Technical Services is the Heart behind the St. Charles Public Library’s Collection

Ever wonder how the Library decides what to put on the shelves, who repairs materials when they get damaged, and how the latest new releases are always available at the Library? The answer lies with the St. Charles Public Library’s Technical Services Department.

Located in the lower level of the Library, the dedicated Tech Services team serves as the unseen beating heart of the Library collection. As Department Manager Amanda Kaiser puts it, “Tech Services cares for every item in our collection for its entire lifespan, from the moment it enters our Library, to the moment that the barcode is removed and the item finds a new home. A library book’s life journey starts here and ends here.”

The Tech Services team is responsible for purchasing materials to stock our shelves, while simultaneously taking old or unused materials out of circulation in order to keep the Library collection fresh and up to date. The Library has 17 material selectors in both the Adult and Youth Services departments that keep track of what’s “hot” by noting what patrons are asking for the most, and by following library trends across the country.

After receiving requests from the selectors, the Tech Services staff gets to work on getting those hot new releases on our shelves as quickly as possible. Using special software, the team can quickly and efficiently order materials from the Library’s AV and print vendors, while simultaneously tracking how much budget the Library has available to spend on items in real time.
Every day, the loading dock doorbell rings in the Tech Services workroom, signaling to the staff that a new shipment of books or AV items has arrived. A staff member rushes upstairs to accept the delivery, and the items are immediately taken to the Tech Services room to be prepared for shelving and circulation.

The Tech Services staff then gets to work on unpacking the materials, inspecting them, and assigning them a Library barcode. From there, the department staff works its “access magic” to create a catalog description of each item. This involves creating access points to ensure the information is accessible to all patrons, sometimes including summaries and table of contents to briefly provide a snapshot of the item to interested patrons.

The efficiency of this system was put on display earlier in September when a hot new release hit bookstores on a Tuesday morning. Tech Services was able to have the books ordered, labeled, and ready for patrons to check out from our collection when the Library opened at 9 a.m. that morning. Seven copies were checked out as soon as they were added to the catalog.

“We purchase to meet our patrons’ needs, and it’s so important that we’re always able to provide access to the best selection of materials for them. And that’s what makes our job fun,” Kaiser said.

Maintaining that collection goes beyond just providing books, too. In order to best meet patron needs, the Library has a diverse selection of items available for checkout including board games, iPads, laptops, engine diagnostic readers, and even a Super Nintendo Entertainment System. Thanks to the continuous partnership between Tech Services and the Library’s 17 material selectors, if you can think of it, the Library more than likely has it.

And when the Library receives a request from a patron for an item that isn’t currently within our walls, Tech Services has their interlibrary loan staff to turn to. The St. Charles Public Library has the ability to share resources with other Libraries across the country, so when an in-demand item isn’t checked out at one library, but is needed at another, the library in need can put out a request and have it delivered to the patron within a couple of weeks. The patron gets what they need, and the library saves money in the process. On average, between 200 and 300 items get delivered to the Library through interlibrary loans every month.

Efficiency is the name of the game in Tech Services. The department orders, catalogs, and processes materials in a constant cycle to maintain the most relevant and helpful library selection for our patrons at all times. So the next time you’re able to find that hot new release or cool new tech item on the shelf at the library, be sure to think of the dedicated staff in Tech Services.
Check out the Latest Tech and Online Services Available to You

- We had a great response to our website survey in September. Your feedback will help us generate improvements in the future. We love hearing from our patrons on any topic that will help our library grow stronger and be more innovative in ways that are relevant to you!

- The Library will be continuing our space planning assessment over the coming months. Look for a dedicated page on our website to come soon where you can find information specific to our space planning and renovation concepts.

As always, feel free to contact me at (630) 584-0076 ext. 273 or e craig@scpld.org. I am always open to your ideas, concerns or general comments about the future of our library. Enjoy your quarterly Discover!

by Edith G. Craig, Library Director

There’s lots of exciting things happening at the Library these days. To make sure you stay up to date, sign up for our eNewsletter at scpld.org/newsletters. Here’s a sneak peek at some of the new and noteworthy happenings:

- We are “brewing up” a new partnership with District 303, and coffee may be coming soon to a local Library near you! More details to come.

Discover some of the new and unique pieces of equipment and online services you may not have known are available right here at the library.

Modernize and preserve your family’s most precious memories by checking out a Wolverine Film or Photo Converter. Our three Wolverine Converters give you the ability to change 8 mm and Super8 film reels, 35mm, photo slides, and negatives into digital video and photo files. We also offer VHS to DVD and VHS to digital file converters.

Is that pesky check engine light not turning off, no matter what you try? Find out what the issue is with our U diag Engine Code Reader. The reader gives you the capability to measure key engine diagnostics and reset any system indicator lights.

Dust off those old Nintendo games and rediscover the classic age of gaming by checking out one of our Nintendo & Super Nintendo Classic Entertainment Systems. Both consoles include standard HDMI plugins to allow you to experience your old classics like never before on your modern TV.

Looking to impress at your next business presentation or family movie night? Try out one of our digital项目ors and projector screens – from 60x60” up to 96x96” available.

