

## **FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL 2018**

### **NEWSLETTER**

#### **LOCATION**

102 West Third Street

Phone: 815-625-1370

#### **LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM

Friday-9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Saturday-8:00 AM-5:00 PM

#### **LIBRARY BUILDING CLOSINGS**

**February 12-Late Opening-12:00 PM**

**February 19 for Presidents' Day**

#### **Programs**

Monthly Lego Clubs, Adult Book Club and Teen Book Club

(Times and dates are listed on the pages that follow)

#### **FIND US ONLINE**

Facebook: Sterling Public Library-Look for our logo

Website: [www.sterlingpubliclibrary.org](http://www.sterlingpubliclibrary.org)

#### **Email:**

Director: [SPL-Director@comcast.net](mailto:SPL-Director@comcast.net)

Interlibrary Loan: [SPL-BookLoans@comcast.net](mailto:SPL-BookLoans@comcast.net)

Genealogy: [SPL-Genealogy@comcast.net](mailto:SPL-Genealogy@comcast.net)

Young Adults: [SPL-YoungAdult@comcast.net](mailto:SPL-YoungAdult@comcast.net)

**Apply for your passports here  
during normal business hours.**





# **Story Times**

**February Theme-We Love Bears**

**March-Baby Farm Animals**

**April-Spring Has Sprung**



## **Toddler Time**

**All 18 months-3 years old are welcome**

**Each Monday 9:30 AM-10:00 AM**

**Stories, poems, finger plays/songs and craft at each story time.**

## **Preschool Story Time**

**All 3 -5 year olds are welcome!**

**Each Monday 10:30 AM-11:00 AM**

**Stories, poems, finger plays/songs and craft at each story time.**

# LEGO CLUBS

**Building Challenges with regular Lego**

**For Grades K-4**

**Saturday, February 10-10:00-11:00 AM**

**Saturday, March 3-10:00-11:00 AM**

**Saturday, April 7-10:00-11:00 AM**

**Building Challenges using the  
computer and Lego**

**For Grades 5-8**

**Saturday, February 10-11:30 AM-12:30 PM**

**Saturday, February 24-10:00-11:00 AM**

**Saturday, March 3-11:30 AM-12:30 PM**

**Saturday, March 17-10:00-11:00 AM**

**Saturday, April 7-11:30 AM-12:30 PM**

**Saturday, April 21-10:00-11:00 AM**

**You must register for each class. You may register at the Children's Desk or you may call the library at 815-625-1370 to register.**





## Genealogy and Local History

In the United States a nation-wide census has been taken every ten years since 1790. One of the easiest ways to locate where an ancestor lived and when they lived there is to use [www.census-online.com](http://www.census-online.com).

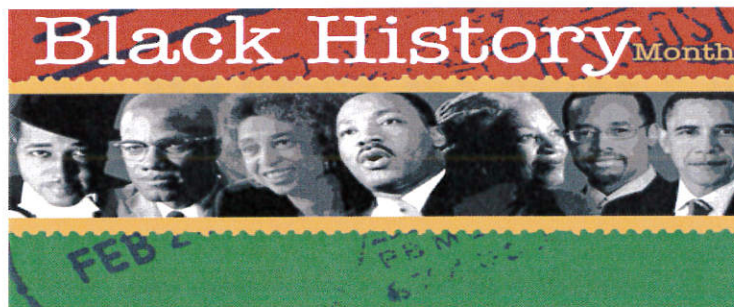


The first census to name the whole family is the 1850 census. Before 1850 it only names the head of the household. The 1840 census told if you were a pensioner of the Revolutionary War or military service. From 1790 to 1860 there were slave schedules. But, until 1870 the slaves were nameless. The 1870 census is the first census where those nameless persons on the slave schedules were free and are listed by name and age. The war had liberated nearly four million slaves. The 1870 census will be continued in the next newsletter as it contains so many details of the census schedule after the Civil War.

County courthouses have a wide range of information. When doing research one should search every available document in the courthouse from purchasing, transferring of slaves, wills, to help reconstruct the family. Finding African American families when they changed surnames between 1865 and 1875 was common. Many African American families choose a different surname when they were freed. If you suspect this happened in your family, try searching on the first name and ages to locate the family or searching on the neighbor's surnames.

If you are searching Whiteside County, you can search in the Genealogy/Local History department in the Sterling Public Library. We have the census records for Whiteside County from 1840 to 1940.

