How Do They Get There?

Have you ever wondered how that new bestseller goes from a pre-publication review to the Forthcoming List? Or how that movie you meant to see at the theater ends up as a DVD on our shelf? This progression is months in the making, and the process is executed by numerous staff members.

The first step requires Katie, Assistant Director of Library Services/Collection Development Manager, to comb through hundreds of book, DVD, and music reviews in magazines, blogs, and websites. Hoping to find a wide range of genres (and not just bestsellers) for Hayner’s collection, she also fields materials suggestions from staff members.

One little-known fact about this process is that Katie welcomes recommendations from the public, as well. Patrons who are enthusiastic about their literary tastes can go to our website under “Services” and “Recommend a Purchase.”

Several times a week, Katie compiles a list of items for purchase that she feels, from her years of experience, will be of interest to Hayner’s patrons. When the lists are ready, she sends them on to Theresa, a member of the Technical Services department.

Because these pre-publication reviews come out months in advance, we have to keep a log of our orders, and one of Theresa’s many duties is to input all of this information into a spreadsheet. This helps us keep track of what items we have purchased and when they were ordered, and also helps prevent duplicate acquisitions. This spreadsheet also helps Katie compile the Forthcoming List that so many patrons have come to look forward to! Following this step, the list is uploaded to Hayner’s primary bookseller for pre-order.

Once we have our materials pre-ordered, Tara, an acquisitions expert in the Technical Services department, adds “on-order” records to the card catalog. This process allows the public to see that we have ordered a particular item and permits them to place an early hold on it.

When the pre-ordered items finally get close to their release date and are delivered to the library, the Technical Services department springs into action again. The materials are unpacked and checked against the packing slips and are then ready for cataloging.

To make a very long and technical explanation short, cataloging is the process of generating bibliographic records for a book, DVD, or music CD, in which access points are created for finding that particular item in an online card catalog. The access points referred to are title, author, page numbers, edition, size, and subject headings.

Creating and choosing the right bibliographic record to attach to an item ensures that patrons get the exact book or movie they want. For instance, there are many editions of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and you may want only the first edition; or you may want to know that you’re ordering the 1969 version of *The Italian Job* instead of the remake from 2003.

Lauren, the Assistant Director of Acquisitions, Cataloging and Processing, creates or edits those bibliographic records and then chooses an appropriate call number for the item.

Once this process is finalized, the piece is sent on to Theresa or Geralyn, members of Hayner’s processing staff. They add identifying stamps, spine labels, and book covers, and finally create the card catalog record. This record helps the patrons and staff identify the call number, the material type, and the section of the library where the book or DVD is housed, that is, the adult section, KidsSpace, or TeenSpace.

Finally, the item goes back to Tara, who creates a barcode and adds an RFID security tag. The finished products are then sent to the Downtown and Alton Square locations, ready to be checked out and enjoyed by you!

DID YOU KNOW?

In an effort to keep the holds queue moving once the materials have arrived, Hayner participates in a book leasing program through Baker & Taylor Booksellers. Rather than purchasing multiple copies of a particular bestseller, we typically lease up to
The birds will love it, and so will you!

natives in your garden.

and their effective use in urban landscapes. So try a few

by increasing conservation awareness of native plants

drought, pests, and disease.

than non-native species and are naturally resistant to

food for butterflies and pollinators. Natives live longer

other beneficial insects for nesting birds, as well as vital

climate and soils, and once established, they require

Why plant native plants? Native plants are adapted to our

the library along with related books on the subject of

Native Plant Garden at Downtown Library

An Alton Community Service League Beautification Grant

was awarded to Hayner Library to plant the flower boxes

in front of the Downtown Library. With this generous

gift, Hayner Library has planted native wildflowers in the

two beds by the Downtown Library entrance.

Native wildflowers that grow well in our area and do

well in part sun were selected for the location. You will

see various wildflowers that offer different bloom times

from April to September. If you are looking for flowers

that do well in part sun, you might want to try these

native perennials in your garden. Look for the Wild

Ones® plant list posted in the garden to learn more

about these plants. Also, a plant list is available inside

the library along with related books on the subject of

native plants.

Why plant native plants? Native plants are adapted to our

climate and soils, and once established, they require

very little maintenance. They provide caterpillars and

other beneficial insects for nesting birds, as well as vital

food for butterflies and pollinators. Natives live longer

than non-native species and are naturally resistant to

drought, pests, and disease.

Hayner Library is doing its part to promote biodiversity

by increasing conservation awareness of native plants

and their effective use in urban landscapes. So try a few

natives in your garden.

The birds will love it, and so will you!

DID YOU KNOW?

Hayner has a book repair expert on staff! Geralyn saves

the District a significant amount of money each year by

repairing books that have been damaged. Rather than

our having to replace these materials, Geralyn does a

beautiful job of recovering and rebinding them!

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Gardening Classes for July and August

Now that the days are longer and warmer, and your garden is flourishing, it is

a good time to observe the activity taking place there. Pollinators of all sorts

should be busy at work, making it possible to have produce to harvest. Bounty

from your summer garden also includes SEEDS for the following spring! Learn

how to harvest and store seeds over winter. Herbs will be ready to dry and

preserve, and put into butters and oils.

So come join us for more gardening fun at Hayner Library!

• Pollinators. Charlie Pitts, Master Naturalist, will be presenting a class on

pollinators. Bees, both native and honeybees, are great pollinators. The class

will focus on how important pollinators are for our everyday foods. Come

learn how to invite these pollinators into your garden. Wednesday, July 13,

6:30 p.m.

• Herbs and Their Uses. Crystal Moore Stevens of La Vista CSA Farm will

be teaching this class. Crystal will have herb seeds and transplants for the

class. You will learn about methods of drying and freezing your herbs, and

how to make herb butters and herb olive oils. Tuesday, August 16,

6:30 p.m.

• Seed Saving. Michelle Berg Vogel of the McCully Heritage Project will

 teach how to collect, label, and store seeds from this year’s garden plants.

Learn what plants are best for seed saving, and the methods to save and store

seeds. Your saved seed can then be used for next year’s garden; saving you

money and giving you the satisfaction of watching your seeds grow into next

year’s vegetables! Wednesday, August 24, 6:30 p.m.

Classes will be held in the Multipurpose Room at the Alton Square Library

location. To register, call 1-800-613-3163. Class size limited to 20.

Don’t Forget the Telescopes!

Don’t forget that The Hayner Public Library District has telescopes for patrons
to check out at both locations. Each telescope captures the equivalent amount
of light of 250 human eyes. Each has a zoom eyepiece, which gives a range of
magnifications from 20- to 60-power and provides a large field of view spanning
from one degree to over two degrees. You will be able to obtain clear observations
of the craters on our Moon, Jupiter and its moons, Saturn and its rings, and the
brighter star clusters and nebulae.

The telescopes may be checked out for up to seven days by adult Hayner Library

Cardholders. Please be aware that after seven days, the telescope is considered
overdue and a fine of $5 per day will be assessed. A picture ID must also be
presented, and a refundable $50 deposit is required for checkout. The telescopes
come with a learning kit, and we will give you an overview of how to start your
moon- and stargazing. Be sure to check out some books to brush up on your
knowledge, as well.

If you’d just like to see and use a telescope
without checking one out, please check our
“Special Events” section of the newsletter.
There are two events coming up this summer
and fall where you can see the moon or the
sun in all their glory.

Come rent a telescope today!
Computer Classes

All classes will be taught in the Multipurpose Room of the Hayner Library in Alton Square Mall. Although the courses are free, registration is requested. Please note the skills taught in each session. You may register for one or more sessions at a time. To register, call 1-800-613-3163. Please leave your name, phone number, and the name of the section(s) for which you are registering.

PC Basics: Introduction to Computers*
(Class limit: 12)
Part 1, July 27, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
Part 2, August 3, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
An introduction to personal computers. Overcome your fears and gain skills to use personally and professionally. After this class, you will be able to identify basic computer terminology as well as the components and operating systems features; execute basic mouse techniques, use the keyboard features, and printer; open and exit software programs; utilize storage media such as CDs and flash drives; and identify and use the various toolbars.

Part 1
• Interacting with the computer, keyboard, and mouse

Part 2
• Windows: Desktop/Taskbar/Start Menu/ Open Files/Save Files/Flash Drive/Print Documents
*If you already use a computer and a mouse, this course is not for you.

Internet Basics (Class limit: 12) **
August 3, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
This is an introduction to Web-surfing and e-mail. This class is designed for individuals with little to no experience in using the Internet. This class will teach you how to set up an e-mail account, use basic e-mail features, and use a search engine to locate information.
**This class has gone from 2 parts to 1 part. The job portion offered in previous classes is now a separate class.

Job Search Tips
(Class limit: 12)
August 17, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
This class is designed to give people searching for employment some tips to send them in the right direction. We will use various job listing websites to learn how to search for employment listings, and the basics of filling in electronic job applications. Resume and job interview tips will be included. We will NOT actually apply for jobs or create a resume.

Microsoft Word for Beginners
(Class limit: 12)
Part 1, August 31, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
Part 2, September 7, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
This class is for the beginning or novice user of Microsoft Word. It totals 2 progressive sessions, which will teach you to create, save, copy, move, and retrieve electronic files. You will also be able to produce a document using a word processing program, edit it, use spell checker, and use editing features such as bold, italics, etc., to produce a finished product. You may register for both sections or register for each separately, according to your need. Topics that will be covered are listed below for each of the 2 sessions.

Part 1
• Getting Started • Saving Documents/Page Formatting • Spacing/Columns • Printing/Indenting/Tab

Part 2
• Using Shapes/Text Boxes • Clip Art/ Formatting Pictures • Templates

Flash Drives and Saving Files
(Class limit: 12)
September 14, 6 p.m.—8 p.m.
Flash Drives, USB Drives, Thumb Drives, they’re all the same thing. In this class you will learn how to use your flash drive properly, regardless of what you call it. Save, copy, and move files from your flash drive to your computer and back again. You do need basic computer knowledge for this class. You may bring your own flash drive to practice with after class. Flash drives will NOT be provided.

Computer Maintenance and Security
(Class limit: 12)
September 21, 6 p.m.—8 p.m.
Explore your computer’s Control Panel. Learn the ins and outs of maintaining your computer, and what you should be doing to keep your machine preforming at top speeds. Learn about virus protection, and when you should run virus scans on your computer to keep it safe. Basic computer knowledge is preferred. You do NOT need your computer or tablet for this class.

Summer Social Media
Please note: These programs will take place in the Multipurpose Room at Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall.

Social Media Basics (Class limit: 15)
Saturday, July 30, 10 a.m.–12 noon
We’ll start with an overview of Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest; what they are and what they do. We’ll discuss pitfalls of social media and what you should avoid doing with each site. We will try to set up an account on at least one site, and cover a brief overview of how to upload photos to each site, as well as one on how to interact with other users. This class is presentation only. You do not need to bring laptops and tablets.

Facebook Revealed (Class limit: 15)
Saturday, August 20, 10 a.m.–12 noon
This class will start with the creation of a Facebook account and will then proceed to finding friends, uploading photos and videos, navigating the different applications, and finding a group to fit you. We’ll learn little tricks to make Facebook easier and more accessible, as well as cover some of the privacy settings. This class is presentation only. You do not need to bring laptops and tablets.

Exploring Pinterest and Twitter
(Class limit: 15)
Saturday, September 17, 10 a.m.–12 noon
Starting with the creation of accounts, we will then explore the uses and benefits of both sites, including sending Tweets and Pinning to a Board, uploading a Pin, and the art of “Following” people. This class is presentation only. You do not need to bring laptops and tablets.

E-Book and E-Audio Help
For help downloading e-books and e-audios to your e-reader from the library catalog, librarians Jean Shimunek and Miriam Lozano will conduct a class on Saturday, August 6, 2016, on the basics of downloading e-books and e-audios.
The class will be held in the Multipurpose Room of Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Bring your personal reading device so we can help you download e-books or e-audios to it.

This class is free of charge but does require registration. To register, call 1-800-613-3163. Please leave your name, phone number, the number in your party, and the type of device you have.
Mississippi Earthtones Festival 10th Anniversary

The Mississippi Earthtones Festival, co-organized by Alton Main Street and the Sierra Club, is a celebration of our river through art, music, and conservation. The 10th Annual event falls on September 17th and promises to attract thousands of people to Broadway, where the street will be closed to traffic between Alton Street (Mineral Springs Mall) and Langdon Street (Pedestrian Bridge) from noon to 10 p.m. Genealogy & Local History Manager Lacy McDonald and Downtown Library Manager Penny Noble will represent The Hayner Public Library District at the event.

Lacy will share historical photographs and books on the relationship between the Mighty Mississippi and the Riverbend area. Penny will bring an Orion StarBlast 4.5” Reflector telescope and teach visitors about our telescope program. Telescopes are made available through a partnership between Hayner and The Nature Institute Astronomy Association and can be checked out from either the Downtown Library or the Alton Square Mall branch.

Lacy and Penny will also be able to sign people up for library cards at the event. Just using the library to borrow books, movies, and music CDs instead of buying them helps the environment by reducing the amount of raw materials needed to make these items. But if you want to be more deliberately green, we’ve got the resources for you! Reference Librarian Jean Shimunek has created lists highlighting books in our collection that deal with environmental sustainability. We have resources on everything from recycling to native plants to energy-saving home design. We will even have some of these books available for checkout from the Hayner table on the day of the festival!

The Hayner table will be up from noon until 6 p.m., so please come visit us! For more information on the festival, visit the Alton Main Street website, http://www.altonmainstreet.org/page/mississippi-earthtones-festival/ or the Earhtones Festival Facebook page, www.facebook.com/EarhtonesFestival.

New – Adult Summer Reading

Why should kids have all the fun? Join us this summer for our new Adult Summer Reading Program. From August 1 to August 31, Hayner Library patrons ages 18 and older are invited to join in the summer reading fun—and a chance to win a Kindle Fire and a $25 Amazon.com gift card! Registration and participation are easy. Simply visit either Hayner Library Downtown or Hayner Library at Alton Square Mall and fill out a short registration form. For each book, e-Book, audiobook, or e-Audiobook you read, you get a chance to enter a drawing for the grand prize. The more you read, the more chances you have to win! A winner will be selected at both the Downtown and Alton Square locations on September 1. Happy summer reading!

2nd Annual Sidewalk Solar Party at Hayner Library – Downtown

Last year’s event was such a success, the library is doing it again! With the generous help and time of Eddie Agha, Staff Astronomer at The Nature Institute, The Hayner Public Library District is hosting the 2nd Annual Sidewalk Solar Party on October 10, 2016, at the pocket park next to the downtown library. Starting at 10:00 a.m., participants will be able to view the sun through a special solar telescope made to view the sun safely. If the weather cooperates, everyone should be able to view the sun and its many wonders, including solar prominences and dark spots. Let Eddie guide you through the special aspects of our great yellow dwarf star, the sun. Bring the whole family to see the sun as you have never seen it before! Light refreshments will be served. Registration is required at 1-800-613-3163, since space is limited.

Thank You Dollar General for Supporting Summer Reading!

A heartfelt thank-you to Dollar General Corporation for their support of The Hayner Public Library District’s Summer Reading Program 2016, “Read for the Win.” The $500 grant from Dollar General will be used for incentives and rewards that indicate young patrons have reached certain benchmarks on their way to the reading goals.

Dollar General has been supporting literacy since 1993 and has awarded over $120 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 7.3 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education.

Programming and events associated with the summer program can be found on the library website.

Hellrng Family Contribution

Hayner Library has been the fortunate recipient of an international doll collection housed in its own distinctive cabinet, donated by Laura Hellrung, longtime Alton resident.

Herb and Laura Hellrung were married August 17, 1946. They raised six children in Alton and owned and operated Hellrung Construction.

The Hellrungs began traveling extensively through Europe and the Far East in 1956. It was during this time that they began to collect dolls in many of the countries they visited. Friends gave them a lovely Victorian cabinet in which Laura proudly displayed the collection. She remembers how excited her grandchildren would get each time they saw the dolls when they visited.

Now in her nineties, Laura has decided to downsize, and she wanted the doll collection to be in a place where children of all ages could enjoy it. This unique collection and its beautiful cabinet are now located in the KidsSpace at Hayner Library’s Alton Square location.

Laura Hellrung and a daughter, Mary Pat Venardos, with the donated doll collection.

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Alton Square Activities

- **Movers and Shakers Story Time** — Come join us for this fun and interactive story time for 3–5-year-olds. Children will hear stories, sing songs, and do crafts that reflect the weekly theme. Meeting dates are Mondays, August 22, September 12, and September 19, 2016, at 10 a.m. Light refreshments will be served. Please register at 433-2881.

- **Mommy and Me Story Time** — This story time is exclusively for the little ones ages birth–2 years old accompanied by an adult. This 30-minute story time includes themed stories, songs, finger plays, and manipulative. Meeting dates are Thursdays, August 25, September 1, September 8, September 15, September 22, and September 29, 2016, at 10 a.m. Please register at 433-2881.

- **Spanish Story Time** — Come join us in the KidsSpace at Hayner Public Library at Alton Square for Stories with Hector. Hector Lozano, from Hayner Public Library's downtown location, will be assisting us for this special story time. This 45-minute activity is a lively combination of books, finger plays, and songs in both English and Spanish for preschool children ages 3 to 5. Hector will be here at 10 a.m. on the following Mondays: August 29, and September 26, 2016. Please register at 433-2881.

- **Legos @ Your Library** — Bring your imagination and join us for an hour of building and creating Lego masterpieces. The library will supply the Legos! Legos stay at the library and will be displayed between sessions. Legos @ Your Library will meet in the KidsSpace the second Thursday of each month. Meeting date in September is: Thursday, September 8, 2016, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Please register at 433-2881.

Downtown Activities

- **Evening Story Time** — Kids can wear their pajamas and bring their favorite stuffed animal to Hayner Library downtown KidsSpace for stories, puppets, and finger plays before bedtime. For ages 2–5. This story time meets at 6:30 p.m. on August 22, August 29, September 12, September 19, and September 26, 2016. Please register at 462-0677, ext. 2836.

- **Mary Kay’s Story Times** — Come join Ms. Mary Kay for an hour of fun and play! This story time encourages children to participate in songs, stories, finger plays, and crafts. Ages 3–5 years. Meeting time is 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, August 23, August 30, September 6, September 13, September 20, and September 27, 2016. Please register at 462-0677, ext. 2836.

