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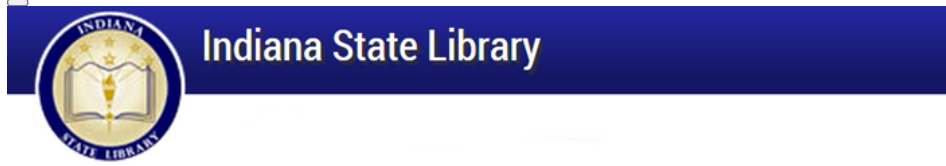
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Wednesday Word │ September 18, 2024

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Wednesday Word
The latest in Indiana library news

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Indiana library jobs

This week's new Indiana library jobs

Library Assistant – Youth Services Department (part-time)
Crawfordsville District Public Library

Librarian
Goshen Public Library

Public Services Librarian - Juvenile Focus
Indianapolis Public Library

Archive Assistant (part-time)
Putnam County Public Library

Art and Design Librarian
University Library at Indiana

Akron Carnegie Public Library holds first annual Potato Derby

Last month, the Akron Carnegie Public Library held its first annual Potato Derby, an event in which participants crafted race cars from potatoes. A week before the Potato Derby, patrons of all ages chose their potato from a bin and picked up their potato kit, which consisted of four wheels, two axels and the contest rules.

"Looking for new program ideas, I did a search for unique upcoming national holidays, and National Potato Day - which was on Aug. 19 - intrigued me. After a quick search revealed someone doing a Potato Derby and knowing that we had wheels and axels that were leftover from the summer reading program, I thought this would be fun to try," said Akron Carnegie Public Library program director Julie Canada.

Participants were encouraged to be creative and decorate their potato however they liked. Outside of the double elimination of the actual downhill racing - which awarded participant medals - the library had eight total award categories in which the racers could win plaques, including Funniest Car, Best Spud-Themed Car, Fastest-Looking Car, Best Looking and Most Likely to be on the Cover of Spud Smart Magazine, which is an actual magazine. Additionally, Racer's Choice was voted on by the registered racers; People's Choice

Upcoming workshops and important dates

Difference is You Support Staff Conference
When: Sept. 20, 9 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
Where: Indiana State Library

What's Up Wednesday: Adult Programming Made Easy
When: Sept. 25, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

Every Child Ready to Read and School Readiness in Storytime
When: Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Where: Vigo County Public Library

Every Child Ready to Read and School Readiness in Storytime
When: Oct. 4, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Where: Hamilton East Public Library

What's Up Wednesday: New Escape Room Kits from ISL!
When: Oct. 9, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

Professional Development Roundtable
When: Oct. 10, 2-3 p.m.
Where: Webinar

Every Child Ready to Read and School Readiness in Storytime
When: Oct. 11, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Where: Peabody Public Library

New Escape Room Kits from ISL! - In-person Workshop
When: Oct. 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Central Time
Where: Crown Point Community Library

New Escape Room Kits from ISL! - In-person Workshop
When: Oct. 23, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Where: Jennings County Public Library

New Escape Room Kits from ISL! - In-person Workshop
When: Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Where: Anderson Public Library

University Indianapolis

Those who would like their Indiana library job posting to be listed in the Wednesday Word must submit the position and its description to the Indiana State Library. Click here for submission guidelines and to submit.

In the news

Fireside Fall Concert Series at Bedford Public Library begins the season with harp music
Bedford Public Library

Allen County Public Library chugging along in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library campaign
Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana

Franklin College adds books on DEI to library with grant
Franklin College

Goshen Public Library celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with events for everyone
Goshen Public Library

Hamilton East Public Library considers building a new branch
Hamilton East Public Library

Hamilton East Public Library offers cultural and civic programming for 'Welcoming Week'
Hamilton East Public Library

Noblesville library celebrates successful 'Party in the Plaza' event
Hamilton East Public Library

Hancock County Public Library offers free visits to historical sites
Hancock County Public Library

Expect growth at Huntingburg Public Library
Huntingburg Public Library

Submissions now open for 2024 Slammin' Rhymes Challenge
Indianapolis Public Library

Stringfellow retires as JCPL library director after 18 years
Jasper County Public Library

Nearly finished mural turning heads
LaPorte County Public Library

The Lilly Library gives romance the spotlight in new exhibit
Lilly Library at Indiana University

'Staying Scam Safe' program offered at Milford Public Library
Milford Public Library

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was voted on by spectators; and Most Creative was voted on by library staff.

