

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY July 2022

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

National Minority Organ Donor Awareness Month

Each August, the Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Program observes National Minority Organ Donor Awareness Month by promoting the need for multicultural community members to register as organ/tissue donors. This year, the Secretary of State's Organ/Tissue Donor Program is partnering with the Illinois State Library and public and academic libraries across the state to promote participation in the Illinois Donor Registry, especially in minority communities. Libraries will be receiving posters, bookmarks and flyers to use during the month of August. For additional resources, such as minority donor fact sheets or coloring pages for children, visit www.LifeGoesOn.com and click on the resources link.

For more information, contact Lauren Gilbert at 217-782-6258 or LGilbert@ilsos.gov.

“Letters About Literature in Illinois” contest winners



Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White recently announced the winners of the 2022 “Letters About Literature in Illinois” contest. The reading and writing contest for students is sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of State, the Illinois State Library and the Illinois Center for the Book. The 2022 Letters About Literature winners (left to right) are Joshua Kupietsky of Skokie; Ellie Kim of Lincolnwood; and Aiden Zhang of Glenview. Read the winning essays at [Illinois Center for the Book \(ilsos.gov\)](https://ilsos.gov).

New law clarifies filling vacancies for library trustees

The Local Library Act and the Public Library District Act have been amended by [Public Act 102-0977](#) to require that all trustee vacancies be filled within 90 days after a vacancy has been declared. Furthermore, public library districts are required to inform the State Librarian and the county clerk of any vacancies or changes on the board of trustees.

If a public library district has a declared vacancy that it is unable to fill in 90 days, Public Act 102-0977 gives the State Librarian the authority to appoint a trustee in the ensuing 60 days. If the board and the State Librarian are unable to fill the vacancy, the vacancy shall be filled at the next election. In addition, Public Act 102-0977 provides a public library district with the option to elect and provide compensation for a qualified treasurer who is not a trustee on the board. The act was effective on May 27, 2022.

Jesse White appoints members to ISLAC

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has announced appointments to the Illinois State Library Advisory Committee (ISLAC), whose duty it is to make recommendations concerning the policies, services and management of the State Library. ISLAC members represent public, school, academic and special libraries, and regional library systems. The statewide advisory committee also includes citizen representatives. ISLAC appointees are as follows:

- Leslie Bednar, Illinois Heartland Library System
- Dave Barry, Bartlett (citizen representative)
- Ted Bodewes, Thomas Ford Memorial Library
- Deirdre Brennan, Reaching Across Illinois Library System
- Chris Brown, Chicago Public Library
- Stacey Carter, Lincoln Correctional Center Library
- Kathy Caudill, Lake Zurich (citizen representative)
- Jason Frazier, MindsEye Radio
- Kim Hale, Columbia College
- Kathleen Helsabeck, Quincy Public Library
- Patrice Johnson, Chicago Public Library
- Richard Kong, Skokie Public Library
- Jennifer Lara, O’Fallon Township High School District

- Rick Meyer, Decatur Public Library
- Linda Mitchell, Metro East Literacy Project (citizen representative)
- Kelly Phelps, Department of Children and Family Services (citizen representative)
- Pattie Piotrowski, University of Illinois-Springfield
- Jane Schulten, Crete (citizen representative)
- Christine Westerlund, Chatham (citizen representative)

Ex-officio members of ISLAC are Anne Craig, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois; Diane Foote, Illinois Library Association; and Carolyn Kinsella, Association of Illinois School Library Educators.

ISLAC has the responsibilities and duties to make recommendations to the State Librarian regarding the general policies of the State Library; budget policies pertaining to the annual appropriations for the State Library; library standards for all libraries required by federal law or regulation to administer federal aid; policies of the state-funded library systems; and policies of federally funded library programs.

State Library achieves goals in FY 2018-2022 with long-range plan

The Center for Legislative and Legal Studies at the University of Illinois-Springfield recently conducted the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants to State Implementation Evaluation FY 2018-2022. The evaluation takes into consideration the past long-range plan goals and uses data on LSTA-funded projects from a variety of sources, including reports by grantee libraries and institutions, grant monitoring documentation by LSTA staff, and anecdotal evidence gathered over the course of the evaluation period. The evaluation then determines whether these goals were met. The three goals outlined in the FY 2018-2022 plan were:

- 1.) Position the Illinois library community to extend library services for all Illinois residents by providing access to information and ideas.
- 2.) Position the Illinois library community as an educational anchor by providing opportunities to support education, information fluency and lifelong learning.
- 3.) Position the Illinois library community to further a literate Illinois by creating a culture that encourages reading.

