2015, the interest and desire of Nunda Township Supervisor Lee Jen-

## HOW TO SOUND OFF

We welcome original letters on public issues. Letters must include the author's full name, home address and day and evening telephone numbers.

We limit letters to 250 words and one published letter every 30 days. All letters are subject to editing for length and clarity at the sole discretion of the

nings to put the land owned by Nunda Township to good use launched a local startup organization that has become the Nunda Township Community Garden, a program of the Crystal Lake Food Pantry. The start-up garden consisted of a half-acre plot behind Jennings' office that in one season produced more than 1,000 pounds of fresh vegetables that were donated to the local food pantries. The produce then was made available to those in need. The garden is funded strictly on donations and service by volunteers.



H. Rick Bamman - hbamman@shawmedia.com

The Clef Hangers barbershop quartet, including John Jeide of St. Charles (from left), Jim Schotz and Al Boeldt of McHenry, and Bill Dysart of Crystal Lake, surprise and serenade Prairie Ridge High School senior Julia Kappil during a passing period Tuesday. Barber-shop quartets from the Fox Valley Men of Harmony made several stops in McHenry County delivering singing valentines to surprised sweethearts. Watch the Clef Hangers serenade the Prairie Ridge High School office staff in a video on NWHerald.com.

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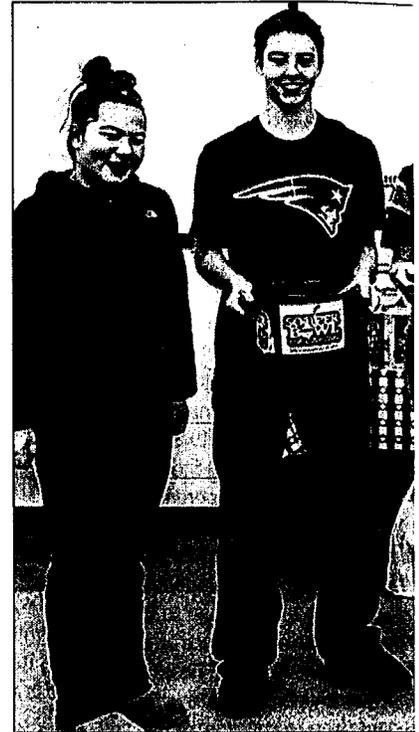
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Northwest Herald / NWHerald.com • Thursday, February 16, 2017

## Plan!

THINGS TO DO  
IN & AROUND  
McHENRY COUNTY"EDISON, THE  
BROTHERS  
LUMIERE AND  
THE BIRTH OF  
MOTION  
PICTURES"**WHEN:** 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 16**WHERE:** McHenry Public  
Library, 809 Front St., McHenry  
**COST & INFO:** Presenter Craig  
Pierce takes you back 120years to the birth of motion pic-  
tures. Discover rare clips of the  
earliest motion pictures ever  
made. Learn how inventors  
such as Edison and the Lumiere  
brothers established the path  
leading to today's blockbusters.  
For ages 18 and older. Free.  
Information: 815-385-0036 or  
[www.mchenrylibrary.org](http://www.mchenrylibrary.org).SCREENING OF  
"HOMETOWN  
HABITAT"**WHEN:** 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 16**WHERE:** Lost Valley Visitor  
Center in Glacial Park, Route  
31 and Harts Road, Ringwood**COST & INFO:** The film fea-  
tures renowned entomologist  
Dr. Douglas Tallamy, whose  
research, books and lectures  
on the use of non-native  
plants in landscaping sound  
the alarm about habitat and  
species loss. A presentation  
by Sarah Michehl on the Con-  
servation@Home program  
follows the screening. Free  
for county residents. \$5 for

## Crystal Lake

**SOUPER BOWL** – Ridgefield Crystal Lake youth, raised \$1,193.39 for PADS and 504 (from left) Naomi Stange, Mitchell Dec, C

## Crystal Lake

**Student-managed restaurant**

CRYSTAL LAKE – McHenry County College culinary students are busy fine-tuning their recipes for Slàinte, the college's student-run restaurant.

