

# LIBRARY MATTERS

HEDBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY

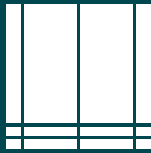
FALL 2024



**GOODBYE FINES, HELLO LIBRARY!**  
Find out how we're improving access at HPL.

**CREATURES OF THE NIGHT UNITE**  
Get your tickets to our fall fundraiser!





**HEDBERG**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Building Community

HedbergPublicLibrary.org

## MAIN STREET HOURS

316 South Main Street  
Janesville, Wisconsin 53545

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday CLOSED

## HPL EXPRESS HOURS

Uptown Janesville • 2500 Milton Avenue  
Janesville, Wisconsin 53545

Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday CLOSED

## LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Monday, September 2  
Monday, November 11; open at 12 p.m.  
Thursday, November 28

## CONTACT US

Information Desk 608-758-6600  
Children's Desk 608-758-6585  
Questions@HedbergPublicLibrary.org

## PROGRAM REMINDERS

Never miss out on a program when you subscribe to receive weekly calendar reminders. Visit our website for details.

## MEDIA RELEASE

All persons visiting Hedberg Public Library may be photographed or recorded by library staff, local media or others. These images may appear without compensation or notification in the newspaper, regional broadcasts, publications, productions, on the Web, or in other printed or electronic materials related to the role and function of Hedberg Public Library. Individuals who do not wish to be photographed or recorded at a library program should contact library staff. Please note that no names will be used without expressed permission.

*Please note:* Programs may be filmed by JATV public access.

## ON THE COVER

Summer fun included a Block Party, featuring LEGO bricks, our big blue blocks, and more! Does your kiddo love building? Stop visit our LEGO wall in the Children's Room!

# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



It's truly a pleasure to serve as President of the Library Board of Trustees. When I first joined the Board in 2019, I didn't really have a full understanding of the many ways our library serves our community.

Five years in, I am still amazed at all that goes on here at HPL —at the resources, the programs, the community outreach!

Over my tenure on the board, I've developed a great appreciation for all the people who make things happen at HPL. I was there to see the staff swing into action when COVID turned things upside down and, as we were emerging from that, when the director unexpectedly resigned. The professionalism of the staff carried us through, and continues to carry us forward today.

This past year, I was excited to be part of the search for a new director. We believe we made an excellent decision with the hiring of Eric Robinson. We are all impressed with Eric's energy, his diligence, and his vision for the future.

When I met with Eric to plan our May agenda, I had decided not to mention my growing interest in our becoming a fines-free library; after all, he had only been our director for about twenty-four hours!

To my surprise, Eric brought the issue up to me at that very first meeting. With Eric's support, the staff presented a strong case for going fines-free at the June Board meeting, and, in July, the Board gave its approval with a unanimous "Yes!" vote on the issue. The Board is pleased to have taken this important step to remove another barrier to the use of our library.

Eric's enthusiasm has invigorated the staff as well as the Board. Challenged by Eric to find ways to improve the patron experience at Hedberg, staff have responded with an amazing array of ideas for the lobby, the checkout area, and even the layout of the library's shelving. You will see changes in the months ahead that reflect our desire to improve access to library resources and to make the library feel more welcoming. The Board is excited about the changes underway, but we haven't lost our focus on those things that underpin it all. Right now, that means replacing an aging chiller and preparing to overhaul our strategic plan.

There is a lot going on at Hedberg, and I am happy to play a part in it. I hope you take time to explore the many ways our library is evolving to help us all stay informed and connected with each other and the world around us!

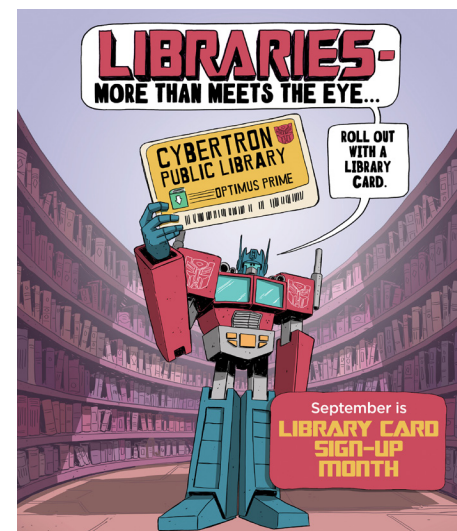
**Katy Grogan, President**  
HPL Board of Trustees

# OUR LIBRARY CARDS ARE FINES FREE!

## It's National Library Card Sign-Up Month!

On Tuesday, July 16, HPL's Executive Board approved the motion for the library to do away with late fines for overdue materials. There's never been a better time to get (or renew) a library card!

