Peoria Reads! announces Station Eleven as 2018 Choice

In a world plagued by disasters, Station Eleven, the award-winning book by Emily St. John Mandel, seemed an obvious choice for the 2018 Peoria Reads! One City, One Book read. Station Eleven, Emily St. John Mandel's fourth novel, won the Arthur C. Clarke Award, was a finalist for the National Book Award and PEN/Faulkner Award, was an Amazon Best Book of the Month, and was named one of the best books of the year by more than a dozen publications. It's been translated into 27 languages. “Equal parts page-turner and poem” (Entertainment Weekly), the novel is set 20 years after a devastating flu pandemic destroys civilization as we know it. A woman moves between the settlements of the altered world with a small troupe of actors and musicians until they encounter a violent prophet who threatens the tiny band's existence. “Possibly the most captivating and thought-provoking post-apocalyptic novel you will ever read” (The Independent London). “It's hard to imagine a novel more perfectly suited, in both form and content, to this literary moment” (The New Yorker). “I kept putting the book down, looking around me, and thinking, ‘Everything is a miracle’” (National Public Radio). The author herself said, “I wanted to write a love letter to the world we find ourselves in.”

Peoria Reads! is entering its 16th year of asking Peorians to read and discuss the same great book. Peoria Reads is a joint project of Common Place and Peoria Public Library. A wide variety of book discussions and other activities are being planned to help readers explore and understand the themes found in Station Eleven. While funds are not available this year to provide free copies of the book, many copies may be borrowed from Peoria Public Library as books, e-books and audio books. With more time to relax and read over the winter, read the book now and be ready for the citywide discussion. A copy of Station Eleven makes a wonderful gift for yourself or the readers in your life, as well! Watch for more information at www.peoriareads.org

Music in the McKenzie Returns in 2018

Music in the McKenzie has been bringing free Sunday afternoon concerts to Peoria Public Library North Branch for six years and is announcing the schedule for year seven, 2018! The concerts are held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the McKenzie Room. They are family friendly and often have attendees dancing in the aisles. Artist CDs are usually available and purchasing them helps support The Friends of Peoria Public Library, who provide much financial support for Children's Programs.

The concert season starts on Sunday, January 21 with Sally Barris. Sally Barris is an A-list Nashville songwriter who has had songs covered by such top-level artists as Kathy Mattea, Martina McBride, and Lee Ann Womack. Her song “Let The Wind Chase You”, recorded by Trisha Yearwood and Keith Urban, received a Grammy nomination for vocal collaboration in 2009. While her writing credits impress, fans and peers are most captivated by her bright spirit and expressive mountain soprano.

On Sunday, February 25 hear Flatland Harmony Experiment, a “high octane” four piece string band from Indy. Flatland Harmony Experiment dances with a single large diaphragm condenser microphone to share their music with audiences. Stylistically, their original music flows from tunes that echo the founding roots of bluegrass to progressive gypsy and all places in between. Conscious lyrics, a thread of harmony, and instrumental virtuosity permeates the music of the Flatland Harmony Experiment.

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Local favorites Goodnight Gracie perform on Sunday, March 11, with their well-loved variety of genres including covers and originals. On April 22 enjoy some American roots and Celtic soul music as Switchback takes the stage for the afternoon.

Join the P-Town Bluegrass Allstars on May 20. This collection of musicians from a variety of musical backgrounds is always a treat as they join their talents.

Sunday, June 10 Mike Cheesman steps out of the English pub, The Fox Pub and Café, where he regularly performs, and comes to the McKenzie Room. A transplant from England, Mike has a passion for history and storytelling, and his songs encompass genres including pop, folk, and country.

The Sally Weisenburg Band performs on Sunday, July 15. The Sally Weisenburg Band play mainly clubs, festivals and private events regionally in the Midwest. Known for blues and R&B interpretations, they can also play anything from standards and Motown to instrumental surf music.

Sunday, August 26 brings the Nathan Taylor Band playing country folk blended with heartland jazz and delta blues.

Enjoy some toe-tapping tunes, sweet waltzes and Americana music with Blackest Crow on Sunday, September 23 and on October 21 Chicago native Edward David Anderson performs his blend of blues, rock, folk and bluegrass.

