

## **THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY**

### **October 2018**

Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian  
Greg McCormick, Deputy Director

#### **Family Reading Night**

Family Reading Night 2018 will take place on November 15 and extends ILA's iREAD theme, "Reading Takes You Everywhere." Bookmarks and posters have been mailed to all ILLINET member elementary and middle school libraries and public libraries. If you are not an ILLINET member or need additional materials, bookmarks and posters are downloadable from the Family Reading Night webpage at [http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center\\_for\\_the\\_book/frn.html](http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book/frn.html). Libraries are encouraged to share their Family Reading Night plans with the State Library for possible inclusion in the Secretary of State press release and/or newsletters. Please contact by forwarding the information to [Bonnie Matheis](#) at 217-558-2065.

#### **Stand Up for Health Nov. 19, 2018, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at the State Library**

Stand Up For Health is an educational opportunity for staff at public libraries to learn more about health and wellness services that they can use to support their communities. Information on how to navigate through the needs of the community, to be prepared with the right tools and resources even before the questions are asked, will be available. Explore how to create fun and informative health-related programming for different age groups and special populations. Participants will learn about core print reference and other materials for library collections, quality websites and apps beyond the commercial sites and tips for helping library users evaluate health materials they encounter on their own. The program is limited to 25 participants from public libraries. This project has been funded by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health and Department of Health and Human Services with The University of Iowa. For more information and to register, visit to [L2](#).

#### **"Letters About Literature" Contest**

"Letters About Literature" is an annual national reading and writing competition funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the Library of Congress Fund, the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Illinois Center for the Book. The contest invites students to read a book, poem or play of their choice and write a letter to the author about how the work changed their life or view of the world. Students can enter on their own or through their schools, libraries or other youth organizations.

There are three levels of participation: Level I for grades 4-6, Level II for grades 7-8 and Level III for grades 9-12. One Illinois winner will be selected for each level and receive a \$200 cash award. Teachers/librarians of the winning students will receive a \$100 cash award to purchase materials for their school/public library. Winners and teachers/librarians will be invited to an awards ceremony in Springfield. The state winners' letters will be forwarded for national judging.

This year online entries will be accepted for all students beginning Nov. 1. The entry deadline is **Dec. 14, 2018**. State winners will be announced in May 2019.

Information about the contest is available at [http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center\\_for\\_the\\_book/](http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book/).

### **Illinois Author and Artist William Crook Jr. Exhibits at State Library**

The State Library will display a collection of pen and ink illustrations by Springfield artist and author William Crook Jr. The exhibit "William Crook Jr. Looks at His Hometown" will be held in the atrium from Oct. 29, 2018, through Jan. 4, 2019. Mr. Crook will also give a complimentary lecture about his work on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at noon. No reservations required, and attendees are welcome to bring their lunch. For more information, please contact the State Library at 217-785-5615.

### **Illinois Bicentennial History Book**

The Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service (TBBS) partnered with MindsEye Radio station in Belleville to produce a recorded copy of the book "The Illinois Chronicles: The Story of the State of Illinois from Its Birth to the Present Day" by Mark Skipworth. Newspaper-style articles report the Prairie State's first 200 years by exploring key events and people. An extensive timeline recounts important happenings in Illinois politics, commerce, culture, science, sports and more. Although intended for students, this book can also be enjoyed by adult readers.

In collaboration with the Governor's Office of the Illinois Bicentennial, the Illinois State Board of Education and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, a copy of the book was given to all K-12 schools. The audio version is now available nationally to all participants in the Library of Congress National Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Download DBC05980 from BARD or contact TBBS at 800-426-0709 or [isltbbs@ilsos.net](mailto:isltbbs@ilsos.net) to order.

### **Try-it! Illinois Underway**

Try-It! Illinois, the annual statewide electronic database trial, offers the over 1,800 library agencies, their staffs and patrons an opportunity to evaluate a wide variety of electronic resources. There is no charge for accessing these during Try-It! Illinois. To obtain the login and password until November 30, visit [Try-It! Illinois](#).

### **Public library district trustee qualifications amended**

On August 10, 2018, the Governor signed [Public Act 100-0746](#), which amends the Public Library District Act of 1991. The new law amends the qualifications of library district trustees to include that to be eligible to serve as a library trustee, a person must:

- Be a qualified elector of the library district; and
- Must have resided in the library district at least one year at the time they file nomination papers or a declaration of intent to become a write-in candidate or is presented for appointment.

In addition, if a person is in arrears in payment of taxes or other indebtedness due to the library district or have been convicted of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury or other felony at the time of their appointment as a trustee, during the filing of nomination papers or at the declaration of intent to become a write-in candidate, they are not eligible to serve as a library trustee for a library district.

These changes to the law will be applicable in the Consolidation Election of 2019 and to all appointees to vacant trustee positions who are appointed after the effective date of the amendment. The law took effect on August 10, 2018.

### **FY19 Live & Learn Construction Grant applications now available**

Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White is pleased to announce that applications for the FY19 Live & Learn Construction Grant Program are now open to public libraries. Information about the grant program is available at:

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/constructgrants.html>.

The website provides access to Live & Learn Construction Grant Program, requirements and a link to the grant application. Applications are due to the State Library before **January 11, 2019**.

A grant information webinar is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 17** at 10 a.m. During the webinar, State Library staff will provide an overview of the program including eligibility requirements, grant categories, rules and regulations governing the program, application procedures, required supporting documentation, grant submission and review procedures. Staff will also take general questions regarding any aspect of the program. Registration for the webinar must be done through [L2](#). The webinar will be recorded and archived for those unable to attend.

