



Library Board President Bekah DeYoung, Teen Librarian Sarah Joynt, James Arnold, Library Director Audrey Betcher, and City Administrator Steve Rymer attended the National Medal ceremony in Washington, D.C. earlier this year.

LIBRARY HOSTS BLOCK PARTY & STORYCORPS VISIT AS PART OF NATIONAL MEDAL WIN

Following a ceremony in Washington, D.C. in late spring, Rochester continues to celebrate the library's National Medal win with an outdoor block party and a visit from StoryCorps.

"The ceremony really marked the beginning of a year-long celebration," says Library Director Audrey Betcher, acknowledging a series of milestones in 2018.

In September, the City of Rochester, along with the Rochester Public Library Foundation and Friends of the Rochester Public Library, will be hosting an outdoor block party for the community to celebrate the win. This all-ages event will feature music, free food, games, art activities, and more (see invite on the back cover).

The national spotlight returns in October, as StoryCorps visits RPL for a three-day

recording session. StoryCorps, a national non-profit dedicated to recording, preserving, and sharing the stories of Americans, will visit RPL October 15-17. The sessions happen between two people who know and care about each other and are lead by a trained StoryCorps facilitator. At the end of each 40-minute session, the interviewees receive a digital link to their recording and one interview will be archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. Additionally, all of the recordings will be available through the Rochester Public Library Oral History collection (<http://bit.ly/OurOlmsted>).

For more information about the StoryCorps visit or the RPL Block Party, contact Karen Lemke at klemke@rochester.lib.mn.us.

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DOUBLE YOUR DIGITAL

SELCO (Southeastern Libraries Cooperating) and Rochester Public Library (RPL) are teaming up to offer more digital titles to southeast Minnesota residents.

Under the OverDrive Reciprocal Lending Agreement, library cardholders now have greater access to e-books and audiobooks in each organization's OverDrive digital collection. The agreement allows the regional library system and RPL to offer digital books in a way similar to how the two organizations share physical materials.

"Our patrons have been requesting this type of service for years," explains RPL's Head of Readers Services, Kim Edson. "The lending option wasn't available previously, but it's been something we've investigated with SELCO over the years."

The agreement, approved earlier this year and launched in June, is rather unique: RPL and SELCO are among some of the first organizations in the country to offer this type of arrangement.

To access the new digital content, start by visiting: <http://bit.ly/RPLdigital>

GET YOUR NEW CARD

Helen Kolb and Herb Erickson were the first to receive new library cards after they were released on August 2nd. Five designs are now available to choose from.

JOINT EFFORT SUPPORTS SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

A new partnership with the University of Minnesota Rochester is merging science and storytime, and allowing college students to share the concepts they're learning with younger audiences.

Kelsey Metzger, Assistant Professor of Life Sciences at UMR, says the project allows for further collaboration between two existing partners. "With an internal call for mini-grant proposals for UMR faculty to design opportunities for students to engage in academic projects in partnership with community partners, it occurred to me that having students develop content for Science Storytime would be a great way to expand my collaboration with the library."

During the spring 2018 semester at UMR, Metzger's first-year biology students created Storytime lesson plans, with a goal of sharing them with the library. To help college students design their projects for the grade-school target age and align with appropriate learning goals, the class referred to the Next Generation Science Standards and the Minnesota State Science Standards.

"Designing a Science Storytime provided a novel outlet through which students could demonstrate their emerging biological expertise, and take ownership of their role in contributing to science literacy in our society," says Metzger.

One of Metzger's students, Kaitlyn Kottke, says her group focused on genetic inheritance. Using Dr. Suess' book, *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*, Kottke says her group

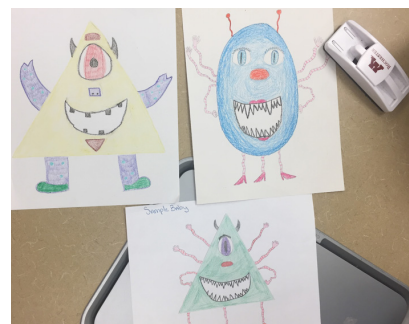
was able to create a Storytime lesson that provides a basic introduction to genes.

Kottke's group added a craft to their Storytime project, focused on creating monsters. "My group and I really enjoyed creating this project," says Kottke, "It made us take information we had learned during the school year and reteach it, but in a vocabulary a younger child could understand."

Metzger says Science Storytimes can help fulfill a need in communities. "Not everybody has the opportunity to pursue formal education beyond K-12, and not everybody who does pursues learning opportunities in the sciences. At the same time, we know that science literacy is critically important for an informed and productive society."

