

Happenings at SPL

Summer 2016
www.swpl.org

Grove City Library
3359 Park Street

Westland Area Library
4740 W. Broad Street



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For program details and schedules at SPL, pick up a copy of the Summer Reading Club brochure.

Westland staff members (from left) Maria Corna, Jessica Smith, Renee Sova, Linda Beazley and Carmen Harris are ready for Summer Reading Club.

Summer Reading Club is underway

On Your Mark, Get Set—READ! Summer Reading Club has arrived at Southwest Public Libraries.

From June 4 through July 30, Southwest Public Libraries will offer a host of programs, activities and prizes for reading to help patrons avoid the “Summer Slide.”

Our schedule of performers and entertainers at the library begins on June 6 with shows at Grove City and Westland by Grammy-nominated singer Zak Morgan. Others throughout the summer include the Turtle Lady, the Michael Albert Pop Art Experience, artist Jeff Nicholas, the Cooking Caravan's Kitchen Sink Symphony and more.

There will be programs and events for kids, tweens, teens and adults

throughout the summer. Participants can track their reading during the summer for prizes and entries into a raffle. Prizes vary by age group.

Be sure to pick up a program pamphlet from either branch to find a full schedule list. You can also find your Reading Record at both Westland and Grove City to track your progress. You can read anything you like! You can also count when you read with a grown-up or read to someone else.

Participation requires registration. You can register for the program at either Grove City Library or Westland Area Library or online at www.swpl.org. For more information, visit our website.

Representatives from Friends of Southwest Public Libraries, the Women's Civic Club of Grove City and the Grove City Sertoma Club presented a check to the SPL Board of Trustees at the board's meeting on March 8.

Totaling \$8,000, the donations will be used to install hearing loops in the meeting room of the new Grove City Library under construction.

Hearing loops are wires that connect to a room's sound system and transmit sound electromagnetically to the telecoils of hearing aids and cochlear implants, enabling patrons with hearing devices to hear better and without added background noise.

When installed, the hearing loops at the new library will be the first offered by SPL.



Friends of Southwest Public Libraries Carol Rorick; Women's Civic Club of Grove City President Suzanne Norris; SPL Board of Trustees President Pattie Moncman; and Grove City Sertoma Club members Dr. Cathy Grewell of Clarity Hearing & Audiology, Greg Mackanos, Jennie Mackanos and Joe Soto at the check presentation for a hearing loop on March 8.

Grove City Youth Services Librarian Lore Lehr, Youth Services Team Leader Dale Buck and Youth Services Assistant Kathy Erbaugh served as judges for the Grove City Christian School Library's Family Cake Decorating Contest in March. The annual event raised \$1,200 for the school's library.

The Youth Services De-

partment at Westland is now making regular visits to the preschool classes at Darbywoods Elementary School. Once a month, staff provides the students with a morning and afternoon storytime. Youth Services staff provides a number of such offsite programs as demand for this service grows.

Furniture and shelving

for the new Grove City Library have been ordered. Bids for the furniture and shelving came in \$131,000 and \$47,000 below the architect's estimate, respectively.

TECH CORNER

Are you travelling outside the United States this summer? Looking to brush up on a foreign language? Check out Mango Languages on SPL's website, www.swpl.org. You can find the Mango button under the "Research" icon near the top of the page.

All you need is your library card and a computer or mobile device to create an account. You can choose from 71 different languages, establish a lesson plan to chart your progress or just learn conversational phrases.

Director's Corner

By
Mark Shaw

At SPL, we strive to provide patrons with the best library service while remaining responsible stewards of taxpayer money, so they receive the best value for their support.

In April, the Ohio Library Council, a state association of public libraries, issued a statewide return on investment report on Ohio's public libraries. The report found public librar-

ies to be sound financial investments for the communities they serve.

According to the report, for every dollar spent on Ohio public libraries in 2014, Ohioans received \$5.48 in total economic value in return.

The report also notes that Ohio has the highest library use per capita in the nation and Ohio libraries have one of the lowest cost-per-traction rates in the country, \$2.88.

The report also found that Ohioans visit public

libraries 82 million times a year, use library computers 20 million times and download 12.3 million e-books, songs, digital magazines and videos. Also, more than 1 million Ohioans attended summer reading club programs last year.

Simply put, libraries are a great deal, not only for the financial benefits, but for the wide variety of services they provide. SPL's goal is to be more than a warehouse of books; it's to be the community's center

for lifelong learning.

From children just discovering the joys of reading at our storytimes to the high school students who use our online research tools and the adults who attend our Military History Series, SPL strives to offer programs and services that appeal to different segments of the community.

As long as there is demand for these programs and services, SPL will work to offer them in a cost effective manner.

Former library trustee Richard “Dick” Curtiss passed away on February 15. He was 75.

Curtiss served on the board of trustees from 1995 to 2014 and had served as president, vice president and secretary. He was also the announcer for Westland High School basketball and football games for the past 40 years and worked for South-Western City Schools for more than 30 years, primarily as a guidance counselor at Westland.

His commitment to SPL was unwavering, and he was an outstanding representative to the community. We will miss his won-

derful sense of humor and wise counsel.

At the board’s meeting on March 8, Westland Area Library employees Kristina Moore and Joan Parko received Service Awards for their years of service at SPL. Moore is a Circulation Assistant, and Parko works in the Reference Department.

Also recognized were staff members Janet Hering and Jeanne Price, both of whom have three years of service at Westland but who were not at the meeting.

The board approved its final contracted payment to the city of Grove City

for the new Grove City Library under construction on March 8.

