

explore...



StoryWalk®

Read a story and take a walk at Todd-Creech Memorial Park in Downtown Lawrenceburg.



Lawrenceburg Public Library District



Sept. 2026

Restoring the Name of William Early



Erin A. Craig once wrote, *"There's a power in names, don't you think? Once your name is given away, you can't help but be pulled along by those who have it." Without question, names are important. They are given to us at birth and we carry them with us everywhere we go.*"

This was not always the case for William Early.

William Early was born on September 18, 1843, just across the river in Boone County, Kentucky, to Guy and Clara Early.

The family was enslaved by a man named Richard Gaines. Like many enslaved families, theirs did not remain intact.

When William was six years old, he appeared on a slave schedule, an unusual type of census in which enslaved individuals were represented only by a tick mark, a notation of gender, and an estimated age. There was no adult male listed in the appro-



prate age range who was likely to be William's father.

As a young man, William ran away with his older brother Melvin and

enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War. They became part of Company E, 117th United States Colored Infantry. One of the indignities they endured was being forced to enlist under the surname of their enslaver. As a result, Wil-

liam's military records identify him as "William Gains" or "William Gaines."

William's active military service did not last long. In his own words, *"It was a cold day and a little fire had been built in the yard of the fort. I was just swinging a bag of powder on my shoulder when the wind blew a spark from the fire straight over to the bag. Both got blown sky high. All I remember is just one loud 'whish!' and I couldn't see a thing. Besides being blinded, all*

Story continues on Page 3

How to Reach Us

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Board of Trustees

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Kim Weber

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www.lpld.lib.in.us

Hours/Locations

Lawrenceburg Public Library (LPL)

150 Mary St, Lawrenceburg IN 47025 • 812-537-2775

Monday	9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tuesday	9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Wednesday	9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Thursday	9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Drive-through, Ring doorbell service

M-Th 10 a.m.-7 p.m. & F 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

North Dearborn Branch (NDB)

25969 Dole Rd, West Harrison IN 47060 • 812-637-0777

Monday-Thursday	10 a.m. -8 p.m.
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Friends of the Library *Executive Committee*

President: Mallory Hornsby

Vice-President: Sarah Wenstrup

Secretary: Jessica Miles

Treasurer: Ashley Meyers

Membership Chairperson: Megan Young

Library Advocate: Kate Cullen

Member-at-Large: Vicki Burke and Bev Toon

Book Sales Chairperson: Karen Munson



Continued from Page 1

the skin on my face and arms was burnt off ... I was in the hospital for almost a year after the war, being discharged from the United States Army Jan. 23, 1866, as a disabled soldier."

After his hospitalization, William returned to Boone County, where he worked for his former enslaver, though this time it was for pay. He worked hard and saved diligently. He married Alice Willis, and together they had a daughter, Mary.

Eventually, William moved across the river to Lawrenceburg, where he continued building a life of his own. He worked as a farmhand and took on odd jobs to make ends meet.

By 1920, he owned a home on St. Clair Street. Ten years later, he had moved around the corner to his own home on Euphemia Street.

William also joined the Grand Army of the Republic, a fraternal organization for Union Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans. He was elected quartermaster of Huff Post 89, which was a remarkable achievement in a society still decades away from the Civil Rights Movement.

William was also a founding member of the Union Valley Baptist Church in historic downtown Lawrenceburg.

When the congregation struggled to raise money to build a chapel, William stepped forward. Through his fundraising efforts, a frame church was

constructed just yards from his home. He later served as a deacon.

William died on March 22, 1934, and was buried in the Soldier's Circle at Greendale Cemetery. He was the first African American in Dearborn County to receive full military honors.

The government provided a grave marker, but appallingly, the name on it was the name found in his military records. His enslaver's name. William Gaines. For more than 90 years, a man who fought for his literal freedom was buried under a slave name.

When this error was discovered, the Lawrenceburg Public Library District's Genealogy and Local History Department

began a multi-year research project to establish William's identity and chosen name.

We delved into archival records and gathered the evidence needed to request a correction from the Veterans Administration. Happily, the VA approved the request and provided a beautiful new monument bearing his true name.

On September 18, William's 183rd birthday, a grave rededication ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. in the Soldier's Circle at Greendale Cemetery.

The public is invited to join us as we honor William Early, his life, his service, and the legacy he left behind.

A reception will follow the at the Lawrenceburg Public Library.

Library cards hit all the right notes

This September, the Lawrenceburg Public Library District invites you to celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month and discover how a library card can hit all the right notes, no matter what your tastes are.

