



Contact your legislator to save library services!

The Round Lake Area Library encourages community residents to contact legislators to voice your concern about a potential loss of library service. The Round Lake Area Library provides a service to all of our residents in which we pull books from other libraries on those occasions we do not have something on our shelves that you need. This service, called interlibrary loan, is coordinated by nine regional library systems throughout Illinois. These systems have received ONE check from the State to operate this service since July 1, 2009. It looks like none of these systems will receive another check in the foreseeable future, which means that by June 30, the interlibrary loan service that we provide you will either be discontinued or drastically reduced.

What does this mean for you?

All Illinois libraries participate in this loaning and borrowing program, which effectively allows residents access to millions of books – a collection vastly larger than any single library can provide. If you find any medical information, homework resources, genealogical information, or any reading material that is available only from another library, there is a very good chance we could, with the proper funding, provide that to you. Without any funding, the library could provide that service, but it would mean a cut to a variety of other services and use of reserve funds.

Are there any alternatives for continuing delivery library service?

There is already a very cost effective solution in place. The State Library's delivery system, in operation for many decades, is efficient enough to provide delivery service throughout the state at a cost of approximately 13 cents per item. That cost is lower than anything available through any other delivery provider. The Round Lake Area Library alone processed over 55,000 items through interlibrary loan service last fiscal year. If we had to send those materials through the Post Office, at an estimated cost of \$2.25 per item (for library mail rate), this would cost tax payers approximately \$125,000, not including additional labor costs.

Is the Round Lake Area Library alone in this problem?

There are over 650 public libraries in Illinois. Statewide, delivery services provided exchange of over 28 million items between libraries in 2009. Every single Illinois library is facing the same issue with delivery service.

Do these library systems do anything else besides deliver books?

Yes. Regional library systems are responsible for providing local Illinois libraries cost-effective solutions that reduce duplicative service costs, negotiating group discounts for online research and homework databases available to residents 24/7, continuing education for library employees and Trustees, and group rate discounted health insurance for library employees.

Have libraries done anything to keep this delivery program and library system services going?

The Round Lake Area Library, along with the Illinois Library Association, the regional library office of the North Suburban Library System, other library systems throughout the state, and several library advocates have already voiced our concerns and requests for funding to our legislators. Our requests have not resulted in any funding for library systems.

April 28, 2010



Want to help?

Every library resident can contact their legislator and the State Library to request they continue funding library systems in Illinois. When speaking to these groups, please make sure to mention that you want them to ensure funding for library systems that has already been approved by the General Assembly, that libraries in Illinois need continued funding of the statutorily mandated Per Capita Grant, and ask that legislators approve House Bill 6780, which includes funding for the State Library's Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget.

Legislators that represent the Round Lake Area Library include Senator Dan Duffy, Senator Michael Bond, Representative Mark Beaubien, and Representative Sandy Cole. You can find detailed information about your representative at http://ila.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=69&Itemid=82 or by contacting your legislator at the following number.

Jesse White, State Librarian and Secretary of State

Phone: (800) 252-8980

https://www.ilsos.gov/ContactFormsWeb/secretary_contact.html

Fax: (217) 785-0358

213 State Capitol

Springfield, IL 62756

Senator Dan Duffy

District Office: (847) 277-7100

Springfield: (217) 782-8010

Senator Michael Bond

District Office: (847) 752-7004

Springfield: (217) 782-7353

Representative Mark Beaubien

District Office: (847) 487-5252

Springfield: (217) 782-1517

Representative Sandy Cole.

District Office: (847) 543-0062

Springfield: (217) 782-7320

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Diane Klein in black ink.

Diane Klein, Board President

Handwritten signature of Cathy Warner in black ink.

Cathy Warner, Board Vice-President

Handwritten signature of Brad Ogilvie in black ink.

Brad Ogilvie, Board Treasurer

Shari Skorecz, Board Secretary

Handwritten signature of Linda Kauffman in black ink.

Linda Kauffman, Board Trustee

Handwritten signature of Patty Smart in black ink.

Patty Smart, Board Trustee

Handwritten signature of Mandy Hollingsworth in black ink.

Mandy Hollingsworth, Board Trustee

Handwritten signature of Jim DiDonato in black ink.

Jim DiDonato, Library Director

April 28, 2010