The Road to Reading for the Littlest Learners

“It’s Nemo! There’s a Nemo fish, Mommy!” This is the way the youngest Library patrons identify the fish that inspired the title character in the animated movie, Finding Nemo. Parents are quick to read the signage and point out the more official name for the clownfish.

The saltwater aquarium, a gift of the middle-school volunteer organization the Junior Friends of the Library, is one of many features in the new Literacy Lane—an interactive area in Youth Services designed to foster early literacy in children from birth through age five. Literacy Lane was envisioned and planned by a team of Youth Services librarians inspired to make early literacy not just a part of story times, but a part of every visit to the Library.

The St. Charles Public Library Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports the Library through tax-deductible contributions, is a significant source of funding for the new features in Literacy Lane through their Early Literacy Project. The Foundation's aim is to "provide a captivating and enriching environment for young children, their families and caregivers to develop pre-reading skills together."

“It is so marvelous to watch families engaged in the activities and to see smiles spread across faces and eyes sparkle when the child achieves a new skill,” says A. Denise Farrugia, Youth Services Manager. Families can interact and enjoy features as varied as the Baby Book Nook, the Alphabet Petal Table and interactive panels such as the Animal Sounds Spinner and the Hungry Caterpillar Matching Game.

Literacy Lane also features an early literacy technology center, including two iPads with developmentally-targeted literacy apps, and the AWE Early Literacy Station, a large touch-screen computer with educational games.

The Baby Book Nook, introduced in early June, is a soft area designed to be a safe space for parents and grandparents to explore early literacy and motor skill development with infants. A sliding wooden panel in the nook conceals surprise pictures and a mirror so that babies can play with parents. The Baby Book Nook includes a peek-a-boo window, as well as a rotating cylinder perfect for motor skill development.

Cylinders aren’t the only things turning. The Wheels on the Bus interactive panel from the Burgeon Group, a company that works exclusively with public libraries to develop learning spaces, has a wheel for kids to turn, wipers for them to move and encourages sing-a-ongs.
with parents. This is one of many interactive panels.

The word “interactive” doesn’t simply mean it has parts for young hands to move; it means families are using the features together. Farrugia notes, “I think what’s amazing is how parents are engaged with their kids.” Each panel encourages the development of another early literacy activity or skill. Signs above each element offer ideas for maximizing literacy value. Panels will be rotated periodically to provide a fresh learning experience over the course of many visits to the Library.

The Alphabet Petal Table, at just the right height for our preschool learners, is another place for hands of curious children to explore. Children can trace the letter E and discover the tiny elephant and earrings embedded in the table. Each letter has its own corresponding object.

This customized item from the Burgeon Group even has its own miniature map of St. Charles embedded in the wood.

The upcoming signature piece, paid for by the Library Foundation, is the Seed Pod Kiosk. The kiosk has multiple sides, each with numerous features that support skills children need to be ready to read. A peek-through-hole photo spot encourages play, an embroidery panel offers a way to form letters, and kids can move sliders to show how many books they’ve read.

Literacy Lane is already a popular gathering place for families to interact and enjoy early literacy together. Every day, families are seen cuddling up and reading together near the aquarium or in the circus car; a brother and sister are giggling together over The Monster at the End of This Book app; or a dad is working with his toddler at an interactive panel.

**Only the beginning…**

Yet, Literacy Lane is only the beginning of opportunities to support emergent literacy skills at the Library. Youth Services offers a rich menu of services for families looking to support literacy starting at birth, both in the Library and at home.

It begins with a familiar service, Library story times. Some families are surprised to learn about Infant Story Time, for those infants under twelve months (a sibling is welcome to attend). By attending a story time specifically for infants, parents and grandparents can play and learn how to support literacy even in the first year of life. The Library also offers a gift package for parents with an infant under twelve months called Read to Your Baby, a collection of materials that supports new parents in beginning to read with their infants.

Story times aren’t only for babies, of course. There are Age-Specific Story Times for one year olds, two year olds, three and four year olds and four and five year olds. There are also a number of offerings for mixed ages, including Multi-Age Story Time, Pajama Story Time, Stories Live!, Stories at the Nature Center and Bilingual Spanish Story Time. Additionally, the Library offers Sensory-Friendly Story Time for youth with autism, sensory processing or other developmental needs.

Literacy Lane and story times are a way to enjoy early literacy development in the Library, but the Library also provides support for bringing early literacy skills into everyday interactions at home. Every Child Ready to Read, a research-based initiative of the American Library Association, describes five simple practices parents can use to develop literacy: talking, singing, reading, writing and playing. Parents, grandparents and educators who would like to learn more about emergent literacy practices can attend an Every Child Ready to Read Workshop at the Library. The next workshop is Monday, January 26. (See page 15 for details.) One past participant wrote, “I especially liked the practical application segments. They were a good way to show how I can do things at home with my kids.”

Parents may not realize how much they already do to support their children’s learning. A child’s exclamation “It’s Nemo!” with a dad’s response about the clownfish is exactly the type of parent-child interaction that allows early literacy skills to flourish. Whether in Literacy Lane at the new aquarium, at a Pajama Story Time, or using the skills learned in an Every Child Ready to Read Workshop, our programs and services combine to offer a complete package of educational value for our youngest learners.
Genealogy at the Library

“Where did I come from?” is a question typically asked by young children. However, more and more adults are drawn to the hobby of genealogy as they look for answers to that very same question. If you are a beginner or an advanced researcher, the Library can help you trace your heritage by providing access to the following resources:

- **HeritageQuest Online**, available at home with your St. Charles Library card, combines digital, searchable images of U.S. Federal Census records, family and local histories, as well as primary source documents such as tax lists, city directories and probate records.

- **World Vital Records** is a collection of U.S. Federal Census images and indexes from 1790 to 1940, military records, the Social Security Death Index, unique local and international collections, millions of family trees and more—available any time with your St. Charles Public Library card number and pin.

- **Ancestry Library Edition**, accessible only from within the Library, includes U.S. Federal Census images and indexes from 1790 to 1940, historical maps, passenger lists from immigrant ships, the Social Security Death Index, WWI Draft Registration Cards, Federal Slave Narratives and much more.

