BIG ROCK LIBRARY
bigrocklibrary.org
630-556-3604

THE WORD

November 2026

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

The library will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Saturday, November 28, to celebrate Thanksgiving.









COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY

In order from top left to bottom right: Under the Hidden Sky by Robert Allen, The Intelligencer by Leslie Silbert, How to Read a Book by Monica Wood, The Unknown by Riley Sager, The Man from Beijing by Henning Mankell.



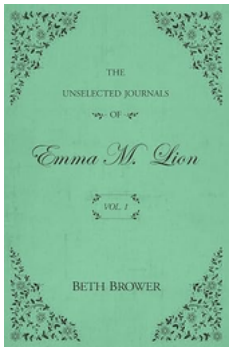
Any Book Group

Monday, November 2 at 6:00 PM

We'd love to see some new faces for our Read Any Book Group discussion. Join us on November 2 and bring your newest favorite book to share with us!

ONE BOOK GROUP

Emma M. Lion's return to London's St. Crispian's neighborhood, where her family's Lapis Lazuli House harbors strange behavior and nastiness. Like banishing her to the 5th floor garret! Emma has resolved to refrain from censoring herself and her journals recount the entertaining and amusing antics that take place in her life.



We've chosen Volume One of *The Unselected Journals of Emma M. Lion* for December's reading. It's a light and satiric take on the London of 1883, one you're sure to enjoy.

Join us on Monday, December 14th to discuss this book.

COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY



If you're looking for a book, audiobooks or DVD and our library doesn't have a copy, don't forget our Interlibrary Loan service. Just fill out the form (or email us) with your request and we'll call you when it arrives. Deliveries are every Thursday morning.

COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY



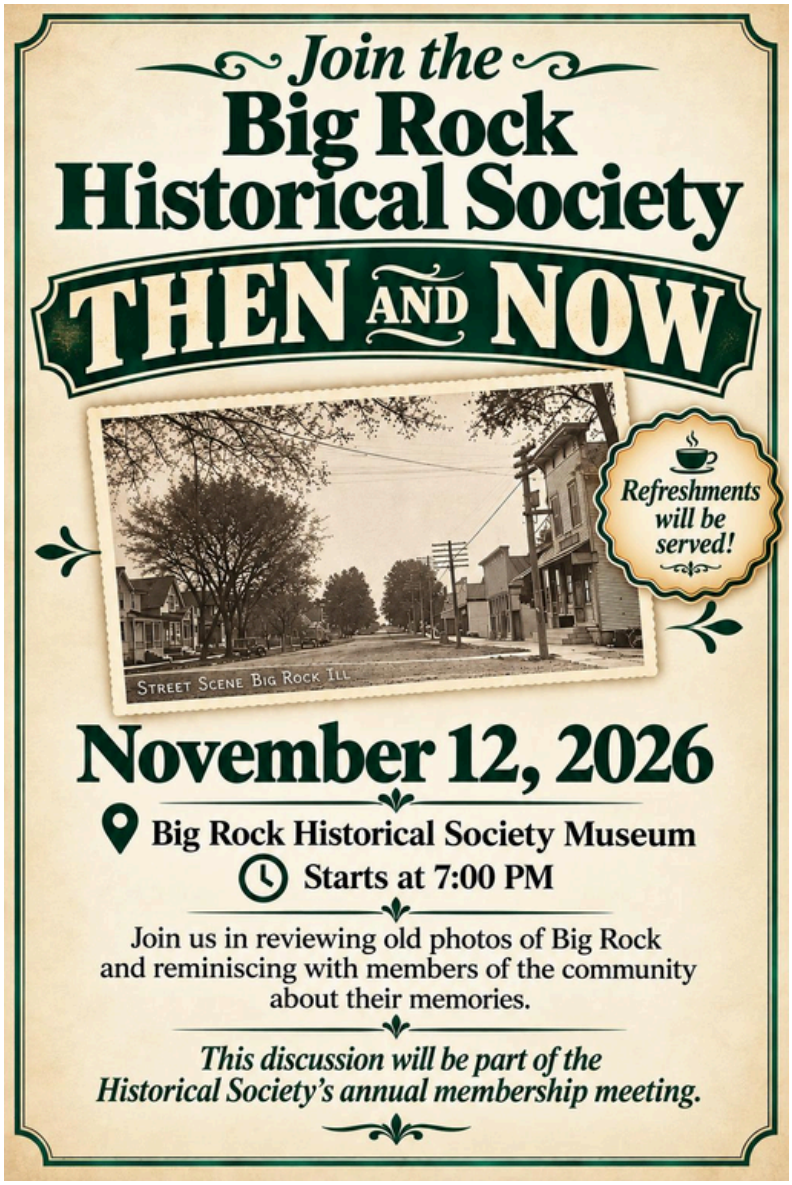
A Salute to the Country's Earliest Veterans

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 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.