On Sunday, November 11, hear Still Shine, a group of like-minded, seasoned musicians blending acoustic roots and progressive bluegrass. By mixing mandolin, harmonica, banjo, acoustic guitar, upright bass, and tight harmonies they quickly gained a following around Central Illinois and the Midwest.

The December concert has not been booked as of this writing, but watch for more and it will be announced soon. Be sure to join us for these free concerts in 2018!

Winter Reading Returns This January

Winter is a great time to delve into reading and this January and February all ages can complete reading challenges to earn prizes and be entered into the library-wide grand prize drawing for a Kindle Fire HD. Watch for information and challenge sheets. You will choose 12 challenges to complete and when you finish, just turn in your log sheet. The real reward is finding “hidden treasures” to read, but you will also get to grab a prize from our treasure box, be entered into the branch competition to win a $10 gift card and be entered to win the Kindle Fire HD. Information will be available at each Peoria Public Library location.

Are You Hungary For More? by Amber Lowery

One of the most intimidating parts of researching a family tree is when you’ve traced your family back to “the old country”...and you do not speak the language. Throw in the fact that sometimes our ancestors came from places where borders and languages change causing records to be a confusing headache.

One of the lesser known waves of immigrants to Central Illinois was that of the Hungarians. In the early 1900s, the railroads and steam ship lines sent recruiters to the Austrian-Hungarian empire to recruit workers. A flood of Hungarians came and settled in the Bloomingston-Normal region of Illinois, creating a small enclave. Just 200 years earlier the Hapsburgs recruited ethnic Germans to settle in Austria-Hungary, repopulating areas that had been reclaimed from the Turks. This group from the 1700s is known as the Donauschwaben. Today, in Bloomington-Normal there is active group known as the American Hungarian Family Society that is nearly 100 years old and was created by those immigrants.

If you live in Central Illinois, you may well find your “German” ancestors spent several hundred years on the Great Hungarian Plain. There are resources available to you and here are a few:

- The Black Sea German Research – this site is helpful if your family was the migratory type and may have come from another country before settling in Hungary. (http://www.blackseagr.org/index.html)
- The Hungaricana – a Hungarian-run site that offers information in English. However, the records are in Hungarian or possibly another language. One of the best offerings is a 1767 census of households by region. (https://hungaricana.hu/en/)
- Google Translate – Use Google’s translation site to figure out what the record says. (https://translate.google.com/)
- Donauschwaben –Your family could have been part of the 1700s German migration to Hungary, known as the Donauschwaben. Please check out this excellent resource for more on that group. (http://www.dvhh.org/)
- German and Hungarian 1828 Census – Using the Family Search website, you can search the catalog for this source and then narrow down which area of Hungary your ancestors came from. Within that link is a listing of the names of the heads of households in 1828. (www.familysearch.org)
- Mango Languages – interested in learning more about the languages of your ancestors? Peoria Public Library has a subscription to Mango Languages to help you learn!
- Check out our website today. Use your Peoria Public Library card to access the tools to expand your skills when it comes to genealogy and translation. (www.peoriapubliclibrary.org/all-databases/)
December
ALL LOCATIONS
1000 Books Before Kindergarten
This free program encourages and rewards your children for the books that are read to them. Stop by any location to sign up for the program and pick up a reading log, or track your progress using the app in iTunes and the Google Play Store. After each 100 books read, show us your progress and we’ll give your child their reading reward. Once your child reads 1000 books before entering kindergarten, they’ll be invited to a special graduation party!

December
LAKEVIEW BRANCH & MCCLURE BRANCH
Alphabet Soup Reading Challenge
In this reading challenge, you’ll have a reading log with all the letters of the alphabet. Read a book that starts with that letter and earn one entry into a prize drawing for each letter. All ages.

December
LAKEVIEW BRANCH & MCCLURE BRANCH
1 to 1 Tech Help
Have you ever wished you had your own personal technology guru to help you? Schedule a “1 to 1 Tech Help” session at the library! You pick a time slot that works with your schedule and provide some information about the computer or device you would like help with. At the meeting, a librarian will be ready to help and focus on you. Drop in or call to schedule your session in advance.

December
NORTH BRANCH
Snowman Scavenger Hunt
Our poor snowman has lost all of his pieces, and he needs your help! Find his hat, scarf, buttons and everything else he dropped! Participants who locate all of the items will be entered to win a winter “family movie night” package.

