

the Director's desk...Brenda Williams

A new year has begun with new hopes and challenges. A reminder that if the library closes due to inclement weather we will not charge any fines on items due that day. All closing announcements will be on our Facebook and on WRAY. If you are in doubt if we are open, call after 9am and if you get the answering machine, we are closed.

The AARP tax people will be here this year to assist the elderly and low income families with their taxes. Please check the calendar for pre-registration dates. The service will be offered on Thursdays. The Library will put out tax forms beginning January 2nd and we will put out the forms as soon as we receive them.

We are eligible to apply for the CDBG grant and the application is due mid-2018. We are in the process of doing the environment review. I had to verify that there were buildings on the land from the Potter's Place building to the corner. I went back through the city directories to 1935 and discovered that there were physician offices, dentist office, a funeral parlor, taxi service building, license bureau, and other business.

We are also turning our attention to the interior of the addition and the existing building. If we leave everything as it is now, people coming in from the parking lot would come into the library through the Youth Room. The Board, staff, and I feel that this is not a good idea. There have been several ideas put forth concerning this. One is to have a long hallway with a wall blocking entrance to the youth room. This seems rather unfriendly, as a person would have to walk through the new section and then the length of the youth room before seeing a library staffer. Another suggestion has been to change the layout of the collections. We could have the adult fiction and audio-visual collections in the youth area, the youth collection could move into local history area, local history area would move upstairs and be with the adult nonfiction books. The plus of this layout would be the person coming in from the new section would see staff as soon as they enter the library section, parents would be on the same level as their children if they wanted to find fiction material and audio-visual material, in theory we would have one floor with more activity and the other floor would be more quiet, and for people wanting fiction books or audio-visual material it should be fast in and out. The minus side would be it will increase the cost as some of the existing walls would have to be opened up more. Please feel free to comment to me regarding the above ideas. The computer lab will be in the new addition on the lower floor. We will also be looking into the door situation. Do we want three entrances and four exits or two entrances and four exits?

Regarding the present collection and layout, we will be withdrawing all the videocassettes at the end of this year and moving the location of the audio CDs and reference collection. EVERGREEN will also be going to a web client base platform in 2018. There will be a learning curve for the staff, so please have patience with us while we learn all the new features.

Youth Services...April Yockey

As the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer, bedtime seems to be the favorite part of the day and gets here so quickly. The Youth Department staff is busily preparing for winter reading season by stocking up on great bedtime story books for families to share. Our picture book section has something for everyone on many different topics.

Family travel time and gatherings are the perfect time to spark multi-generational conversations with these great new book titles, check them out! *Art on the Rocks* and *Let's Rock* are our newest rock painting design books and are very popular. *Harry Potter's Cinematic Guide*- a picture filled journey into the magical world of Harry Potter. *WWE Ultimate Superstar Guide*- from Dusty Rhodes to the Undertaker, this book of new and old wrestlers will get the whole family debating on why their favorite wrestler is the best. *Search for Hidden Pokémon* - in this Let's Find Pokémon version of Where's Waldo or I Spy type puzzles. *Malala's Magic Pencil* óa biographical picture book about this Nobel Peace Prize winning and courageous girl.

The children's Read and Play area is a great destination for families who love books, puzzles, blocks and games. We have a huge selection of sturdy toddler board books for your baby to explore. It's never too young to start loving books! Our after-school club schedules will resume on Monday, January 8. No pre-registration or membership necessary. Just join us when you can. Happy New Year from Miss April!

Mr. Persson has generously donated a wildlife photographic art piece to be permanently displayed at your Princeton Public Library with the unveiling on Monday, January 15, 5:30pm!



Bjorn Persson

Bjorn Persson attended PCHS as an exchange student from Sweden from 1989-90. During his years in Princeton he stayed with the McClure family. Today Bjorn is a professional wildlife photographer with a special passion for Africa. He has had many exhibitions throughout the world and writes for various wildlife magazines such as National Geographic and Africa Geographic. Besides being a passionate photographer, Bjorn is a big IU basketball fan and keeps coming back to visit his friends and family in Princeton.

Africa

The display photo, *Africa*, was taken in Masai Mara, Kenya, in 2016. Bjorn was alone with the elephant and only about 20 yards away. To him this photo represents all the beauty of Africa; the wild, free roaming animals, the open landscapes, the big skies and the feeling of how small and insignificant it makes you feel.

Photo generously donated by Mr. Persson & framed by the Friends of the Princeton Public Library!