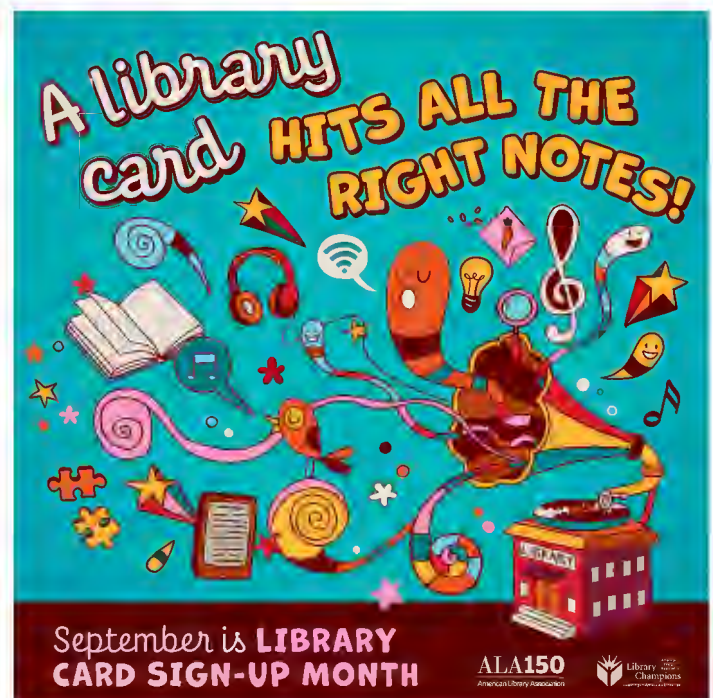
With a library card, you can do more than check out books. Free programs, streaming media, the Library of Things, 3D printer, meeting rooms and much more connect communities to information, inspiration, and each other.

An initiative of the American

Library Association, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September since 1987. This year's theme, "A Library Card Hits All the Right Notes," is a reminder that libraries offer something for everyone.

We have several special music related events— look for the music notes in the program section— and giveaways. Be on the lookout for more information!

B sharp and use your library card or stop by Lawrenceburg or North Dearborn to sign up for a new one!





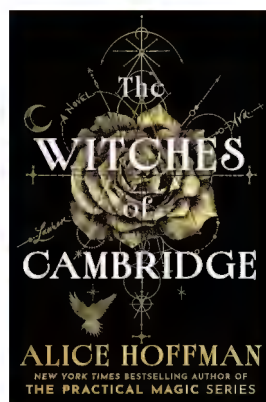
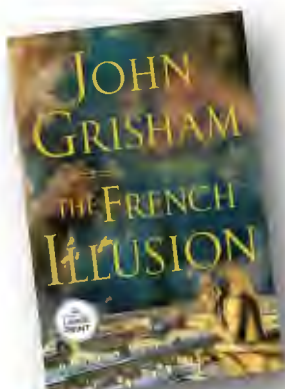
What's new at the library?

(We are glad you asked!)



Reading for Adults

YA Graphic Novels

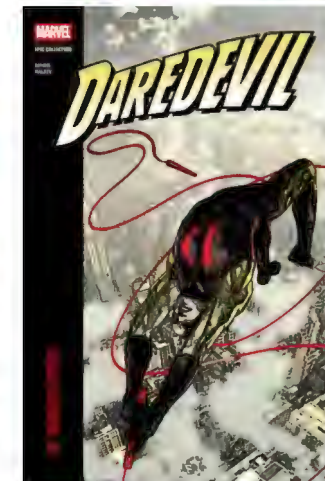
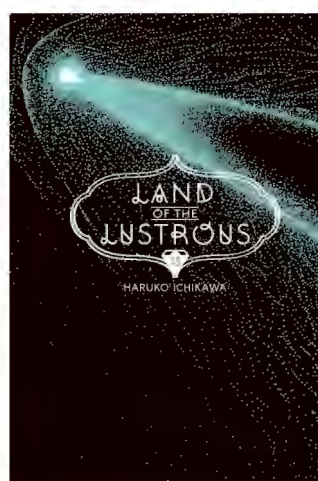
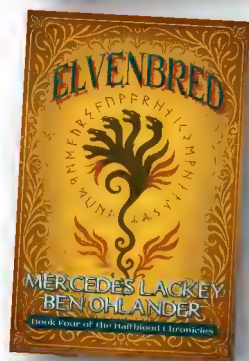


The Witches of Cambridge

By Alice Hoffman

By the 1950s, Cambridge, Mass., feels far removed from the legendary witch trials that marked its early days as a colony. Ava, a bright young woman from a small town in Maine, arrives for her first year at Radcliffe College. There, she meets Lauren, her opposite in every way. But the two have more in common than they think. Both are recruited by the Lilith Society, a secret organization of witches at Radcliffe dating back to colonial times. As they learn more about their legacy, Ava and Lauren form a close bond that is put to the test as they learn to navigate their new power, friendship, and love. While Radcliffe seems like a safe haven, the shadow of McCarthyism looms large. And as girls from the Lilith Society begin to go missing, Ava and Lauren realize the witch trials of the past may not be as deeply buried as they once believed.