December
NORTH BRANCH
Drop In: Intergenerational Craft
Are you interested in crafting, but our programs never match your schedule? Stop in with a friend any time to make something crafty for the holidays. Enjoy the atmosphere of the library and work at your own pace. Appropriate for all ages.

December
MAIN LIBRARY
Crafts-to-Go – 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Kids ages 5 through 12 can pick up a craft packet at the 1st Floor Information Desk any time we’re open. Take it home and the fun begins.

December
MAIN LIBRARY
Puzzle Piece Activity Club
Participate in a variety of activities to receive a puzzle piece for your Puzzle Piece Activity Club chart. When you have all 6 puzzle pieces on your chart, you can turn it in for a yummy food coupon. One coupon for each club member. While supplies last. Ages 5 to 12.

December
MAIN LIBRARY
Winter Activity Booklet
Get rid of the winter blahs with a Winter Activity Booklet full of recipes, game and craft ideas, coloring pages, poems, and jokes centered around the December holidays. Kids ages 5 to 12 can pick one up in the Children’s area.

December
BOOKMOBILE
Baby It’s Cold Outside
Help decorate the Peoria Public Library Bookmobile for winter! Visit the Bookmobile and pick up a snowman coloring sheet. Cut, color, and decorate it however you wish, then return it to the Bookmobile to receive a candy cane. Returned snowmen will be displayed on the Bookmobile for all to enjoy!

Friday, December 1
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Toddler Play Zone – 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Join us for a special playgroup for toddlers to interact with other kids, play with educational toys, and read books with their parents. Ages 2 to 4.

Friday, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
NORTH BRANCH
Busy Bees Storytime – 10:30-11:00 a.m.
Children of all ages.

Saturday, Dec. 2, 9, 16 & 30
NORTH BRANCH
Busier Bees Storytime –10:30-11:00 am
Children of all ages.

Saturday, December 2
MCCLURE BRANCH
Christmas Cookie Recipe Exchange – 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Bring your favorite cookie recipe with you, and join in on a morning of cookie fun! There will be games, snacks, and prizes. Be ready to go home with some great cookie recipes! For adults only.

Saturday, December 2
LINCOLN BRANCH
Holiday Bath Salts and Bombs – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Join us for a festive afternoon making colorful and scrumptious smelling bath salts and bath bombs. Supplies are limited so reserve your spot. For adults only.
Calendar continued

Saturday, December 2
MCCLURE BRANCH
Christmas Around the World – 3:00-4:00 p.m.
Each family has their own traditions to celebrate this festive time of year. Stop by to learn how families around the world are celebrating Christmas in their homes by creating crafts and eating snacks! All ages welcome.

Monday, December 4
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Bilingual Storytime – 10:15-10:45 a.m.
This Spanish/English storytime features books, games, and songs to help build vocabulary in both languages. All ages.

Monday, December 4, 11 & 18
NORTH BRANCH – 10:30-11:00 A.M.
Wednesday, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27
LAKEVIEW BRANCH – 10:15-10:45 A.M.
Tiny Tots Storytime
Ages 12 to 23 months.

Monday, December 4, 11 & 18
MCCLURE BRANCH
Monday Morning Movie: Holiday Edition – 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Enjoy this festive twist to the Monday Morning Movie series to put you in the holiday spirit! December 4: White Christmas December 11: It’s A Wonderful Life December 18: A Christmas Story

December 4, 13, 21 & 29
NORTH BRANCH
Merry Maker Mayhem – 4:00-5:00 p.m.
We will be creating quick, inexpensive crafts each week that you can either gift to family or friends or keep for yourself. Projects include bracelets, magnets, and paper star garland and are suitable for males or females. Bring a friend! Ages 11 to 18

Monday, December 4
NORTH BRANCH
STEAM Explorations – 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Discover the Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math topics that are all around us! This month we will be exploring the moon. Ages 5 to 8.

Monday, December 4
LINCOLN BRANCH
Front & Center: Holiday Movie Party – 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Enjoy the classic comedy holiday movie Home Alone at the library. Hot chocolate and other holiday treats will be served. All ages welcome.