The evaluation determined that all three goals were successfully met. The results of the five-year evaluation also informed the establishment of the goals for the FY2023-2027 long-range plan, which was submitted to IMLS for review on June 30. For more information, contact Amanda Saia at asaia@ilsos.gov.

2022 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) upcoming deadlines

Each public library is required to submit the IPLAR 60 days after the library's fiscal year ends. If your fiscal year ends on May 31, your report is due on August 1. If your fiscal year ends on June 30, your report is due on Sept. 1. The survey and detailed guides are available on the [Counting](#)

[Opinions Website](#). Library directors will receive a reminder email 60 days before the report is due for each library. For assistance, contact Pat Burg at pburg@ilsos.gov.

Take me out to the BeepBall game

Beep Baseball, or BeepBall, is an adaptive form of baseball that allows athletes of all visual abilities to play together. All BeepBall players are blindfolded, except for the sighted pitcher and outfield spotters. Players are guided by the sounds of the beeping ball, buzzing bases and cues from the pitcher. The Gateway Archers and Chicago Comets are affiliates of the National Beep Baseball Association (NBBA).

The state's two nationally competitive Beep Baseball teams go head-to-head on Aug. 27 for the inaugural "Illinois Secretary of State" BeepBall trophy at the University of Illinois Springfield's Rec Park field at 2100 Vachel Lindsay Dr., Springfield. The Gateway Archers will take on the Chicago Comets in two exhibition games thanks to a generous donation to MindsEye. Ameren Illinois will act as the presenting sponsor for this "Battle for Illinois."

The winning team will hold the "Illinois Secretary of State" BeepBall trophy for the coming year. The award honors the Office of the Illinois Secretary of State and recognizes its ongoing exemplary commitment to accessibility and services for Illinois residents who are blind or have low vision.

The Belleville-based nonprofit MindsEye has served the St. Louis metro area for nearly 50 years through various programs that support individuals who are blind or have low vision. In October 2021, MindsEye expanded its geographical reach of its radio information service for the Talking Book and Braille program to include the Springfield area.

The day begins at 11 a.m. Interested community members (of any vision level) can put on a blindfold and try their hand at batting and fielding alongside the Gateway Archers. The first game of the Archers/Comets doubleheader will begin at 1 p.m. and will determine the winner of the "Illinois Secretary of State" BeepBall trophy. During the second game at 3 p.m., specific rules will be adjusted to test recently proposed NBBA changes. MindsEye will fully audio described both games.

Art book available from the Illinois State Library

A limited number of copies of the books *The Art of Ann Templeton: A Step Beyond* and *Color and Beyond* are available from the Illinois State Library. Ann Templeton, a renowned artist, published art books as part of her continued passion for art. Templeton was an oil/pastel Conceptual Impressionist who described her paintings as "symbolic expressions." She had painted since 1969 and taught more than 20 art seminars annually around the country and abroad.

in Italy, Spain, France, Portugal, Argentina and Mexico. For additional information about Ann Templeton, visit her website at www.anntempleton.com.

To secure a copy of the book, contact Michelle Schorfheide at the Illinois State Library, 217-782-7714.

Spotlight on Literacy

A woman in Decatur has a goal of obtaining her GED to secure a better paying job to help support her family. Despite dealing with difficulties related to childcare and transportation, she attends a program provided by Baby TALK (<https://babytalk.org>) each day, where she suggests fun and helpful activities for her class to learn and assists other learners with technology. Her confidence continues to grow as plans for her family's future are coming together. She says that Baby TALK has improved her life outside of school as a parent and just a person in general.

Salute to veterans

Erwin White served in the U.S. Navy from 2000 to 2001. When the USS Cole was bombed by the terrorist group al-Qaeda on Oct. 12, 2000, the ship White served on was one of the closest to render aid. In the suicide attack, 17 sailors died and 37 were wounded. White said that the day he was discharged from the Navy was Sept. 11, 2001, and he could not leave San Diego for weeks because air travel had been interrupted. He eventually went to a Greyhound bus station, put his first-class plane ticket on the counter and said he wanted to trade it for a bus ticket that would get him closest to Chicago. Greyhound honored his request. His interview is available at [Oral History Interview with Erwin White - Illinois Veterans History Project - YouTube](#).

State Library's online calendar

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit ilsos.gov/departments/library/calendar/home.html.

Sign Up for E-News

E-News is the best way to find out what is happening at the State Library, including grant offerings, continuing education opportunities, and other news. Over 5,000 subscribers receive E-News each month. To subscribe to E-News, contact Joe Natale at 217-558-1745 or jnatale@ilsos.gov.