- **Kane County Federal Census (1790-1940)** is accessible on microfilm and can be viewed in the Info Commons, along with a local newspaper archive dating back to the late 1880s. Other local resources to consider are the Illinois Digital Archive, the Sanborn Maps Geo Edition (1867-1970) and Historic Map Works, which provide digital access to thousands of large-scale maps of American towns and cities, searchable by address and GPS coordinates.

- **The genealogy collection** in the Carnegie Business Room includes local cemetery guides and marriage record indices, print volumes of PERSI (Periodical Source Index) and Passenger and Immigration Lists, as well as materials for checkout including introductory guides for beginning enthusiasts, software for organizing research, and even a variety of popular genealogy magazines.

- **Online resources** crafted to meet more specific needs include an expansive collection of national and local newspapers where you may find obituaries or historical news articles at no cost with your library card. Reference librarians are always here to help and can assist in tracking down obituaries, requesting items from outside the library via Interlibrary Loan or when using the databases mentioned above. For a complete list of our resources, please visit the Library’s website.

Interested in genealogy but don’t know where to start? Check page 6 for three programs being offered in January and February.
Library Bids Farewell to Outreach Services Manager

Outreach Services Manager Jean Langlais has been dedicated to “Getting books into the hands of people who are unable to get to the Library” for over twenty years. She has been instrumental in establishing and expanding services to residents at independent, assisted living, retirement and nursing homes as well as home delivery to individual patrons. Her job also has included providing paperback book exchanges at apartment complexes and a grocery store for under-served and Hispanic areas of our community.

Jean is the editor of At Large...News For Large Print Readers, a special publication available quarterly in the Library and online. She is active in the St. Charles community as a member of the St. Charles Breakfast Rotary.

Langlais noted, “My time at St. Charles Library afforded me an extraordinary opportunity to grow professionally and personally. Meeting the Library’s excellent service standards allowed me to be of service to residents who could not come to the Library. I found that deeply satisfying and I am so grateful. Thank you, St. Charles Public Library!”

Jean will retire on December 31. Her fellow employees wish her well in all her future endeavors.

Partner with the Library this Summer!

Is your business interested in becoming a partner? Our “Read to the Rhythm” summer reading program is a library-wide event that encourages reading as a lifelong habit. This program, for infants through senior citizens, has about 2,500 participants annually. From May 27–August 5, 2015, rewards from local businesses will be offered to keep readers engaged.

Please contact Pam Salomone by February 15 at 630-584-0076 ext. 246 or psalomone@stcharleslibrary.org for details.

‘Like’ Us on Facebook!

Check out the St. Charles Public Library Facebook page for the latest Library news, program info and some smiles. Get “sneak peaks” at titles soon to appear on Library shelves. It’s also a great way to hear from fellow book lovers about what they are reading and what they recommend. Started in July, 2010, our page keeps growing, and, of course, we would love it if you would ‘Like’ us!

High School Volunteers Are Wrapping Up!

Our past and present high school volunteers will be wrapping donated children’s books to be sold in our lobby for holiday gift giving. Labels on the packages will indicate the suggested age and cost. The money collected will go to the Friends of St. Charles Library to support programs and events not covered in the regular Library budget. Packages will be available through the month of December.

E-Newsletter

Do you receive our monthly St. Charles Public Library News & Events email? If not, go to www.stcharleslibrary.org, enter your email address in the ‘Connect with SCPL’ box and click ‘go.’

It’s another great way to stay up-to-date with changes in Library programs, classes, events and services!

Checkout History

Have you ever wanted a list of everything you have checked out from the library? Well, now you can! The St. Charles Public Library has launched a new service called Checkout History, which will allow you to keep track of materials checked out and returned to the Library.

To access this opt-in feature, click on ‘My SCPL Account’ located on the home page of the Library’s website. You will be asked to enter your Library Card number and PIN. Starting with the ‘Personal Information’ tab, click the ‘Preferences’ drop down menu and check both boxes ‘Show my checkout history’ and ‘Record my checkout history.’ Click ‘Update’ to activate. That’s all there is to it!

Once items are checked in, they will appear in the ‘Checkouts’ tab under the drop down menu ‘Checkout History.’ Opting into your checkout history allows you to view anything you have checked out from the time you have opted into the system. It is not retroactive.

Your history will be saved for approximately two years. The ‘Checkout History’ page displays a list of the items checked out since the history began. You may discontinue at any time; however, your records will remain. Stop by any service desk if you need assistance with opting in to your Checkout History. Check it out!
What the Staff Is Reading

**Burial Rites** by Hannah Kent  •  FIC KENT
Set in Iceland in 1828, this is the highly atmospheric story of a woman accused of a brutal murder who is awaiting trial. Based on a true story, it is thought-provoking and the setting is vivid. Great in print and audio.

**Death at Bishop’s Keep** by Robin Paige  •  FIC PAIGE
First in an entertaining cozy mystery series set in Victorian England that brings in a lot of period detail, real people, etc. as part of the story. (P.S. ‘Robin Paige’ is a pen name for author Susan Wittig Albert and her husband Bill.)

**Innocence** by Dean R. Koontz  •  FIC KOONTZ
This is fast-paced creepy suspense that pulls you in from the very beginning.

**Lock In** by John Scalzi  •  FIC SCALZI
Several staff enjoy anything written by this sci-fi author and the newest is no exception. This is essentially an FBI suspense thriller, but set in a futuristic world where a virus has swept the globe and left a small percentage of the world’s population locked inside their own bodies.

**Lunatics** by Dave Barry and Alan Zweibel  •  FIC BARRY
Two guys go from wanted terrorists to presidential candidates (and everything in between) in this wild tale of misfortune and outlandish adventure. A special treat if you like audiobooks; it’s read by the authors and is hilarious!

**The Happiness Advantage: The Seven Principles of Positive Psychology that Fuel Success and Performance at Work** by Shawn Achor  •  158.7 ACH
A thoughtful book that works from the premise that being happy fuels success, not the other way around.