Monday & Tuesday, December 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 & 19
LINCOLN BRANCH
Project Next Generation –5:00-7:00 pm
It’s All About the Kids! (5th through 12th grades) Participants work with project mentors and the library branch manager who provide technological experiences and life skills vital for lifelong success. Students will learn to use the 3-D Printer, as well as build their own models from shapes online to print from the Makerbot Replicator Mini 3D Printer. Students will research the Internet, keep track of their findings, and create a design from the 3D printers. This process will help students gain a broader understanding of computer modeling and basic mechanics of this newfound technology. Funding for this grant was awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Sign-up is required. For more information, call 497-2600.

Tuesday, December 5, 12 & 19
LINCOLN BRANCH
Terrorific Tattletale Storytime – 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

Tuesday, December 5
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Bibliophiles Book Club – 1:30-2:30 pm
This month: The Force of Things: A Marriage in War and Peace by Alexander Stille

Tuesday, December 5
LINCOLN BRANCH
Front & Center: Personalized Mugs – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Design a mug using your artistic creativity. Personalize it or design it for someone special for the holidays. For ages 10-13.

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 13, 20 & 27
NORTH BRANCH
Brainy Baby Storytime – 1:30-2:00 p.m.
Develop your baby’s pre-literacy skills with books, songs, rhymes and finger plays that will help them understand new concepts and enhance their love of learning. Caregivers will be encouraged to engage their child through one-on-one interactions, making reading time fun. Age 0 to 23 months.

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 13, 20 & 27
MAIN LIBRARY
Holiday Movie Time – 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 13, 20 & 27
MAIN LIBRARY
Walk-In E-reader Assistance–4:00-5:00pm
Need some help learning how to download ebooks from the library? Free one-on-one help is available. Sessions are first come, first served.

Wednesday, December 6
NORTH BRANCH
Book Wreath – 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Learn to create a striking, yet amazingly inexpensive piece of wall décor. We will create wreaths from pages of old books. Bring a favorite book to tear apart or use one that we provide. All other supplies will be provided. This project can be completed in pairs, so it makes a perfect outing with your special someone.

December 7 – January 26
MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY
22VA Art Exhibit – 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
View a wide range of artistic expression, all created by our Veterans. Some were artists before they joined the military, some are using art to understand their military experience. The exhibit is organized by 22VA, a group of talented Veteran artists who want to help other Veterans express themselves through visual and creative arts. 22VA wants to help reduce the number of Veteran suicides, which claim the lives of 22 veterans a day. This equates to around 30 suicides per 100,000 veterans, a rate that is more than double the rate for the civilian population.
**Thursday, Dec. 7, 14, 21 & 28**

**MCCLURE BRANCH**

Fun Time Storytime – 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

**Thursday, Dec. 7, 14, 21 & 28**

**NORTH BRANCH**

A-Z Storytime – 10:30-11:00 a.m.
We’re learning the alphabet! Join us for letter-themed stories, songs, and crafts as we focus on learning the shapes of letters and the sounds they make! Ages 2 to 3.

**Thursday, December 7 & 21**

**LINCOLN BRANCH**

Coloring for Grownups – 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Come in for this fun and relaxing time to be had by all. We will have assorted coloring sheets, colored pencils, crayons, light refreshments, and soft music will be playing in the background. Come in and enjoy a little relaxation.

**Friday, December 8**

**LAKEVIEW BRANCH**

Toddler Art – 10:15-10:45 a.m.
Join us for a fun artful activity geared towards toddlers. Let your child explore the world of colors and shapes while learning fine motor skills. Art projects might leave something to be desired but it’s the process that really counts. Please dress for a mess. For ages 2 to 4 with a caregiver.

**Friday, December 8**

**MCCLURE BRANCH**

**Friday, December 15**

**LAKEVIEW BRANCH**

Baby Playground – 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Calling all babies! Join us for a special playgroup designed to help you explore your world through creative play. Ages 9 months to 24 months.

**Saturday, December 9**

**NORTH BRANCH**

Drop In: Math Challenge – 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Experience the joy of math by visiting the Beehive for a fun self-guided math challenge. Challenges will be geared toward students in grade three and up. Drop in any time. While supplies last.

**Saturday, December 9**

**MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY**

22VA Artist’s Reception
Meet the artists behind the Veteran’s Art Exhibit on display in the Gallery. Free and open to the public.

**Saturday, December 9**

**NORTH BRANCH**

Tabletop Gaming – 2:00-5:30 p.m.
We will be exploring a variety of systems through the year. Dice will be provided and beginners are welcome. For young adults to senior citizens.