Engage your child with an all new reading experience with Vox Books, a new addition to our Youth Services collection. These interactive story books read aloud to kids and play sound effects for an immersive reading experience. Featuring adjustable volume controls and a headphone jack, they’re sure to be a fun addition to any early literacy reading list.

If you book a study room at the library, take your productivity to the next level with our Solstice Wireless Screen Sharing equipment. The software application allows you to effortlessly screencast from your laptop, tablet or phone so everyone in the room can see and be on the same page.

The Library also subscribes to a wide range of online databases and continuing education programs, all free to use with your Library card. Among the newest additions is AtoZ World Foods, featuring recipes and how-to demonstrations for cuisine of all kinds from 174 countries around the globe; Kanopy is a free movie streaming service featuring The Great Courses educational film series, award-winning classics, feature films, documentaries, indie titles and more. You can view all of our databases and online services at scpld.org/articles-databases.

In addition, we offer laptops, Wi-Fi Hotspots, iPads, Kindle eReaders, a GoPro Camera, and so much more. Stop in today to discover all the amazing things you can do with your St. Charles Public Library Card!
What the Staff is Reading

1. **Every Anxious Wave**  
   by Mo Daviau • FIC DAVIAU  
   You find a time machine in your closet – so of course you use it to visit all your favorite bands live in concert, right? This is just the start of a darkly funny yet still hopeful story of love and life-changing events.

2. **My Brilliant Friend**  
   by Elena Ferrante • FIC FERRANTE  
   This character-driven story, set in the 1950s in a poor but vibrant neighborhood on the outskirts of Naples, Italy, really paints a portrait of a friendship. “Given my family history, I think about how, under different circumstances, that could have been me.”

3. **The Bookseller**  
   by Mark Pryor • FIC PRYOR  
   Hugo Marston, a former Texan FBI agent now working security at the U.S. embassy in Paris, investigates the abduction of a bookseller. First in a mystery series filled with puzzles, a strong sense of place, and likeable characters.

4. **Grave Mercy**  
   by Robin LaFevers • YA FIC LAFEVERS  
   Suspenseful historical fiction that reads like a dark fairy tale. Rooted in the history of Brittany in the late 1400s it features nun assassins imbued with mystical powers. Fans of strong female heroes will love this.

5. **Just the Funny Parts... and a Few Hard Truths about Sneaking into the Hollywood Boys’ Club**  
   by Nell Scovell • 791.45023 SCO  
   Funny and often brutally honest “behind the scenes” recounting of how she has navigated the male-dominated world of entertainment.

6. **Educated**  
   by Tara Westover • B WESTOVER  
   “Gripping”, “wrenching” and “shocking” are just a few of the ways staff have described this memoir of a woman who breaks the bonds of family in pursuit of learning. “It opened my eyes to a lifestyle I didn’t believe existed.”

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**2nd Tuesday Book Discussion**

The Library offers two book discussion groups: **Mornings** at 10:00 a.m. and **Evenings** at 7:00 p.m. in the Bisbee Conference Room. If you are a SCPL cardholder and need help getting a copy of the title, please check with the Reference & Reader Services desks. **DROP IN**

**December 11**  
**Morning & Evening**  
*Young Jane Young*  
by Gabrielle Zevin • FIC ZEVIN

**January 8**  
**Morning**  
*Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*  
by Sarah Smarsh • 978.1033 SMA

**February 12**  
**Morning**  
*Circe*  
by Madeline Miller • FIC MILLER

**January 8**  
**Evening**  
*The Giver*  
by Lois Lowry • JH LOWRY

**February 12**  
**Evening**  
*Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*  
by Sarah Smarsh • 978.1033 SMA

For more information on book discussions visit: **scpld.org/bookdiscussions**
Résumé Revamp –
Tell the Story Behind the Story
Wednesday, December 5 • 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room
Career Advancement Coach Lauren Milligan believes that EVERYONE, not just the unemployed, should have an updated and polished résumé. Review each component of a résumé in an interactive way, using real-world examples and class exercises. Learn Lauren’s #1 trade secret that will drastically improve anyone’s résumé in 30 seconds or less, and employment industry secrets that recruiters will not share. Everyone will come out with a better résumé than when the presentation started.
REGISTER or DROP IN

Ace the Interview and Get the Job Offer!
Wednesday, December 12 • 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room
Every job seeker knows that the most stressful part of a job search is the interview. Career Advancement Coach Lauren Milligan will prepare candidates for the toughest interview scenarios, including behavioral questions. Lauren’s presentation shows how to prepare, stay focused and properly follow up after the interview. She will cover the psychology behind certain questions, and how to stay on track, no matter how much interviewers try to throw candidates off their game.
REGISTER or DROP IN

Find Meaningful Employment: Learn & Network with TUG & the Library
Wednesday, December 10 • No meeting December 24 • January 14• January 28
February 11 • February 25 • 6:30–8:45 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Business Librarian Chris Flood welcomes TUG Career Services to help you with career management, job-seeking skills, education and training. Each program includes a presentation by various speakers, followed by networking. 

