



Bookmark



A quarterly
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Macomb Public
Library's
Friends of the Library

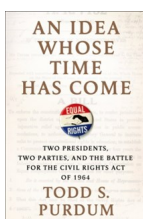


DECEMBER 2014

Make a Book Lover Happy for the Holidays

Looking for some literary gift suggestions? Linda and Rick of New Copperfield's Book Service have provided several winning titles for your consideration.

An Idea Whose Time Has Come: Two Presidents, Two Parties, and the Battle for the Civil Rights Act of 1964



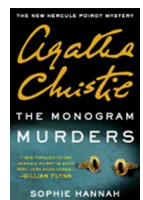
By Todd S. Purdum

This top Washington journalist and native of Macomb recounts the dramatic political battle to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the law that created modern America, on the

fiftieth anniversary of its passage.

It was a turbulent time in America—a time of sit-ins, freedom rides, a March on Washington and a governor standing in the schoolhouse door—when John F. Kennedy sent Congress a bill to bar racial discrimination in employment, education, and public accommodations. In a powerful narrative layered with revealing detail, Todd S. Purdum tells the story of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Often hailed as the most important law of the past century, the Civil Rights Act stands as a lesson for our own troubled times about what is possible when patience, bipartisanship, and decency rule the day.

***The Monogram Murders* By Sophie Hannah & Agatha Christie**



Since the publication of her first novel in 1920, more than two billion copies of Agatha Christie's books have been sold around the globe. Now, for the first time ever, the guardians of her legacy have

approved a brand-new novel featuring Dame Agatha's most beloved creation, Hercule Poirot.

Internationally bestselling author Sophie Hannah breathes new life into the incomparable detective. In this thrilling tale, Poirot plunges into a mystery set in 1920s London—a diabolically clever puzzle that will test his brilliant skills and baffle and delight longtime Christie fans and

new generations of readers discovering him for the first time.

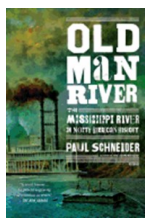
***Farm* By Elisha Cooper**



Cooper, the recipient of the Society of Illustrators 2006 Gold Medal, captures the smell, taste, and feel of the changing seasons

on a farm. With lyrical writing and beautiful illustrations that capture the rhythms of the changing seasons, Cooper brings the farm to life. Target age group, children ages four to seven.

Old Man River: The Mississippi River in North American History



By Paul Schneider

Old Man River, Paul Schneider's exploration of America's great waterway—taking the reader from the Mississippi River's origins to its polluted present and tracing its prehistory,

geology, and cultural and literary histories—is as vast as its subject.

The fascinating cast of characters includes the French and Spanish explorers de Soto, Marquette and Joliet, and the incomparable La Salle; George Washington fighting his first battle in an effort to secure the watershed; the birth of jazz and blues; and literary greats like Melville, Dickens, Trollope, and, of course, Mark Twain.

Pirates and riverbats, gamblers and slaves, hustlers and landscape painters, loggers and catfishers, tourists and missionaries: The Mississippi is a river of stories and myth. It's Paul Robeson sitting on a cotton bale, Daniel Boone floating on a flatboat, and Paul Bunyan cutting trees in the neighborhood of "Little House in the Big Woods."

Half-devastated product of American ingenuity, half-magnificent natural wonder, it is impossible to imagine America without the Mississippi.

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Better Book Sale Breaks Record



The ever popular "Better Books Sale" was held at Chandler Park in conjunction with the Al Sears Jazz Festival and the Gazebo Art Festival on September 20, 2014. While weather was always precarious we were very lucky avoiding rain. There was a steady stream of book lovers purchasing better conditioned books at bargain prices. As a result, we had the highest sales record in seven years taking in \$3,781.35. Proceeds will be reinvested in the newly remodeled library.

Keep donating your better conditioned books (hard bound and paperback) as well as media (CDs, DVDs, audiobooks) as that adds to a quality book sale. Thank you for attending and for donating.

- Becky Parker, Sales Coordinator

***Friends of the Macomb Public Library* 2014-2015**

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays Everyone!

For my column in this issue of the Friends of the Macomb Public Library Newsletter, I decided to combine my experience as a psychologist with my lifelong interest in reading and write about the therapeutic value of books.

When children are experiencing difficulties – getting along with others, adjusting to the birth of a sibling, adapting to a change in family structure, or even facing the illness or death of a family member – I often recommend a book that addresses the specific topic. Not only do books provide ideas to help us cope with our problems, but they also remind us that in most situations we are not alone. Others have experienced similar difficulties and they have survived! We use the term “Bibliotherapy” to cover books that help us cope with situations in our lives.

