

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY

July 10, 2017

Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian
Greg McCormick, Deputy Director

Autism Friendly Resources Available

The Illinois State Library recently added titles to the Adult New Reader Book Club collections and Family Literacy Story Kits that feature individuals with autism as main characters. The new titles are “Rules” by Cynthia Lord, “All My Stripes” by Shaina Rudolph and Danielle Royer and “My Brother Charlie” by Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete. These new additions come with discussion guides and a variety of activities.

The Adult New Reader Book Club is designed for libraries and literacy programs to encourage adult new readers to read for enjoyment. The Story Kits are packaged, participatory program activities for parents and children to do together and are based on children’s literature and focused on reading strategies.

More information and instructions on how to borrow the Adult New Reader Book Club titles and Story Kits can be found at the following links:

- http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/literacy/book_clubs.html
- <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/literacy/storykits.html>

For further questions, contact the [Literacy Office](#) at 800-665-5576, ext. 3.

Summer Literacy Newsletter

The Summer 2017 issue of [Illinois Literacy](#) is now available. Illinois Literacy is a quarterly newsletter produced by the Secretary of State Illinois State Library Literacy Office that provides information and news concerning literacy in Illinois.

Literacy programs are encouraged to submit stories and photographs of special events and achievements to the Illinois State Library Literacy Office for inclusion in upcoming issues. Please contact the [Literacy Office](#) at 800-665-5576, ext. 3, if you have any questions.

Director’s University at The Illinois State Library

Director’s University (DU) was held at the State Library, June 5-8, 2017. Sixty-three new public library directors, who had not previously attended its predecessor: the Statewide Public Library Management Institute, attended the program. The week of events was made possible by a partnership with the Reaching Across Illinois Library System, the Illinois Heartland Library System and the Illinois Library Association. Participants attended sessions on budgeting, law, human resources, records retention, board relations and others. The participants enjoyed meeting staff from different libraries and networking with colleagues. DU activities were partially funded with a grant awarded from the Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White using Library Services and Technology Act funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Internet Librarian Conference Discount for ILLINET Members

A discount is being offered for ILLINET members to attend the 21st annual Internet Librarian Conference organized by Information Today, Inc. This year’s event will be held October 23-25 at the Monterey Marriott in Monterey, California. Additional information about this conference is located at <http://internet-librarian.infotoday.com/2017/Program>.

The Gold Pass is available to ILLINET members at a discounted rate of \$649. There is also a special rate of \$389 for the 3-day event. No discount rates are available for the separately priced preconference workshops. In addition, the discount rate of \$119 on the Internet@Schools Track is also available.

Online registrations will be accepted until September 22nd. To receive the discount, please register at: <https://secure.infoday.com/RegForms/internetlibrarian/?Priority=ILL17>

For additional information, contact [Jill Heffernan](#) at 217-557-7259.

Public Library Data Landscape Webinars

As part of the Measures that Matter initiative, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) offered a three-part webinar series about the public library data landscape this summer. The third and final webinar, "Measures that Matter Part Three: Moving Toward More Meaningful Measures," will occur on **July 26**, 2 p.m.–3 p.m. Visit [WebJunction](#) for more information.

Congratulations Kathleen Bloomberg

Kathleen L. Bloomberg, formerly the Associate Director of Operations of the Illinois State Library and now recently retired, is the 2017 recipient of the Illinois Library Association Hugh Atkinson Memorial/DEMCO Award. The award recognizes an individual, group, program or institution for sustained activity and contributions having a lasting impact on librarianship.

Kathleen's contributions to library cooperation and development throughout her long and distinguished career make it especially appropriate to honor her in the name of Hugh Atkinson, whose own career was so notably dedicated to library cooperative endeavors.

"Illinois Reads" Author Spotlights

Each month, we highlight three [2017 "Illinois Reads"](#) authors and their selected titles. "Illinois Reads" is an initiative of the [Illinois Reading Council](#) that highlights the importance of reading at all ages and supports Illinois authors. Beginning each spring and concluding in the fall on [Family Reading Night](#), the program offers a new list of six titles written and/or illustrated by Illinois authors at six different age levels from birth to adult.

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White is the honorary chair of the "Illinois Reads" Committee and encourages everyone to get involved by becoming an "Illinois Reads" [Ambassador](#), hosting or participating in a Family Reading Night program, attending an "Illinois Reads" author event and reading from the rich list of titles each year.

Each of the highlighted authors has published a book that has been selected to be on the 2017 "Illinois Reads" [book list](#) for grades 6-8.

Newberry award-winning author, [Richard Peck](#) was born and raised in Decatur. After graduating from college and serving in the U.S. Army, he went on to complete his master's degree at Southern Illinois University and then began his career as a teacher from where he went on to become one of the most celebrated authors for children and young adults. His latest book, "[The Best Man](#)," has received many accolades, is on numerous Best Books lists and is a 2017 "Illinois Reads" selection.

Chicago native and resident [Peter Kujawinski](#) was an American diplomat for 18 years. He was on assignment in places like Israel, Haiti, France and Canada and at the United Nations in New York. While working as a diplomat, he started to write for adults and children. Kujawinski writes for the New York Times and with co-author Jake Halpern, has written several middle grade books including the "Dormia" trilogy and "[Nightfall](#)" which is a New York Times bestseller and a 2017 "Illinois Reads" selection.

Originally from North Dakota, [Chris Rylander](#) currently resides in Chicago. He writes comical and clever fiction books for children and young adults. His first award winning series for children was the popular "Fourth Stall." His latest series, "Codename Conspiracy," is a spy adventure written about 7th grade student Carson Fender, who is a "notorious prankster". The first book in this entertaining series, "[Codename Zero](#)," is a 2017 "Illinois Reads" selection.

Literacy Spotlight

This month's Literacy Spotlight highlights **Sterling Lumber Company** in Phoenix, which runs a Secretary of State supported Workplace Skills Enhancement Program. Sterling Lumber has found many advantages to having their employees improve their knowledge of the English language. Recently, they introduced a new product that required a new team and a more sophisticated manufacturing process. A graduate of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program interviewed for one of the positions and as a result became a part of the team. Next, as part of their ongoing safety program, the company has pushed more responsibilities of communicating safe practices down to their lead workers. Several of the ESL graduates are manufacturing leaders and now hold regular safety meetings with their teams. Their ability to communicate in English and Spanish is critical in relaying the message. This new initiative of their safety program contributed to the safest year in the history of the company. Many of the employees are at low to mid English levels, but managers are hearing English language improvement. The company believes ESL classes are making an impact and improving the communication across the entire company.

State Library's Comprehensive Online Calendar

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/calendar/home.html>.

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