Below are just a few of our FAQs to help explain what that means for HPL cardholders:



### Q. Why have we removed fines?

A. Removing fines is a way to provide greater access for our residents. We believe that no one should be denied use of the library or its collection because of an inability to pay.

### Q. Does this mean I can keep items for as long as I want?

A. No. Our current due dates still apply. Library users will still be charged replacement costs for items that are lost or damaged.

### Q. Will I still have to pay for lost or unreturned items?

A. Yes. If a library item is overdue for more than 30 days, it will be considered lost, and a replacement cost will be charged to your account.

Visit our website or use the QR code for a full list of helpful FAQs.



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# A NOTE FROM OUR NEW DIRECTOR



As Katy mentioned (at left), if you've been to the library this summer, you've likely noticed a few changes. We've moved some furniture to make our space more welcoming, functional, and comfortable, we're in the process of reorganizing our collection to better showcase our full range of offerings, and—me! I'm a change! I stepped into the role of director here mid-May and it's been a true adventure ever since.

One thing that really attracted me to this position is the energy and forward-thinking of the team here. That can be both exciting and exhausting because of the tremendous amount of passion behind their ideas! To share our vision and goals, I asked for a white board to be installed on my office wall to list projects and ideas—things we like but haven't had time or resources to implement or things we've seen at other libraries that work well. However, I want to make sure we aren't just throwing spaghetti at the wall, but instead finding things that will work for the majority of the community and then allowing the skills and passion of our staff to lead us. I've also invited the management team to join me in reading and discussing

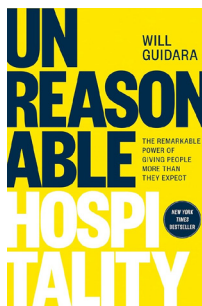
*Unreasonable Hospitality: The Remarkable Power of Giving People More Than They Expect* by Will Guidara.

I've been using my first few months to discover how you use us—either in person or online—by spending time at the checkout desk, looking at suggestions you've submitted, and talking to and better getting to know patrons that visit us every day. At the same time, I've been looking at information of who is not using us and why.

I would love to build on the warm, welcoming, supportive, creative, and collaborative atmosphere here at HPL and create a place that wows you when you walk in and that you can get lost in for hours. Patrons don't always visit us in person, so I also want the online experience to be varied, informative, and easily accessible. In addition to aesthetically restructuring, we've restructured internally so that I work directly with the staff you come into contact with every day. I think this will amplify our service-first focus, which is also part of the reason you'll now see a librarian stationed out by the checkout desks.

It comes down to consistency in communication. It's been a pleasure to connect with so many of you since my arrival. I don't want to speculate on what you think of us - I want to truly understand what the community needs and build a genuine relationship so that you continue to use the library and its resources years down the road. As library director, I get to be the dreamer, thinking three to five years or more ahead; I want to make sure we're on the same path together. Call, email, or - better yet - stop down and share with me your vision of how **your library** can best serve **your community**.

**Eric Robinson, Director**  
Hedberg Public Library



## RECAPPING OUR SUMMER ADVENTURE



**HPL's 2024 Summer Library Challenge** came to an end on August 2. A total of **1,177** participants read **713,252** minutes and completed **9,108** activity and reading badges. Thank you to all who went on our epic summer adventure! Special shout out to those that completed the entire challenge. Look for your names on our website!

We hope to see all of our summer readers ready for a new challenge in 2025. Next year's theme is: **Color Our World / Colorea Nuestro Mundo**.



## STOP IN TO OUR NORTHSIDE BRANCH

**HPL Express, located inside Uptown Janesville, is the perfect shopping pit-stop!**

Browse books, movies, music, and more. While you're there, take a second to help us put together our featured puzzle - or take one home from our ever-growing collection.

**HPL Express @ Uptown Janesville**  
**Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
2500 Milton Avenue • Janesville, WI

## MONDAY meet-up

STORIES & MORE @ HPL EXPRESS

**Mondays from 11-11:30 a.m.**  
**September 9-December 2**

## NEW FACES IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

**We welcomed two new Youth Services Associates to the team this summer.**



**Tiffany Thompson** has been with HPL since early 2023 in our Access Services department. We can't wait to see her work her magic with our youngest patrons!



**Sara Griffin** brings a history of theatre and teaching to the team. She loves *The Princess Bride* and is a *Dungeons & Dragons* fan.