Other Library News

- You'll soon see a second computer in the computer room. This will allow us to provide Family Search and additional genealogy websites to assist you in building your family tree.
- Due to a generous donation from the Hinckley Public Library, we will be installing some new shelving in the children's area in the lower level.
- The library is looking for a Middle or High School student who would be interested in volunteering a couple of Saturdays a month and during special events. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to complete community service. You can contact the library by replying to this email or at 630-556-3604.

COMING UP AT THE LIBRARY
and Big Rock Historical Society





DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 30

NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS ONLY

PLEASE NO STUFFED ANIMALS

LET'S BRING JOY TO LESS FORTUNATE CHILDREN

DROP OFF @ LIBRARY STARTING NOV. 2



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.

DON’T FORGET!

16TH ANNUAL

HINCKLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY'S LARGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!



TURKEY DROP & FOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH
11AM UNTIL 1PM
PLOWMAN'S PARK

(48W508 HINCKLEY ROAD, BIG ROCK)

HOSTED BY JENNIFER SMITH & HBRHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

ITEMS NEEDED

12-14 lb. Frozen Turkeys

Stuffing Mix

Instant Potatoes

Canned Yams

Canned Veggies

Gravy

Cranberry Sauce

Dessert Mixes & Frosting

Monetary Donations Appreciated!

Make Checks Payable to:

Hinckley Area Food Pantry
PO Box 463
Hinckley, IL 60520

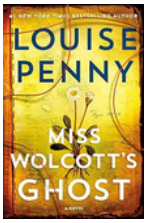
HAVE QUESTIONS?
NEED MORE INFORMATION?

CONTACT:
JENNIFER SMITH
630-926-5704
JCSMITH120875@GMAIL.COM

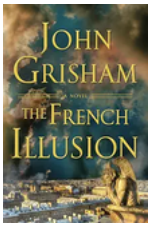
HAFP SERVES BIG ROCK, HINCKLEY, MAPLE PARK, SHABBONA, & WATERMAN

new at the library

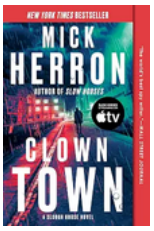
New Mystery & Thrillers



Miss Wolcott's Ghost by Louise Penny
A middle-of-the-night phone call propels Gamache into a search for the legendary Lost Nation and the dead body lying on a tombstone with no name.



The French Illusion by John Grisham
On their fairy tale honeymoon in Paris, Paul and Chelsea are kidnapped, and finding them and the reason they were taken involves the FBI, the CIA and French intelligence, leading to a desperate sting operation to save them.



Clown Town by Mick Herron (2025)
At Slough House, the "repository for failed spies", the team deal with blackmail and the search for a lost book, written by an historic former spy.



The Silent Appeal by Janice Hallett
Femi Hassan and Charlotte Holroyd of The Appeal are tasked with returning to Lower Lockwood and the Fairway Players to determine whether the correct person has been charged with murder.



Heather by Caitlin Mullen
Rookie police chief Callie Hauser reopens a cold case involving the disappearance of two sixteen-year-old sisters, leading to the discovery of long-buried secrets, and a string of overdose cases.

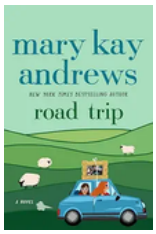


The Witch by Freida McFadden
Julie's move to her family home in rural Massachusetts after losing her job results in her discovery that the house is doing strange things that may be related to a woman executed for witchcraft in 1692.

New Adult Fiction



Peck & Peck by Bonnie Garmus
Recent college graduate Batter Gray is a poetry expert, and goes from working at The Gap to the premier literary magazine *Peck & Peck*, where he is sucked into the war between the twin brothers who own the publication and are ruthless when choosing writers for the magazine.



Road Trip by Mary Kay Andrews
Estranged sisters Maeve and Therese Dunigan are forced to travel together to Ireland to research the provenance of and to determine the value of a painting they've inherited from their mother.