Some of Metzger's students may go beyond the formal requirements of completing the project and share their Storytimes at the library. Meanwhile, RPL hosts Science Storytime events on the first Wednesday of each month, starting at 10AM.

The community partner project was funded by an Engaged Department Grant from the University of Minnesota Office of Public Engagement, awarded to faculty in the Center for Learning Innovation at University of Minnesota Rochester.





FOUR DECADES LATER, MOE RETIRES

When Louise Moe first started as the library's Head of Reference, it was an interim gig.

"I was hired to help out until they could hire someone permanent," says Moe, adding, "They did advertise and interview others, but I guess I had taken advantage of the opportunity to earn the job."

The Head of Reference at the time wanted to take a sabbatical, something the City of Rochester didn't allow. Moe, who first started working by volunteering to index *Post Bulletin* articles, went on to serve in the leadership position for 45 years.

Over that time Moe saw the fall of the card catalog, the introduction of microfiche, and eventually the rise of

online catalogs and digital materials.

Moe says the constant changes kept her from getting bored in her job, and she also says she "worked with absolutely wonderful people" during her four-decade career.

Colleagues say working with Moe was also a pleasure. "She was a servant-leader," says Librarian Susan Hansen, who worked with Louise for over 28 years. "Louise wasn't afraid to shelve books, move equipment, or fill in desk shifts when needed."

Beyond helping those in the Reference division, Hansen says Moe was also dedicated to her community. "She cared that people could find the information they needed, in whatever format they needed it in."



And while Moe is no longer serving in the library profession, she says she hopes the commitment to service continues in libraries. "We are the one place people go where it doesn't matter who they are, how much money they have, whether they have been a customer – we are there to serve them and to help them find what they need or want," Moe explains.



MOVIES TO SEE BEFORE YOU DIE

Vernon Neal has a passion for films and for the last two years, he's been sharing that passion at his "Movies to See Before You Die" series at Rochester Public Library.

The idea for the series came from the film reference book

"1001 Movies to See Before You Die." Neal has worked his way through more than half of the book, having watched 538 of the films listed.

At each event, Neal shows the film and then leads a

short discussion afterwards. As a former freelance film critic, Neal is also able to provide insight into the films and actors.

"Writing for a newspaper gave me the chance to meet various celebrities like Duke Ellington, Chuck Norris, Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner, Danny Devito, Dizzy Gillespie, Alex Hailey, Denzel Washington, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Edward James Olmos, Robert Townsend, Edward Asner, Tony Todd, Samuel L. Jackson, Ernie Hudson, and others," says Neal.

Starting in 2019, the series will be a regular event, happening every month.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What an exciting time for the City of Rochester, the Rochester Public Library and all community members and library supporters, as we continue to celebrate the National Medal win! At the Library Foundation, we are so proud and honored to be associated with such amazing staff and a library full of outstanding resources. This National Medal win should be front page news throughout Rochester. We need your help to ensure our City and County Leadership are as proud of the Library as we are.

We need you to:

- ◆ Show your financial support to help fund extraordinary services, programs and materials collections that make us an award-winning library.
- ◆ Help advocate for more city funding to expand our presence and programming.
- ◆ Attend our Medal Celebration Block Party on September 9 from 2-5 pm and share in the success.
- ◆ Show your support for your amazing library staff, who are doing an excellent job representing the City of Rochester.

Summer also means many people reading and exploring by participating in the Summer Playlist. The library is overflowing with kids and families learning, sharing and exploring. There are many ways you can support and recognize the Library's Medal win. Please consider giving online at <http://bit.ly/RPLdonate> or by mail. You can also support us year-round via IBM Retiree Matching, Thrivent, Amazon Prime, United Way, Community Contributions, etc. Check out that info on this page as well. Your financial support makes all things possible. Soak up Summer and Celebrate You by contributing online or via the enclosed envelope.

Vicki Allen

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Rochester Public
Library Foundation
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For more information about these giving options and others, call 507.328.2387. The Rochester Public Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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Marilyn Harstad

IN HONOR

Erin Barreto *in celebration of Frances Landgraf's 1st Birthday*
Erin Barreto *in celebration of Louise Merritt's 1st Birthday*
Jane & Mary Campion *in honor of the staff at RPL*

Louise Moe *in honor of RPL ILL Reference Staff*
Barbara Westmoreland *in honor of the library receiving the National Medal Award*



Library Director Audrey Betcher; Ken Allsen, Mike Fogarty, Kirk Kottschade from Valley of Rochester Scottish Rite; RPLF Development Chair Justin Davis (back row); RRC Coordinator Gail Harris and RPLF Executive Director Vicki Allen (front row)

GRANT MATCH NETS \$33K+

A check from the Valley of Rochester Scottish Rite Children's Foundation was presented to the library earlier this year, following a matching grant fundraising campaign. In all, \$16,746.22 was raised by community donations, which was matched by the Scottish Rite.