**TEEN STORYTELLERS WANTED**  
in grades 6-12

**Mondays from 4-5 p.m.**  
**September 23**  
**October 21**  
**November 25**

**No experience necessary - we'll teach you!**  
Registration required. Register online, at the library, or call 608-758-6585.





## A POETIC STROLL

The 2024 Poetry Pathway has been installed on the Ice Age Trail at Palmer Park!

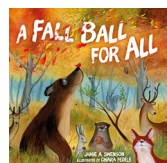
In partnership with the City of Janesville Parks & Recreation Division, HPL invited local poets to submit pieces during National Poetry Month. Those poems were reviewed and eight new pieces of poetry were selected.

Hop on the trail and find your favorite!



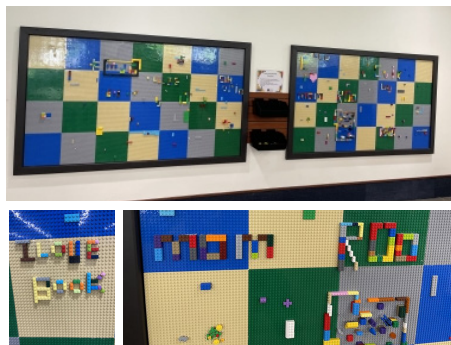
Hedberg Public Library will once again partner with the City of Janesville's Parks and Recreation Division and the School District of Janesville to provide the **StoryWalk** at the Robert O. Cook Memorial Arboretum.

Grab your coat and a friend and check it out!



**FALL TITLE:**  
**A Fall Ball for All**  
by Jamie A. Swenson  
*Installed around the fall equinox.*

Join all the animals in this beautifully illustrated rhyming picture book (written by an HPL staffer!) as they gather for the autumn wind's harvest in preparation for the long winter.



Special thanks to the Friends of HPL helping make our LEGO™ wall a reality! Stop in to our Children's Room and build with us!

## PRIORITIZING WELLNESS @ HPL

As a hub of the community, Hedberg Public Library wants to bring health and wellness together in an accessible space to promote education, access, and awareness.

Health and Wellness professionals in the local area are partnering with HPL to present the first Wellness Fair, free and open to all ages.

From mental health to massage, from acupuncture to yoga, from health care professionals to dentists, learn about the different providers in the area who may be the right fit for your next wellness experience.

### Interested in becoming a vendor?

Visit our website to fill out the application.

*The Wellness Fair is an offering of the Healthy at Hedberg initiative.*



**Saturday, November 2, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**  
**FOR ALL AGES**

Enjoy demonstrations, services, activities, prize drawings, and more as you learn and explore the different ways to be healthy at Hedberg Public Library and in the community!

## A GROWING PARTNERSHIP



Come Grow with Us was a cooperative program with HPL and the Janesville Community Center, as part of the Healthy at Hedberg initiative. Throughout the summer, the community was invited to JCC's Freedom Garden, 305 Lincoln Street, to meet with library staff and learn about gardening, connect with resources, visit the HPL Bookmobile and Hedberg Hangout, plant, grow, and share in the bounty of our collective work. From tomatoes, cucumbers, and carrots to bell peppers, basil, jalapenos, banana peppers, and more, each week featured gardening tasks, a nature activity, outdoor games and activities, and even tastes of produce, as available!

Some of the garden harvest got an early start at HPL in hydroponic gardens, made

possible by JCC through a Green Our Plant HydroConnect Grant.

HPL staff have kept the hydroponic gardens thriving throughout the summer, making herbs, including dill and thyme, available for patrons to take home. The generous grant also made hydroponic gardening kits available for checkout through our Library of Things.

"It's been wonderful to engage with the community, working together to build healthy habits and foster meaningful connections," said Adult Services Department Head Laura Gest. "The potential for growth in this healthy initiative is promising, and we hope to expand our health-minded programming in the future."



## TRIVIA FUN IS BREWING AT RCBC



**Grab your smartest friends, your library card, and a tasty craft beer!**

Our partnership with Rock County Brewing Company is one of our favorites. Bring your library card to the September trivia night and get an extra prize entry!