- **After-School Fun** — Kids, come join us for After-School Craft at Hayner Public Library downtown KidsSpace. The craft will be for children ages 5–10 years of age. The fun begins at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2016. Please register at 462-0677, ext. 2836.

### TEENSPACE

**AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2016 ACTIVITIES**

- **Teen Movie Nights @ Riverbender.com Community Center**
  Come join the fun after school for Teen Movie Nights @ Riverbender.com Community Center. Each month Hayner Library will host a movie event exclusively for teens. The movie will be a PG-13 new release, and pizza is on the menu! Our first movie will be Wednesday, September 21, 2016, at 3:45 p.m. To register or for dates, call Shannon at 433-2872.

- **Book, Books, & More Books**
  Hey, Teens! Come join Hayner Library’s new “Teen Book Club.” Once a month get together with other teens to share your thoughts and opinions about that month’s read. As always, snacks will be provided. Meetings will be held at Riverbender.com Community Center Library. Our first club date is Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome! For more information or to get dates, call Shannon at 433-2872.

- **Chopped Competition**
  Come join us for this fun food competition at the Riverbender.com Community Center. Groups of teens will be given a mystery basket full of different types of food with which they will have to create an edible snack. This program will take place on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at 4 p.m.

### Animal Tales

Come Join Animal Tales on Saturday, August 27, at 11 a.m. in the Hayner Library Performance Room at Alton Square. This program is for all ages and is sponsored by Hayner Public Library and funded by Heartland Baptist Church of Alton. Animal Tales will feature live, exotic wildlife from all over the world that possess unique abilities. Enhanced adaptations for sight, sound, touch, strength, and movement allow these animals to overcome otherwise impossible barriers.

### Get Your Tickets Now!

Dogs of Society, the Ultimate Elton Rock Tribute, delivers all the notes, licks, beats and harmonies of classic 1970s Elton, just like your favorite vinyl, BUT ALL LIVE!

November 10th at Hatheway Cultural Center on the campus of Lewis and Clark Community College. Tickets are $20 and go on sale July 15th. Proceeds from this concert support scholarships for music production students and music ensembles at Lewis and Clark. For ticket information go to www.dogsofsociety.com or call the music office at Lewis and Clark Community College (618) 468-4731.

The Lewis & Clark Music Department is a great partner and supporter of the Hayner Library Performance Series, and we hope all our patrons can enjoy this exciting concert! Who doesn’t love Elton John??
Join us for our summer 2016 semester of special events. These events are great for all ages, and they’re all free of charge. All programs do require registration. To register, call 1-800-613-3163. Unless otherwise stated, all programs will be held in 225 Alton Square Mall, upper level. NOTE: 225 Alton Square Mall is located on the east side of the mall, on the second floor between the escalators and J. C. Penney.

REMINDER
Often program registration fills up and rolls over to a waiting list. If you are not going to attend a program that you are signed up for, PLEASE call 1-800-613-3163 and let us know so we can fill your reservation from the waiting list.

Bow-wow Pow-wow
Note: This program is held the second Saturday of each month at the Hayner Alton Square Library, 132 Alton Square Mall, Alton, Ill.
Saturday, July 9

Ben Bedford
The Pilot and the Flying Machine: Songs of the Journey
Tuesday, July 12, 6:30 p.m.
In July of 2010, Bedford was named one of the “50 most significant Folk singer-songwriters of the past 50 years” by Rich Warren of WFMT-Chicago. A popular return performer to the Hayner Library concert series, Ben has based this program on his newest album, The Pilot and the Flying Machine, with all songs dealing with some sort of journey, whether it is physical, philosophical, or emotional. Register at 1-800-613-3163.

Branching Out
Note: Branching Out classes are now two-part. They are held the second Thursday of each month with a collaborative session offered on the following Thursday. All classes will take place at the Genealogy & Local History Library, 401 State Street.
From the Courthouse to the Church: Using Official Records
July 14 & 21
All That’s Fit to Print & More: Newspaper Research
August 11 & 18
Where We’ve Lived: Researching Property
September 8 & 15
10:00–11:30 a.m.
These classes include many aspects of genealogical research and are suitable for the beginner as well as the more experienced researcher. Register at 1-800-613-3163.

David Wolfe
Benjamin Franklin: An Interpretation
Tuesday, July 19, 6:30 p.m.
Benjamin Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. A renowned polymath, Franklin was a leading author, printer, political theorist, politician, Freemason, postmaster, scientist, inventor, civic activist, statesman, and diplomat. Join us for this fascinating character portrayal of one of the most famous Americans of our history. Register at 800-613-3163.

Color Me Stress Free
July 25, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.
Note: This event will be held in the Multipurpose Room in the Alton Square Library.
Adult coloring night. Come color with us and enjoy great company. Calming music will be played to help you forget your troubles. It will be a relaxing and fun way to spend an hour or two. Stay the whole time or a portion. We will provide coloring pages and colored pencils. Of course, you may bring your own supplies. Please register at 1-800-613-3163.

Good Credit: How to Get It and Keep It
Tuesday, July 26, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
Note: This event will be held in the Multipurpose Room in the Alton Square Library.
In this free presentation of Scott Credit Union’s community outreach program, a representative will help you learn how credit scores can help or harm you, how to establish good credit, and ways to fix your credit history. Please register at 1-800-613-3163.

John C. Guenther, FAIA, LEED AP
The Lodge That Lewis Built – Architect Preston J. Bradshaw’s Vision for a Magnate
Wednesday, July 27, 6:30 p.m.
To be presented at the Genealogy & Local History Library, 401 State Street, Alton.
Perched high atop the bluffs of the Mississippi River north of Alton is a remarkable little structure referred to as “the Tea House” by locals and “the Lodge” by its architect, Preston J. Bradshaw. Bradshaw designed the Lodge for Charles Levis of Owens-Illinois Glass Company in 1934, and it shares many characteristics with buildings designed by Bernard Maybeck for Principia College. St. Louis architect John Guenther, who has designed and planned various buildings on the campus of Principia since 1995, will discuss the architectural design, materials, colors, and textures of this bluff-top pavilion just visible from the River Road. Seating is limited. Register at 1-800-613-3163.