The latest searchable census is 1940 because the United States has a "72-year rule" that restricts access to census records to all but the individual named on the record or their legal heir. Therefore, the 1930 census was released in 2002, the 1940 in April 2012. The 1950 census will not be released until April, 2022.



February is Black History Month. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of blacks in U.S. history. You can check out the book, "Black Genealogy" from the Genealogy/Local History department. Other related books are available throughout the library.



# YOUNG ADULTS



## YA Meetings

Thursday, February 15, 5:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, March 15, 5:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, April 19, 5:30-7:30 PM

All students in grades 6-12 are welcome. There are a variety of activities for teens that could include book discussions, board games, movies, and there is always good conversation and food!



## Book Subscription Boxes

Boxes are released monthly and include a hand picked YA book and other fun surprises. Library cardholders ages 12 and up may participate.

Ask at the library for details.

## NEW BOOKS

**Gunslinger Girl by Lindsay Ely** — Seventeen-year-old Serendipity "Pity" Jones inherited two things from her mother: a pair of six shooters and perfect aim. In this extraordinary debut from Lyndsay Ely, the West is once again wild after a Second Civil War fractures the U.S. into a broken, dangerous land.

**Love, Hate & Other Filters by Samira Ahmed** — Seventeen-year-old Maya Aziz an Indian-American Muslim teen confronts Islamophobia and a reality she can neither explain nor escape.

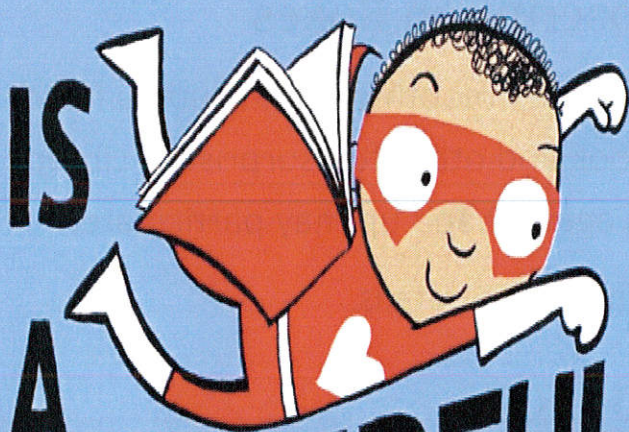
**Everless by Sara Holland** — In the kingdom of Sempera, time is currency After a decade, Jules returns to Everless and finds more danger—and temptation—than Jules could have ever imagined

**Now is Everything by Amy Giles**—The McCauleys look perfect on the outside. But nothing is ever as it seems, and this family is hiding a dark secret.



## ADULT PROGRAMS

# A TRAINED LIBRARIAN



# IS A POWERFUL SEARCH ENGINE

with a **HEART**



The second Tuesday morning of the month the library hosts the Adult Readers' Book Club. Copies of the books are available for cardholders of the Sterling Public Library. The discussion takes place at 10:00 AM in the library conference room.

### Serious Readers' Groups

#### Selections

#### February

*Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger

#### March

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*  
by Rebecca Skloot

#### April

"*Terrorist*" by John Updike








University of Illinois Extension- Unit 4  
www.extension.illinois.edu/clw

Whiteside County- 815-632-3611  
Carroll County- 815-244-9444  
Lee County- 815-857-3525

# Wits Fitness



## Brain Exercise Classes

Join University of Illinois Educator Karla Belzer each month as she leads participants through interactive activities designed to exercise the brain to maintain and enhance cognitive function and memory. You are never too young or too old to get started training your brain, so join Karla in this fun and informative class.

Location: Sterling Public Library, 102 West Third St., Sterling, IL

Time: 10-11:30 AM

Dates: Tuesday's in 2018 (no classes in June or September)

January 23, February 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, July 24,  
August 28, October 23, November 27, December 18

Class is free and open to the public. You are welcome to join any time.

Call 815-632-3611 or register online: [go.illinois.edu/witsfitness](http://go.illinois.edu/witsfitness)

University of Illinois \*U.S. Dept. of Agriculture \*Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.  
If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in any of our programs please contact our office.

## Gardening Program

Are you interested in starting a garden but don't know how?

Wednesday March 7, 2018 from 9-11:00 AM  
a Master Gardener will be in the main lobby of the library to answer your gardening questions.