Go Gentle by Maria Semple
Adora Hazzard's peaceful, well-constructed life in New York's Upper West Side is upended by the resurrection of her past and an unexpected mid-life crisis.

new at the library

More New Adult Fiction

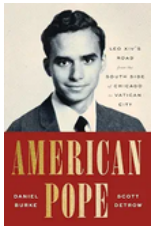


Five Weeks in the Country by Francine Prose
In 1857, Hans Christian Andersen's visit to Charles Dickens's country home Gad's Hill is somewhat catastrophic, not helped by the deteriorating relationship between Dickens and his wife due to Dickens' obsession with a young actress appearing in his play.



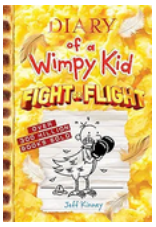
This Is Not About Us by Allegra Goodman
When their sister dies, Sylvia and Helen's lives seem to unravel and a minor dispute's consequences that tears them apart is a matter their children and grandchildren want no part of.

New Non-Fiction

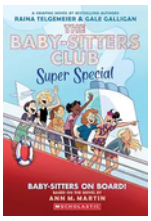


American Pope by Daniel Burke and Scott Detrow
The story of how a working-class Chicago kid rose through the Catholic Church hierarchy to become the first American pope.

New Junior Fiction



Fight or Flight (Diary of a Wimpy Kid) by Jeff Kinney
Greg's ring binder of how to deal with the school bullies has disappeared! Now he has to find it before they do.



Baby-Sitters on Board! The Baby-Sitters Club Super Special by Ann M. Martin
The baby-sitters are excited! They are going on a vacation to Florida for a cruise to the Bahamas and a visit to a huge amusement park.



Dream Big by Shannon Hale
Cassie's dream to be a movie star might come true when she is gets hires as an extra. But the monster in what turns out to be a horror movie scares her. So do the mean kid actors. Is this what she really wants?



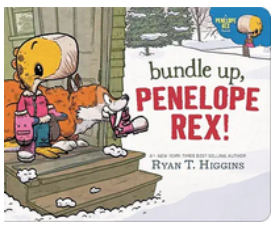
Who Is Taylor Swift? By Kirsten Anderson (2024)
Find out more about the world famous singer and composer in this biography.

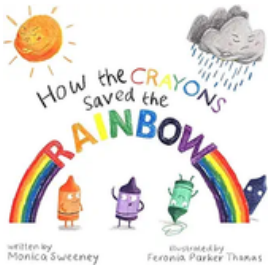
New Picture & Board Books

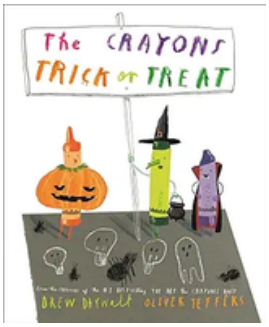
Bundle Up, Penelope Rex! Ryan T. Higgins
Penelope and her pet saber-tooth tiger want to go outside and play in the snow.

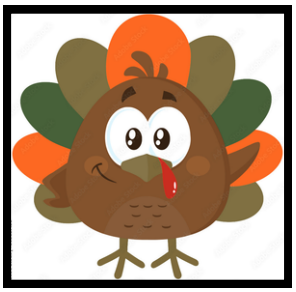
How the Crayons Saved the Rainbow by Monica Sweeney

The Crayons Trick or Treat by Drew Daywalt
Get ready to trick or treat this Halloween with the crayons!









A Final Word

CUTE CORNER: Harp seal pups are probably among the cutest arctic babies with their beautiful white pelts that keep them warm in the initial months of their lives. They are born on ice packs, mom's labor sometimes lasting as little as 15 seconds. They remain on the ice, keeping warm from the sun's rays and waiting to develop the blubber that will allow them to go in the icy water.

The baby's coat will eventually molt and become spotted like their parents.





Harp seal diet consists mainly of fish, including cod, herring and krill. These adorable babies were often in the news due to local hunting practices. In Canada, it has been illegal to kill "Whitecoats" since 1987, however harp seals are harvested yearly to maintain sustainable population levels.



Calendar for November

November 2 - Any Book Group @ 6:00 PM

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

November 8 - Turkey Drop & Food Drive from 11:00 AM -1:00 PM @ Plowman's Park

November 12- Then and Now Program @ 7:00 PM

November 18- Crafters' Group @ 6:30 PM

November 28-28- Thanksgiving Weekend

December 7- Any Book Group @ 6:00 PM

December 14- One Book Group @ 6:00 PM