**Saturday, December 9**

**NORTH BRANCH**

Winter Olympic Games – 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Do you wanna build a snowman? Can you throw snowballs through a target? Or run a reindeer relay? Join us for an afternoon of games – and dress to go outside, if the weather lets us! Ages 5 to 10.

**Monday, December 11**

**LAKEVIEW BRANCH**

Drop In: Make It! Take It! – 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Visit the Storytime Room to make a craft, or two, or three! All ages welcome.

**Monday, December 11**

**NORTH BRANCH**

STEAM Adventures – 4:30-5:30 p.m.
If you enjoy Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics, then this is your chance to dig a little deeper! This month we will be investigating the moon. Ages 9 to 12.

**Monday, December 11**

**LAKEVIEW BRANCH**

SciFi & Fantasy Book Club – 6:30-7:30 p.m.
This month: Sorcerer to the Crown by Zen Cho

**Monday, December 11**

**NORTH BRANCH**

Pajama Storytime – 7:00-7:45 p.m.
We’ll enjoy stories, songs, and a craft! Wear your pajamas and bring a blanket or stuffed friend to snuggle — you’ll be ready for bed when you head home!

**December 12-19**

**MULTIPLE LOCATIONS**

Drop In: Eight Nights of Crafts
We’re celebrating Hanukkah with a craft at a different location each night! Dec. 12: 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Lakeview Branch Dec. 13: 6:00-7:00 p.m. at North Branch Dec. 14: 5:00-6:00 p.m. at North Branch December 15: all day at McClure Branch December 16: all day at Main Library Dec.17: 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Lakeview Branch December 18: all day at Main Library December 19: all day McClure Branch

**Tuesday, December 12**

**LINCOLN BRANCH**

Front & Center: Festive Ornaments – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Let’s get creative designing clear ornaments with a variety of paints, snow, beads and other supplies. Great as a keepsake or holiday gift. Ages 7 to 9.

**Wednesday, December 13**

**NORTH BRANCH**

Star Wars: The Force Awakens – 4:00-6:30 p.m.
Brush up on Episode VII before Episode VIII arrives in the theaters. All ages are invited to join us for a showing of Star Wars: The Force Awakens. Light refreshments will be provided.

**December 14 & 15**

**MCCLURE BRANCH**

Stuffed Animal Sleepover and Party
Do you think it’s time to let your stuffed animal or doll go to a sleepover on their own? Stop by anytime on December 14 to drop them off at the library. Return on December 15 between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. to pick up your animal or doll, make a holiday craft, and enjoy a snack before you head home! All ages welcome.

**Thursday, December 14 & Tuesday, December 19**

**LINCOLN BRANCH**

Puppet Show – 10:00-10:30 a.m.
“Santa’s Reindeer.” Come help Santa find an animal to pull his sleigh. Ages 3 to 6.

**Thursday, December 14**

**LINCOLN BRANCH**

Book Exchange Party – 6:30-7:30 p.m.
You are invited to attend a book exchange party! Please bring a wrapped book from your personal collection to exchange. We will take turns unwrapping each gift to see what book we received. And of course no party is complete without delicious food. Come in and enjoy the fun! For adults only.

**Saturday, December 16**

**MCCLURE BRANCH**

Drop In: Holiday Crafts – 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
December is full of different holidays! Stop in and pick up your choice of holiday crafts to celebrate Christmas, Kwanzaa, or Hanukkah! While supplies last. All ages welcome.
Calendar continued

Saturday, December 16
MAIN LIBRARY
Autism Resource Group – 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Are you a parent with a tween or teen with Autism Spectrum Disorder? Join us at the Main Library for resource sharing and support.

Saturday, December 16
LINCOLN BRANCH
Gingerbread House Craft – 2:30-4:30 pm
Come make a fun Gingerbread House that you can take home and display! Space is limited, so register early! Call 309-497-2600 to register. All ages welcome.

Saturday, December 16
NORTH BRANCH
Teen STEM Challenge – 3:00-4:00 p.m.
There’s a puzzle in the library, and all you have to solve it is your brain and a box of scraps. The most successful team will get a prize! Ages 12 to 18.