The rules of the Potato Derby were as follows: If a car crashed, it automatically went to the loser's bracket. If both potatoes crashed, the heat was rerun. If they both still crashed, both cars were required to make a pit stop to try and resolve the problem with the help of their chief crew master until the next race began. If the car jumped the track and got in the way of their opponent, the jump tracker car went to the loser's bracket. Each pit area was identified by a different potato variety: sweet potato, Yukon gold, red potato, Russian Blue, Russet and purple potato.

Participant medals and category winner plaques were provided by Read's Racing. Justice Bogle took home top honors by winning six heats.

"As kids were leaving, they were asking us, 'Can we do this next year?' So, I'm adding it to the calendar and, yes, we do look forward to doing this again next year," Canada said.

Call for entries for Indiana Statehood Day Essay Contest

The Indiana Center for the Book is hosting an essay competition to commemorate Indiana's 208th Statehood Day. This year's theme is "Learning IN Indiana." The Statehood Day Essay Contest takes place annually in the fall and is open to all Indiana fourth graders.

Essays should be well organized and reflective of the theme "Learning IN Indiana." Judges are looking forward to seeing students' interpretation of the theme. The theme can encompass all kinds of learning, like travel, reading, experiences, passions and more. The committee hopes that the theme will build awareness and appreciation for the Hoosier state.

Winners of the essay contest will be honored on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at in-person ceremonies at the Indiana Statehouse and the Indiana State Museum. The winners will be expected to record their essays as well.

Each winner - first place through fourth place - will receive a CollegeChoice 529 deposit of $529 made possible by the Indiana Education Savings Authority.


Genealogy and Local History Fair
When: Oct. 26, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Where: Indiana State Library

What's Up Wednesday - Video Game Collections in Libraries, Part One: #1: The 'Why,' 'What' and 'How' of Selection and Acquisition
When: Oct. 30, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Where: Webinar

Welcome to Digital Collection Highlights. Every other week, librarians at the Indiana State Library share images from the library's ever-growing digital collections. Visit the Digital Collections page to view the latest additions.

'The Bellville Tragedy'
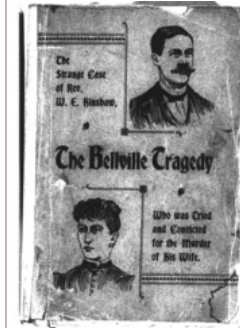
Librarians are not usually aware of every item in their collection. A collection is cataloged, and they can usually find what they're looking for when they need to. Despite doing reference work, stacks maintenance and shifting, there are many items that librarians may never cross paths with. It often takes a researcher's request to bring an item to a librarian's attention.

Sometimes, librarians digitize the newly rediscovered item so they can make it accessible and bring it to light. These items don't have to be Magna Carta level historical documents to be interesting. In a recent instance at the Indiana State Library, it was a pulp edition account of a crime that occurred in Belleville, Indiana in 1895, "The Bellville Tragedy: Story of the Trial and Conviction of Rev. W.E. Hinshaw for the Murder of His Wife." The edition put out by the Sentinel Printing Company spelled the town's name wrong. Belleville is located on US 40 in Hendricks County. The trial took place in Danville. Researchers may notice that the Indiana State Library not only adds digitized items to Indiana Memory, but also to the Internet Archive. Read about the trial here.

County approves bonds for Mishawaka library renovations
Mishawaka-Penn-Harris Public Library System

DIY to the rescue: 10 librarian-tested passive programs
Nappanee Public Library

Discover the library's Terrarium Fairy Garden
North Webster Community Public Library

Sheridan veterans keeping history alive at local library
Sheridan Public Library

Author, Notre Dame grad to discuss Lincoln Highway trek at St. Joseph County Public Library
St. Joseph County Public Library

'Staying Scam Safe' program offered at Warsaw library
Warsaw Community Public Library

Visit the new StoryWalk
Warsaw Community Public Library

Warsaw library continues building feasibility study
Warsaw Community Public Library

Is your library making news?

Email news links for inclusion in the Wednesday Word's "In the news" section.