### BOOKS & BREWS TRIVIA NIGHTS

**Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.**

**September 25 & November 20**

ROCK COUNTY BREWING COMPANY • 10 N PARKER DR



# WE READ (AND GIVE AWAY) BANNED BOOKS!

Launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores, and libraries, Banned Books Week has become an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. It highlights the value of free and open access to information and brings together the entire book community - librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types - in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

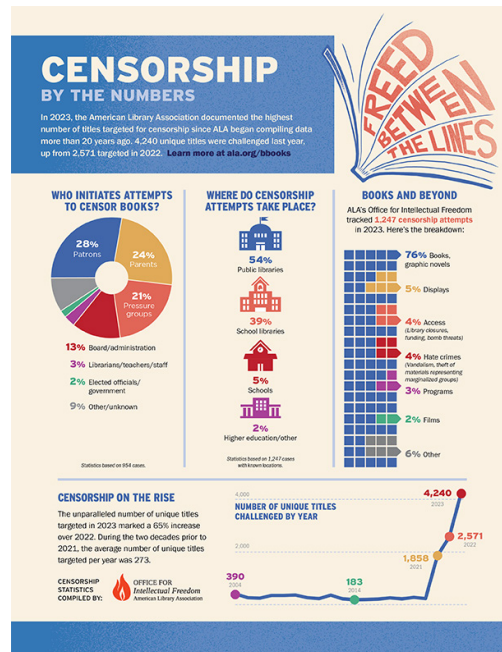
**The 2024 theme for Banned Books Week is Freed Between the Lines and will be held September 22-28.**

Hedberg Public Library believes in Intellectual Freedom and supports the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Statement, as well as the Library Bill of Rights. We stand with ALA in opposing the widespread efforts to censor books in schools and libraries.

Stop in to the library to see our display of banned or challenged books - and don't miss your chance for a **FREE** book at **Banned Books Giveaway on Tuesday, September 24, 3-6 p.m.** in the library's Program Room. Books will be available for all ages and reading levels.

Visit our website for event details.

For more information on banned and challenged books, use the QR code or visit [BannedBooksWeek.org](https://BannedBooksWeek.org).



# LET THE LANGUAGE LEARNING BEGIN



**Mango Languages** empowers you to learn a new language and culture at your own pace. They use expert linguists and native speakers to ensure every lesson leads to success.

With over 70 languages available, Mango Languages allows you to explore the world from the comfort of your own home.

**Here are a few languages to explore this fall!**



**National Hispanic Heritage Month**  
September 15- October 15  
Spanish



**International Talk Like A Pirate Day**  
September 19  
Pirate



**Oktoberfest**  
Begins September 21  
**National German-American Day**  
October 6  
German



**Diwali**  
Begins October 31  
Hindi



**Native American Heritage Month**  
Begins November 1  
Cherokee & Potawatomi

# OUT & ABOUT WITH THE BOOKMOBILE

The HPL Bookmobile drives miles and miles around the Janesville community, bringing the library to parks, schools, events, and more.



Megan Fisher, Community Engagement Specialist at HPL, spends much of her time behind the wheel and chatting with residents young and old. This summer, Megan was able to share with them that the library was going fines free.

"I could see the weight lifted off their shoulders," she said. "Some of them have had fines for so long, they had stopped coming to the library. They can't wait to come back."

Other residents noted that they loved checking out books, but getting them back on time was a challenge. The new policy makes them feel comfortable using the library more often.

"I've gotten hugs, high fives, even seen a few tears of joy," said Megan. "I love that this is another way we can build community and provide greater access at the library."

Visit our website or use the QR code to get started!

[HedbergPublicLibrary.org](https://HedbergPublicLibrary.org)



**MANGO**

**HPL @ SKELLY'S**  
**Saturday, October 5, 9-11 a.m.**  
SKELLY'S FARM MARKET | 2713 S. HAYNER RD.  
**Celebrate the start of the Fall season!**  
Sign up for a library card, check out books on the HPL Bookmobile, and make fall arts & crafts!  
**Enjoy a tasty treat and a fall storytime at 10 a.m.**





## 2024 ELECTION INFORMATION

Libraries are nonpartisan institutions that provide access to information, resources, programs, and public spaces for all members of a community. With the upcoming elections, we put together some information to help you learn more about voter registration, election dates, polling places, and more!

### GET STARTED

Check to see if you are registered to vote using [MyVote.Wisconsin.gov](https://myvote.wisconsin.gov). After checking, you can also register to vote online with your ID card. If you prefer to register via mail or in person, check with your Local Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

Confirm your polling place, as it may have changed this year due to the new legislative maps in Wisconsin.

### FREE LIBRARY PROGRAMS

#### DECIDING WHAT'S TRUE IN A POLARIZED SOCIETY

Tuesday, September 10, 6 p.m.  
presented by Michael Wagner in partnership with Rock County Civics Academy  
PROGRAM ROOM  
Learn how fake news, fact-checking, and selective exposure to like-minded media outlets has implications for our democracy. A BadgerTalks presentation.

