

BIG ROCK LIBRARY
bigrocklibrary.org
630-556-3604

September 2026

Monday 12-6 PM
Thursday 10 AM-6 PM
Saturday 10 AM-3 PM

THE WORD



COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY

READ ANY BOOK GROUP Monday, September 14 @ 6:00 PM

Looking for a way to unwind after a long busy day? We can help with that...Read Any Book Group provides a great way to relax and share the book(s) you've read, good or bad, with the group. Maybe you've got a title in your TBR list and want an opinion? We've got you! Read whatever you want and enjoy the dialog.



Left to right from top: True Crime Story by Joseph Knox, Dangerous Women by Mark de Castrique, The Girl They All Forgot by Martin Edwards, Whistler by Ann Patchett, Falling Apart and Other Gifts from the Universe by Catherine Ryan Hyde.

ONE BOOK GROUP Monday, October 12 @ 6:00 PM



An abandoned suitcase containing dozen photos of women, leads Grace to the little-known story of the female agents who infiltrated Nazi-occupied Europe to aid the Resistance. Tasked with acting as couriers and radio operators, these women's fates are unknown. But their courage and loyalty is beyond question.

Pam Jenoff's story, based on true events, explores the themes of female strength in the face of insurmountable odds, and the bonds of friendship forged in these circumstances.

Join us on October 12 as we discuss Jenoff's contribution to the little known history of the Second World War.



An America 250 Moment
By the end of the 17th century, Massachusetts Bay Colony was the largest colony in New England. It then absorbed Plymouth Bay Colony and became the place the American Revolution was born.

COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY

BIG ROCK LIBRARY

Crafters

*Come on out and sculpt
a cute pumpkin for the fall!*

WE WILL MEET AT
THE LIBRARY ON
SEPTEMBER 23,
2026
6:30PM

This fun and easy
project will look great
as a centerpiece for
your home.

*All supplies provided.
No experience needed!*
• **EVERYONE WELCOME!** •



Coming Up in Big Rock



books for sale

Don't forget to drop by the library and shop our Big Book Sale! You'll find lots of bargains and our prices can't be beat. Hardcover books- \$1.00, Trade Paperbacks- 50 cents, Mass Market PB- 25 cents.

We also have DVDs, audiobooks and CDs for sale.

And kids' books are just 25 cents each!

Saturday, September 19- 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sunday, September 20- 12:00 to 3:00 PM

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Registration and Entry Drop-off for Junior Fair & Exhibitors Fair	3 pm
Bicycle Parade (begins at fire barn)	4:30 pm
Carnival Rides	5-9:30 pm
Prairie State Railroad Club Train Rides	6-9 pm
Olde Time Baseball Game	7 pm
Music-Premier Entertainment DJ Darrin Lee	6-9:30 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Concessions	7:30am-9pm
Western & English Horse Show	8:30 am
Drawing for Lands	9 am
Plowing	9:30 am
Prairie State Railroad Club Train Rides	10 am-5 pm
Craft, Art & Vendor Show	10 am-5 pm
Petting Zoo	10 am-5 pm
Children's Races (in the cattle ring)	10:30 am
Magic Show	11:45 am-12:15 pm
Carnival Rides	11:30 am-5 pm
5 B's BBQ Pork Chop & Chicken Dinner	11:30 am-1:30 pm
Baked Goods Auction	1 pm
Pedal Tractor Pull (in cattle ring)	2 pm
Plowing Trophy Presentation	3:30 pm
Magic Show	3:45-4:15 pm
Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation Vintage Truck Raffle Drawing	3:45 pm
Kane County Phantoms Baseball Game	4 pm
Round Bale Roll-Off (in cattle ring)	4:30 pm
Live Music: the Sociables	6-10 pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Tractor Trot 5K	8 am Start
Concessions	8 am-5 pm
Drawing for Lands	9 am
Plowing	9:30 am
Church Service	10 am
Prairie State Railroad Club Train Rides	11 am-3 pm
Craft, Art & Vendor Show	11 am-4 pm
Watermelon Eating Contest	11 am-1 pm
Mud Volleyball	11:30 am
5 B's BBQ Turkey with Ham Dinner	11:30 am-1:30 pm
Fox Valley Brass Band	12-1 pm
Carnival Rides	Noon-3 pm
Bags Tournament	1 pm Start
Prince & Princess Contest	1:30 pm
BINGO-Big Rock Park District (pavilion)	2:30 pm
Plowing Trophy Presentation	3:30 pm

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS

Carnival Rides	Prairie State Railroad rides
Children's Races	Prince & Princess Contest
Pedal Tractor Pull	Watermelon Eating Contest
Magic Show	Petting Zoo

CRAFT, ART & VENDOR SHOW

Saturday	10 am-5 pm
Sunday	11 am-4 pm

CONCESSIONS

Friday	5-10 pm
Saturday	7:30 am-9 pm
Sunday	8 am-5 pm

FREE PARKING • FREE ADMISSION

For You Folks Interested in Buffalo

The huge annual buffalo roundup in Custer State Park near Rapid City, South Dakota, takes place on Friday, September 25th this year. If attending in person isn't in your future, then take to the computer screen and watch live streaming action at the local PBS station <https://www.pbs.org/show/custer-state-park-buffalo-roundup/>

The roundup starts at 9:30 AM Mountain Time (10:30 AM here) but interesting background facts are presented before the roundup starts. By late morning, approximately 1500 animals are herded by cowboys on horses and taken to corrals to get vet checks, vaccinations, and to be sorted out.

And if this event holds appeal for you, be sure to check out the bison/buffalo display in the upper floor of Big Rock library. The focus is on how Native Americans used buffalo for every need in their lives. There are tool artifacts, a closeup look at a bison skull, and you're able to examine a buffalo robe. You're welcome to view this display any time when the library is open.



The Pumpkin Train Is Coming!

Gather the kids and head to Plowman's Park for a day of autumn fun. The Pumpkin Train Festival will be leaving the station on Saturday, October 3 between 1:00 -4:00 PM and 5:00 - 8:00 PM, so get on board. This family friendly event includes Train Rides (not scary), Free Popcorn & Bottled Water, Photo Ops, Pumpkin Decorating, Train Layout, Food and lots of fun.

Watch for the library display as you enjoy your train ride. Hint: It might involve books!



Just a Little Red Schoolhouse

But a great place to be on Sunday, August 30 when the Big Rock Historical Society unveiled their newest exhibit. The schoolhouse is patterned after the one room schools that sprang up in the area as new settlers traveled west, bringing their children with them. It contains original wood from a disassembled schoolhouse, as well as samples of initials carved into desktops, old wooden desks and textbooks of 100 years ago. The event netted over \$1200 and, despite intermittent showers, a wonderful time was had by all. NOTE: The schoolhouse is also available for events. Contact the Big Rock Historical Society at bigrockhistory@gmail.com.



Left: Members of the Big Rock Historical Society who took on this project. Right: Ribbon cutting ceremony..





Calling all students

Letters about Literature in Illinois

Letters about Literature in Illinois is a statewide reading and writing promotion that dovetails with state and national learning standards. Students in grades 4 – 12 are invited to read a book of their choice, reflect on it, and write a personal letter to its author explaining the impact their work had on them.

Students can enter individually, through their school, the local public library, or youth organizations. There are three writing levels based on the student's grade in school:

Level I - Grades 4 - 6

Level II - Grade 7 & 8

Level III - Grades 9 - 12

One winning letter is selected per level. Winners receive a cash prize and a plaque from the Illinois Secretary of State at an awards ceremony. Teachers of the winners receive a certificate and a cash prize for the school to purchase books for the school library.

Winners will be formally announced in May. Runners Up from each Level receive certificates mailed in time for end of school year awards ceremonies.

Enter by December 15, 2026

Written submissions will be accepted for all ages until the annual entry deadline of December 15. A completed [entry form](#) must be attached to each entry. Entries can be submitted via US Mail or Email.