The Taxman Cometh: Tax Law Changes from 2018 & How They Will Affect Your Return
Wednesday, January 9 • 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room
The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is the most comprehensive piece of tax reform since 1987. Features include lower tax rates for everyone, higher standard deductions, a flat tax rate for corporations, a new 20% deduction on Qualified Business Income and a postcard sized tax form. Will you be paying less tax or getting a bigger refund? Hear Harry Eng, CPA, Enrolled Agent, SCORE Certified Business Mentor and partner in Fox Valley Tax Solutions explain the changes that will affect you or your business and answer any questions you have about the new tax law. Representatives from the Chamber and SCORE will be available to answer your questions.
Presented in partnership with the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce and the Fox Valley SCORE Chapter.
REGISTER or DROP IN

Probate Horror Stories: Don’t Curse Your Beneficiaries
Thursday, February 7 • 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room
It can be challenging to administer an estate without the benefit of any personal direction from the one who is gone or legal guidance from the documents. Join a representative from the Strohschein Law Group of St. Charles to learn more about protecting your financial and personal assets for your beneficiaries.
REGISTER or DROP IN

Program Registration
Registration for all Library programs, with the exception of computer classes, begins Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. Register online at scpld.org, by phone at 630-584-0076 x1 or in person.

ADULT PROGRAMS
### Computer Classes

- Classes are open to St. Charles Public Library cardholders only.
- **NEW!** Register online, by phone or in person at the Adult Reference Desk.
- Class size is limited to 10 people.
- Class cancellations will be posted in the Library and on our website.
- For March classes, registration begins Sunday, February 17 • noon

For complete class descriptions, please visit the Reference Desk or our website: [scpld.org/computer-classes](http://scpld.org/computer-classes). Successful completion of **Computer & Internet Basics** is a prerequisite for all other computer classes offered or ask at the Reference Desk for our checklist to see if you are confident enough with basic computer skills to skip this requirement.

### January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer and Internet Basics</th>
<th>Monday, January 7 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.</th>
<th>Tuesday, January 8 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to MS Word 2016</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 9 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, January 10 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to MS Excel, Level 1</td>
<td>Monday, January 14 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, January 17 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad/iPhone for Beginners</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 15 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 16 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to MS Excel, Level 2</td>
<td>Monday, January 21 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, January 24 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Word 2016: Beyond the Basics</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 22 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 23 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview of Windows 10</td>
<td>Monday, January 28 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 29 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>eBay: Buying and Selling</th>
<th>Monday, February 4 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Tuesday, February 5 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to MS Word 2016</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 6 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, February 7 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Camera &amp; Photo Editing Basics</td>
<td>Monday, February 11 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 12 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Android for Beginners</td>
<td>Monday, February 11 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 12 • 6:30–8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apps of Windows 10</td>
<td>Monday, February 19 • 2:00–4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 26 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS Word 2016: Beyond the Basics</td>
<td>Monday, February 25 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 26 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to MS Excel, Level 3</td>
<td>Thursday, February 28 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 26 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**We’re Gonna Party Like It’s 1818!**

Friday, December 7 • 1:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

Enjoy an afternoon of partying like it’s 1818 with Ellie Carlson to celebrate Illinois becoming the 21st state! Sample the food, have your silhouette made, dance the dances, and hear the music that may have played as Illinois celebrated its birthday 200 years ago.

**REGISTER**

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**St. Charles Writers Group**

Saturdays • 9:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room (HMR)
Carnegie Community Room (CCR)

The St. Charles Writers Group is a creative writing workshop that meets the second and the fourth Saturday of each month. The group, facilitated by Lisa Macaione, is open to all those 18 years of age or older looking for a community of writers and to improve their writing. All genres are welcome. Questions? Contact Denise Blaszynski at 630-584-0076, ext. 240. **DROP IN**

December 8: *The public is invited to the Annual Holiday Reading by group members. (HMR)*
December 22: *Holiday Moments (HMR)*
January 12: *Martin Luther King, Jr., the Writer (CCR)*
January 26: *2 or Two? Number Rules (HMR)*
February 9: *Presenting Characters (HMR)*
February 23: *Hard-Boiled, Hearth-Baked, or Harvard-Educated: Writing the Private Detective (HMR)*

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**Great Decisions**

Thursdays • 7:00 p.m.
Bisbee Conference Room

Great Decisions is America’s largest discussion program on world affairs. The Great Decisions discussion group is intended to stimulate a discussion of foreign policy issues. Participants may check out a copy of the briefing book at the Library. Participants should be ready to discuss the article prior to participation. **DROP IN**


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**Medicare 101**

Tuesday, January 22 • 7:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Medicare can be confusing. David Wyly of the Medicare Solutions Network will be presenting a free educational seminar to get you up to speed on what Medicare covers, what it doesn’t, and your potential out of pocket exposure. We’ll discuss Supplements, Advantage Plans, Part D Prescription Coverage, and cost-saving strategies for the years ahead.

**REGISTER**

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**Seed Swap and Seed Library Kickoff**

Saturday, January 26 • 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Celebrate National Seed Swap Day with our fifth annual seed swap! This will also be your first chance to get seeds from our heirloom seed library. You do not have to bring seeds to take seeds, but it is encouraged. Heirloom and open-pollinated seeds are preferred. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer seed and gardening questions.

