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MID-State Reading Council

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MARCH 2015

Greetings from the President

“Ah, how wonderful is the advent of the Spring! – the great annual miracle which no force can stay, no violence restrain, like love, that wins its way and cannot be withstood by any human power, because itself is divine power. If Spring came but once in a century, instead of once a year, or burst forth with the sound of an earthquake, and not in silence, what wonder and expectation would there be in all hearts to behold the miraculous change!... We are like children who are astonished and delighted only by the second-hand of the clock, not by the hour-hand.” Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Kavanagh*, 1849

Springtime! The long-awaited time of year that brings the promise of longer days and warmer temperatures! As I write, central Illinois appears to be on the cusp of moving from the deep freeze to temperatures that will feel almost balmy. The anticipation is almost palpable!

We at MID-State Reading Council eagerly anticipate the change of seasons and three events scheduled for our members and the community at-large. We partner with Barnes and Noble in kicking off their Educators' Appreciation Week and will hold our semi-annual book fair at their Bloomington store on Saturday, April 11 all day with online sales running through Thursday, April 16. You will receive 25% off all your in-store purchases on the 11th and help MID-State fund purchases for Habitat for Humanity house blessings, Carnival of Reading/Illinois Reads books for primary students, and other literacy projects we support.

Wine-a-Read is scheduled for Thursday, April 23 at White Oak Winery in Carlock, Illinois. Join us for cheese, crackers, and a beverage at 5:30 p.m. and relax while a couple of voracious readers from Barnes and Noble share their latest finds. Summer reading will be right around the corner and

what they share will pique your interests. Please see the registration form in this newsletter or look for a reminder in your inbox early next month.

Jay Asher's, *Thirteen Reasons Why* rounds out the school year with four one-hour book study sessions planned. Meeting dates are scheduled for Tuesdays, May 12, May 26, and June 9 with the fourth session to be determined for the week of June 22. Your MID-State board is working on and hopes to arrange a Skype session with Jay Asher for the final discussion. Information will be sent to members when details are determined. Professional development clock hours will be offered.

As central Illinois thaws and the beauty of spring emerges, your MID-State board hopes to see you at the planned events. Thank you for your membership in MID-State and the Illinois Reading Council.

Wishing you wonder and excitement in this season of change,

Mary Current





Join us for MID-State's Wine-a-Read!

This casual evening was planned with your love of books in mind. Enjoy snacks, door prizes, and drinks as you listen to Barnes & Noble experts share and suggest some great titles for your classroom and personal reading.

April 23rd, 2015 | 5:30 – 7:30 PM

White Oak Vineyards, Inc.

8644 County Road 2100 North | Carlock, IL

In order for us to plan accordingly, please fill out the registration form below. Be sure to invite a friend or two to join you!

Name: _____ Email: _____

\$5.00 Payment: Check # _____ enclosed

Please send the registration and check by mail to:
Meaghan Schiller

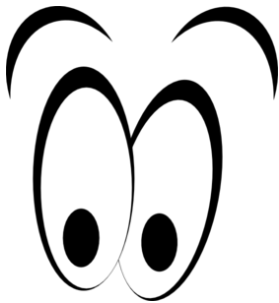
2808 Breezewood Blvd.

Bloomington, IL

For other payment arrangements, you may also email Meaghan Schiller at schillerm@unit5.org

Get a Grant for Your Classroom Project!-

Trish Warner (Grants Chairperson)



Have an idea to promote literacy in your classroom, but lack the funds? The MID-State Reading Council annually awards a

financial grant up to \$1,000 to individual council members for the purpose of promoting the literacy of children & teens in the classroom. Each applicant must be a current member of the MID-State Reading Council. Several MID-State members will serve on the review committee using a blind review process. Grant recipients will be informed of their

awards by email by the May 15, 2015.

MID-State is thrilled to support the literacy of its members' students, please consider applying for a grant this year.

Deadline: May 1, 2015

Link for Grant submissions—<http://goo.gl/forms/DRRDK4gzaB>

A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.

—Brad Henry
(former governor of Oklahoma)

Grant Winner Update!-

Trish Warner (Grants Chairperson)

Boys Book Club at Normal Community High School

Thanks to the Carol Berry Memorial Grant, sixteen freshman boys experienced a good book, good conversation, and good food this semester.

Based on input from freshman English teachers and special education teachers, sixteen boys were invited to the first ever Boys Book Club at Normal Community High School. These were boys identified as needing extra support to build their love of reading.

In small groups over three different lunch periods, the boys and volunteer male

mentors (from many departments across the building) agreed upon a book to read. With the funds from the grant, the books were purchased and given to the boys to keep. Lunches were donated by local restaurants: Avanti's, LaGondola Spaghetti House, and Meatheads. A reading schedule was made and every two weeks the boys and their mentors met in the principal's conference room to eat together and discuss their books. Two groups selected Carter Family Gets It and one group selected The Maze Runner. Both books were a huge success. So much so that several boys wanted to finish reading early and start the

sequels. Remember, these are boys who do not see themselves as readers! Because of the money saved by donated lunches, the next books have been purchased and given to the boys.

The male mentors have been extremely pleased with the boys keeping up with the reading and their discussions. Connections have been made and relationships have been built that will support these boys throughout their time at NCHS. Thanks to the Carol Berry Memorial Grant reading communities have been created and the boys now see themselves as readers.

—from Barb Koski, special education teacher at NCHS

New Season, New Events @ BPL—Georgianne Schau (Bloomington Public Library Liaison)

What's going on at the Bloomington Public Library?

Spring Break Staycation Monday, March 23 – 27

Have fun at the library every day with these following activities:

Monday March 23 – Movie for Kids “Lilo and Stitch” at 2:30 pm in the Community Room

Tuesday, March 24 – Music Makers 10 am or 11 am Interactive music program

Wednesday, March 25 – Beach Bingo Bash 10 am – noon

Thursday, March 26 – Indoor Beach Party 10 am – noon Beach games and crafts

Friday, March 27 – The Magical World of Ballet 10 am Sleeping Beauty performed by The Twin Cities Ballet in the Community Room

District 87 Art Fair on display now through April 3 – Come and see the talents of students

from our local schools! In the Children's Room **DIA de los NINOS – April 25 11a-1p a celebration of families and books** Join us for a Jesus Rios magic show, crafts for kids, facepainting by the Zoo Lady, Community Services exhibits, Mexican food, and the musical talents of Mike Anderson. Have lunch on the patio with authentic Mexican food prepared on site.

Weekly Story Times at the Library Toddler Time – 19-35 month olds, Mondays at 10 am or Thursdays at 10am and 10:30 am

Singing Swinging Story Time – 2nd Saturday of each month at 11 am or 3rd Monday each month at 6:30pm, all ages.

Preschool Story Times – ages 3 and up Wednesdays at 10 am **Itty Bitty Lap Sits** – April 7, 14, 21, 28 at 10 am and 6:30 pm For ba-

bies (birth to 18 months) and their caregivers. In the Story Room.

For Teens – Anime Movie Marathon - April 19 In the community Room from 1-4 pm

Teen Craft: Paracord Bracelets – Saturday, May 16 2-3:30 pm in the Community Room

For Adults – Eating Seasonally – Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 pm in the Community Room

DIY Create a Container Herb Garden – Wednesday, April 15

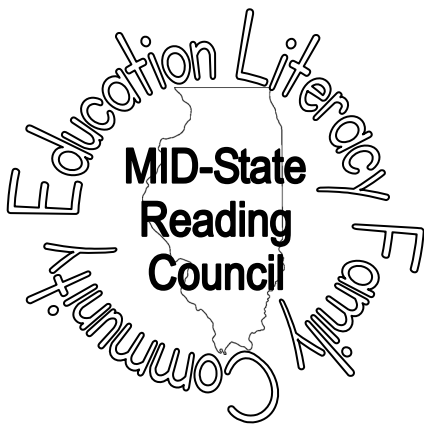
Register ahead beginning March 23 (Limit 15)

Make a Bookshelf – Saturday, May 2 at 10 am in the Community Room- Registration begins April 6 at 10 am – limited to 10 participants

Check out the numerous book clubs for adult discussion – you'll find just the right group for you!



... AT THE LIBRARY



MID-State Reading Council

Email: mid-state@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

MID-State Reading Council is your local chapter of the Illinois Reading Council. It is a productive organization that works to raise awareness of literacy and its uses throughout the area. It was founded 57 years ago and has a strong membership base. MID-State Reading Council sponsors literacy events for teachers, children, and their families in many different ways. Please check out our webpage at <http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/localcouncils/midstate.html> for more information. The council is also on facebook and has a blog. Get involved today!

MID-State Calendar of Events 2014-2015

<p>March</p> <p>31 Last day to renew your membership to MID-State Reading Council to be included for the April drawing for Kindle or similar device</p>	<p>April</p> <p>11 Book Fair at Barnes and Noble in Bloomington— all day</p> <p>23 Wine-a-Read, Carlock, IL, 5:30 p.m. with book share beginning about 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>May</p> <p>12 Begin book study, <u>Thirteen Reasons Why</u> at Barnes and Noble @ 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>26 Book study, <u>Thirteen Reasons Why</u> at Barnes and Noble 4:30 p.m.</p>
<p>June</p> <p>9 Book study, <u>Thirteen Reasons Why</u> at Barnes and Noble @ 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Week of June 22 Book study, <u>Thirteen Reasons Why</u> (TBD)</p>	<p>July</p> <p>8-9 IRC Leadership Retreat at Grand Bear Lodge near Starved Rock —MID-State plans for the 2015-2016 school year developed</p>	

SAVE THE DATE! BOOK STUDY!!

- **What?** A book study featuring Jay Asher's Thirteen Reasons Why
- **When?** Tuesdays - May 12, 26, June 9, from 4:30 p.m to 5:30 p.m. and one session the week of June 22 (TBD)
- **Who?** Educators and other professionals who work with young adults
- **Where?** Barnes and Noble Bookstore
1701 E. Empire Street, Bloomington, IL

Clock hours will be available for professional development.