Also: *Ruthless* by Danielle Steel
Die Famous by Michael Koryta
Double Tap by Don Bentley
Hollow Bones by Jodi Picoult



2026 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



We had so much fun!

Congratulations to our 2026 Summer Reading Challenge prize winners!





Preschool



Storytime @ L'burg

L'burg: 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
Weds., Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Read 2-3 books based around a theme, sing songs, and do a fun craft project while practicing early literacy skills along the way. Coffee is available for caregivers, and snacks are provided for the littles. Special music themed story times Sept. 15 and 16. **REGISTRATION REQUESTED**

Stay and Play

L'burg: 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
Weds., Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Following Story Time every Tuesday and Wednesday, children and caregivers can drop in from 11 a.m. to noon to explore, learn, and connect through play. Caregivers can stay, play alongside their child. Coffee available. No registration needed.

Storytime @ NDB

North Dearborn: 10:30 a.m. Thurs., Sept. 3, 10, 17 & 24
Participants will hear 2-3 books, sing songs, and do a fun craft while practicing early literacy skills. Snacks provided. Parent or guardian must remain present. **REGISTRATION REQUESTED**

Paper Toadstools



L'burg Farmers Market: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sat., Sept. 19
If a toadstool is really a mushroom, then why is a lily pad not referred to as a toadstool? One of life's mysteries. But you can make a toadstool (the mushroom) with the LPLD Mobile Library. No registration needed.



School-age



Pokémon Club

L'burg: 4 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 24

Expand your Pokémon knowledge at this month's meeting by playing the card game and making an optional craft: Pokémon bookmark. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



Teens



Teen Drop-In Gaming

L'burg: 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tues., Sept. 1 and 15

Stop by the Teen Room for a drop-in gaming night featuring our Switch2, snacks, and fun. No registration needed.

Teen Homeschool Hangout

L'burg: 1 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 3

Enjoy snacks, play video games on our Wii or Xbox, explore our collection of board games, or simply read and study while socializing with peers. It's the perfect opportunity to unwind and make new friends! No registration needed.

Teen Crafternoons: Pop-tart Pillows

L'burg: 4 p.m. Weds., Sept. 9

Sew, stuff, and customize your own adorable Pop-Tart pillow! No sewing experience is needed. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Board Together

North Dearborn: 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Weds., Sept. 16

Teens! Come play some tabletop/card games at the library! **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



All Ages



D&D at the Library

L'burg: 5 p.m. Tues., Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

Join us for 5th Edition Dungeons and Dragons. Welcome to new players and veterans alike! We offer a friendly, low-pressure environment. No registration needed.

LEGO Family Challenge

North Dearborn: 6 p.m. Tues., Sept. 1

Complete a design based on the theme— Build a Comic Panel. Library will provide the LEGOS. There will be small prizes and creations will be displayed. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

LEGO Builder's Club

L'burg: 4:30 p.m. Weds., Sept. 2

One hour to design and build on the challenge: Build Your Favorite Book. LEGOs provided. Each participant can pick out a small prize at the end. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Honoring William Early



Greendale Cemetery: 11 a.m. Fri., Sept. 18

Join us for a solemn rededication ceremony as we restore the identity of William Early, an African American Civil War veteran who rested under an incorrect name for more than 90 years. No registration needed.

Barks and Books

L'burg & North Dearborn: 11 a.m. Sat., Sept. 19

Grab a book and take a paws to read out loud to a trained therapy dog! Dogs are handled by volunteers from Pet Partners of Greater Cincinnati. No registration needed.

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Music Lab

L'burg: 11 a.m. Sat., Sept. 19

Stop by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Music Lab to experience what it's like to hold or play a string or percussion instrument! Various instruments will be available to try out. No registration needed.



Adults



ALL IN

North Dearborn: 10:30 a.m. Tues., Sept. 1

ALL IN encourages adults with intellectual/developmental difficulties and their families and caregivers to feel comfortable navigating the library. No registration needed.



Chair Exercise

North Dearborn: 11:30 a.m. Weds., Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30

Become stronger with video-led chair exercise routines.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

In the Kitchen with Marcia

North Dearborn: 6 p.m. Weds., Sept. 2

Join Dearborn County Purdue Extensions Health and Human Sciences Educator Marcia Parcell as she hosts and teaches a variety of cooking classes. September's topic is MICROWAVE!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Keep Calm and Learn About Hara Alignment

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 3

Learn about the other 5 chakras no one talks about and discover the Hara line.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Genealogy Roundtable

L'burg: 11 a.m. Sat., Sept. 5

From Pedigree Chart to Published Story. Join us to learn simple, bite-sized frameworks to transform census data into compelling family narratives.