**REGISTER** or **DROP IN**

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**AARP Tax Preparation Service**

Fridays • February 8, 15 and 22
APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and noon.
Carnegie Community Room

Trained volunteers will be offering free tax preparation help for anyone with individual Federal and State of Illinois returns. Returns prepared will be filed electronically. No library card required. Please bring the following documents to your appointment: a photo ID; Social Security card for everyone filing, including dependents; W-2s; all documents relating to income, expenses and banking. If filing a joint return, both spouses must be present. More information will be available on the Library’s website. To schedule your one-hour session, call 630-584-0076, ext. 1

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**Program Registration**

Registration for all Library programs, with the exception of computer classes, begins Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. Register online at scpld.org, by phone at 630-584-0076 x1 or in person.
ADULT PROGRAMS

Genealogy Programs

How I Use DNA in My Genealogy Research

Tuesday, January 15 • 7:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Professional Genealogist Caron Primas Brennan will talk about the “why” and “how” of DNA testing in genealogy research. Using case studies and examples, she will explain how to incorporate DNA testing into research. Disclaimer: This is NOT a primer on the science of DNA, although some basic information is included. The audience does not have to be knowledgeable about DNA testing to learn from this presentation. REGISTER

Getting the Most out of AncestryDNA Workshop

Tuesday, February 5 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Technology Center

You spit in the tube, mailed it to Ancestry, and now you have your AncestryDNA® results...what do they mean? How do you get more out of that list of DNA Matches? This workshop will focus on what you can learn from looking at the Matches Predicted Relationship, the amount of Shared DNA, the Matches’ tree and Shared Matches to help determine who might be the Most Recent Common Ancestor MRCA. Prerequisite: you must have the results of an AncestryDNA test and an account with Ancestry.com in order to participate. This program is limited to 12 participants. REGISTER

For the Love of Tidy: A KonMari 101 Workshop

Thursday, January 24 • 7:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Chicago’s first certified KonMari Tidying Consultant, Kristyn Ivey of For the Love of Tidy, will share home organization tips that focus on what you keep (does it “spark joy?”), rather than what or how much you discard. Learn about the revolutionary Japanese decluttering method made popular by Marie Kondo’s bestseller, The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up. This interactive workshop will include live demos that will prepare you to get tidy now! REGISTER

MOB WEEK

Al Capone and the 1933 World’s Fair

Tuesday, February 12 • 1:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Author William Hazelgrove will discuss his book, Al Capone and the 1933 World’s Fair: The End of the Gangster Era in Chicago—the exciting and sprawling history behind the 1933 World’s Fair. William will take a historical look at Chicago during the bleakest days of the Great Depression, as the city was fighting the hold of organized crime and fighting to survive. Books will be available for purchase. REGISTER

Murder, Mayhem and the Mob: The True Story of the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre

Thursday, February 14 • 7:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Who was Al Capone, and why are we still so fascinated by him and his ilk? This is the true story of Chicago’s Beer Wars of the Roaring Twenties. From the beginning of the Volstead Act to the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre, join historian and radio personality Clarence Goodman and brace yourselves for this brutal story. REGISTER
December 2: EYSO Maud Powell String Quartet and Earl Clemens Wind Quintet
The Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra’s acclaimed Chamber Music Institute presents the Maud Powell String Quartet and the Earl Clemens Wind Quintet as they perform classical chamber works.

January 13: Ani Gogova
Ani Gogova’s dazzling artistic presence has been captivating audiences around the world for almost two decades. Her career started early in her native Bulgaria when she won all major piano competitions, including the prestigious National Music Competition, as well as top prizes in several international competitions. Gogova has appeared in solo recitals and concerts with orchestras in Bulgaria, Italy, Serbia, England, and throughout the U.S.

January 27: Matt Peterson
Pianist Matt Peterson plays a vibrant, soulful brand of jazz, including original arrangement of standards by Duke Ellington, Horace Silver and Herbie Hancock, and explores the roots of jazz with the ragtime music of Scott Joplin.

February 10: Avanti Guitar Trio
The Avanti Guitar Trio is a world-class chamber ensemble whose performances are exciting, approachable and welcoming. This guitar trio blends pristine technique and sensitive interpretation, earning critical acclaim for their engaging concerts and varied programming. Their repertoire ranges from the Baroque to Contemporary, and features newly composed music, engaging transcriptions of classical masterpieces, and an occasional pop tune.

February 24: Mark Dvorak performs “The Life & Times of Woody Guthrie”
Chicago’s Mark Dvorak will perform “The Life & Songs of Woody Guthrie” which includes a biographical background on Guthrie, readings from his vast collection of essays and letters, and of course, lots of great songs from America’s iconic folk ballad maker. Eleven of Guthrie’s most well-loved songs will be performed including “This Land is Your Land”, composed on February 23, 1940.