Sunday, December 17
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Book 'Em Mystery Book Club – 2:00-3:30 p.m.
This month: Hercule Poirot’s Christmas by Agatha Christie

Sunday, December 17
NORTH BRANCH
Music in the McKenzie Presents: Henhouse Prowlers – 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Chicago’s Henhouse Prowlers have built a reputation for hard work and non-stop touring, playing music inspired by the roots of bluegrass while branching out into a sound uniquely their own. From lightning fast picking, to sentimental ballads—playing original material, traditional songs, and contemporary covers — The Prowlers’ live show leaves no one wanting. A portion of CD sales support The Friends of Peoria Public Library.

Monday, December 18
NORTH BRANCH
Homeschool Meet-Up: Holiday Edition – 1:00-2:30 p.m.
Join your homeschooling friends for a little holiday “chillaxing.” We will have a craft project (suitable for gifting), games, and snacks. All ages welcome.

Monday, December 18
NORTH BRANCH
Storytime Lab – 1:30-2:00 p.m.
Join us for stories about early concepts in science, technology, engineering, art, and math followed by hands-on exploration! Ages 3 to 6.

Tuesday, December 19
LINCOLN BRANCH
Front & Center: Christmas Games – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Let’s play! Try your hand at Christmas Pictionary, “Name that Song” and “Christmas Movies” Trivia. It’s holiday fun for ages 10 to 18.

Tuesday, December 19
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
YA for Adults Book Club – 6:30-7:30 pm
Are you in your 20s or 30s and enjoy reading Young Adult books? Join this fun group to discuss the best in YA literature. As a bonus, there are always snacks! This month: The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

December 20-22
MCCLURE BRANCH
Drop In: Winter Craft Closet Cleaning
We have an overflow of Winter and holiday craft kits from past years! Come take your pick of crafts-to-go! Make them here or at home to decorate your house or give as gifts. While supplies last. All ages welcome.

Wednesday, December 20
NORTH BRANCH
Genre Evolution Book Club – 6:30-7:30 pm
This month, we’re discussing the evolution of the Holiday genre. Please read any of the books below!
A Child’s Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas, A Christmas Memory by Truman Capote, Hogfather by Terry Pratchett, Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins by Eric A. Kimmel, A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg

Thursday, December 21
NORTH BRANCH
Third Thursday Film Fest – 2:00-4:00 pm
Join us on the third Thursday of each month for some of the most popular films from the 1950s. Bring a snack and enjoy an oldie but goodie on the big screen. Free and open to all ages. This month: White Christmas (1954)

December 26-30
NORTH BRANCH & LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Reading Resolutions
What are your reading plans for next year? Fill out a New Year’s resolution form to challenge yourself to read more books, different genres, and new authors in 2018. Then decorate an envelope, and we’ll mail you a copy next December to see how you did!

Tuesday, December 26
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
1,001 Movies You Must See before You Die Film Showing – 6:00-7:45 p.m.
Join us this month for a disco film, Saturday Night Fever. (1977, R)

Thursday, December 28
NORTH BRANCH
Sherlock Holmes Story Society – 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Whether you’ve read the classic Sherlock Holmes stories a million times or none at all, all are welcome to experience The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes in this new reading discussion group. Each month, we’ll tackle another short story. Like our hero bid his loyal companion over one hundred years ago, we invite you to “Come at once if convenient – if inconvenient come all the same!” This month: “The Copper Beeches”

Friday, December 29
LAKEVIEW BRANCH
Drop In: LEGO Builders Club – 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Drop in any time to play. Parental supervision is required.
January Book Clubs at Peoria Public Library

Join a book club at Peoria Public Library this month. New members are always welcome!

The Read on Book Club will meet at Lincoln Branch on Tuesday, January 23 to discuss We’re Going to Need More Wine: Stories by Gabrielle Union. Union launched her career with roles in iconic ‘90s movies. When she revealed her own trauma as a victim of sexual assault, she urged compassion for victims of sexual violence. In this moving collection of essays Union tells astonishingly personal and true stories about power, color, gender, feminism, and fame. She discusses her experiences with bullying, beauty standards, and competition between women in Hollywood; growing up in white California suburbia, and coping with the divorce of her parents. Throughout, she reminds us of the importance of confidence, self-awareness, and the power of sharing truth, laughter, and support. For more information please call (309) 497-2601.