Moon Party
Monday, August 15, 7–8:30 p.m.
Note: This program will be held in the pocket park next to the downtown library, 326 Belle Street, Alton.
Join The Hayner Public Library District and The Nature Institute Astronomy Association’s own Eddie Agha for a special event to see the moon and stars as you’ve never seen them before. Eddie will start with a short presentation on what will be seen when using the telescopes. Then we will begin viewing the moon with the telescopes available for rent from the library, and Eddie will bring one of his own special telescopes, which has a higher magnification to view the stars.
children and adults will love this! Light snacks and drinks will be provided. Please register at 1-800-613-3163.

George Portz & The Friends of Bluegrass
Tuesday, August 16, 6:30 p.m.
George Portz & The Friends of Bluegrass is one of the most versatile performing groups in the area as they blend their fiery bluegrass roots with some traditional Irish and Louisiana Cajun. Their “Cajun Set” has won raves from crowds throughout the Midwest. This five-piece musical group’s enthusiasm, top-notch musical ability, wit, and humor are always evident during their performances. George, the group’s leader and founder, has won more than 130 first-place fiddling championships, played for two Presidents, and performed at the Grand Ole Opry. George’s musical philosophy is to always “leave ’em wanting more” . . . and they always do! Register at 1-800-613-3163.

Michael Silverman and the Bach to the Future Band
The Bach That Rocks
Thursday, September 8, 6:30 p.m.
Note: This program will be held in the Hatheway Cultural Center on the campus of Lewis & Clark Community College, 5800 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, Ill. It is jointly sponsored by The Hayner Public Library District and the Music Department of Lewis & Clark Community College.

Imagine the classics—Bach, Beethoven, Mozart—performed in exciting new ways . . . modern jazz, African, and Latin rhythms. Bach to the Future brings an exciting, whimsical approach to the most beloved music of all time, and some of the most interesting cutting-edge instruments you’ll ever see. How about a Drumitar? An electric violin that glows when you play it? All four players are world-renowned performers, best-selling authors, and highly acclaimed composers. This is a show you won’t want to miss! Bach to the Future—The Bach That Rocks! Register at 1-800-613-3163.

Dave Foraker
Tuesday, September 20, 6:30 p.m.
Well known throughout the St. Louis area, Dave pounds the piano, tells stories, and sings the blues. His music is a blend of standards, blues, jazz, and gospel, with each song “bluesified” by his signature vocal style. His stories are culled from a 50-plus-year career in music, often working alongside some of the legends of R&B and the blues. His goal with every performance is to provide encouraging and enlightening entertainment for all ages. Register at 1-800-613-3163.

Armchair Traveler: India
Thursday, September 22, 2016, 6–7:30 p.m.
This semi-annual presentation of Armchair Traveler, a program that is fun for all members of the family, will feature the large country of India, or as it is officially known, the Republic of India. India is the seventh-largest country by area, the second-most populous country with over 1.2 billion people, and the most populous democracy in the world. With the help of our patron Caroline Hicks, a native of India and Fiji, we will explore and discover the wonders of India. Pami Singh and Steve Singh, owners/operators of Taj India Cuisine in Edwardsville, Illinois, will serve samples and talk about the Indian cuisine being served. And, if time permits, we will have a taste of Indian music and dancing. Bring the whole family to explore India without ever leaving the U.S.! Please register at 1-800-613-3163.
Genealogy & Local History Library Services

The Genealogy & Local History Library just reached its five-year anniversary, so we wanted to share an overview of services we provide. This year is also the 125th Anniversary of the Jennie D. Hayner Memorial Library building, so make sure to check out the Hayner Library Facebook page for posts about events and the books, art, and people that make our library special.

There are some online resources available only at the Genealogy & Local History Library and some that are available at all library locations. The digitized Telegraph newspaper from 1836–2012 is accessible from any location. So is the Newspaper Archive, which has copies of newspapers from around the United States and the world.

At the Genealogy Library only, we have Ancestry Library Edition, Heritage Quest, and Sanborn fire insurance maps. Sanborn maps are large-scale plans containing data that can be used to estimate the potential risk for urban structures. This includes information such as the outline of each building, the size, shape, and construction materials, heights, and function of structures, and location of windows and doors. The maps also give street names, street and sidewalk widths, property boundaries, building use, and house and block numbers. Seven or eight different editions represent some areas. We have access to various dates in the 1800s and 1900s for all of Illinois. The earliest date for Alton is 1885.

Appointments to do genealogy research with a staff member are free! Just give us a call to set up a time.

We have a microfilm/microfiche reader, which also makes printouts. You can even bring in your own microfilm to read.

We have yearbooks from Alton High School, Marquette, Western Military Academy, Monticello Seminary, Shurtleff College, and various middle school and elementary schools. All of our high school yearbooks have been digitized, so we can provide paper or digital copies of pictures in the yearbooks. This is especially great for enlarging portraits. And the digital copies are going online soon and will be available to anyone anywhere through www.archive.org.

We provide information on properties for homeowners, researchers, and occasionally Realtors. We received 300 files from the Alton Area Landmarks Association in 2004 and now have approximately 3,000 addresses. We very much enjoy partnering with AALA, and the Genealogy & Local History Library was part of the 2015 Alton Area Landmarks Association House Tour.

We compile and maintain vertical files for many local history subjects. Often, we turn these files into books for the Illinois Room collection. They’re indexed before going on the shelf so that you can find information in them the way you would with a published book.

We copy scrapbooks for our collection from local organizations like Alton Little Theater, the YWCA, and the Community Service League. If you are in an organization that keeps records, we want these from you! We’re happy to make copies and return the originals. We’re also always willing to give talks to various organizations, so keep us in mind if you need a speaker. The topic can be genealogy or local history related (and we take requests). We also have a phenomenal audio tour that provides stories and background information on all of our displays and artwork. It can be taken at any time in the library.

We hold in-house programs and educational classes throughout the year, like our Branching Out genealogy classes and architecture talks. We also hold events for students and have helped Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops working on Genealogy badges. In April we had classes of 6th and 8th graders from the City Garden Montessori School in St. Louis come do research for a Heritage Scrapbook project. We have created a local history suitcase for teachers (available soon for checkout from Alton Square) and will be hosting a summer workshop, Integrating Primary Sources to Teach Local History in the Elementary Classroom, offered by SIUE, the Alton School District, and the Madison County Recorder’s office.

This is just a snapshot of what we work on here in the Genealogy & Local History Library, so please get in touch if you want more information about any aspect of our work (462-0677). And in December we will also have a special open house to celebrate 125 years of this beautiful building, so we hope to see you there!