Make a Holiday Gnome: Felting with Natasha Lewis
Wednesday, December 12
10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Carnegie Community Room
Join Natasha Lehrer Lewis, of Esther’s Place, to make a fun and festive felted gnome! Use wool and needle felting techniques to craft this cute holiday decoration. Perfect for the novice crafter, needle felting is an easy-to-learn technique that is both creative and relaxing. This program is limited to 20 participants and open to St. Charles Library cardholders through Friday, November 30. If space is still available, it will then open to non-cardholders. The 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. workshop are identical. Please only register for one. REGISTER

A Night at the Oscars
Tuesday, February 19 • 7:00 p.m. Carnegie Community Room
It’s time to get red carpet-ready! Join film historian Annette Bochenek as she presents about the history of the Academy Awards and some of its memorable moments, while also profiling the Best Picture picks for this year. The program will include a multimedia presentation consisting of photos, video clips and captivating stories. REGISTER

Board Game Nights
Wednesdays • December 19, January 16 and February 20
6:00-8:30 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room
Join us to play games like Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, and other modern board games. Meet up with fellow board gamers. Bring a favorite game to teach new players or grab one from our collection. REGISTER or DROP IN

Friends Magazine Sale & Jr. Friends Book Sale
Friends Magazine Sale & Jr. Friends Book Sale
Saturday, January 12
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Huntley Meeting Room
The Friends of the Library will have used magazines available for 25 cents each. They may be purchased individually or in bundles. Junior Friends also will be selling kids’ books. There are hundreds to choose from for all ages and reading levels. The money earned supports Junior Friends of the Library special projects. DROP IN

Program Registration
Registration for all Library programs, with the exception of computer classes, begins Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. Register online at scpld.org, by phone at 630-584-0076 x1 or in person.
**Songs and Stories of African People**

Saturday, February 2 • 3:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Join Shanta Nurullah, Chicago-based multi-instrumentalist and storyteller, for a family event celebrating the songs and stories of people of the African Diaspora. Melding the work of her own creative spirit with African folktales and contemporary African-American perspectives, Shanta’s stories are about empowerment, peace, healing and self-discovery. Without exception, all ages respond to the warmth, humor, drama and excitement which the tales convey through her dynamic telling. **REGISTER**

**Freedom Rider:**
My Life as a Foot Soldier for Civil Rights

Thursday, February 21 • 1:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

In the segregated deep South, when lynching and Klansmen and Jim Crow laws ruled, there stood a line of foot soldiers ready to sacrifice their lives for the right to vote, to enter rooms marked ‘White Only,’ and to live with simple dignity. They were called Freedom Riders, and Thomas M. Armstrong was one of them. This is his story. **REGISTER**

**Emancipation to Inauguration**

Tuesday, February 26 • 7:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

“Going to Chicago” were the words composed, sung, and lived by African Americans during the Great Migration. From sharecropper to the White House, Chicago’s black experience is vast, rich, and inspiring. Entertainer and historian Clarence Goodman presents this lively and informative program. **REGISTER**

**Cooking Programs**

**Baking with Vegetables**

Wednesday, January 30 • 7:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

We are excited to welcome back pastry Chef Rose Deneen as she demonstrates recipes from her first cookbook, Baking with Vegetables, and serves up some tasty samples. There will be copies of the cookbook available for purchase and personally autographed by Chef Deneen. **REGISTER**

**It’s Electric!: Instant Pot Recipes, Indian Style!**

Thursday, February 28 • 7:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

Find out why electric pressure cookers are all the rage with acclaimed local cookbook author Anupy Singla in this workshop on the Instant Pot. Learn how to use this valuable kitchen tool as Anupy makes healthy Indian recipes. She has written three cookbooks, including *The Indian Slow Cooker* and *Indian for Everyone*. Tasty samples will be provided. Anupy will be selling a copy of her cookbook following the program. This program is limited to 50 participants. **REGISTER**

Open to St. Charles Public Library cardholders through Friday, November 30. If space is still available, it will be open to non-cardholders.

**Engaging the Next Generation of Preservationists**

Thursday, January 10 • 1:00 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room

Our local history and historic structures are important to telling the St. Charles story. So, why is it so challenging to interest younger generations in our local history, since they are future stewards and preservationists of our past? Learn how Landmarks Illinois, the state’s historic preservation non-profit organization, has been successful through their Skyline Youth Council to move and preserve the Whitney one-room schoolhouse in Campton Hills. Come away with ideas to attract the next generation of preservationists. **REGISTER**
YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

Teen Movie Night
Fridays • Movies start at 5:00 p.m. • All films are rated PG-13
Huntley Meeting Room (HMR) • Carnegie Community Room (CCR)
Come catch a recent release on the big screen with your friends. Drinks and snacks provided. REGISTER or DROP IN

December 7: The Nightmare Before Christmas (CCR)
January 4: Avengers: Infinity War (HMR)
February 1: Everything. Everything (HMR)

Anime Club
Tuesdays • December 11 • January 8 • February 12 • 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Every second Tuesday of the month get loud and geek out! Watch anime, eat snacks and hang out with fellow otaku. Cosplay is always welcome. DROP IN

Ugly Sweater Cake
Sunday, December 9 • 1:00-2:30 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Get in the holiday spirit with an Ugly Sweater Cake! A professional baker will teach you how to cover your own mini sweater cake with fondant icing and make festive decorations. Minimum age 12. REGISTER

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tournament
Thursdays • December 27 • January 31 • February 28
4:00-6:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room
Prove you’re the best at our monthly Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Switch tournaments! 16-player limit. Bringing your own controller is encouraged, but not necessary. No cost to participate. Format TBD. Grades 9-12 only. REGISTER

