

LIBRARIES TRANSFORM[®]

For immediate release

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Washington County Public Libraries join national Libraries Transform Campaign

Hartford, WI – Today, the Germantown Community Library, Jack Russell Memorial Library (Hartford), Kewaskum Public Library, Slinger Community Library and West Bend Community Memorial Library are excited to announce that they have joined the Libraries Transform Campaign.

Libraries Transform is a public awareness and advocacy campaign which speaks to what today's libraries and librarians do for and with people, rather than simply what we have. The goal of the campaign is to help us speak with a unified voice about the value of YOUR community library, while raising awareness for what modern libraries are all about.

“The public libraries located in Washington County are more than a quiet place to study and check out books”, said Jennifer Einwalter, Director of the Jack Russell Memorial Library in Hartford. “Whether it is free Internet access for low-income families, job training and resume writing classes with our online database Gale Courses, or science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) programs to engage the next generation, our libraries are modern community centers that provide for the needs of every resident living in Washington County. The public libraries in your community are places where lives are transformed every day.”

Visit the following link to see all of the programs and services available beginning in January 2019 and ending in April 2019: <https://bit.ly/2UhXZAK> . Attend three programs at any library in Washington County and you have the chance to win a \$25 gift card. Our brochure has a list of programs with dates and locations that you can attend to win one of these prizes. For more great programming, contact information for each library is listed on the back of the brochure.

Amy Salminen, Director of the West Bend Community Memorial Library says “Libraries are truly unique. In person and online. From our 1,000 books before kindergarten early literacy programs, to online databases such as Pronunciator for learning languages, to the vast array of programs available, the public libraries in Washington County are opening doors to services, programs and resources for all residents.”

To date, more than 2,700 public, school, academic and special libraries all across the country and around the world have joined the campaign. The Libraries Transform Campaign, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) is designed to increase public awareness of the value, impact and services provided by libraries and library professionals. The campaign showcases the transformative nature of today's libraries and elevates the critical role libraries play in the digital age.