For more information, contact Mark Shaffer at [mshaffer@ilsos.net](mailto:mshaffer@ilsos.net).

### **ILLINET Interlibrary Loan Traffic Survey Now Available**

The ILLINET Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey is available at [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/libraries/ill\\_survey.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/libraries/ill_survey.html). Libraries are required by administrative rule to complete the State Library's annual survey of interlibrary loan traffic. [23 Ill. Adm. Code 3030.200 (a) (2) (O)]

The FY18 (July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018) ILLINET ILL Traffic Survey must be completed by **March 31, 2019**.

The ILLINET [Interlibrary Loan Code](#) governs interlibrary loan among ILLINET member libraries. ILLINET member libraries should review this code to ensure that the library continues to meet resource sharing requirements that are necessary for continued library system membership.

School districts should provide data based on interlibrary loan and reciprocal borrowing activity for all school buildings within the school district. Libraries can view their ILL statistics online.

For questions regarding the ILLINET ILL Traffic Survey or for the username and password, contact the State Library at 1-800-665-5576, option 2. For technical assistance, contact Counting Opinions by email at [patrick@countingopinions.com](mailto:patrick@countingopinions.com) or by phone at 1-866-850-8366.

### **“Illinois Reads” author spotlights**

The authors and illustrators below have published books that are included in the 2018 “Illinois Reads” [book list](#) for children from grades 6-8. “Illinois Reads” is an initiative of the [Illinois Reading Council](#) that highlights the importance of reading at all ages and supports Illinois authors. Each year, the program offers a list of 36 titles written and/or illustrated by Illinois authors at six different age levels from birth to adult.

- [Michele Weber Hurwitz](#) grew up in Skokie and now lives in Buffalo Grove. She has a journalism degree from the U of I at Urbana-Champaign and has worked as a publicist, freelance magazine writer and newspaper columnist. Her book, “[Ethan Marcus Stands Up](#),” is a hilarious novel about what happened after one kid turns a punishment into a protest. Hurwitz provides discussion questions on her website and is available for Skype visits.
- [Laura Ruby](#) lives in the Chicago area and writes award-winning fiction for adults, teens and children. She is a National Book Award finalist and Printz Award winner. Her book, “[YORK: The Shadow Cipher](#),” was named one of Publishers Weekly’s Best Summer Reads of 2017. It is an epic alternate history series about three kids who try to solve the mystery of a puzzle and treasure hunt laid into the very streets and buildings of New York City. Ruby provides a Teacher’s Guide on her website.

- Chicago native and resident [Peter Kujawinski](#) was an American diplomat for 18 years. He was on assignment in places like Israel, Haiti, France and Canada and at the United Nations in New York. While working as a diplomat, he started to write for adults and children. Kujawinski writes for the New York Times, and with co-author Jake Halpern, has written several bestselling middle grade books including the thriller, "[Edgeland](#)," which received a Booklist starred review.
- [Cynthia Kadohata](#) is an award winning author who was born in Chicago and currently resides in California. The author of books for all ages, her children's book, "Kira-Kira," won the Newberry Medal in 2005. Her latest book, "[The Thing About Luck](#)" is called by many an engaging "ode to the breadbasket of America." It has received six starred reviews and won the National Book Award for Young Peoples Literature in 2013. Kadohata is willing to make Skype visits free of charge.
- [Natasha Tarpley](#) lives in Chicago and is the co-founder of Vooderbar! Media, a multicultural children's book publishing and media company. A recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, Tarpley is the author of the bestselling picture book, "I Love My Hair!" Her debut middle grade novel, "[Harlem Charade](#)," is a story that motivates and invokes kindness and explores the way a community defines itself when tested. It received both Kirkus and Publishers Weekly starred reviews.
- [Sally M. Walker](#) lives in DeKalb and is the award-winning author of numerous nonfiction books that bring history and science alive for young readers. Especially known for making complex scientific topics understandable and interesting, she received the Illinois Reading Council's Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children in 2008. Her book, "[Sinking the Sultana: A Civil War Story of Imprisonment, Greed, and a Doomed Journey Home](#)," is about the worst maritime disaster in American history.

### Literacy Spotlight

This month's Literacy Spotlight highlights **The Literacy Council** in Rockford. A woman came to The Literacy Council to improve her reading skills in order to obtain a GED. She was home schooled most of her childhood, but her mother was not committed to her education. After getting married and raising children, she felt that it was time to improve her literacy skills. She began working with a tutor who described the woman as an incredibly hard worker and extremely dedicated. The learner's confidence has grown tremendously. She improved her reading and is planning to enroll in a GED prep program at Rock Valley College in the fall. She enjoys reading with her kids.

### Salute to Veterans

In this issue of E-News, we are saluting Robert R. McKay who served in the Coast Guard during the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1971. Mr. McKay tells his account of serving on a Coast Guard Cutter during the Vietnam War. His Illinois Veterans History Project oral history interview is available at <https://youtu.be/pHrPkA4lpVQ>.

### State Library Closed for Election Day and Veteran's Day

The State Library will be closed **Tuesday, Nov. 6** in observance of Election Day. The Library will resume normal business hours on **Wednesday, Nov. 7**.

The State Library will be closed **Monday, Nov. 12** in observance of Veteran's Day. The Library will resume normal business hours on **Tuesday, Nov. 13**.

**State Library's comprehensive online calendar**

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/calendar/home.html>.

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