Pictured from L to R: Tracy McCray, Justin Davis, Dr. Alan Sessler, Vicki Allen, Malea Schroeder, Beth Nienow, and Joanne Rosener

ASSOCIATED BANK DONATES \$5K

Members of the Library Foundation Development Committee were thrilled to receive a \$5000 grant from Associated Bank in July.

A PROBLEM FINDS A SOLUTION THANKS TO FRIENDS



In recent months, the Friends have used large tables near the library self-check machines to display coffee table books for sale. The sales have been very successful for the Friends' Book Store, but the amount of tables and increased summer traffic caused a bit of a traffic jam leading into the Children's area.

A solution was found thanks to the generosity of Nigon Woodworks, People's Energy Cooperative's "Operation Round Up" Grant, and Ryan Roofing and Siding Inc.

Four rolling shelves, designed by Nigon, will allow for better book displays and browsing for our Book Store customers.

The Operation Round Up grant will fund three of the rolling shelves and the Ryan donation will fund the fourth.

Nigon designed the shelves, and is also donating the wood, the labor, the building and the finishing of the four shelves.

The Friends of the Library have great Friends!

FRIENDS' AUTUMN BOOKSALE

THURS., OCT. 11 5-7PM*

**(Friends-only Preview Sale.*

You can sign up at the door

Thursday night to become a member)

FRI., OCT. 12 9:30AM-5PM

SAT., OCT. 13 9:30AM-5PM

SUN., OCT. 14 1:30-4PM

We have a huge selection of hardcover and paperback fiction, thousands of children's books and many categories of nonfiction-including History, Cookbooks, Biography, Home and Garden, Science and Reference.

FRIENDS' BOOK STORE HOURS

MONDAY 10AM-7PM

TUESDAY 10AM-4PM

WEDNESDAY 10AM-7PM

THURSDAY 10AM-7PM

FRIDAY 10AM-4PM

SATURDAY (school year) 10AM-4PM

SATURDAY (summer) 10AM-1PM

SUNDAY (school year) 1:30-4:30PM

SUNDAY (summer) Closed

**Summer hours are from Memorial Day to Labor Day.*



BRUNHILDA VISIT HITS HIGH NOTE

A special sidewalk sale featured the likes of Brunhilda, serenading shoppers as they browsed through books and a special collection of opera music.

Brunhilda's alter ego, Pat Stephenson, said the sidewalk sale not only brought in donations to the Friends' Book Store, it also allowed the Friends to find the perfect home for a recent donation of opera CDs.

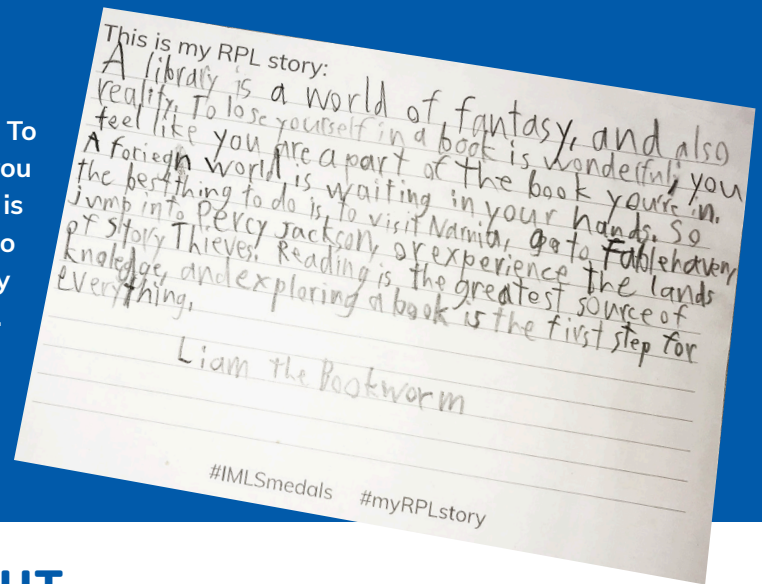
"This was a large collection," Stephenson said, adding "With our space maxed out in the Book Store, it was nice to find a home for the CDs."