Slàinte will re-open to the public for the semester Feb. 16. Restaurant hours are 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays throu

**COMMUNITY  
CALENDAR****Feb. 16**• 7:30 to 9 a.m. – **Women in McHenry County (WIM3) meeting**, The Listening Room at the Dole Mansion, 401 Country Club Road, Crystal Lake. Claire McCully, business librarian at the Crystal Lake Public Library, will share resources available for the business community. Cost: \$17 members, \$5 nonmembers. Continental breakfast included. Registration required. Information: [www.wim3.com](http://www.wim3.com).



**CENTURY CLUB** - Twenty-eight University of Illinois Extension McHenry County Master Gardeners were honored as members of the Cent Master Gardeners volunteer a minimum of 30 hours annually to remain active in the program. Century Club members each volunteered deners' questions in the Extension office or working on many projects and events in the county, including the Growing Together Garden garden and Nunda Township garden. Pictured (back row, from left) are Howard McCathy, Dale Nelmes and Al Van Maren; (middle row) Li Uccello, Carol Riha and Esther Kaplan; and (front row) Ray Thornton, Lauri DiGrazia, Kathy Render, Bonnie Altenburg, Agnes Burkus, Mich Bob Murray. Not pictured: Roxanne Banet, Linda Bragg, Sandy Drevalas, Jerry Gudauskas, Janice Hanson, Peggy Lackman, Michele Morg Thornton.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Feb. 11

• 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **First aid/CPR training**, Crystal Lake Park District Administration Building, 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. Open to ages 12 and older. Cost: \$70 residents, \$75 nonresidents. Registration required. Information: [www.crystallakeparks.org](http://www.crystallakeparks.org).

• 9 a.m. to noon - **Free child safety seat inspections**, Pauly Toyota, 1035 S. Route 31, Crystal Lake. Hosted by the Crystal Lake Police Department in conjunction with Safe Kids McHenry County. No registration or appointment necessary. Free. Information: 815-356-3731 or [epuiviose@crystallake.org](mailto:epuiviose@crystallake.org).

• 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **Introduction to Computers**, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. A four-week for those with little or no computer experience. Microsoft Word will be introduced as well as web navigation, email and resume templates. Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).

• 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - **SAT Practice Test**, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Bring a pencil and calculator. Administered by Sylvan Test Prep. For kids in grades 9-12. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mchenrylibrary.org).

• 10 a.m. to noon - **Kids Paint Art Attack**, Crystal Lake Park District, 1 E. Crystal Lake Ave., Crystal Lake. For ages 6 and older. Stroke-by-stroke age-appropriate directions. Painting

selections can be found at [crystallakeparks.org](http://crystallakeparks.org) under the art tab. Cost: \$20 residents includes 11-by-14-inch canvas. Information: [www.crystallakeparks.org](http://www.crystallakeparks.org).

• 10 a.m. - **GriefShare**, St. John's Lutheran Church, 6821 Main St., Union. A Christ-centered weekly video-based support group for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Information: 815-923-2733 or [deaclauren@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deaclauren@sbcglobal.net).

• 10 a.m. - **Northern Illinois League Championship**, McHenry County College, 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake. The FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Northern Illinois League Qualifier at McHenry County College featuring 36 high school robotics teams facing off in the game challenge using robots they designed, built and programmed. Free. Information: <http://crobotics.org/nilqualifier.html>.

• 10 a.m. - **Free Intro to Yoga**, Yoga Seva, 407C E. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake. Information: 815-355-0010 or [www.yogaseva.com](http://www.yogaseva.com).

• 10 a.m. - **Let's get creative with OG: Valentine Craft Event**, Target, 750 S. Randall Road, Algonquin. Hosted by the Our Generation Creative Team. Free.

• 11 a.m. to noon - **Author program**, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Author Laurel Mellien will discuss her book, "History and Stories of the McHenry County Cemeteries." Information: [www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org](http://www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org).

