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Wednesday Word

The latest in Indiana library news

In This Issue

- [Indiana library jobs](#)
- [In the news](#)
- [State Library welcomes new Talking Book and Braille Library supervisor](#)
- [Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Book Award Committee announces ballot](#)
- [ACPL recognizes Black History Month](#)
- [Upcoming workshops and important dates](#)
- [Indiana Dunes aerial photos](#)
- ['African American Genealogy Workshop' scheduled for Feb. 25 in Kokomo](#)

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Indiana library jobs



This week's new Indiana library jobs

[Librarian](#)

Allen County Public Library

[Authority and Bibliographic Control Librarian](#)

Ball State University Libraries

[Public Services Specialist \(part-time\)](#)

Eckhart Public Library

[Library Assistant](#)

Gas City-Mill Township Public Library

[Public Services Librarian](#)

Hamilton East Public Library

State Library welcomes new Talking Book and Braille Library supervisor



The Indiana State Library is pleased to announce Judy Gray as the new Talking Book and Braille Library supervisor.

Prior to working for the Indiana State Library, Gray spent 23 years working for the Indianapolis Public Library. She joined the staff of the Indianapolis Public Library as a circulation assistant while she completed her master's degree in library science from Indiana University. She then progressed to a librarian, a community branch manager and a regional branch manager; always staying in patron service roles.

"Helping patrons find what they need has always been my favorite part of being a librarian," Gray said.

For relaxation, she likes to read, watch sports and spend time with her family. However, her main hobby is volunteering her free time at the Whitewater Valley Railroad Museum in Connersville, where she is the archivist, brakeman, conductor and engineer for their passenger trains.

Upcoming workshops and important dates

[Educational and Community Resources for Ukrainian Refugee Children in Indiana](#)

When: Feb. 9, 9-10 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[Using Book Connections at the Public Library](#)

When: Feb. 15, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[Summer Reading Virtual Roundtable](#)

When: Feb. 16, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[What's Up Wednesday - Facilitating Community Inquiry: Using](#)

[Questions to Support Change](#)

When: Feb. 22, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[All Together Now! CSLP 2023 Training and Roundtable \(All Ages\) - Rescheduled](#)

When: Feb. 27, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Muncie Public Library - Maring-Hunt Branch

[Powered by Sunshine: How Solar Projects Benefit Libraries and Their Communities](#)

When: March 8, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[Summer Reading Virtual Roundtable](#)

When: March 15, 1-2 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[Webmaster Roundtable](#)

When: March 21, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Peabody Public Library and virtual

[What's Up Wednesday - All Free for the Finding: Digging Up Family History for Free on the Internet](#)

When: March 29, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

[Get Ready to Recommend: Using Book Connections for Reader's Advisory](#)

- [Genealogy and Local History Specialist \(part-time\)](#)
Lawrenceburg Public Library District
- [Youth Services Specialist \(part-time\)](#)
Lawrenceburg Public Library District
- [Clerk II – Youth Services \(part-time\)](#)
Michigan City Public Library
- [Director of Operations](#)
Monroe County Public Library
- [Children's Librarian](#)
Moossville Public Library

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



- [Chamber dinner successful](#)
Batesville Memorial Public Library
- [Lake, LaPorte and Crown Point libraries all phase out most late fines](#)
Crown Point Community Library, Lake County Public Library and LaPorte County Public Library
- [Winfield library books improvements](#)
Crown Point Community Library
- ['Hearts for Heroes' program returns to all Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library locations](#)
Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library
- [A place to connect: New Tuesday Morning Club offers seniors a chance to meet at local library](#)
Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library
- [Hamilton County library reviews policy to relocate some children's books](#)
Hamilton East Public Library
- [Knightstown Public Library: A grand jewel](#)
Knightstown Public Library
- [Winter story time begins at Milford Public Library](#)
Milford Public Library
- [New Castle-Henry County Public Library: Live, learn and grow](#)
New Castle-Henry County Public Library
- [Keymark to lead renovation for 12 Points library](#)
Vigo County Public Library

Gray is super excited about the new challenges ahead for her in the Talking Book and Braille Library. She can be reached at 317-232-0609 or [via email](#).

Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Book Award Committee announces ballot



Five picture books have been selected to appear on the ballot for the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Book Award. The award is an initiative of the Indiana Center for the Book developed to promote early childhood literacy in Indiana. This year's selected books are: "Bathe the Cat" by Alice B. McGinty, "A Good Place" by Lucy Cousins, "Mel Fell" by Corey R. Tabor, "Paletero Man" by Lucky Diaz and "Room for Everyone" by Naaz Khan.