The Friends' Book Store often receives unique donations to sell in the store. For more information about store hours or upcoming auditorium sales, visit: <http://bit.ly/RPLfriends>

THIS IS MY RPL STORY

A library is a world of fantasy, and also reality. To lose yourself in a book is wonderful; you feel like you are a part of the book you're in. A foreign world is waiting in your hands. The best thing to do is to visit Narnia, get to Fablehaven, jump into Percy Jackson, or experience the lands of Story Thieves. Reading is the greatest source of knowledge, and exploring a book is the first step for everything.

- Liam the Bookworm (RPL patron)

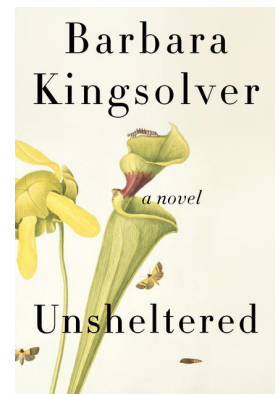


BOOKS WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT

Fiction - *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver

When magazine editor Willa Knox and her professor husband lose their jobs at the same time, their only asset is an inherited house in Vineland. Riddled with structural problems, the house is their only hope of keeping their family afloat. Bewildered by an uncertain future, Willa begins researching previous inhabitants of the house and is drawn into the lives of scientist Thatcher Greenwood, and his neighbor, naturalist Mary Treat, who lived on the property in the 1870s. Alternating with Willa's story, we learn about Thatcher's love for Mary and his support for radical ideas which threaten his job and marriage. With a rich story, and a compelling depiction of uncertain times, *Unsheltered* is Kingsolver at her best.

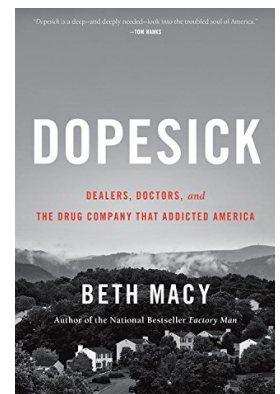
<http://bit.ly/2uVgQpV>



Nonfiction - *Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company that Addicted America* by Beth Macy

From the author of *Factory Man*, comes a comprehensive overview of the opioid crisis in America. Beginning with a single high school football star who turns into a statistic about heroin overdoses, Macy sets out to answer a grieving mother's question – why did her only son die? The question takes her from the rise of medical culture in the 1990s to the pain of joblessness in distressed communities, from wealthy suburbs to Central Appalachia, and from crumbling cities to once-idyllic farm towns. Through unflinching but deeply sympathetic portraits of families and first responders in the middle of the epidemic, each facet of the crisis comes into focus in this heartbreaking book that illustrates how the opioid crisis has persisted for so long and has become so firmly entrenched in our communities.

<http://bit.ly/2uWi8kK>



Genre - *An Easy Death* by Charlaine Harris (Mystery/Fantasy)

Harris is best known for her Southern Vampire series of mysteries, which inspired the television show *True Blood*, and she's back with another suspenseful series featuring a quirky main character. Set in an alternate United States which fractured apart after the assassination of Franklin Roosevelt and the Great Depression, Lizbeth Rose lives in a southwestern country known as Texoma. Lizbeth is a gunslinger who mistrusts magic but, desperate for work, she takes job with some Russian wizards looking for a descendant of Rasputin. As the trio begin their search, it's clear that a powerful force does not want them to succeed. Lizbeth has never failed a client yet, but this job will take all her skills if they're going to survive.

<http://bit.ly/2Anxowi>





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LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:30AM - 9:00PM

FRIDAY
9:30AM - 5:30PM

SATURDAY (school year)
9:30 - 5:30PM

SUNDAY (school year)
1:30PM - 5:30PM

SATURDAY (summer)
9:30AM - 1:30PM

SUNDAY (summer)
CLOSED

*School hours start the day after
Labor Day: Tuesday, September 4th.*

507.328.2300 | www.rplmn.org

Audrey Betcher, Library Director

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Nicole Henry, Layout/Design



RPL BLOCK PARTY

Celebrate Rochester Public Library's National Medal win with a special outdoor Block Party!
Free food, games, art activities, and more!

Sunday, September 9th

101 2nd Street SE | 2-5PM

** All events will be held outside in the street in front of the library, weather permitting. In the case of bad weather, the party will move indoors.*

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