• 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - **Experience Heart-warming Hebron**, downtown Hebron. Horse and carriage rides, pony rides, cookie decorating at Subway, train demonstrations at the high school, activities at the antique shops and more. Information: 815-648-4507 or [www.facebook.com/hebronantiqueandspecialtydis](http://www.facebook.com/hebronantiqueandspecialtydis)

### GET LISTED!

Do you want your club or organization event listed in our Community Calendar? Visit [PlanItNorthWest.com](http://PlanItNorthWest.com) and select Add Event. Your submission will appear weekly in the Northwest Herald and online. For information, call Barb Grant at 815-526-4523.

trict.

• Noon to 3 p.m. - **Needle Felting**, Fox River Grove Memorial Library, 407 Lincoln Ave., Fox River Grove. Local crafter Mary Krebsbach leads a three-hour workshop to create a fox, and if time permits, something for Valentine's Day. Cost: \$7.50. Information: [jgehlin@frgml.org](mailto:jgehlin@frgml.org) or [www.carygrovechamber.com](http://www.carygrovechamber.com).

• 3 p.m. - **"Stitches in Time,"** Dundee Library, 555 Barrington Ave., East Dundee. Marge Edwards, president of the Dundee Township Historical Society, will unfold 13 quilts, each with its own story to tell from ancient times through modern folk art. Free. Information: 847-428-3661 or [www.frvpld.info](http://www.frvpld.info).

• 5 to 9 p.m. - **Cross Country Candlelight Ski**, Rush Creek Conservation Area, 20501 McGuire Road, Harvard. Skiers of all ages and experience welcome. Bring your own equipment. Gather around the campfire for refreshments after. Not enough snow? Enjoy a candlelight hike. Free. Information: 815-338-6223 or [mccd@mccd.district.org](mailto:mccd@mccd.district.org).

• 5 p.m. - **Womanless wedding dinner skit**, McHenry Moose Lodge, 3535 N. Richmond Road, Johnsburg. The Higher Degree

To have an event listed in this calendar, fill out the form at [PlanitNorthwest.com](http://PlanitNorthwest.com).

**BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK**, 1 p.m. Feb. 12, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Spice up your reading this month. Choose one of our wrapped books from the display and check it out for a "blind date." No peeking until you get home. Free. Information: 815-385-5108.

**CONTEMPORARY BOOK DISCUSSION**  
**GROUP**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 13, McHenry Public Library, 809 Front St., McHenry. Read and discuss "The Last Time I Was Me" by Cathy Lamb. Copies are available at the checkout desk. Registration is required. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mpref@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mpref@mcHenrylibrary.org).

**CUENTOS EN ESPAÑOL**, 6:30 to 7 p.m. Feb. 13, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Families who speak or are learning to speak Spanish can enjoy stories, crafts and songs at our Spanish-language storytime. Program conducted entirely in Spanish. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4954>.

**"MR LINCOLN: HISTORY AND HIS STORY"**, 3:30 to 8 p.m. Feb. 13, Cary Area Public Library, 506 Three Oaks Road, Cary. Mr. Lincoln loves to talk about history and "his story," focusing on the 12 turbulent years from 1854-1865. A photo with the president will be available. For ages 8 and older. Registration required. Free. Information: 847-639-4210 or [www.caryarealibrary.info](http://www.caryarealibrary.info).

**BOOKS AND BABIES STORYTIME**, 10:30 to

**LOCAL AUTHOR SIGNING**

**WHEN:** 2 p.m. Feb. 12

**WHERE:** Barnes & Noble, 5380 Route 14, Crystal Lake  
**COST & INFO:** Brigid Coleman, author of "Sawyer's Visit to the Pumpkin Patch," will share her children's story based on her daughter, Sawyer, and the family's annual trip to the pumpkin patch.