**Breaking the Code: A Father’s Secret, a Daughter’s Journey, and the Question that Changed Everything** by Karen Fisher-Alaniz  •  940.5486 FIS
A true story that particularly touched me as the child of a WWII veteran who rarely talks about his experiences during the war.

**Read before you watch:** Filming has begun on the six-part drama based on Hilary Mantel’s award winning *Wolf Hall* and its sequel, *Bring Up The Bodies*, about the relationships at the heart of Henry VIII’s court. Debbie Macomber’s *Mr. Miracle: A Christmas Novel* will be a holiday Hallmark Channel Original Movie.

Register for Adult Programs

online at [events.stcharleslibrary.org](http://events.stcharleslibrary.org), at the Reference Desk or by calling 630-584-0076 ext. 1.

**Business Tax Seminar**

Wednesday, December 3  •  6:30–8:00 p.m.
**Carnegie Community Room**

This workshop is a must for any entrepreneur who envisions starting a business and highly recommended for current owners who want a refresher on taxes. Presenter Harry Eng (CPA, EA, MBA), is a SCORE Certified Business Mentor, financial executive and expert on federal and state taxation. Eng explains the most common types of taxes, how the form of business affects how income is distributed and reported, what constitutes income, expenses and more. [REGISTER](#)

**It’s a Wrap**

Thursday, December 4  •  7:00 p.m.
**Carnegie Community Room**

Stunning, yet low-cost gift wrap can be made using recycled papers, ribbons and boxes found at home. Jackie Riffice of Prairie Godmothers will demonstrate the art of low-budget, spectacular gift presentation. [REGISTER](#)

**St. Charles Writers Group**

Saturdays  •  9:15–11:45 a.m.
**Huntley Meeting Room (HR) or Carnegie Community Room (CR)**

The St. Charles Writers Group is a workshop for writers 18 years and over that meets the second and fourth Saturday of each month. There is no fee for membership. Facilitator is Richard Holinger. Questions? Contact Denise Blaszynski at 630-584-0076 ext. 240. [DROP IN](#)

December 6  •  HR  •  Join group members for their annual holiday reading

December 20  •  HR  •  The art of the edit

January 10  •  HR  •  Write honest, write lots, write well

January 24  •  HR  •  The memoir as literature

February 14  •  CR  •  Yahuda Amichai on “Why Poetry?”

February 28  •  CR  •  Young adult literature grows up

**St. Charles Writers Group & Vero Voce Theatre Unite!**

Friday, January 16 and Saturday, January 17  •  7:30 p.m.

Enjoy the talented actors of St. Charles’ own Vero Voce Theatre as they take the stage to perform eight selected writings from the St. Charles Writers Group. Tickets are $10 and available online at [www.verovoice.com](http://www.verovoice.com) or call 630-584-0139. Half of the proceeds will benefit the St. Charles Public Library. Vero Voce is located at 951 State Avenue, St. Charles. Cosponsored by the Library, the Writers Group and Vero Voce.
Sunday Afternoon Concerts

Sundays • 2:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room

* December 7 • Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra Maud Powell String Quartet is the premiere string ensemble of the EYSO Chamber Music Institute.

January 11 • Brian and Emily Baxter. Brian will perform songs from ‘Book of Drum’, his premiere album featuring a collection of tracks exploring the diverse sounds and rhythms of the drum set through the lens of his life in Chicago. Emily will perform a trio of harp pieces written by her husband Brian.

* January 25 • Paul Moeller and Kerena Moeller provide the beautiful combination of the classical guitar and cello. They have been recognized for their artistic beauty and exquisite ambience.

February 15 • The Limitations. This trio of experienced and knowledgeable musicians takes you on a journey back to the great American music prior to the British invasion with a focus on Sun Records, which spawned Johnny Cash, Elvis, Carl Perkins and many others.

* February 22 • Antique Baroque Consort will perform gems from the Baroque era of music, including works by composers Bach, Handel, Albinoni, Scarlatti, Torelli and Vivaldi. The consort has been praised for its innovative instrumental combinations in concert.

* Designates a classical concert funded through donations to the St. Charles Public Library Foundation. DROP IN

2nd Tuesday Book Discussions

The Library offers two book discussion groups: Mornings at 10:00 a.m. and Evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Bisbee Conference Room. DROP IN

December 9

Morning – Someone
by Alice McDermott
FIC MDERMOT

Evening – This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage
by Ann Patchett
813.54 PAT

January 13

Morning and Evening – The Shelf: From LEQ to LES
by Phyllis Rose
028.9 ROS

February 10

Morning and Evening – The Invention of Wings
by Sue Monk Kidd
FIC KIDD

Genealogy at the Library

Genealogy Basics for Beginners

Tuesday, January 20 • 7:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room

Genealogist Caron Primas Brennan will introduce you to the tools you need to start finding your roots. Learn the first steps to gathering family stories, finding and using key resources and organizing your research. REGISTER

Ancestry.com – Beyond the Basics

Thursday, January 29 • 7:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room

Ancestry.com is one of the largest genealogy websites. Its major databases are well known; however, it has many that are just as important but are rarely used. Genealogist Steve Szabados will describe how to find and unlock these databases and review his techniques to help you streamline your research. REGISTER

Where Did I Put Great Grandpa?

Thursday, February 19 • 7:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room

One of the important tasks genealogists struggle with is developing a personalized system to organize their family data so that no relatives “get lost” in the mass of information. Genealogist Caron Primas Brennan will discuss methods of effectively organizing your results so you can always “find Great Grandpa”–or any other family member. REGISTER

Great Decisions

Thursdays • 7:00 p.m.

Great Decisions is America’s largest discussion program on world affairs. The Great Decision discussion group is intended to stimulate a discussion of foreign policy issues. Participants may check out a copy of the briefing book at the Library and should be ready to discuss the article prior to participation. DROP IN

January 22 • U.S. Trade Policy • Carnegie Community Room (2014 Great Decisions booklet)

February 26 • Syria’s Refugee Crisis • Bisbee Conference Room (2015 Great Decisions booklet)
Lyric Opera Lectures

Tuesdays • 7:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room

A member of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will present a lecture that will enhance the opera experience with composer information, story insights, music history and musical highlights. DROP IN

January 27 • Tosca by Giacomo Puccini

A fiery diva, the rebel artist who claims her heart and the sadistic police chief before whom all Rome trembles—for more than a hundred years, audiences have watched and listened spellbound as the cat-and-mouse game between Tosca and Scarpia plays to its deadly conclusion.