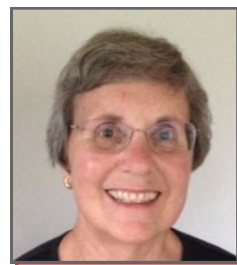
As an adult, I have certain go-to books that have helped me deal with things that life has thrown my way as well. Not only do I find reading passages in well-loved books therapeutic, but I also find that writing my own words in a journal can help me lower my own levels of anxiety. When I

am faced with a difficult situation, I often search the library or book sales or even websites for books about that topic. While I know that not everyone feels this way, I always prefer to be informed about whatever I may encounter.

One of my favorite therapeutic books is “When Bad Things Happen to Good People” by Harold Kushner. Rabbi Kushner and his wife had a young son born with Progeria disease, a degenerative illness that usually takes the life of the child at a very early age. How does one maintain a belief in God when faced with such a horrible life experience? Kushner attempts to explain his thought processes during this crisis.

Although I hope that all of you have lives that are problem-free, I know that is not realistic. If you have a book that has helped you cope, I would be very interested in hearing about your selection. Perhaps I will include your selections in a future column. You may email me at ps-wise@wiu.edu.

- Paula Wise, President



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Thug Kitchen: Eat Like You Give A ****



By Nick Hensley Wagner

Thug Kitchen started their wildly popular web site to inspire people to eat some Goddamn vegetables and adopt a healthier lifestyle. Named "Saveur's" Best

New Food blog of 2013—with half a million Facebook fans and counting--Thug

Kitchen wants to show everyone how to take charge of their plates and cook up some healthy food that isn't prissy.

Yeah, plenty of blogs and cookbooks preach about how to eat more kale, why ginger fights inflammation, and how to cook with microgreens and nettles. But they are dull or pretentious as hell—and most people can't afford the hype. Thug Kitchen lives in the real world. In their first cookbook, they're throwing down more than 100 recipes for their best-loved meals, snacks, and sides for beginning cooks to home chefs. (Roasted Beer and Lime Cauliflower Tacos? Pumpkin Chili?

Grilled Peach Salsa? Vegan done right.) Plus they're going to arm you with all the info and techniques you need to shop on a budget.

This book is an invitation to everyone who wants to do better to elevate their kitchen game. No more ketchup and pizza counting as vegetables. No more drive-thru lines. No more avoiding the produce corner of the supermarket. Healthy is about to get real.

Be forewarned—the book is laced with expletives and may not be for everyone, but the recipes have received rave reviews.

Macomb's First Little Free Library

Macomb, Illinois became part of a worldwide movement on October 22, 2014. We now have a Little Free Library outside the entrance to the YMCA on Dudley Street. People may borrow a book and/or leave a book at the site.

Little Free Libraries were started in Hudson, Wisconsin in 2009 by a man who wanted to honor the memory of his mother, a lifelong reader. There are now Little Free Libraries in all 50 states and in 40 countries.

The original goal was to have 2,150 Little Free Libraries in order to surpass the number of Carnegie libraries. However, there are currently more than 15,000 such Libraries.

The current Little Free Library was constructed by students from WIU majoring in English education. Their faculty advisor is Rebecca Buchanan. Materials were donated for the structure by an industrial arts teacher who happens to be the father of one of the students. It was dedicated at the YMCA on October 22nd. Feel free to donate or borrow one or more books or just stop by and admire this new addition to our community.



Remembering and Collecting Books

I thought EVERYONE my age had in the fifties read the "Jennifer Books", as my sister calls them. When I mentioned this series at a recent Friends Board meeting, no one had heard of them.

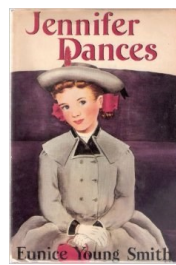
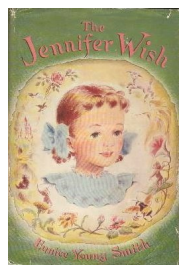
Written and illustrated by Eunice Young there were five books in the series about a young girl growing up in rural Aurora, Illinois early in the century. She even goes to Chicago for a while to live with an aunt and becomes a ballet dancer. A few years ago my sister had looked online for these books and since they are out of print the prices were prohibitive. This summer I learned how to spend money on a staycation. I found all five books online at reasonable prices.

My joy was seeing most of them are library discards. That they are in poor to good condition is evidence others enjoyed Jennifer too.