New in Our Illinois Room

Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques IR 929.1072 MOR
Alton Children’s Theater Scrapbook 1960–2007 IR 792.0977386 ALT
Alton Rotary Club: 50 Years, 1921–1971 IR 366 ROT
Alton Telegraph Stories of the Year 1969–2010 IR 977.386 ALT
Boys & Girls Club of Alton, Inc. Great Futures Annual Dinner April 12, 2016 IR 977.386 BOY
Centenary and Dedication of New Church, November fifth, 1961, St. Michael Church, Michael, Illinois IR 282.773853 CEN
Eminence, Illinois: A Research Project IR 977.384 WAR
Family History and Reflections on David Apple, M.D. IR 929.2 APPLE
Grand Army of the Republic: GAR records for the county of Williamson, Illinois IR 977.3993 LIN
Hiking Illinois (Second Edition) IR 508.773 POS
The Horn Family: From the Rhineland to the Prairie IR 929.2 HORN
Hotel Stratford Building Plans 1901, 1996, 2006 IR 977.386 HOT
Hotel Stratford: Economic Impact Analysis IR 977.386 HOT
Hotel Stratford National Register of Historic Places Registration Form IR 977.386 HOT
Illinois State Library Heritage Project 1839–2013 IR 027.5773 EME
The Making of an All-America City: East St. Louis at 150 IR 977.389 MAK
The St. Louis Zoo Album, 1960 IR 977.866 STL
Those Left Behind: Cemeteries in the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Williamson County, Illinois IR 977.3993 LIN
**Famous Footprints**

Famous visitors began appearing early in Alton history. They came for many reasons including campaign tours, promotion of religious or cultural ideas, and humanitarian efforts. Many appeared as guest speakers for local organizations and schools. Several political dignitaries have made footprints in the mud to view destruction caused by floods.

In 1867 American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson came to Alton to give a lecture to benefit the Alton Library Association. Emerson’s brother, Dr. William S. Emerson, was a local physician who was also instrumental in the establishment of Alton’s Unitarian Church. Other famous dignitaries who traveled to Alton to give lectures during this period were *New York Times* journalist and editor Horace Greely and American lecturer Anna Dickinson.

Abraham Lincoln walked along the Alton streets and stayed in Alton many times before his famous senatorial debate with Stephen Douglas. The debate happened on the steps of the old City Hall building that stood in full architectural splendor on the site of downtown’s Lincoln-Douglas Square. Lincoln was close friends with Alton resident U.S. Senator Lyman Trumbull. He visited the Trumbull home, among other places in Alton, on many occasions before his presidency.

Charles Lindbergh had an emergency landing field and mail relay station on the Godfrey farm of William Walters. Lindbergh was also a member of the Alton Aeronautical Club that was organized in 1925. In 2001, the relay station was restored and moved to a dedication site next to the Godfrey Village Hall.

Traveling evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson, who is known as the founder of the Foursquare Gospel Church, held revivals and healing services in Alton between 1920 and 1927. During one visit she was said to have baptized nearly 90 people in the Mississippi River at the foot of Henry Street.

Amelia Earhart visited the Monticello Seminary, now Lewis & Clark Community College, in October 1933. She charmed her audience with a lecture titled “The Fun of Flying” as she spoke about her experiences as a female pilot. While in Alton, she lodged at the Stratford Hotel.

Tom Mix, American film actor in the early 1900s, brought the Tom Mix Circus to Alton in May 1938. Despite heavy rains and muddy ground, the circus set up tents on Henry Street and held their evening performances to the delight of a large crowd. During the afternoon, he had attended a children’s May Day party at the Elks Club.


In 1974 Colonel Sanders, founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise, visited the second-grade classroom at Gilson Brown Elementary School. He gave a quick speech to the students about the importance of staying in school, and then, like a fine Southern gentleman, he graciously kissed the hand of teacher Mary Wiley before his departure.

During a presidential campaign tour for her husband, Nancy Reagan visited the Alton Catholic Children’s Home and participated in a Halloween party on October 29, 1984. Local newspaper articles reported she was well received by the kids, who said they enjoyed her gentle disposition, her nice clothes, and the big car she arrived in, an Oldsmobile 98!

Maya Angelou, poet, author, and civil rights activist, came to Alton during 1987 to be the narrator in a film being produced about Elijah P. Lovejoy. Parts of the film, *The Vigil: Remembering Lovejoy*, were shot in the city cemetery. Sexton Bette Flactiff was asked to close the entire cemetery while filming was underway.

During the Flood of ’93, billionaire Ross Perot stopped at the Alton Salvation Army on July 19. Perot donated $1 million to the organization to help flood victims. He promised another million if private citizens would match the donation. Despite his efforts to avoid the press, he spoke briefly to reporters and Alton Mayor Bob Towse.

Among other famous dignitaries who have walked the streets of Alton was Zebulon Pike, the man responsible for discovering Pike’s Peak in Colorado. Famed explorer and aviator Rear Admiral Richard Byrd spoke to Alton High School students in 1936. And world heavyweight championship boxer “Gentleman Jim” Corbett came to Alton in the early 20th century to square off with a local glassblower.


President Barack Obama, while a member of the Illinois Senate, held a public town hall meeting at Lewis & Clark Community College in 2005.

Jimmy Carter never actually walked on city soil, but he cruised through the Alton Lock & Dam in the early morning hours of August 24, 1979, aboard the Delta Queen paddleboat. He greeted an enthusiastic crowd who waited along the fence surrounding the locks.

Theodore Roosevelt’s first visit in 1907 was also by way of boat along the Mississippi River, but Teddy was preoccupied in the pilot house, and he forgot to wave at the shore-side crowd. Three years later in 1910 he returned to Alton by railroad. During this quick visit, he made sure to shake hands, speak to the crowd, and wave as he pulled away from the depot. It appeared he had redeemed himself in the eyes of Alton citizens.