Exam Cram
Monday, January 14 • Tuesday, January 15 • Wednesday, January 16
5:00-10:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Study for finals with us! Free pizza, snacks, and drinks provided courtesy of the Friends of St. Charles Public Library. We stay open until 10:00 p.m. for the late night crammers. DROP IN

Dazzling Geode Cake
Tuesday, January 29 • 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Come make the new popular trend – a Dazzling Geode Cake! Learn how to carve and cover your own mini cake, paint a geode design and add crystal candies—all taught by a professional baker. Minimum age 12. REGISTER

Harry Potter Knits
Wednesdays • January 30 and February 27
4:00-5:30 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room
Learn to knit by making thumbless mitts in Hogwarts house colors. Instruction and materials provided. All skill levels welcome. REGISTER

Teen Trivia
Friday, February 22 • 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room
Join us for a fun afternoon of showing off your knowledge and crushing the competition. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. Snacks and drinks will be provided for all. Grades 9-12 only. REGISTER

Teen Advisory Group
Wednesday, February 6 • 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Carnegie Community Room
Get involved! Help make the Library your place. Bring your suggestions from outrageous to down-to-earth. All high school age patrons welcome. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will be provided. Your input can help determine the future of your library. REGISTER

High School Volunteers
Winter/Spring Session
Monday, February 11 – Friday, May 10
Applications are due Friday, February 1
Are you looking for a way to gain experience for your first job, add to a college application, or help in the community? Consider volunteering time at your library. You will get the opportunity to work throughout the Library on a variety of projects to develop new skills and gain practical experience. Assignments may include shelving materials, using the Library catalog, working from reports, and selecting items for display.
Applications are available online or at the Reference Desk.

Program Registration
Registration for all Library programs, with the exception of computer classes, begins Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m.
Register online at scpld.org, by phone at 630-584-0076 x1 or in person.
**Program Registration**
Registration for all Library programs, with the exception of computer classes, begins Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. Register online at scpld.org, by phone at 630-584-9390 or in person.

**AGE-SPECIFIC STORYTIMES**
All programs are developed to promote early literacy and reading skills, a love of learning, books and art. *Drop in on the day of, as space allows.*

**Tiny Tots (ages 0-24 months)**

- Tuesdays • January 8 - February 26 • 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
- Helen Gale Story Room

Lapsit story time for parents/caregivers and children, which include songs, stories and play.

**Register**

**2 & 3 Year Old Story Time (with caregiver)**

- Mondays • January 7 - February 25 • 9:30 – 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesdays • January 8 - February 26 • 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
- Helen Gale Story Room

Interactive story time for children and their parents/caregivers, which include songs, stories and play time.

**Register**

**Preschool Story Time (ages 4-6)**

- January 9 - February 28 • Helen Gale Story Room
- Wednesdays • 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
- Thursdays • 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Interactive story time for independent children including songs, stories and play. Children should be comfortable attending on their own.

**Register**

**Winter Reading and Activity Program!**

It’s getting cold out there so curl up with a good book and join the 1st Annual Winter Reading and Activity Program. But don’t get too cozy. Earn drawing slips for some great prize packages by getting active in your community. Get all the details at the ASK ME Desk in Youth Services. Registration begins on January 7 and the program ends on March 3. This program is for infants through 8th graders.

**Stories at the Nature Center (all ages)**

- Friday, December 14 • 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, January 16 • 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, February 13 • 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- Creek Bend Nature Center at LeRoy Oakes Forest

Children are invited to hear stories at the **Creek Bend Nature Center at LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve.** After the program, explore the Nature Center and walk the trails. Cosponsored with the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. **Register**

**Drop-In Story Time (all ages)**

Mondays - Thursdays • January 7 - February 28
10:00 - 10:30 a.m. • Huntley Meeting Room

No story times Mondays, February 18, 25, or Tuesday, February 26

This program is filled with stories, music, and movement. Each week focuses on a new theme. **DROP IN**

**Drop-In Pajama Story Time (all ages)**

- Tuesdays • January 8 – February 26 • 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- Helen Gale Story Room

This program is filled with stories, music, and movement. Follows the same weekly theme as the morning Drop In Story Time. **DROP IN**

**Sensory Story Time (with caregiver, all ages)**

- Thursdays • January 10 – February 28
- 10:30-11:00 a.m. • Huntley Meeting Room

This small group story time is designed for children with sensory processing differences. Stories and activities will engage the senses through books, music, and movement. **DROP IN**

**Bilingual Story Time (all ages)**

- Mondays • January 7 - February 11 • 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
- Helen Gale Story Room

This bilingual program shares stories, songs, and other activities in both Spanish and English. **DROP IN**

**Songs & Stories of African People by Shanta (all ages)**

- Saturday, February 2
- 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Carnegie Community Room

Join Shanta Nurullah, Chicago-based multi-instrumentalist, storyteller, for a family event celebrating the songs and stories of people of the African Diaspora. Melding the work of her own creative spirit with African folktales and contemporary African-American perspectives, Shanta’s stories are about empowerment, peace, healing and self-discovery. Without exception all ages respond to the warmth, humor, drama and excitement which the tales convey through her dynamic telling. **DROP IN**

**1,000 Books Before Kindergarten**

Reading to your child is one of the most powerful ways to boost his or her brainpower. It’s never too early to begin. Please visit us at the ASK ME Desk to get started on your child’s journey to 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten.
**STEAM PROGRAMS**

**Scratch for Beginners (grades 3-8)**

Thursday, December 6 • 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Technology Center

Make a simple computer game using Scratch, an online coding program. This class is a repeat from the fall. Class held upstairs in the Technology Center. [REGISTER](#)

**Crochet Day (grades 2-5)**

Friday, December 7 • 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

Experts and novices are invited to share their interest in the craft of crochet! Yarn and hooks will be available but feel free to bring a project you're working on. [DROP IN](#)

**Little Artists (ages 4-6)**

Fridays • December 7 • January 11 • February 1
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. • Helen Gale Story Room

For children, listen to a story then make some art! [REGISTER](#)

**Find the “Picasso” in You! (grades 1-5)**

Fridays • December 7 • January 11 • February 1
3:30 - 4:30 p.m. • Helen Gale Story Room

Do you love to create works of art? This program will introduce you to a few of the many great artists in history. Each month a new artist will be showcased. Then we will use this artist as our inspiration to sketch, draw, or paint our own masterpieces. [REGISTER](#)

**Foodie Kids (grades K-6)**

Tuesdays • 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

December 11: Satisfy your sweet tooth with lemon truffles.
January 8: Energize for the New Year with this energy bite recipe.
February 5: Salsa party with gluten free chips!

Love to cook? Join us once a month and learn to create simple treats you can also eat! [REGISTER](#)

**Full STEAM Ahead (ages 3-4 with caregiver)**

Thursdays • 6:00 - 6:45 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room

December 13: Gravity
January 10: Build It
February 14: Will You Be My Valen-slime?

We will learn by doing! This is an interactive program where participants will work together on a different concept each month. [REGISTER](#)

**Scratch Club (grades 3-8)**

Monday, January 21 • 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 21 • 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Technology Center

Play around in Scratch during this time designated for self-exploration! Staff will be on hand to guide through questions with the program and simple how-tos. [REGISTER](#)

**Hour of STEAM (grades 1-5)**

Huntley Meeting Room • 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays • January 23 • February 6 • February 20

Become an inventor! Learn how circuits work or build tiny battery robots. Create something new every hour! [REGISTER](#)

**Terrarium (grades 3-8)**

Friday, February 8 • 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room

Outside is blah! Bring a cheery plant into your home with a DIY glass planter layered with rocks, soil and seeds. [REGISTER](#)

**Tales with Tails (ages 1-5)**

Tuesday, February 19 • 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

The critters have selected their favorite stories! Join St. Charles Library staff at the Hickory Knolls Discovery Center as we bring these stories to life through hands-on science exploration activities. *Please call the Discovery Center to register at 630-513-4399. [REGISTER](#)

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**Program Registration**

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Stuffed Animal Sleepover (all ages)
Drop off Friday, December 21 ■ 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Pick up Saturday, December 22 ■ 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Helen Gale Story Room
Pick out the animal friend you can be without overnight. Come to the ASK ME Desk to drop off on Friday between 4:00-6:30 p.m. Join us on Saturday to view a slide show of all the overnight animal antics and hear a story at 10:00 a.m. or pick up by 4:00 p.m. DROP IN

Sing-Along Movie (all ages)
Saturday, December 15 ■ 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Come belt out your favorite Frozen songs along with the movie, no shushing! Hot cocoa, tea, spiced cider and popcorn will be available while supplies last. REGISTER

Craft Your Feelings Out (grades K-5)
Tuesdays • December 18 • January 22 • February 19 • 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Try a new project or follow your feelings to draw and color free form. Music will be played throughout the program. REGISTER

Stuffed Animal Sleepover (all ages)
Drop off Friday, December 21 • 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Pick up Saturday, December 22 • 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Helen Gale Story Room
Pick out the animal friend you can be without overnight. Come to the ASK ME Desk to drop off on Friday between 4:00-6:30 p.m. Join us on Saturday to view a slide show of all the overnight animal antics and hear a story at 10:00 a.m. or pick up by 4:00 p.m. DROP IN

Glowing Noon Year Party (all ages)
Monday, December 31 • 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
Families, bring in the New Year with a special celebration at noon! Music, dancing, activities, all things glow-in-the-dark, and a countdown to noon will be included. DROP IN

Yule Ball (grades 4-8)
Saturday, December 1 ■ 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Join other witches and wizards in a magical afternoon of dancing and activity! Dress in your Hogwarts finest. REGISTER

Movie Night (grades 4-8)
Fridays • 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
December 14 • Huntley Meeting Room
January 18 • Carnegie Community Room
February 15 • Huntley Meeting Room
Watch a recent release on the big screen. Titles will be posted at the ASK ME Desk. Pizza, lemonade, and popcorn compliments of Classic Cinema will be served. Registration closes at 9:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the movie or when filled. REGISTER

Used Book Sale! Everything for Kids
Saturday, January 12 • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
There are hundreds of books to choose for all ages and reading levels. Purchases support Junior Friends of the Library special projects. The Friends of the Library will also have used magazines available for sale. DROP IN

Family Movie (all ages)
Saturdays • 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room
Watch a family friendly movie at the library! Hot cocoa, tea, spiced cider and popcorn will be available will supplies last. DROP IN

Model Train Display (all ages)
Saturday, January 19 • 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 20 • 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Huntley Meeting Room
All Aboard! The Midwest Division of the Train Collectors Association will return with their hands-on train layout. You may bring one of your own Lionel cars for a free tune up. DROP IN

Smarty Pants (all ages)
Monday, January 21 • 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Join us for this all-ages, 45-minute, theatrical balloon show featuring comedy, magic, and Smarty’s award-winning, eye-popping balloon props. REGISTER Drop In on the day of, as space allows.