I e-mailed my sister to solicit a comment for this piece. "You didn't tell me you had all the Jennifer books!" she said. "You know, I have all of "The All-of-a-Kind Family" books." I had not known that. These six books about a Jewish family living on the Lower East Side of New York around the turn of the (last) century were also favorites.

Isn't it odd how some books leave such rich impressions? I hope you have or remember beloved books from your past. Ones that might even have brought you stories about the past as these did for me. I also know I will be doing more collecting for myself this Christmas. I think the "All-of-a-Kind-Family" books need to keep Jennifer company on my shelves.

- Arlene Harhen



Building Update from Library Director Dennis Danowski

The expansion of the Macomb Public Library continues. You have noticed the walls are currently green (vapor barrier), then will turn black (water proofing) next pink (insulation) and finally the brick will be applied. Additional insulation is being sprayed on the inside to make the additional as energy efficient as possible. The windows are being installed and the roof is completed. We are waiting for the cornice to arrive for the roof perimeter. Once the addition is "buttoned up" for winter, the inside work will be started. Shelving has been ordered and now the interior decorator is working on the furniture. There is still some work to be done in the Carnegie building and will be teamed up with the new addition. All library services are in effect, checkout of books, reserving materials, newspaper/magazine reading, interlibrary loan, fax, copy machine, notary, internet computers, children programs, community programs, and a speaker for organizations on the progress of the construction/remodel. Seasons Readings from the Staff and Trustees of Macomb Public Library.

WINTER ACTIVITIES IN THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

- Thurs., Dec. 11, 10 am SANTA VISITS**
Enjoy a Treat! Hear a Story! Talk to Santa!
Don't forget your camera.
- Mondays, 9:30-10 am** Itsy Bitsy Baby Story Time—Ages Birth to 18 mos.
- Tuesdays, 10-10:30 am** Preschool Story Time—Ages 2 & 3
- Thursdays, 10-10:30 am** Family Story Time—All ages

For more information on any of these programs, contact Miss Margaret in the Children's Library.

The Elf on the Shelf



From now until December 20, visit the children's library to find the Elf on the Shelf and the book he is reading. If you can tell the staff which book he's reading, your name will be entered in a drawing for a grand prize. The drawing will be held on December 20 at 5 pm.

Do You Have A Letter for Santa?

We'll help Santa's Elves by collecting letters for Santa & delivering them to the North Pole in time for Christmas. The Red Santa Mailbox is located in the Children's Library.



To get more information on library activities, special events and hours of operation, visit the website at **macomb.lib.il.us**.

Sign up to receive periodic email updates on the progress of Library renovations.



Special Library Holiday Hours

Wednesday, December 24 CLOSED • Thursday, December 25 CLOSED
Wednesday, December 31 CLOSED • Thursday, January 1 CLOSED
Monday January 19, CLOSED - Martin Luther King Day

Great Reads Schedule for 2014-2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Discussion leader</u>
Dec. 10	Holiday Party		
Jan. 7	Kline, Christina Baker	<i>Orphan Train</i>	Polly Upton
Feb. 11	Russell, Maria Doria	<i>Doc: A Novel</i>	Leslie Walker
Mar. 11	Lurie, Alison	<i>Foreign Affairs</i>	Sandy Nelson
Apr. 8	Doig, Ivan	<i>The House of Sky</i>	Nancy Coney
May 13	Morrison, Toni	<i>Sula</i>	Helena Lira

Great Reads is an adult reading/discussion group sponsored by the Friends of the Macomb Public Library. From September through May (except for December) it meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Everly House, 811 S. Lafayette, until the library renovation is completed. Books are available at the Library, through inter-library loan or can be ordered from New Copperfield's.

Mystery Book Club Schedule for 2014-2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Discussion Leader</u>
Dec. 10	Holiday Party		
Jan. 28	Estleman, Loren D.	<i>Frames</i>	Lois Ganyard
Feb. 25	Dunning, John	<i>Booked to Die</i>	Judy Kerr
Mar. 25	Mankell, Henning	<i>Faceless Killer</i>	Mel Kerr
Apr. 22	Anthony, Michael David	<i>The Beckett Factor</i>	Bill Burton
May 27	Penny, Louise	<i>A Trick of the Light</i>	Julie Tomlianovich

The Friends of the Library Mystery Book Club meets from 7-8 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month (*except November) at the Everly House until our new library is ready. It is a discussion group of reading adults who read the books ahead of time and come to share views. A member serves as a discussion leader. There are no dues, just conversation and occasional treats. Books are available from New Copperfield's and the library. New members are welcome at any meeting.