—Pam Bierman

**Fourth Annual Library Card Drive!**

This year’s library card drive will be held from Small Business Saturday through the next Saturday (Nov. 26–Dec. 3, 2016) to encourage residents to shop locally for the holidays. During this week, select businesses in Alton, Godfrey, and Fosterburg will offer a discount or other incentive to customers showing their Hayner library cards, so make sure to check the next Hayner newsletter or our website for the list of local businesses who are offering discounts! Own or manage a local business? We would love to include you in this event! If you would like to participate, please contact Lacy McDonald at 618-433-2859 or lacy.mcdonald@haynerlibrary.org.
Authors and Their Pets

Five years ago, because of physical problems, I had to give up my beloved homebound program for Hayner Library. It was decided that I would develop a volunteer program and write new mystery lists as well as articles for Hayner’s newsletters.

During that time I would also write e-mails to authors and ask questions about their lives and books. Many authors that I wrote to responded happily to my requests. We developed good e-mail friendships. Loving my English Springer Spaniel, Lulu, made me wonder how many authors had pets. So I wrote to them and asked them questions about their pets. Their response was great.

Immediately I thought of mystery author Carolyn Haines. Carolyn writes a great mystery series featuring Sarah Booth Delaney. Sarah Booth Delaney is an unconventional Southern belle. Unwed and over 30, she excels as a private investigator. She’s the hottest detective in Zinna, Mississippi, but in this cozy mystery series, solving mysteries isn’t all she’s up against. She juggles an acting career, handsome men, and a bossy antebellum ghost.

Carolyn is a huge lover of rescued animals. She even has a cookbook from which she donates all the money made to an animal rescue group. This is what she wrote to me when I asked her about her pets:

Well, you have hit the jackpot on an author with pets. I run an animal rescue, and I have cats, dogs, and horses. Just like Sarah Booth, only I have MORE. I am adjusting to the loss of two of my wonderful animal family members. Coal Shaft (who Pluto was patterned on) died in early February. He had diabetes and a number of health issues, but he was such a huge part of my day. I miss him a lot.

Mirage, my 35-year-old horse I had from the day she was born, also died in February. She was tired. The vet thought she’d had a stroke. I have four horses, and every day when I go down to the barn to feed, I almost can’t stand it. Because I’m deeply involved in rescue work, I know the hardships of loving animals. Especially those who have not had a good start in life. But those hardships are off-set with so much love and joy.

Today, I have 9 dogs, 8 cats, and 4 horses. At my age, this is enough. But I take care of them myself every day (with a little help from my friends when I must be out of town). They set the rhythm for my day. I get up and feed Kinky, the old, old kitty, then the horses, then the dogs (if I feed the dogs first they like to run to the swamp at the bottom of my pasture and go hog wild). The day is sectioned into writing, reading, and doing things with different animals. I love this. It keeps my day sane, and by bedtime, we’re all ready for sleep.

If you are a pet owner, please, please spay and neuter your pets. It’s healthier for them and for you. And please never buy a dog or cat. There are dozens of breed specific rescues and tons of wonderful mixed breed pets at local shelters or rescues. If owners would only spay and neuter, in a few years, there would not be the suffering there is now for unwanted pets.

Thank you, Ms. Haines.

—Stephanie Munson

Volunteer Biography—Rosemary Lynn Ruedin

Rosemary Lynn Macias was born at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Alton, Ill. She grew up in Godfrey in a small house on the corner of St. Ambrose Drive and Walter Street. At this time there was only farmland surrounding their home. While she was growing up she was able to watch the Beltline, later renamed Homer Adams Parkway, being built. She also was delighted to watch the new St. Ambrose School, church, and community center being built right across the highway from her house.

She lived in a six-room house with her parents and her older brother and younger sister. She played dolls, rode her bike, and played ball in her neighborhood. In the winter months the children would go to an ice pond across the field and ice skate.

Rosemary graduated from St. Ambrose grade school and attended Alton High School. She was in the Office Occupation program. In this program she went to school a half day and worked the afternoons in an office at Rock Spring Golf Course as a secretary. After she graduated from high school, she went to work at Alton Banking and Trust, later known as the Wedge bank.

She met her husband, Richard Ruedin, in high school, and four years after Richard graduated from college they were married. They raised their son and two daughters in the Alton area and are very proud of them. They also have eight adorable grandchildren who make being a grandparent a wonderful job, she says.

Rosemary worked as a secretary at St. Ambrose School for 14 years. She retired in 2001 to take care of her mother. After her mother passed away and the children were gone, she missed the schoolchildren. She needed to fill that void in her life.

We were lucky enough to get her 12 years ago. She asked if she could help with story times. She was welcomed and has been loved by many. She looks forward to Mondays and Thursdays, seeing all the children come as babies and watching them over the years graduate to kindergarten.

Rosemary has some favorite hobbies and activities. She loves to crochet afghans and loves reading, especially biographies. Her favorite was about Princess Diana. She felt that Diana’s life was very exciting, but troubling too.

Her favorite activity is traveling to Chicago and Paducah to see her grandchildren.

We are so very proud of Rosemary and grateful for her thousands of hours volunteering with the children of Hayner Library patrons.

Bless you, Rosemary.

—Stephanie Munson
Nonfiction—
Armstrong, Jennifer
Keishin. Seinfeldia: How a Show About Nothing Changed Everything

Barry, Dave. Best. State. Ever.: A Florida Man Defends His Homeland

Bogle, Donald. Elizabeth and Michael: The Queen of Hollywood and the King of Pop: A Love Story


Brooks, Kix. Cookin’ It with Kix: The Art of Celebrating and the Fun of Outdoor Cooking

Burnett, Carol. Mayhem, and Fun in the Sandbox

Byrne, Paula. Kick: The True Story of JFK’s Sister and the Heir to Chatsworth

Conason, Joe. Man of the World: The Further Endeavors of Bill Clinton

de Havillard, Olivia. Every Frenchman Has One


Dugard, Jaycee. Freedom: My Book of Firsts

Escobar, Juan Pablo. Pablo Escobar: My Father

Falk, Daina. The Hungry Fan’s Game Day Cookbook: 165 Recipes for Eating, Drinking & Watching Sports

Fish, Stanley. Winning Arguments: What Works and Doesn’t Work in Politics, the Bedroom, the Courtroom, and the Classroom

Gaines, Chip and Joanna. The Magnolia Story

Gellman, Barton. Dark Mirror: Edward Snowden and the American Surveillance State

Gleick, James. Time Travel: A History


Hannah, Mark. The Best “Worst President”: What the Right Gets Wrong About Barack Obama