February 17 • Tannhäuser by Richard Wagner

Tannhauser, minstrel and renegade, is lured into the realm of the love goddess Venus and longs to return to his home. Tannhauser joins his fellow pilgrims, journeying to Rome to ask forgiveness for his sins—a feat easier said than done.

Social Media Marketing Made Simple

Tuesday, February 3 • 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

Norbert Barsczewski, SCORE presenter and President of JP NetQuest, Inc. and Internet marketing expert, will present an overview of social media, its importance and how to evaluate the channels that are right for your business or organization. Topics include how to incorporate social media marketing into your business life without losing productivity, and how to create an integrated marketing plan using social, email and other marketing efforts. REGISTER or DROP IN

Friends of St. Charles Public Library Meeting

Saturday, February 7 • 9:30–11:30 a.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Friends of St. Charles Public Library is an adult group that helps the Library by raising funds to support special programs for patrons of all ages and to purchase equipment that is beyond the Library’s regular budget. Find out more at this special Saturday meeting. Light refreshments will be served. Guests are always welcome. DROP IN

Monthly Introductory Computer Classes

Notes:
- Classes are open to St. Charles Public Library cardholders only.
- A $10 refundable cash deposit is required at the time of registration.
- REGISTER at the Adult Reference Desk.
- Class size is limited to 10 people.
- Class cancellations will be posted in the Library and on our website.

For complete class descriptions, please visit the Reference Desk or our website: www.stcharleslibrary.org/computer-classes

Successful completion of Computer & Internet Basics is a prerequisite for all other computer classes offered OR ask at the Reference Desk for our checklist to see if you are confident with computer basics skills to skip this requirement.

January registration begins: Sunday, December 21 at noon

- Digital Camera & Photo Editing Basics
  Wednesday, January 7 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.
  Wednesday, January 14 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.

- Introduction to MS Excel 2010, Level 1
  Wednesday, January 21 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.
  Wednesday, January 28 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.

- Introduction to MS PowerPoint 2010
  Tuesday, January 13 • 5:30-7:30 p.m.
  Tuesday, January 20 • 5:30-7:30 p.m.

- Facebook 101
  Tuesday, January 27 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.

- Computer & Internet Basics
  Saturday, January 24 • 10:00 a.m.–noon
  Saturday, January 31 • 10:00 a.m.–noon

February registration begins: Sunday, January 18 at noon

- Computer & Internet Basics
  Monday, February 9 • 6:00–8:00 p.m.
  Tuesday, February 10 • 6:00–8:00 p.m.

- Introduction to MS Excel 2010, Level 2
  Wednesday, February 4 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.
  Wednesday, February 11 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.

- Introduction to MS Word 2010
  Tuesday, February 17 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.
  Tuesday, February 24 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.

- Overview of Windows 8
  Wednesday, February 18 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.
  Wednesday, February 25 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.
anime club

Tuesdays • 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Join us for activities, anime and manga! Hang out and watch some Crunchyroll or discuss your favorite series. DROP IN

speed drawing

December 9

Show off your illustrating skills as the clock ticks. Your drawing might be a masterpiece when you have five minutes, but what does it look like when you only have one minute? Thirty seconds?

attack on tea tasting

January 6

We’ll sample some Fandom teas to find our favorites.

Hetalia Chocolate Challenge

February 10

Sample and rate chocolates from around the world. Only one country can stand on top!

_game night: Cardboard & Controllers

Thursdays, December 18 & January 22
6:00–8:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room

Old-school video games, new and old board games: all will be out and ready to play! Grab some friends and come game with us! Yu-Gi-Oh and Magic players welcome. DROP IN

High School Volunteers

Applications for the winter/spring session, which runs from Monday, February 2–Friday, May 1, will be available online or at the Reference Desk December 15 and must be returned by Friday, January 23.

not just capes

Thursdays • 4:00–5:15 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

Get ready for something different! Not Just Capes is a monthly graphic novel discussion for non-superhero graphic novels. From realistic fiction to sci-fi and all things in-between, if there are no capes or tights, we’ll read it. Copies of each month’s selection will be in The Loft to read or check out. Open to all high school students. DROP IN

No December Discussion

January 29

Stargazing Dog
by Takashi Murakami • 741.5 MUR
Join a man who has lost it all and his dog, Happie, as they set out on the road. Get ready to be moved in this tale of friendship and loyalty that was a bestseller from Japan.

February 26

Incognegro
by Mat Johnson • 741.5 JOH
It has gotten too dangerous for journalist Zane Pinchback, who regularly puts his life at risk “passing” for white to get scoops in the 1920s. But now he must take one last assignment to clear the name of his brother who has been charged with murder in Mississippi.

Tech Yeah!

Thursdays, January 8 & February 12
3:00–5:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

The future is yours: embrace it. Hangout and tinker with some tech. Explore Arduino or make a media center with Raspberry Pi. Take apart old technology to see how it operates. Polish your coding skills. It’s all about what you want to do. DROP IN

For more information on the programs above, call Brandon at 630-584-0076 ext. 201
Youth Services:

Registration Information

Most Youth Services events require registration.

- A child’s, student’s or parent’s St. Charles Library card is required. Grandparents may register grandchildren for events with the symbol [G].
- Child or student must be the appropriate age or grade to be registered. Each person attending an event must be registered.
- Registration is on a first-come basis and continues until filled. Drop-in participation may be available.
- Families living outside the Library District may attend certain events for a fee on a space available basis. Check in 10 minutes before the event. All attendees must meet the age/grade requirements.
- For your child’s safety, a parent or adult must accompany all children seven (7) years of age and under while in the Library. Please review the “Keeping Safe in the Library” brochure with your child.