Take & Make: Guitar Pick Flower

L'burg & North Dearborn: Starts Tues., Sept. 8

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month! The theme this year is A Library Card Hits All the Right Notes. So we are offering a take and make craft kit that will help you create a guitar pick flower! No registration needed.



Oxbow Educational Series

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Tues., Sept. 8

Discover how to make the most of your garden beyond the traditional growing season with Heidi Potter, Purdue Extension ANR Educator. No registration needed.

The Crafty Crew

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Weds., Sept. 9

Welcome to The Crafty Crew- a group for new adults ages 18 to 30 who want to hang out and craft. Create fall crafts.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Creative Writers Guild

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 10

The Creative Writers Guild is a support group for writers of all genres and skill levels.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Get WalkIN'

North Dearborn: 8:30 a.m. Mon., Sept. 14, 21 & 28

Would you like to improve your health but short on time and motivation? Join this free 8-week program that offers email support by Dearborn County Purdue Extension.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Keep It Sharp

Dearborn Adult Center: Noon Mon., Sep. 14

This interactive program consists of a variety of activities. The program is for seniors 65 and older. No registration needed.

Must Love Crafts

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Mon., Sept. 14

Relaxed atmosphere with the library providing the craft.

Crafters age 18 and older. Sept.: Felt Pumpkin Earrings.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Let's Play Mah Jongg

L'burg: Noon Tues., Sept. 15 & 29

Want to play American mah jongg? Join a group playing and learning together. All skill levels! No registration needed.

Beginner's Knitting

North Dearborn: 2 p.m. Tues., Sept. 15

Join local knitter, Debbie, to learn basic knitting, while making your own scarf! Bring a size 13 or 15, knitting needle, a 10-inch knitting needle and 1 skein of yarn.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Curated Conversations for Curious Minds: Crossing Borders, Expanding Boundaries

HVL Community Center: 6 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 17

Cincinnati's Dan Hurley shares stories about his father during World War II and his quest to uncover his father's story, a white officer with an all African American company that was led by a Jewish Captain in the heart of the home of the Nazi movement.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED



True Crime: The Gilgo Beach Murders

L'burg: 6 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 17

The Gilgo Beach serial killings were a series of murders on Long Island, New York, between 1993 and 2010.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

All the Colors

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Mon., Sept. 21

All the Colors is a chance for LGBTQ+ adults and supporters to gather together. Tie Dye a t-shirt.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Learn to Quilt

L'burg: 6 p.m. Mon., Sept. 28

Learn some basics with an experienced quilter.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED (FULL)

King Records and Herzog Studios

L'burg: 6:30 p.m. Weds., Sept. 30

Join us for a program presented by the Cincinnati Museum Center's Speakers Bureau on King Records and Herzog Studios.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Book Clubs

REGISTRATION REQUIRED for all book clubs, except Historical Book Club.

Bookies Book Club: Ages 18-30. *Thirst for Salt* by Madelaine Lucas. 6 p.m. Tues., Sept. 1, L'burg Main Library.

Historical Book Club: Adults. 10 a.m. Weds., Sept. 16, L'burg Main Library. Take a Book Back in Time. *Over My Dead Body: Unearthing the Hidden History of America's Cemeteries* by Greg Melville.

Books for Dessert: Adults. 2:30 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 17, North Dearborn Branch. *Unmaking of June Farrow* by Adrienne Young.

Book Buzz: 3rd to 6th grade. 4 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 17, L'burg Main Library. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein. Join us for an afternoon of puzzle-filled fun with this month's Book Buzz.

Book Chat: Adults. 10:30 a.m. Mon., Sept. 28. L'burg Main Library. Book Chat is a monthly book discussion group. This month is a free read. Read whatever you want!



Lawrenceburg Public Library
150 Mary St.
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
September 2026
Newsletter & Calendar

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LAWRENCEBURG, IN.
PERMIT NO. 123

Mission

To provide our community with
equal access to resources
— for life.



HALLOWEEN SENSATION

FREE. EVERYONE IS INVITED!



WE'VE
MOVED



**HOT DOGS,
GAMES,
CANDY,
HAY
RIDES,
TOUCH-A-
TRUCK
AND MUCH
MORE!**

5:30 P.M. TO 8 P.M.
THURS., OCT. 29
CIVIC PARK
PAVILION
LAWRENCEBURG



PRESENTED BY THE LAWRENCEBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT