

BIG ROCK LIBRARY
bigrocklibrary.org
630-556-3604

October 2026

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

THE WORD

*The library will be
closed on Monday,
October 12, to
celebrate Columbus
Day.*



COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY

Any Book Group

Monday, October 5 at 6:00 PM

September's Any Book Group was postponed until October so we should have plenty to talk about. Bring your latest read and share it with the group this coming Monday.

ONE BOOK GROUP
Monday, October 19 @ 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 19 as we discuss Jenoff's contribution to the little known history of the Second World War.

The Pumpkin Train Is Coming!

Don't forget to 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. (Late breaking- it's too wet for the train but there are still fun things to do.)

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



COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY

The Big Rock
CRAFTERS

Join us for a fun night of crafting!

October 21, 2026
6:30 pm

— at the Library —



We will be making grape vine wreaths
using Fall or Christmas decorations.

Call the library at
630-556-3604
to reserve your spot!



COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY

Is Your Child Breathing Easy?

Understanding Airway Health, Sleep & Development

Learn why airway health matters, and the signs to watch for at home to ensure your child's healthy breathing.

Big Rock Library, Thursday, October 15 @ 6:30 PM



A Salute to the Country's Earliest Veterans

Here's your chance to hear the story and sing the music that colonial soldiers and our earliest veterans heard, marched to, and sang. This music of 250 years ago will be played by Jeff Little on keyboard and vocals. Big Rock Library, Historical Society, and Park District invite you to attend this Veteran's Day program on Saturday, Nov. 7 at 2:00 PM at the park district meeting room.

There will be light refreshments and goodie bags for veterans.



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

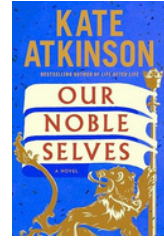
All students are eligible, including homeschooled students.

new at the library

New Adult Fiction

Our Noble Selves by Kate Atkinson

After serving as a war reporter, journalist Harry Flynn returns to 1945 Britain to work with a group organizing a government project, Festival of Britain, meant to celebrate the nation's creativity and grit, but after an evening he can't remember with a French woman who goes missing, he becomes the prime suspect in her possible murder.



Hollow Bones by Jodi Picoult

When Molly Fitzgerald was only two months old, she lost her mother in the September 11 disaster, and she has been haunted by the threat of further tragedy her whole life, until she finds solace with her husband, who has similar anxieties. But the unexpected may shatter this illusion of safety for them both.



Big Little Truths by Liane Moriarty

The five women of Big Little Lies return! It's ten years later, the kids are in high school, creating new challenges, and the big little truths they haven't shared may come back to haunt the them.



It's Halloween on the Library's Front Porch

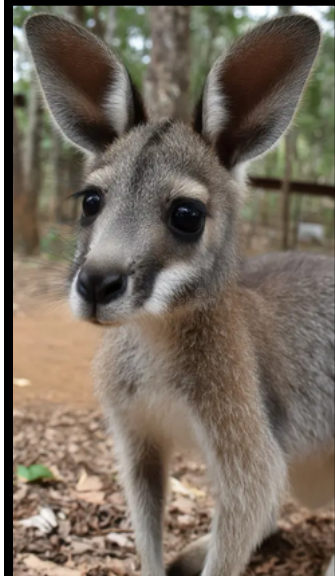
Creator Steven Rusch has installed some creepy Halloween scarecrows on the library's front porch. You may view them at 40 mph as you drive by the library or come sit in the rocking chairs on the front porch for full effect. Steven likes natural objects and if you look closely, you'll see a deer skull as the head of one of the scarecrows and deer bones incorporated into another. Steven has a passion for creating displays and contributed much to the Bison display that is presently in the upper floor of the library. He lives in Downers Grove and travels to Big Rock with his artwork. We are thankful for a volunteer (and his dad) who is willing to travel that distance.



A Final Word

CUTE CORNER: Our featured cutie this month is the wallaby, an Australian marsupial. “Wallaby” is a generic term for any macropod (marsupial with large, strong hind legs) smaller than a kangaroo. They can be found throughout Australia, usually in more remote, rugged areas of the country where vegetation that suits their herbivorous appetites can be found.

And, we’ve learned that the Phillips’ Park Zoo in Aurora has acquired two wallabies, so you can go visit them yourself. Wally and Bindi arrived on August 5. You can visit them any day, Thursday through Tuesday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. They are eagerly awaiting visitors!



Calendar for October

October 3- Pumpkin Train Festival

October 5 - Any Book Group @ 6:00 PM

October 15- Kids' Breathing Health @ 6:30 PM

October 19- One Book Group @ 6:00 PM

October 21- Crafters' Group @ 6:30 PM

November 3 - Any Book Group @ 6:00 PM

November 7 - America's 250th Birthday Salute @ 2:00 PM