Registration ensures that you will be contacted if an event is cancelled or delayed.

Suggested YA Reading

The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die
by April Henry • YA FIC HENRY
She doesn’t know who she is. She doesn’t know where she is, or why. All she knows when she comes to in a ransacked cabin is that there are two men arguing over whether or not to kill her. And that she must run. Follow Cady and Ty, her accidental savior turned companion, as they race against the clock to stay alive.

Fat Boy vs the Cheerleaders
by Geoff Herbach • YA FIC HERBACH
When the high school cheerleading team takes over a soda vending machine’s funds, which were previously collected by the pep band, Gabe Johnson, an overweight “band geek” tired of being called names and looked down on, declares war.

Evil Librarian
by Michelle Knudsen • YA FIC KNUDSEN
He’s young. He’s hot. He’s also evil. He’s...the librarian. When Cynthia Rothschild’s best friend, Annie, fails head over heels for the new high-school librarian, Cyn can totally see why. But before long Cyn realizes that Mr. Gabriel is, in fact...a demon. Now, in addition to saving the school musical from technical disaster, Cyn has to save her best friend from the clutches of the evil librarian.

Anatomy of a Misfit
by Andrea Portes • YA FIC PORTES
The third most popular girl in school’s choice between the hottest boy in town and a lonely but romantic misfit ends in tragedy and self-realization. Andrea Portes’s emotionally devastating debut novel lays bare the futility in pretending to be something we’re not and the value in finally celebrating all that we are inside.

Dreams of Gods & Monsters
by Laini Taylor • YA FIC TAYLOR
When a brutal angel army trespasses into the human world, Karou and Akiva must ally their enemy armies against the threat and against larger dangers that loom on the horizon in this thrilling conclusion to the Daughter of Smoke & Bone trilogy.

Afterworlds
by Scott Westerfeld • YA FIC WESTERFELD
In alternating chapters, eighteen-year-old Darcy Patel navigates the New York City publishing world and Lizzie, the heroine of Darcy’s novel, slips into the “Afterworld” to survive a terrorist attack and becomes a spirit guide, as both face many challenges and both fall in love.

Belzhar: a Novel
by Meg Wolitzer • YA FIC WOLITZER
Jam Gallahue, fifteen, unable to cope with the loss of her boyfriend Reeve, is sent to a therapeutic boarding school in Vermont, where a journal-writing assignment for an exclusive, mysterious English class transports her to the magical realm of Belzhar, where she and Reeve can be together.

Smile!

Attendance at programs and events sponsored by the St. Charles Public Library may be recorded through photographs or video. These images may be used for Library promotional purposes or posted on the Library’s website. Please notify a Library staff member if you or your family members do not want to be photographed.

Special Accommodations

Requests for special accommodations must be made 48 hours in advance of a Library event. If assistance is needed in using the Library, please inform a Library assistant at the Circulation Desk.

Fees

Fees are charged in the case of materials, services, or facilities provided for primary or exclusive use by individual patrons and for which patron-specific costs are incurred by the Library. When the Library incurs such fees and the individual subsequently fails to use the service without prior notification, the individual will be charged for the expense.
YOUTH SERVICES EVENTS

Winter/Spring Registration Dates
events.stcharleslibrary.org/evanced/lib/eventcalendar.asp

Registration information on page 9.

In-person and online event registration begins:
Winter – Saturday, November 22
Spring – Saturday, February 28

Telephone registration begins:
Winter – Tuesday, November 25
Spring – Tuesday, March 3

Grandparents — look for this symbol for events for you and your grandchildren to attend!

Multi-Age Story Time

Infant–Age 5 with Parent/Caregiver

Tuesdays, January 6–March 24
9:30–10:00 a.m. OR 10:30–11:00 a.m.

Wednesdays, January 7–March 25 (No stories Jan. 14)
9:30–10:00 a.m. OR 10:30–11:00 a.m.

Open attendance; just show your St. Charles Public Library card.

Storytellers will present stories and songs that will tickle, delight and amuse. Children and adults attend together. To ensure an enjoyable story experience for everyone attending, each session will have a total capacity of 40 children and adults. Please arrive early as we will begin to distribute tickets each day 10 minutes before the story time. Door opens five minutes before the event begins. DROP IN

Families living outside the Library District may attend for $2 per person on a space available basis.

Age-Specific Story Times

The early childhood events through age two, encourage the adult to participate with the child by serving as a role model, leading the child’s hands through a fingerplay or showing him/her how to bend and stretch. Siblings may attend. Register each child and adult. Participation is limited to registered children and parent/caregiver. An adult may bring up to two children. Ask about accommodations for twins or triplets. REGISTER

Infant with Parent/Caregiver

Mondays, 9:30–10:00 a.m.
Session A: January 12–February 9
Session B: February 23–March 23

One Year Old with Parent/Caregiver

Mondays, 10:30–11:00 a.m.
Session A: January 12–February 9
Session B: February 23–March 23

Two Year Old with Parent/Caregiver

Mondays, 9:30–10:00 a.m.
Session A: January 13–February 10
Session B: February 24–March 24

Three & Four Year Olds

Mondays, 10:30–11:00 a.m.
Session A: January 13–February 10
Session B: February 24–March 24

Four & Five Year Olds and Half-Day Kindergarten Students

Tuesdays, 1:30–2:10 p.m.
Session A: January 13–February 10
Session B: February 24–March 24

Thursdays, 10:30–11:10 a.m.
Session A: January 15–February 12
Session B: February 26–March 28

Everyone needs stories! Register for either Session A or B, the programs are the same.
Stories at the Nature Center
Infant–5 years with Parent/Caregiver
Fridays, December 5 • January 30 • February 13
10:30–11:00 a.m.
You are invited to hear stories at Creek Bend Nature Center at LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve, located at 37W700 Dean Street. After the program, explore the Nature Center, walk the trails and enjoy nature at its best. Cosponsored with the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. REGISTER

Families outside the Library District: Register with the Forest Preserve by email at programs@kaneforest.com