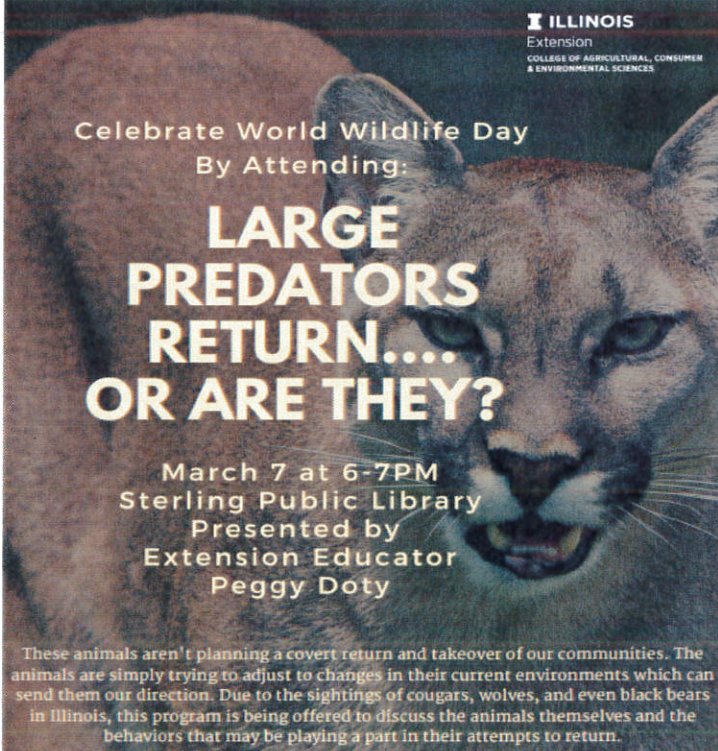
They will offer expert advice and knowledge on backyard gardening and demonstrate how to start seeds. Check out the assortment of free seeds to get started from the *Seed Library*. The *Seed Library* will be available throughout the growing season.



# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

The library partners with the University of Illinois Extension to bring programs to the Sterling Rock Falls community. The types of programs vary, and include the three listed on this page. Please call the Extension Office to register for the programs or to get more information. The contact person is Mary Nelson and the telephone number is listed for each program.

They will also be doing a S.T.E.A.M. program this summer during the Children's Summer Reading Program. Please take advantage of these opportunities.



**ILLINOIS**  
Extension  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER  
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Celebrate World Wildlife Day  
By Attending:

## LARGE PREDATORS RETURN.... OR ARE THEY?

March 7 at 6-7PM  
Sterling Public Library  
Presented by  
Extension Educator  
Peggy Doty

These animals aren't planning a covert return and takeover of our communities. The animals are simply trying to adjust to changes in their current environments which can send them our direction. Due to the sightings of cougars, wolves, and even black bears in Illinois, this program is being offered to discuss the animals themselves and the behaviors that may be playing a part in their attempts to return.

Register online at: [go.illinois.edu/largepredators](http://go.illinois.edu/largepredators)

\$5 program fee



For more information, contact Mary Nelson at  
815-632-3611 or [mnelsn25@illinois.edu](mailto:mnelsn25@illinois.edu)

University of Illinois \*U.S. Department of Agriculture \*Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programming and employment. If you need reasonable accommodations to participate, contact the Extension office at 815-632-3611.



## Around the Library



To see these and other library pictures, check out our website page at [www.sterlingpubliclibrary.org](http://www.sterlingpubliclibrary.org). Click on Around the Library under the About the Library menu.



# "Creative Wednesday"

**FOR KIDS AGES 5 AND UP!!!**

**Wednesday, March 28, 2018**

**1:00 PM-3:00 PM**

**Come on in and try an experiment, make a craft or two or just be creative and leave when you have had enough! The community room is the place for these supervised activities.**



## **Director's Corner**

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Lets start off with the good news! The south entrance, also know as the main entrance is open once again. Thank you for your patience!

I am happy to report that the Library Board of Trustees at their November meeting approved a new Digital Library card for patron's who reside inside the Sterling School district but outside of the city limits. So, if you like to read ebooks on your Kindle, Nook or other device and didn't particularly wish to pay the non-resident fee, the digital card is for you! The cost is \$40 per year per person and in the coming months the library will hopefully offer more streaming services for you to access as well.

If you are not aware the library is now an official passport agency. Since you recently received your passport are you concerned as to how you will communicate with the residents of the country? Well, the library can help you learn a new language. Simply access the library's webpage and click on the digital library services tab. Scroll down to Mango Languages, where you can access over 60 languages and learn at your own pace.



Knowledge is free at  
the library. Just bring  
your own container.

**Sterling Public Library  
102 West Third Street  
Sterling, Illinois 61081**