Mindfulness and Meditation (grades 1-5)
Saturdays • January 5 • February 2
10:00 - 11:00 a.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
This new year renew yourself! Come practice mindfulness and adjust the way you look at life. Come ready to breathe, read and bend. REGISTER

January 19: Matilda (PG)  February 16: The Secret Garden (G)

Read-In (all ages)
Huntley Meeting Room • Saturdays • 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
January 5 • Matilda by Roald Dahl
February 2 • The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Listen to a chapter book being read aloud with your family. Those interested may volunteer to read aloud to the group. Check out a copy of the book to finish reading together at home. Hot cocoa, tea, and spiced cider will be served. Coloring pages provided while you listen. DROP IN

Nailed It! (grades 4-8)
Friday, January 4 • 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. • Carnegie Community Room
Can you nail re-creating the decorations on an edible masterpiece? Participants will be given all the supplies needed to compete in this challenge with time built-in at the end for families to come and view the outcomes. REGISTER
Beasts at Bedtime (all ages)
Thursday, January 24 • 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Story time comes alive when the animals from the Hickory Knolls Discovery Center make the story selection! This engaging story time will be followed with some hands on animal adventures. REGISTER

Valentine’s Sweets & Desserts (grades 4-8)
Thursday, February 14 • 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
It’s chilly outside but warm and cozy inside, perfect for enjoying some yummy desserts! Chef Susan Maddox will prepare Milk Chocolate & Raspberry Pot Au Crème, Sticky Toffee Pudding, and Velvety Orange Chocolate Ganache Phyllo tart. An early evening not to be missed. Program will end at 7:00 p.m. with an additional 30 minutes for questions. Please arrive on time. REGISTER

Beach Party (all ages)
Wednesday, February 13 • 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Cold weather getting you down? Come to our indoor beach party to kick back and enjoy tropical smoothies, beach music, and other fun activities! Bring your favorite beach towel. DROP IN

American Girl Heritage (grades 1-5)
Fridays • 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. • Helen Gale Story Room
December 21: Kirsten Larson (1854)
January 18: Felicity Merriman (1774)
February 15 - Addy Walker (1864)
Boys and girls, join us while we take a fun-filled journey through time to learn all about the history of our country through the eyes of the American Girls. Using our talents, we will create unique crafts representing each girls’ heritage. REGISTER Drop in on the day of, as space allows.

Even if the weather outside is getting frightful, curl up and stay warm with poems so delightful…

Middle School Programs

Polar Bear Paw-Print Candy (grades 6-8)
Friday, December 28 • 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
It’s a non-bake cookie using coconut, chocolate, and mint candies! You’ll be able to eat what you make. REGISTER

Indoor Snowball Fight! (grades 6-8)
Friday, January 25 • 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Build forts out of cardboard boxes and have an epic, all-out war with pom-pom snowballs! DROP IN

Babysitter Training (ages 11-15)
Thursday, January 3 • 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. AND Friday, January 4 • 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
FEE $45 in library district/$65 outside library district
Training will cover all aspects of babysitter responsibilities and includes babysitter resources. Students must attend the entire training workshop and successfully pass all observable skills to obtain Red Cross certification. REGISTER Grant funding provided by the Friends of St. Charles Public Library.

Pancake Art (grades 6-8)
Friday, February 22 • 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. • Huntley Meeting Room
Try your hand at the new, fun style of making pancakes by designing colorful images with batter. What will you whip up? REGISTER

Junior Friends (grades 6-8)
Middle school students interested in being a weekly volunteer in the Youth Services Department are able to add their name to our waitlist. The list is available at the ASK ME Desk for positions in upcoming sessions. We contact students on the waitlist each April, August and December. REGISTER

Program Registration
Registration for all Library programs, with the exception of computer classes, begins Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. Register online at scpld.org, by phone at 630-584-9390 or in person.
Read the St. Charles Public Library Annual Report

2017 and 2018 were busy years for the Library! We hit new milestones in attendance numbers and collection items, opened the new and unique Student Street area in Youth Services, added a wide range of tech and electronics to our collection, and so much more.

Read about all the new updates and get a snapshot of all the Library’s accomplishments in the Annual Report for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, available in print at the Library and online at scpld.org/annual-report-summary.

Total questions answered at the Reference and Reader Services Desks rose 6.5% compared to last year (27,448 reference or reader advisory questions).

Adult Services staff helped 900 people with eReaders and mobile devices. On average, we help people learn to use two of our digital/downloadable services per transaction.

Librarians assisted 352 patrons through online chat, and had 165 text message conversations with patrons.

Adult Services staff members provided 676 notary transactions, up 21% over last year.