Pajama Story Time
Family–especially for young children
Tuesday, December 16 • Wednesday, January 28
Tuesday, February 24
6:30–7:00 p.m.
An evening of stories under the stars in the Helen Gale Story Room. Come dressed in your favorite pajamas and bring along your blanket or a stuffed toy. REGISTER

Sensory-Friendly Story Times
Child with Parent/Caregiver
Saturday, December 6 • Friday, February 27
10:30–11:00 a.m.
These story times are especially for children with autism, sensory processing or other developmental needs. The stories and activities will include sensory elements of repetitious language, music and movement to engage the child through age seven. We encourage the adult to participate with the child by serving as a role model, leading the child or showing him/her how to participate. Siblings may attend. Register each child and adult that will be attending. Register for one or both. REGISTER

Stories Live!
Child, infant–age 5 with Parent/Caregiver
Saturday, January 10 • Three Little Kittens
Friday, January 23 • Too Much Noise
Saturday, February 7 • Great Big Enormous Turnip
10:00–10:30 a.m. OR 11:00–11:30 a.m.
Your favorite stories will come alive as the storyteller tells and then explores with you the various ways to share the story again through puppetry, fingerplay, song and more. These early literacy story experiences are offered throughout the year. We encourage you to attend each multiple times over the years, as children will experience a story differently at each age/stage of development. REGISTER

Bilingual Spanish Story Time
Child, infant–age 5 with Parent/Caregiver
Saturdays, December 13 • January 17 • February 21
10:30–11:00 a.m.
Bilingual Spanish Story Time is a sharing of books, fingerplays, activities and songs in both Spanish and English. We encourage the adult to participate with the child by serving as a role model, leading the child or showing him/her how to participate. Siblings may attend. Register each child and adult that will be attending. Register for one or all. REGISTER

Cuentos en Español e Inglés
Para los niños infantes hasta los 5 años de edad acompañados de sus padres o cuidadores
Los Sábados • Diciembre 13 • Enero 17 • Febrero 21
10:30–11:00 a.m.
Durante los Cuentos en Español e Inglés compartiremos libros, juego de los dedos, actividades y canciones en los dos lenguages, Español e Inglés. Nosotros incentivamos la participación del adulto con su niño, sirviendo de modelo a seguir, dirigiendo al niño/niña cómo participar. Los hermanitos pueden venir. Regístrese cada niño/niña y el adulto que vendrá. REGISTRESE

REGISTER
**Traveling Tales**
Discover your Library out and about at businesses that partner with the Library. Stories will be shared, services highlighted and you may register for a library card. Already have a St. Charles library card? Show it to receive a special gift. There will be plenty of surprises. [REGISTER or DROP IN](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Just Kabobs</td>
<td>1825 W. Main St.</td>
<td>630-443-3400</td>
<td>Thursday, December 4 • 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Grill</td>
<td>630-443-3400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirsty Thursday</td>
<td>1 W. Illinois St.</td>
<td>630-762-9480</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 13 • 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick’s Pizza &amp; Pub</td>
<td>990 S. Randall Rd. Elgin</td>
<td>847-531-5550</td>
<td>Monday, February 9 • 6:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald’s</td>
<td>3900 E. Main St.</td>
<td>630-443-6015</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 25 • 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**You Build with LEGO®**
Family

**Tuesday, December 30**
1:00–1:45 p.m. OR 2:00–2:45 p.m. OR 3:00–3:45 p.m. OR 4:00–4:45 p.m.

Bring your imagination. We have all you will need to create with LEGO® bricks. Your creation will be posted to the Kids Facebook page and displayed in Youth Services until the next event. Children through age seven must be accompanied by an adult. Students in grades 3–8 may attend solo. See page 14 for student LEGO® events. [REGISTER](#)

**Dinosaur Day**
Friday, January 16 (STEAM)
Families with preschool children, ages 3–5, and kindergarten students
Care & Feeding of Pet Dinosaurs
9:30–10:15 a.m.

Workshop • 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Families with students in grades K–8
Dinosaur Encounter • 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Workshop • 3:00–4:30 p.m.

Janet Riehecky, author and researcher, will captivate dinosaur enthusiasts with her interactive, highly visual presentation featuring her extensive collection of fossils and replicas of dinosaur bones including an Apatosaurus femur and an entire foot of a Tyrannosaurus rex. The workshops will feature a selection of activities to extend the experience. Participants will select and take home one–two creations. Children through age seven must be accompanied by an adult. Students in grades 3–8 may attend solo. [REGISTER](#)

** Noon Year’s Eve Celebration **
Family

**Wednesday, December 31**
Especially for families with preschool children • 10:00–10:30 a.m.

Especially for families with students
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

We had such a great time last year we are going to ring in 2015 TWICE! There will be lots of energetic fun with music and dancing, as well as hats and a sparkling juice toast at both sessions. Watch as the book drops down to kick off the New Year! Register early to guarantee your spot. [REGISTER](#)

Families living outside the Library District may attend for $2 per person on a space available basis.

**Concert with Joel Frankel**
Family

**Monday, December 29 • 1:30–2:15 p.m.**
Joel’s captivating songs and stories will have your toes tapping as you laugh and sing along. Take Joel home; recordings will be available for sale following the performance. [REGISTER](#)

Families living outside the Library District may attend for $2 per person on a space available basis.