The board authorized and directed SPL Director Mark Shaw to pay the city \$1 million as per the Development Agreement previously approved by both the board and Grove City Council. The funds, which will be expended from the Capital Projects Fund, will go toward the furniture and equipment of the new building.

The new library remains on track to open late summer or early fall. Stay tuned for updates.

The board approved the permanent budget for the 2016 fiscal year

at its meeting on March 8. The board appropriated \$8,488,855.00 to the General Fund and \$1,547,643.00 to the Capital Projects Fund.

On April 12, Grove City Library employees Linda Bils, Bethanne Johnson and Helen Chappelle also received Service Awards. Bils is a Youth Services Assistant, Johnson is the assistant director of the Grove City Library and Chappelle is the Human Resources Manager for SPL.

The board also approved the library’s Annual Report to the Auditor of State at its meeting on April 12.

Friends of Southwest Public Libraries

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to enter the seventh annual Summer Scribbles Youth Writing & Poetry Contest at Southwest Public Libraries, beginning June 1.

The contest, sponsored by the Grove City Writers’ Group and the Friends of Southwest Public Libraries, is open to any student in grades 6-12 who lives within the boundaries of South-Western City Schools.

There are two divisions (6-8th grade and High School) in two categories – poetry and fiction. In addition, all students in grades 6-12 may enter

essays for the Breck Prize for History and the Shawn T. Hannon Excellence in Writing Award. Prizes in all categories will be: first place - \$100; second place - \$50.

Rules and entry forms are available online at grovecitywriters.wordpress.com and, beginning June 1, in the Youth Section of both the Grove City Library and the Westland Area Library. The contest ends July 31.

A new addition to the Summer Scribbles Youth Writing and Poetry Contest is the Breck Prize for History.

The Breck Prize will be

awarded for an essay of 800 words or less on any person, place or thing (past or present) within Grove City or Jackson Township. The \$100 first place prize and the \$50 second place prize are sponsored by the Grove City Historical Commission.

For more information about the contest, email Diana Hannon Forrester at dhannon55@aol.com.

For more information about the Breck Prize for History, email janetshailer@hotmail.com.

In other news from the Friends of Southwest Public Libraries:

On March 16, the Friends of Southwest Public Libraries Board of Trustees approved its 2016 budget.

The Friends estimate they will generate \$12,000 in book sale revenue this year. In addition to committing \$3,000 each to Grove City and Westland Area libraries to support programming, the budget dedicates \$3,800 to support the Summer Reading Program and an additional \$1,000 to be used toward the installation of a hearing loop at Westland.

The board approved the donation for the hearing loop at the March meeting.

Staff Summer Book Picks

Looking for something to read this summer? SPL staff has you covered with selections for kids, teens and adults.	by Lauren Redniss Non-Fiction	<i>Roller Girl</i> by Victoria Jamieson Juvenile Graphic Novel	Self-Help <i>I Take You: A Novel</i> by Eliza Kennedy Women's Literature
Linda Beazley Westland Reference <i>The Museum of Extraordinary Things</i> by Alice Hoffman Historical Fiction	Chris Edwards Grove City Reference The <i>Ellis Island</i> trilogy: <i>Ellis Island</i> <i>City of Hope</i> <i>Land of Dreams</i> by Kate Kerrigan Historical Fiction Series	Michele Lowe Westland Assistant Director <i>Spark</i> by John Twelve Hawks Dystopian Novel	<i>Let's Pretend This Never Happened</i> by Jenny Lawson Humor/Memoir
Linda Bils Grove City Youth Services <i>Brontrina</i> by James Howe Children's Picture Book	<i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society</i> by Mary Ann Shaffer Historical Fiction	<i>God's Eye View</i> By Barry Eisler Thriller	Reneé Sovà Westland Circulation <i>The School for Good and Evil</i> Books 1 - 3 by Soman Chainani Juvenile Fiction
Dale Buck Grove City Youth Services <i>Sweet Home Alaska</i> by Carole Estby Dagg Juvenile Fiction	Lore Lehr Grove City Youth Services Librarian <i>Mr. Lemoncello's Library</i> <i>Olympics</i> by Chris Grabenstein Juvenile Fiction	The Heist (Fox & O'Hare #1) By Janet Evanovich Mystery	Emma Trudeau Grove City Reference and Adult Services Librarian <i>Station Eleven</i> by Emily St. John Mandel Science Fiction
Mark Dubovec Communications Manager <i>Thunder & Lightning: Weather Past, Present, Future</i>	<i>The Art of Secrets</i> by James Klise Young Adult Fiction	<i>The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up</i> by Marie Kondo	<i>Six of Crows</i> by Leigh Bardugo Young Adult Fantasy

Staff Profile



Connie Rose (left) and Sheila Sexton make up SPL's Outreach Department.

Name
Connie Rose

Job
Outreach Assistant

Time at SPL
5 Years

Name
Sheila Sexton

Job
Outreach Leaders

Time at SPL
9 Years

For the SPL patrons who can't make it the library, Sheila and Connie make sure they receive services.

"Outreach brings joy to my heart," Sheila said.

The Outreach department brings books and other materials to homebound patrons and conducts storytimes at various daycares and pre-schools.

"What's not to love about that," Connie said. "We get to go out each day and see smiling children when we read to them at storytime and see homebound residents who appreciate us bringing the library to them."

Both Sheila and Connie started at SPL in the Circulation Department before moving to Outreach. Sheila has always liked to read and was looking for a part-time job when she joined the library.

"It's filled with books," she said. "That's one of my favorite things."

Before joining the library, Connie would bring her grandchildren to the library.

"I figured what a perfect place to work," she said.

Outside of work, Sheila enjoys music and going to plays. Connie attends Coffee Break Studios to make art projects.