The nominees are chosen by the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Committee from a list of books nominated by Indiana library staff who work with children. Books are chosen for their ability to encourage parents and children to practice talking, singing, reading, writing and playing together, all components of a rich early literacy environment.

Indiana children ages 0-5 may vote one time for the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award. Families can either use [the remote voting form](#) or they can visit their local public library to learn more about the award and to participate. Votes are collected from Feb. 1 through June 30 each year. The book that garners the most votes wins the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award. The award is announced in early August each year.

The Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award Committee will be releasing a program guide to go along with the five books. The program guide will be available [here](#) in coming weeks.

The Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award program is administered by the Indiana Center for the Book housed in the Indiana State Library.

Please contact [Suzanne Walker](#), Indiana Young Readers Center librarian at the Indiana State Library, with any questions.

When: March 30, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Where: Webinar

[What the Research Says - A Week in the Life of an Academic Video Game Collection](#)
When: April 5, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

[Professional Development Roundtable](#)
When: April 6, 2-3 p.m.
Where: Webinar

[Inspiring Library Growth Through Outreach](#)
When: April 12, 10-11 a.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.

Indiana Dunes aerial photos



These [aerial photographs](#) of the Indiana Dunes lakeshore are from the Indiana State Library's Manuscripts Division's General Photograph collection. They were likely taken during the 1930s by the 113th Observation Squad of the Indiana National Guard.

The photographs are all from Porter County. Erosion has caused shrinking shorelines throughout this region, including Beverly Shores, Ogden Dunes and Portage. Photographs like these show important changes along the coastline over the years. Some of the land shown became a National Lakeshore in 1966 and, finally, a National Park in 2019. The Indiana Dunes State Park now exists within the confines of the National Park boundaries.

The Indiana Dunes State Park Pavilion was constructed during 1929 and 1930 and restored during the 2010s. The aerial image that includes the pavilion shows it not long after its opening. The 113th Observation Squadron is one of the 29 original National Guard

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](#).

Free training for librarians and library employees on LinkedIn Learning



ACPL recognizes Black History Month



Throughout the month of February, the Allen County Public Library invites the community to celebrate Black History Month with a variety of programs, presentations and experiences that celebrate Black heritage and success.

The library will conduct a "Sneakerhead Art Contest" in partnership with the Fort Wayne Mad Ants. "Sneakerheads" have a deep appreciation for sneakers and sneaker culture which have been a long-standing source of art, expression, fashion and function in the Black community. Students in grades kindergarten through 12 are invited to create their own colorful dream-shoe design and enter to win a prize. The top finalist submissions will be judged by players from the Fort Wayne Mad Ants, who will select the first-place winner. Youth can participate by stopping by any ACPL branch or by downloading the contest forms [here](#). The contest will run through Feb. 28.

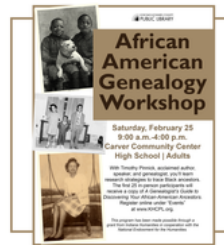
In addition to the contest and hosting Kristal Walker, vice president of employee wellbeing at Sweetwater who spoke on Feb. 1, the library will present the following programs:

- Free breakfast on multiple dates at multiple locations. Visit the library's [website](#) for details.
- Sit-in commemoration on multiple dates at multiple locations. Visit the library's [website](#) for details.
- Movie night at the library featuring "Till," on [Feb. 16 at the main branch](#).
- "African American Read-In" on [Feb. 21 at the Pontiac branch](#).

All events are free and open to the public. For more information about Black History Month activities, patrons can call 260-421-1200 or visit a [local ACPL branch](#).

Observation Squadrons formed before World War II.

'African American Genealogy Workshop' scheduled for Feb. 25 in Kokomo



On Saturday Feb, 25, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library will present "African American Genealogy Workshop," which will be held in-person and virtually. The in-person event will be held at the Carver Community Center in Kokomo.

Presenter Timothy Pinnick, acclaimed author, speaker and genealogist, will teach research strategies in addition to showing attendees how to use specific documents to trace Black ancestors. The first 25 in-person participants will receive a copy of "A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African American Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage."

This workshop is eligible for up to six LEUs for Indiana library staff.

Registration is required. Click [here](#) to register. Attendees will have the option of choosing to attend the workshop virtually or in person.

The Carver Community Center is located at 1030 N. Purdum St. in Kokomo.

Please contact [Matthew Behnke](#), adult and teen reference librarian at the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library, with any questions about the "African American Genealogy Workshop."

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