**22nd Family Read-Aloud Book Club**
Enroll at the ASK ME Desk NOW through February 18

The Family Read-Aloud Book Club encourages lifelong literacy and motivates families to share reading aloud as a daily tradition. Record time spent as a family reading aloud and receive rewards. Every family may qualify for books dedicated to the family, gift certificates, autographed children’s books and canvas book bags. Receive your family book log and details when you enroll. [REGISTER](#)

Thank you to the following local businesses for their support of the Family Read-Aloud Book Club:

- **Breadsmith**
- **Heinz Brothers**
- **Burger King**
- **Greenhouse**
- **Chili’s**
- **Norris Recreation Center**
- **Colonial Cafe & Ice Cream**
- **Trellis Farm & Garden**

**Traveling Tales**
Discover your Library out and about at businesses that partner with the Library. Stories will be shared, services highlighted and you may register for a library card. Already have a St. Charles library card? Show it to receive a special gift. There will be plenty of surprises. [REGISTER or DROP IN](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Just Kabobs</td>
<td>1825 W. Main St.</td>
<td>630-443-3400</td>
<td>Thursday, December 4 • 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Grill</td>
<td>630-443-3400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirsty Thursday</td>
<td>1 W. Illinois St.</td>
<td>630-762-9480</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 13 • 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick’s Pizza &amp; Pub</td>
<td>990 S. Randall Rd. Elgin</td>
<td>847-531-5550</td>
<td>Monday, February 9 • 6:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald’s</td>
<td>3900 E. Main St.</td>
<td>630-443-6015</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 25 • 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**You Build with LEGO®**
Family

**Tuesday, December 30**
1:00–1:45 p.m. OR 2:00–2:45 p.m. OR 3:00–3:45 p.m. OR 4:00–4:45 p.m.

Bring your imagination. We have all you will need to create with LEGO® bricks. Your creation will be posted to the Kids Facebook page and displayed in Youth Services until the next event. Children through age seven must be accompanied by an adult. Students in grades 3–8 may attend solo. See page 14 for student LEGO® events. [REGISTER](#)

**Dinosaur Day**
Friday, January 16 (STEAM)
Families with preschool children, ages 3–5, and kindergarten students
Care & Feeding of Pet Dinosaurs
9:30–10:15 a.m.

Workshop • 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Families with students in grades K–8
Dinosaur Encounter • 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Workshop • 3:00–4:30 p.m.

Janet Riehecky, author and researcher, will captivate dinosaur enthusiasts with her interactive, highly visual presentation featuring her extensive collection of fossils and replicas of dinosaur bones including an Apatosaurus femur and an entire foot of a Tyrannosaurus rex. The workshops will feature a selection of activities to extend the experience. Participants will select and take home one–two creations. Children through age seven must be accompanied by an adult. Students in grades 3–8 may attend solo. [REGISTER](#)

** Noon Year’s Eve Celebration **
Family

**Wednesday, December 31**
Especially for families with preschool children • 10:00–10:30 a.m.

Especially for families with students
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

We had such a great time last year we are going to ring in 2015 TWICE! There will be lots of energetic fun with music and dancing, as well as hats and a sparkling juice toast at both sessions. Watch as the book drops down to kick off the New Year! Register early to guarantee your spot. [REGISTER](#)

Families living outside the Library District may attend for $2 per person on a space available basis.

**Concert with Joel Frankel**
Family

**Monday, December 29 • 1:30–2:15 p.m.**
Joel’s captivating songs and stories will have your toes tapping as you laugh and sing along. Take Joel home; recordings will be available for sale following the performance. [REGISTER](#)

Families living outside the Library District may attend for $2 per person on a space available basis.
**For Students**

**Used Book Sale!**

**Everything for Kids**

Sponsored by the Junior Friends

Saturday, February 7

10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**Northern Illinois LEGO® Train Display**

Family

Saturday, February 21 • 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 22 • Noon–4:30 p.m.

The Northern Illinois LEGO® Train Club will be back with their huge display featuring new models, LEGO® trains traveling through a variety of LEGO® landscapes and lots of humor and silliness for all ages. From skyscrapers to your favorite movie sets, you will be amazed at all the creations. Numbers will be available in Youth Services when the Library opens each day. **DROP IN**

Families living outside the Library District are invited.

**Book Character Visit**

To be Announced – watch Library website

Come for a story and a visit with your favorite costumed book character. Bring your camera. In partnership with Barnes & Noble of Geneva. **REGISTER or DROP IN**

Families living outside the Library District may attend on a space available basis.

---

**Homework Workshops**

**Got homework?** Your Library can help with online services and resources that you can use from home and/or your mobile device of choice. Join the demonstration of tutoring services, online resources and learn about numerous additional features that can lead to homework success. All you need to access these free services and resources is your St. Charles Public Library card.

**Free Tutor Services:**

*HelpNow & Live Homework Help*

**Students and Parents**

Monday, January 19 • 2:30–4:30 p.m.

Need help with math, science, social studies or English? Your Library offers two live, expert, online tutoring services for students in kindergarten through 12th grade, college students and adults. **REGISTER**

**Science**

**Students and Parents**

Tuesday, February 3 • 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Learn about online science encyclopedias and databases designed for elementary and middle school students. Discover quick access search strategies to reach answers for all things science using ScienceFLIX, Science Online, Growing Up with Science, Experiment Central and more. **REGISTER**

---

**eBooks & eAudiobooks:**

*Downloading Workshops*

**Students and Parents**

Friday, January 2 • 10:30–11:30 a.m. **OR** 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Monday, January 19 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Learn how to download free library books to compatible devices. Join us for an interactive, hands-on exploration of digital and downloadable content (over 6,000 titles) available for children, infant–age five, and students, kindergarten–grade 8. Learn about downloadable resources, including Axis 360. Please bring your device and your valid St. Charles Public Library card. Contact the ASK ME Desk at 630-584-9390 with questions. **REGISTER or DROP IN**
For Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Grades K–8 • 4:00–5:00 p.m.

Attention Leaders! Bring your Scouts to the Library. Scout Services are outlined on the Youth Services pages at www.stcharleslibrary.org/node/1148. Registration ends two days before scheduled workshop date. Leader registers group. REGISTER

Library Tour & Hunt

Thursday, January 15 OR Tuesday, February 17

A hands-on workshop that introduces Scouts to all Youth Services has to offer. Scouts become familiar with where resources and collections are located, as well as how the Library is organized, gain quick tips on how to locate resources and learn about the various services, including digital. Customized hunts have Scouts using clues to seek out locations and answers in the department.

Especially for Boy Scouts

Wolf Books Books • Monday, February 23
Bear Tall Tales • Wednesday, February 4
Past is Exciting & Important • Tuesday, February 10
Webelo Communicator • Thursday, January 8
Citizenship • Tuesday, January 20

These workshops are designed to meet several of the requirements of the Scout achievement or badge. Additional workshops will be offered during September-November 2015.

