Secretary of State, State Librarian and Archivist Jesse White hosted “Preserving Their Memories” to honor veterans and their contributions to the Illinois Veterans’ History Project.

"The Illinois Veterans' History Project provides a place to honor our veterans and a written memorial for the people who have served our country," said White. "Today, there are more than 5,800 records of veterans and their loved ones who have submitted stories to the project. With this initiative, future generations will have a better understanding and appreciation of the sacrifices made by Illinois' service men and women."

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At the event, veterans were able to obtain an updated driver’s license/ID card with the word “VETERAN” displayed on the front of the card. This designation helps ensure military veterans living in Illinois who have received an Honorable or General under Honorable Conditions discharge receive necessary services and benefits.

Secretary White hosts Veterans’ History Project ceremony

Through a Knight Foundation grant, Maker Kits for loan to libraries throughout Illinois are being provided by an ILEAD team. The kits include 3-D printers, Strawbees, LittleBits circuits, Dash and Dot robots, button making, Makey Makey circuits, Sphero robots, Silhouette Cameo 2-D design and 3-D Doodler pens. These kits will be circulated by the State Library and eligible for delivery through Illinois Library Delivery Service and system delivery. The kits circulate for four weeks and are for in-library use only. The kits can be requested via I-Share or OCLC. Search for the kits by title beginning with “Make It at Your Library.” If a kit is not available, contact the State Library circulation desk at icirculation@ilsos.net or 217-782-7573 to reserve a copy.

The interactive delivery map has been updated using January 2016 delivery data to reflect the current picture of statewide delivery service. The map was created to provide a graphic representation of the physical delivery of library materials in support of resource sharing in Illinois. Each library in Illinois that receives delivery is identified by a colored flag that denotes the frequency of delivery at that location. Information for the map was drawn from the L2 (Library Learning) database.

Not every Illinois library is represented by a flag on the map. Over 520 libraries participate in Community Delivery Partnerships (CDP). The flag on the map indicates where a delivery is made and how often. If you click on the flag of a library that acts as the host for a CDP, all of the libraries that receive their delivery at that location will be listed in the pop-up box. The delivery partners receive the same delivery frequency as the host. See lists of all Community Delivery Partnerships at http://www.cyberdrive.il.gov/departments/library/delivery/delivery-partnerships.html.

A statewide CDP map has been created to visually show where CDPs currently operate in Illinois. If you look at the CDP map or the statewide delivery map and notice nearby libraries you may want to partner with, contact your neighboring libraries to discuss the feasibility of working together to receive delivery. Any member can initiate the conversation. Then contact your library system’s delivery staff to discuss the new delivery arrangement.

The benefits of a CDP include more frequent service to many libraries, so that materials requested by your patrons will get into their hands more quickly. The goal is to offer five day per week service to all libraries participating in a CDP. The materials your library lends to users elsewhere in the state will also be returned and put back on your shelves more quickly.
Family Reading Night 2015

The Secretary of State’s annual Family Reading Night was held November 19 at hundreds of locations across Illinois. The event is a night when parents and children are urged to turn off their televisions, computers, video games and other forms of entertainment, and spend time reading together. This year’s theme was “Camp Out With a Good Book.” The State Library distributed thousands of colorful posters and bookmarks to libraries, schools, literacy programs and other organizations. This was the 24th year the Secretary of State’s office sponsored Family Reading Night.

Critical changes to E-rate program

There are several changes to the E-rate program that are critical to know about and act on now. The E-rate Productivity Center (EPC) is a new online Web portal that must be used to submit and receive all E-rate forms, bills, documentation, notifications and requests for help. Entering the individualized EPC portal will allow access to the E-rate application and follow-up processes. If your library has not already signed into EPC, please do so today to ensure access and familiarity with the portal. EPC user guides and videos are available at http://www.usac.org/e-rate-productivitycenter/default.aspx.

The E-rate program was significantly expanded to fund any networking equipment (firewalls, routers, switches, cabling, wireless controllers and wireless access points) that brings Internet traffic to patrons. This expansion creates a great opportunity for libraries to substantially upgrade networks, with the goal of building capacity to support Internet connections for every patron or staff.

As of July 1, 2016, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) will no longer be mailing checks to applicants. All E-rate BEAR 472 funds will be disbursed via electronic bank transfer. The Direct Payment Form 498 is now available to be completed and submitted in the EPC portal. The following information is needed to complete this form: contact person; library information; bank account; routing numbers; library (or city); Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN)/Tax ID (used for payroll); and Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) used to identify business entities. The DUNS number is free for E-rate. Check to see if you already have a DUNS number by visiting https://www.dnb.com/dunsnumberlookup/ or calling 866-705-5711 to speak with a representative. To receive a free DUNS number, apply online through Dun & Bradstreet’s website at https://www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html.

To access E-rate resources and find out more information on the changes to the program, visit the State Library’s website.

Illinois State Library courtesy cards

Did you know that you may be eligible for a courtesy card from the State Library? If you have a valid Illinois public library card or are a retired state employee, you may apply for a courtesy card. Materials can then be borrowed directly from the State Library’s collection (local catalog only; not other I-Shares). You can choose your pick-up point as the State Library in Springfield or any other I-Share library. The courtesy card application is available online at http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publication/lsl/lsl118.pdf. The completed application can be emailed or mailed to

Illinois State Library Circulation Desk
300 S. Second St.
Springfield, IL 62701

Faculty, staff and students at other I-Share libraries can use their I-Share card to request materials from the State Library.
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Secretary of State, State Librarian and Archivist Jesse White hosted “Preserving Their Memories” to honor veterans and their contributions to the Illinois Veterans’ History Project at the Illinois State Library in Springfield. The Illinois Veterans’ History Project honors Illinois veterans by documenting and preserving their experiences.

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