Mail submissions to: Letters About Literature
Competition Level (Indicate Level 1, 2 or 3 on the envelope)
Illinois Center for the Book
Illinois State Library
300 South Second Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1796

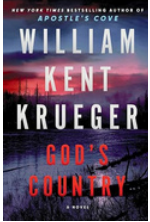
Email submissions to: islcomps@ilsos.gov - in the Subject Line, include: LAL, Competition Level (1, 2 or 3), School Name and City

For additional information, go to www.ilsos.gov/departments/library/center-for-the-book/letters.html

All students are eligible, including homeschooled students.

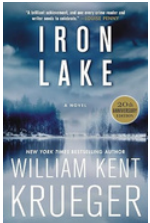
new at the library

New Mysteries & Thrillers



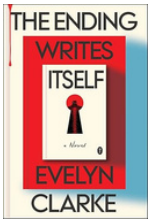
God's Country by William Kent Krueger

A family outing to the Boundary Waters area turns dangerous when Cork's camp site shows evidence of violence and Cordell Bishop, a wilderness guide, disappears. Cork must now track two criminals who have kidnapped Bishop and threaten the wilderness tranquility.



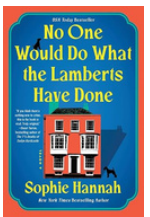
Iron Lake by William Kent Krueger

This is where the story begins, in the 20th anniversary edition of Krueger's first Cork O'Connor mystery.



The Ending Writes Itself by Evelyn Clarke

Six aspiring writers are invited to the private island of best-selling novelist Arthur Fletch, only to find that he has died and they are being given the chance to finish his last manuscript...in 72 hours!



No One Would Do What the Lamberts Have Done by Sophie Hannah

Sally Lambert is willing to do whatever it takes to protect her family, especially their beloved dog Champ. So when they are threatened, they leave everything behind to escape the nightmare they seem to be living.

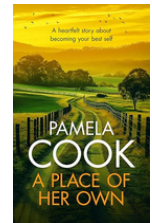
New Adult Fiction

Whistler by Ann Patchett

When Daphne and her husband encounter Daphne's stepfather in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, resurrecting memories that changed the course of both of their lives.

Falling Apart and Other Gifts from the Universe by Catherine Ryan Hyde (2025)

Retired cop and veteran Addie Finch and homeless teenager Jonathan form a bond that saves them both when Addie invites Jonathan to move into her garden shed in exchange for yard work.



A Place of her Own by Pamela Cook (2025)

Eve's life seems to be taking a turn for the better with her equine business and handsome vet partner until her ex-husband demands custody of her unborn child, she learns the truth about her own father, and her life seems to be going off the rails again.

Our Perfect Storm by Carley Fortune

Best friends since childhood, Frankie is worried George won't show up to be the best man at her wedding, but then her fiancé dumps her the day after the wedding, and George suggests that he take her on the honeymoon instead. Will they be able to repair their broken friendship in a tropical paradise?

Bug Hollow by Michelle Huneven (2025)

Ellis Samuelson leaves home after graduating from high school to join a commune in Northern California, where he becomes the victim of a freak accident, and his sister Sally, and her parents are left to pick up the pieces, especially when Ellis's pregnant girlfriend shows up.



A Final Word



CUTE CORNER:

Are ferrets cute? Depends who you ask. But these little guys are certainly working some baby ferret charm! Ferrets have been domesticated since ancient times, and their name is appropriately a Latin derivative meaning “little thief.”



Recognizable by their slender bodies and bandit masks, ferrets tend to sleep up to 14 hours a day and are active at dawn and dusk.

Ferrets have become increasingly popular as pets. Due to their energetic and curious natures, it's important for them to have at least an hour of playtime every day. They dine on high protein food such as cat or ferret food.



Calendar for September

September 7- Any Book Group @ 6:00 PM

September 19-20- Plowing Match @ Plowman's Park

Book Sale at the Library

September 23- Crafters' Group @ 6:30 PM

October 3- Pumpkin Train Festival @ Plowman's Park

October 5-Any Book Group @ 6:00 PM

October 12- One Book Group @ 6:00 PM