Especially for Girl Scout Leaders

Thursday, January 22 • 7:00–8:00 p.m.

In partnership with Girls Scouts of Northern Illinois, leaders are invited to get acquainted with the Girl Scouts USA National Program Portfolio. Let us guide you to the resources you need to share with your Girl Scouts for their Journeys and Skill Builder badge achievements. The workshop will address the Girl Scouts USA National Program Portfolio including Girls Guide to Girl Scouting, the Journeys and how to customize it for your troop. You will learn quick tips and shortcuts to locating Library resources, online and print, that will provide background information related to the Girl Scout Legacy and Skill Builder badges. REGISTER

Leaders that live outside the Library District may register for $2 beginning 1/8.

LEGO® Workshops for Students

Everyone loves to build with LEGO® bricks, so we are introducing a workshop for younger students to play and create in addition to the family and older student events. These hands-on workshops include elements of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) learning. All creations will be displayed in Youth Services until the next event and also posted on the Kids Facebook page. See page 12 for family LEGO® event.

You Play with LEGO®

Grades K–2 (STEAM)
Tuesday, January 27 • 4:00–5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 24 • 4:00–5:00 p.m.

Bring your imagination. We have all you will need to create with LEGO® bricks. REGISTER

You Design with LEGO®

Grades 3–8 (STEAM)

4:00–5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 27 • Snow Creature
Tuesday, February 24 • Food

Use your imagination in designing and building a LEGO® creation in the designated theme. Creations that meet the criteria will be judged on creative interpretation of theme; complexity; thought process behind the design; and completion within the designated 45-minute time. Awards will be presented. Work as an individual or as a member of a team. Think ahead and come with your plans. REGISTER

Movie Nights

Grades 4–8

Fridays, January 23 • February 27
4:30–7:00 p.m.

Watch a recent release on the big screen. Titles will be posted at the ASK ME Desk. Pizza provided by Gino’s East; popcorn and lemonade will be served. Registration closes on Thursday at noon the day before the movie. REGISTER

NEW!
Creativity, Music & Guitars

A Russell Series Event for Grades K–5
Saturday, February 28 • 2:00–3:30 p.m.
Musician and educator Bill Hooper will introduce creative thinking and music exploration through humor, games, songs, stories and researched-based discussion. Students will learn about the history of the guitar. Mr. Hooper will demonstrate the basic styles of guitar playing (blues, jazz, classical, country or rock) and include an introductory lesson on how to play. The hands-on workshop will include an opportunity to play a real guitar and try various effects pedals. Middle school students and adults also may attend.
This series was established by the William Russell family in memory of Karen G. Russell and continues with a grant from the Illinois State Library. Each February and July, Chicago area experts, artists, authors and others introduce students to their art, craft or profession by providing an interactive experience. REGISTER

Origami Workshops

Saturday, January 24  (STEAM)
Grades 2–4 • 9:30–10:45 a.m.
Grades 5–8  • 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Learn paper folding as Vincenzo Lombardo demonstrates and guides you in the traditional Japanese art of origami. Students will create one–two pieces to take home. REGISTER

For Adults

Every Child Ready to Read

Especially for Parents, Grandparents, Preschool Educators and Child Care Providers – Adults Only
Monday, January 28 • 7:00–8:30 p.m.
Reading is one of the most important gifts you can give your child. Learn what you can do at home to develop your child’s pre-reading skills. Get suggestions for age-appropriate books and resources, as well as easy ways to include these skills in your daily activities. In just 90 minutes, discover how to best use your time to read and interact with your child. Your workshop leaders have received training to help you help your child be ready to read. REGISTER
Adults living outside the Library District: Register at the ASK ME Desk for $5 per person beginning January 12.

You’ve Got to Read This!

Are you ready for winter? While waiting for those snowflakes to fall, curl up under a warm blanket with some of these great reads. For more suggestions, visit You’ve Got to Read This! on our website at www.stcharleslibrary.org/books-kids.

In the Snow by Sharon Phillips Denslow
JE DENSLOW
A series of animals come to eat seeds scattered in the snow. Short, rhyming phrases accompany warm, gentle illustrations of different animals, birds and the tracks they leave in the snow.

Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson  • JE WILSON
Bear’s den is the perfect place for a party! Will bear mind if rabbit, mouse, and a host of other creatures decide to use his den for a party while he is STILL asleep? This delightful story shows how Bear becomes the perfect host after all!

The Blizzard Disaster by Peg Kehret  • J KEHRET
When a sudden, raging blizzard strikes Minnesota in 1940, the Huff family is in grave danger. Little do they know that their paths are about to cross with Warren and Betsy, modern day sixth-graders who are using a new invention to travel back in time to research the storm. Surrounded by snow and fighting for their own lives, Warren and Betsy find the young Huff girl lost in the blizzard. Can they all make it through the storm alive?

Peak Survival by Pam Withers  • JH WITHERS
Jake, Peter and Moses are looking forward to heli-skiing and snowboarding in the backcountry, but just after they are dropped off, a helicopter crashes. It’s up to them to rescue any survivors.

Over and Under the Snow by Kate Messner
J 591.43 MES  YS Award Nominee
A young girl and her father are cross-country skiing in the woods, and the father points out all the forest animals spending their winters under the snow. More information on all the animals seen on their journey is included in a detailed index.

Snow School by Sandra Markle  • J 599.7555 MAR
The rare snow leopard lives in Pakistan’s Hindu Kush mountains. Follow a mother leopard and her two cubs from birth through the many lessons they must learn in their ‘snow school’ in order to survive.

Blizzard!: The Storm that Changed America by Jim Murphy  • J 974.71 MUR
It was unseasonably warm on the East Coast on March 10, 1888, enough so that a local hardware store buyer became the laugh of the town when a newspaper article revealed his purchase of 3,000 snow shovels. Little did anyone know that an unrelenting blizzard was coming and not only would the snow shovels sell out, but trains would be halted, many would freeze to death and the everyday functions of cities would halt completely.
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To support the growth and creativity of the individual and foster the spirit of community and local economy.