To be featured in the Wednesday Word, please email a press release and a photo.
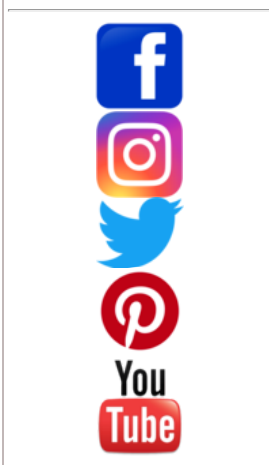
State Library blog

Follow the Indiana State Library's blog for weekly posts covering all aspects of the State Library.

Indiana library employees who would like to contribute a guest blog, please send an email with an idea.

Miss an issue of the Wednesday Word?

Back issues of the Wednesday Word are available here.

The essay contest rules are as follows:

- The competition is open to any Indiana fourth grade public, private or homeschooled student in the 2024-25 school year.

- A panel of judges, including Indiana State Library staff and volunteer educators, will choose the first, second, third and fourth place winners.

- Essays must range from 100 to 300 words; handwritten or typed and must be submitted with an entry form.

- Individual entries should use the 2024 individual entry form and class sets should use the 2024 class entry form. The following information should be included on each essay for class sets: student name, teacher name and school name.

- All entries may be mailed or emailed and must be received by Friday, Oct. 25.

- Mailed entry forms can be sent to: Indiana Center for the Book Indiana State Library 140 N. Senate Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46204.

- Emailed entry forms can be sent to this email address as an attachment.

Click here for more information about the 2024 Statehood Day essay contest, including lesson plans for teachers, and to view the 2023 winning essays.

Please contact Suzanne Walker, Indiana Center for the Book director, with any questions.

'What's Up Wednesday: Adult Programming Made Easy' webinar scheduled for next week

As part of the State Library's What's Up Wednesday series, "Adult Programming Made Easy" will be presented on Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 10-11 a.m.

The free training webinar will be presented by Lacey Klemm, Northwest regional coordinator at the Indiana State Library.

"Programming for adults doesn't have to be complicated. They say that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery and I have gathered 12 programming ideas, complete with

The Indiana State Library does not own a print copy. The library only has a microfilmed version, so a librarian would not have come across this item doing a shelf read or collection maintenance work. Yay for researchers!

PALNI and PALCI awarded IMLS grant to enhance and sustain Hyku open-source community

The Partnership for Academic Library Collaboration and Innovation and the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana have announced that they have been awarded a $248,600 grant for Sustaining the Hyku Repository Platform: Addressing Hyku's Unique Community Coordination and Collaboration Challenges.

The two-year grant is one of 85 given by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to support libraries and archival services across the country and was made through the National Leadership Grants for Libraries and the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. It aims to strengthen collaborative efforts to ensure Hyku remains a viable, efficient and sustainable solution for managing and preserving digital content across a diverse range of institutions.

"Open-source infrastructure software like Hyku allows libraries, museums and other cultural institutions to create customized solutions while enabling them to collaborate on managing these services more effectively and cost-efficiently," says Kirsten Leonard, PALNI executive director. "This project aims to support a community organizational structure that enhances software development efficiency while allowing each project to prioritize its specific needs."

Hyku, a multi-tenant repository software within the Samvera open-source community, provides a cost-effective and user-friendly platform for institutions to manage, preserve and provide access to digital collections, including academic papers and archival materials. Since 2018, PALCI and PALNI have played a significant role in Hyku's development, supported by two previous IMLS grants under their Hyku for Consortia initiative.

With this newly awarded grant, PALCI and PALNI will enhance Hyku's community stewardship overall, leveraging the expertise,

Free training for librarians and library employees on LinkedIn Learning

instructions, for your library to use. These programs are adaptable to any budget," Klemm said.

The webinar is eligible for one LEU for Indiana Library staff. Click here to read the State Library's LEU policies. Click here to read more about "Adult Programming Made Easy" and to register.

Please contact Lacey Klemm with any questions about the program.

resources and investments of diverse Samvera community members - including both large and small Hyku implementers and users, Hyrax users and service providers like Software Services by Scientist.com.

Read the full PALNI press release here.

Indiana State Library, 315 W. Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. www.in.gov/library/

The Wednesday Word is a free publication of the Indiana State Library. Past issues are archived at the State Library's Newsroom.