**INDIE AUTHOR ADELA CRANDELL DURKEE, BOOK SIGNING & READING**, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 15, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Durkee will talk about what led her to become an author, shares stories from her journey and answer questions about the writing and publishing process. A reading from one of her books will follow. Information: <http://evanced.crystallakelibrary.org/evanced/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=17291>

**NOVEL BY NIGHT BOOK DISCUSSION: "MODERN LOVERS" BY EMMA STRAUB**, 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 15, Ethereal Confections, 113 S. Benton St., Woodstock. Books available at the circulation desk a month before the meeting. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=5064>.

**CHILDREN'S STORYTIME**, 10:30 a.m. Feb. 14, Read Between the Lines, 111 E. Van Buren St., Woodstock. A free Storytime each Tuesday and Saturday. Children of all ages welcome. Information: 815-206-5967 or [arlene@readbetweenthelines.com](mailto:arlene@readbetweenthelines.com).

**DOWNLOADING HELP DROP-IN SESSIONS**, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Feb. 14, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Help downloading free library eBooks to your eReader or smart

device. Information: 815-338-0542, <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4736>.

**BOOKIES - ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Feb. 15, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. This month's book is "The Submission" by Amy Waldman. Books are available at the circulation desk. New members welcome. Free. Information: 815-459-1687.

**POP-UP LIBRARY AT THE FARMER'S WINTER MARKET**, 9 to 11 a.m. Feb. 18, McHenry County Fairgrounds Building D. Get a library card, register for programs, renew materials and more. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4465>.

**READ TO THE DOG**, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Feb. 18, Crystal Lake Public Library, 126 W. Paddock St., Crystal Lake. Volunteer dogs are very friendly and will sit quietly and listen to the story. CLPL cardholders only. Registration required. Free. Information: [www.clpl.org](http://www.clpl.org) or 815-459-1687.

freshments will be served. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4437>.

**PIZZA & PAGES TEEN BOOK GROUP**, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 16, Jimanos Pizzeria, 366 Bank Drive, McHenry. The first 10 teens to sign up will receive a free copy of the book. February's book: "The Novice: Summoner" by Taran Matharu. Free. Information: 815-385-0036 or [mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org](mailto:mplyps@mcHenrylibrary.org).

**DROP-IN STORYTIME**, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Feb. 17, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Pop by for stories, crafts and fun. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=4945>.

**BARK FOR BOOKS**, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Feb. 18, Woodstock Public Library, 414 W. Judd St., Woodstock. Dogs are great listeners and they can listen in any language. Sign up at the Children's Desk starting at 9 a.m. Information: <https://il.evanced.info/woodstock/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=5010>.

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**ROOKIES SANDWICHES**  
All Month Long!  
Locations

Doesn't include any other offer. Beverage purchases required.

1545 W. Main St. 2486 Bushwood Drive  
ST. CHARLES, ILLINOIS

12220 Princeton Drive, Rt. 47, HUNTER HOFFMAN ESTATES

4607 West Higgins Rd.

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OF AMERICA - what is it about Illinois Democrats and political dynasties?

I've never quite understood it. But for whatever reason the Illinois Democratic Party seems strangely drawn not just to individuals but to whole families.

Think about it: the Madigans, the Daleys, the Stevensons, the Simons, the Hynes, the Jacksons and the Cullertons.

And, of course, the Republicans are in no way immune to dynasties. Look no further than the Bush family on a national level.

But when you get down to the state level in the Land of Lincoln, the Democrats seem to have a leg up on making politics a family affair.

And now, with Chris Kennedy announcing his candidacy for Illinois governor, it looks like they are on the way to importing a dynasty from elsewhere. (Chris is the son of



## VIEWS

Scott Reeder

U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and the nephew of President John F. Kennedy.)

Members of the Kennedy clan have not only been elected in their home base of Massachusetts but also in New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland, and California.

I guess some folks are asking: Why not add Illinois to that list?

Well, Illinois government is a mess.

And I'm not sure if someone who views politics as a birthright is always the best choice.

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result.

But I'll admit to occasionally

voting for members of political dynasties. For example, when I lived in Rock Island I voted for state Sen. Denny Jacobs.

His dad, Oral, was a longtime state representative. And his son, Mike, took over Denny's seat in the state Senate.