The Sherlock Holmes Story Society will meet at North Branch at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 25 at North Branch to discuss “The Adventure of Silver Blaze.” The great race horse Silver Blaze has disappeared and his trainer, John Straker, has been murdered. Holmes and Watson arrive at King’s Pyland, Dartmoor to investigate and while Inspector Gregory has marked Fitzroy Simpson as the suspect, Holmes feels that this conclusion is incorrect. Animals are going lame, Simpson’s cravat is being used to incriminate him but Holmes and Watson are on the case and about to solve it.

The Sci-Fi Fantasy Book Club will meet on Monday, December 11 at Lakeview Branch at 6:30 p.m. Watch for the listing in the January Passages or call 497-2701 for the title of this month’s book.

The Biography and Non-Fiction Book Club will meet on Sunday, January 14 at 3:00 p.m. at North Branch to discuss Kosovo: What Everyone Needs to Know by Tim Judah. On February 17, 2008, Kosovo declared its independence, becoming the seventh state to emerge from the break-up of the former Yugoslavia. A tiny country of just two million people, 90% of whom are ethnic Albanians, Kosovo is central - geometrically, historically, and politically - to the future of the Western Balkans and, in turn, its potential future within the European Union. But the fate of both Kosovo, condemned by Serbian leaders as a “fake state” and the region as a whole, remains uncertain. For anyone wishing to understand the history and possible future of Kosovo at this pivotal moment in its history, this book offers a wealth of insight and information in an accessible format.

The Book ‘Em Mystery Book Club will meet on Sunday, January 21 at 2:00 p.m. at Lakeview Branch to discuss The Sentry by Robert Crais. Dru Rayne and her uncle fled to L.A. after Hurricane Katrina. Now, five years later, they face a different danger. When Joe Pike witnesses Dru’s uncle beaten by a protection gang, he offers his help, but neither of them want it and neither do the federal agents mysteriously watching them. As the level of violence escalates and Pike himself becomes a target, he and Elvis Cole learn that Dru and her uncle are not who they seem and that everything he thought he knew about them has been a lie.

Friends of Clonmel Intercontinental Readers will meet at 1:00 p.m. on March 6 at Main Library on LL1 to hold a Skype discussion with the group in Clonmel, Ireland about Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger. Ordinary Grace is a brilliantly moving account of a boy standing at the door of his young manhood, trying to understand a world that seems to be falling apart around him. It is an unforgettable novel about discovering the terrible price of wisdom and the enduring grace of God.

The YA Book Club for Adults will meet on Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Lakeview Branch to discuss The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas. Are you in your 20s or 30s and enjoy reading Young Adult books? Join this fun group to discuss the best in YA literature. As a bonus, there are always snacks! Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil’s name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

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$30 Available at: LAKEVIEW BRANCH, NORTH BRANCH, MAIN LIBRARY & FRIENDS BOOKSTORE

$10 of each book sold goes to The Friends of Peoria Public Library.
Hot New Titles Coming in December
by Robin Helenthal

Year One is the first book in the Chronicles of The One Trilogy by Nora Roberts. It starts on New Year's Eve. The first signs of sickness and the people's fears begin to spread. The government collapses and the electrical grid fails. As the power of science and technology begin to withdraw, magick begins to gain power. Some of it is good, but the evil lurks around corners and appears even in the ones that you love and trust. Survivors that are immune to the sickness begin to head west. In this world of survivors, every stranger met could be a savage or a rescuer. None of those traveling west know why or where they are heading but what is ahead will shape their lives and the lives of all those they meet. The end has come. The beginning comes next.

Now That You Mention It is the latest novel by Kristin Higgins. For Nora Stuart, life has been one step forward and two steps back. She wants to become a Boston medical specialist and receives a Tufts scholarship that will help make this a reality when she is hit by a car and wakes up to hear her boyfriend hitting on another doctor while she is laying in the emergency room. When she gets out of the hospital, she moves back home to Maine to try and put her life back together. So with a difficult mother, a wild-child sister who is in jail and a remote niece who wants to get off the island as much as Nora had fifteen years earlier, she has her work cut out for her to bring the family back together and patch up their relationships. This is her chance to begin again.

All locations of Peoria Public Library will be closed

Saturday, December 23 through Monday, December 25 for the Christmas Holiday

Sunday, December 31 through Monday, January 1 for the New Year’s Holiday