Havrilesky, Heather. How to Be a Person in the World: Ask Polly’s Guide Through the Paradoxes of Modern Life

Kovic, Ron. Hurricane Street

Krantz, Michael. Trump Revealed: An American Journey of Ambition, Ego, Money, and Power


le Carré, John. The Pigeon Tunnel: Stories from My Life

Love, Mike. Good Vibrations: My Life as a Beach Boy

Marton, Kati. True Believer: Stalin’s Last American Spy

Mezrich, Ben. The 37th Parallel: The Secret Truth Behind America’s UFO Highway

Millard, Candice. Hero of the Empire: The Boer War, a Daring Escape, and the Making of Winston Churchill

Schumer, Amy. The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo

Scottoline, Lisa. I’ve Got Sand in All the Wrong Places

Selvin, Joel. Altamont: The Rolling Stones, the Hells Angels, and the Inside Story of Rock’s Darkest Day

Smith, Jean Edward. Bush

Springsteen, Bruce. Born to Run

Taste of Home Editors. Taste of Home Make It Freeze It: 295 Make-Ahead Meals that Save Time & Money

Thompson, Linda. A Little Thing Called Life: From Elvis’s Graceland to Bruce Jenner’s Caitlyn & Songs in Between

Toobin, Jeffrey. American Heiress: The Wild Saga of the Kidnapping, Crimes and Trial of Patty Hearst


Vargas, Elizabeth. Between Breaths: A Memoir of Panic and Addiction

Wolfe, Tom. The Kingdom of Speech

Fiction—
Andrews, V. C. Whitefern
Atkins, Ace. Innocents
Beaton, M. C. Pushing Up Daisies
Bradley, Alan. Thrice the Brinded Cat Hath Mew’d
Brown, Sandra. Sting
Burke, James Lee. The Jealous Kind
Castillo, Linda. Among the Wicked
Cohen, Harlan. Home
Coleman, Reed Farrel. Robert B. Parker’s Debt to Pay
Connolly, John. A Time of Torment
Coulter, Catherine. Insidious
Dodd, Christina. Because I’m Watching
Donoghue, Emma. The Wonder
Evanovich, Janet. Curious Minds: A Knight and Moon Novel
Fairstain, Linda. Killer Look
Feehan, Christine. Dark Carousel
Fisher, Joseph. Guilty Minds
Galdorisi, George. Tom Clancy’s Op-Center: Scorched Earth
Graham, Heather. Deadly Fate
Gray, Shelley Shepard. A Sister’s Wish (Charmed Amish)
Green, Jane. Falling
Griffin, W.E.B. Broken Trust
Hannah, Sophie. Closed Casket: The New Hercule Poirot Novel
Hiaasen, Carl. Razor Girl
Jance, J. A. Downfall
Johansen, Iris. Night and Day
Johnstone, William. A Colorado Christmas

Kenyon, Sherrilyn. Dragonmark
Lovesey, Peter. Another One Goes Tonight
Macomber, Debbie. Sweet Tomorrows
Mallory, Susan. Daughters of the Bride
Mayor, Archer. Presumption of Guilt
McGall Smith, Alexander. Chance Developments: Stories
Mina, Denise. The Long Drop
Moriarty, Liane. Truly Madly Guilty
 Muller, Marcia. Someone Always Knows
Neggers, Carla. Liar’s Key
Novak, Brenda. The Secrets She Kept
Patchett, Ann. Commonwealth
Patterson, James. Bullseye (Michael Bennett)
Patterson, James. Woman of God
Pearson, Ridley. White Bone
Penny, Louise. A Great Reckoning
Perry, Anne. Revenge in a Cold River: A William Monk Novel
Phillips, Susan Elizabeth. First Star I See Tonight
Rosenfelt, David. Outfoxed
Rowling, J. K. Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: The Official Script Book of the Original West End Production
Scotitone, Lisa. Damaged
Silva, Daniel. The Black Widow
Slaughter, Karin. Kept Woman
Snelling, Lauraine. Second Half
Steel, Danielle. Magic
Steel, Danielle. Rushing Waters
Todd, Charles. The Shattered Tree
Towles, Amor. A Gentleman in Moscow
Turtledove, Harry. Fallout: The Hot War
WARD, J. R. The Angels’ Share
Ware, Ruth. The Woman in Cabin 10
Weiner, Jennifer. Hungry Heart
Wiggs, Susan. Family Tree
Woods, Stuart. Dishonorable Intentions (Stone Barrington)
Woods, Stuart. Smooth Operator (Teddy Fay)
Illinois History Day

By Lacy McDonald  
Genealogy & Local History Manager

I am considered something of a history expert. But in just three days, the students who participated in Illinois History Day 2016 taught me a phenomenal amount about the Prairie State.

I served as a judge at two regional competitions and at the state level this year. The rules required all projects to be about Illinois, and the national theme was “Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History.” Rocky Fork and the Underground Railroad, Hamilton Primary School, Robert Wadlow, and even My Just Desserts restaurant all made appearances as local history topics.

I was extremely impressed with the projects I saw. These students put so much work into their research: they visited libraries and museums, conducted interviews, and clearly spent hours poring over old newspapers.

Illinois is divided into four regions, and Alton is right on the border of two of those regions: Jersey County participates in the Central Region competition at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, and Madison County participates in the Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Projects judged as superior advance to the state level, also in Springfield. Some projects make it all the way to National History Day in College Park, Maryland.

My friend Amy, an archaeologist with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, joined me as a judge at the Central Region, and Hayner Youth & Young Adult Manager/Education Liaison Sharon Windham accompanied me to State. Judges hailed from all over Illinois and included high school history teachers, Illinois State Museum employees, and college professors.

Everyone was divided into teams of two to review projects, and we had some time to chat before judging started. My State judging partner retired from a long career with the government, working at the IRS and National Weather Service. Sharon’s partner had been CFO of the city of Chicago while they built Millennium Park. We ended up learning a lot from students and other judges alike.

When all was said and done, I’d driven 592 miles, visited tourist attractions across the state of Illinois (hello Route 66 Cozy Dog Drive In!), and judged 27 projects. Next year Sharon and I will most likely judge the state competition only, but our goal for this year was to understand what Illinois History Day was about so that Hayner Library can better serve students and teachers in the area who would like to participate in the future.

If you would like more information about the process, please let us know!