But I can't say I ever voted for someone because I liked who they were related to.

But many people apparently do. And politicians count on it.

For example, former Illinois Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon tried to get elected to the state Senate last year. She, of course, is the daughter of Paul Simon, who served the U.S. Senate and was a beloved Illinois political figure.

So, this was the top headline on her campaign website during her latest run: "Like father, like daughter: Comparing Sheila and Paul Simon." Ugh.

She was run her dad.

Voters must too impressed Republican [w politics-govern title109450157.1 who had never before, over the U.S. senator.

Many folks a political establ: this mess in the for someone wi name?

After all, wh leaders, we oug "Who's your da

• Scott Reede house journalis freelance repor: area and produ pect Conviction at ScottReeder1.

## IT'S YOUR WRITE

### No justification to increase

To the editor:

I was wondering ... McHenry County is one of the highest taxed counties in the whole United States.

You are a board member, whether it be county board, school board, conservation district board or whatever. You just voted to increase the levy, and you know taxes will go up. You will be taking more money out of people's pockets.

How do you convince yourself when looking at yourself in a mirror that what you're doing is right? Justifying to your wife it is for the good of the community? Explaining to your children that when they grow up they most likely won't be able to afford to live here? And to Mom and Dad as they pack to move out of state because they no longer can afford to stay in the house where you were raised, what do you say?

I was just wondering.

Wally Gullang  
Huntley

### Easy Nunda assessor choice

To the editor:

In June of 2016, the Nunda Township Board unanimously appointed Mark Dzemske as the Nunda Township assessor.

With more than 30 years in property assessment, Mark Dzemske is an ency-

clopedia of assessment knowledge, is respected by his staff and was the easy choice to fill the vacancy.

In his short time in office, Mark Dzemske has made structural changes to the operations, taken more work on his shoulders and has reduced spending in the office by more than 18 percent.

There are few, if any, public officials in Illinois who are willing and able to do the work to achieve that kind of accomplishment.

On Feb. 28, please cast your vote to elect Mark Dzemske Nunda Township assessor. I ask that you please support the rest of the For A Better Nunda team, and we will use Mark's example as a catalyst to significantly reduce spending and taxes in Nunda Township.

Mike Shorten  
Crystal Lake

### Poor decision-making

To the editor:

Recently, the board has made some poor decisions: Not voting to cap runaway property taxes. Claiming they are not up to speed on using an iPad to vote is interesting; it's been in the works for more than a year.

They were smart enough to cancel the pension inquiry that they were not entitled to by voting to eliminate it. They're part-timers not working 20 hours a week and were smart enough to realize they were going to get caught.

## HOW TO SOUND OFF

We welcome original letters on public issues. Letters must include the author's full name, home address and day and evening telephone numbers.

We limit letters to 250 words and one published letter every 30 days. Election-related letters are limited to 150 words. The deadline for submitting election-related letters is March 24. All

letters are subject and clarity at the s editor.

Submit letters by:  
• Email: letters@nw  
• Mail: Northwest H  
"It's Your Write"  
Box 250  
Crystal Lake, IL 60

Why are we, the taxpayers, paying health insurance for these part-time board members? Part-time public servants should not receive benefits reserved for full-time employees.

Time to cut back on taxpayer expenses and quit feeding at the taxpayer trough.

Gregory Walker  
Lake in the Hills

### No socialism

To the editor:

I believe Donald Trump's victory was America saying we don't want socialism. Socialism where other people spend your money. I believe we need our political leaders to have a different perspective, not the "tax your income and I, the elected one, spend it."

Two major problems I see are:

1. We are not the only store in town. After World War II, if you needed a car

or machine tool, yo it from America. Ni world can make it. The Ford plant in N jobs all inclusive la hour. The U.S. prob per hour.

Mexico produces cars per year with: going to U.S. and C can produce a car, anything.

2. The people in E are getting older. Y furniture, baby thin Middle Age and old and health care.

Remember govern money, they cannot Inflation has always middle class.

Walter J. Steffens  
Johnsburg