#### VOTER REGISTRATION HELP

Tuesday, September 17, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
HPL ATRIUM  
Stop by for National Voter Registration Day to find out if you are registered for the upcoming election and get assistance registering to vote.

#### THE HISTORY OF GERRYMANDERING IN WISCONSIN

Tuesday, September 17, 6 p.m.  
PROGRAM ROOM  
presented by Tim Cullen  
Examines the history of reapportionment and gerrymandering in Wisconsin. *Book sale and signing will follow.*

### HELPFUL ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit our website for a list of websites that provide candidate information, fact-checking tools, and other election resources.

## HERE A BLOG, THERE A BLOG

Check out two new blogs, straight from the minds of our fantastic HPL staffers!



Introducing a new blog series that features tales from in and around our checkout desk.

The first entry is brought to you by Public Services Assistant, Mary, and shares some of our favorite ironic check out and return stories.



#### An excerpt:

"The most common is the puppy training books that come back destroyed by tiny puppy teeth. It probably happens about once a year, maybe less. But it's a frequent occurrence, one we sort of look forward to. I think we should start collecting photos of the canine offenders and their books!"



HPL's new film and television blog highlights staff-recommended movies or television shows.

The first entry is brought to you by Public Services Assistant, Erick, and explores Hollywood's Golden Age and the films of Cary Grant.

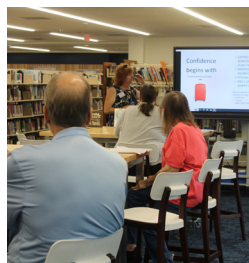


#### An excerpt:

"Grant was unique in that he had leading man charisma and looks yet didn't take himself too seriously. In these highlighted films, sometimes he even leaned towards slapstick comedy."

Visit the library's website to read the full blogs, and watch for more in the months to come!

## LOCAL AUTHORS & BUDDING WRITERS COME TOGETHER AT HPL BOOK FEST



Book lovers and writers alike converged at the library for the 3rd annual Book Fest, sponsored by the Friends of HPL. This year's event featured author Ann Garvin who presented a master class for writers, followed by an author meet & greet. An author fair and writing workshops rounded out the day of networking and skills-building.



## HEDBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We appreciate the generosity of the individuals who gave to the HPL Foundation April 1-June 30, 2024.

Cherryll Allen in memory of Donna Gaffney,  
Carol Tidwell in memory of Donna Gaffney,  
Steven and Marlene Bysted in memory of  
Donna Gaffney, Nancy Hough, Kaela Harteau  
in memory of Donna Gaffney, Angela  
Burdette in memory of Donna Gaffney,  
Tim and Carol Sauer in memory of Donna  
Gaffney, Marilyn Grubisich in memory of  
Donna Gaffney, Dawn Perez in memory of  
Donna Gaffney, Sharon Arneson-Scott in  
memory of Donna Gaffney, D.R. Schaller,  
Elizabeth Gall

### Interested in making a donation to the library's Foundation?

Visit [HedbergPublicLibrary.org](http://HedbergPublicLibrary.org) or  
call 608-758-6594.

## FRIENDS OF HEDBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of HPL is a nonprofit volunteer group that supports the library in many ways. The Friends operate **The Ground Floor** in the lower lobby, selling used books, gifts, snacks, and beverages.

### Become a member today!

Membership dues and proceeds from the shop and other fundraisers enhance the library and its services.

Use our safe and secure PayPal link online  
OR fill out our membership form to become  
a Friend of HPL! Already a Friend? Renew today!

**The Ground Floor**  
shop | eat | drink | read  
at Hedberg Public Library

**Become a Friend of HPL and  
you get 20% off each purchase.**

# GET YOUR TICKETS

*A NIGHT*   
at the LIBRARY

15TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR LITERACY

# CREATURES Ball

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 7 P.M.

GET TICKETS ONLINE OR AT  
THE INFORMATION DESK. **\$40**



HEDBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION

Hoffman  
House  
CATERING

NOVLAN

Panda  
Garden

FORZACK  
TODDLERS

R.K. SMITH  
REALTY

Package  
Express Pro

BLACKHAWK  
COMMUNITY  
CENTER

CHRISTIAN EAY  
KC GROUP

First National Bank  
and Trust Company

HAGEN CPA

ADULTS 18+

## "I've taken you by the hand...for you must come to my dance."

~ Totentanz textbook (Anon.: Vierzeiliger oberdeutscher Totentanz, Heidelberger Blockbuch, c. 1455/58)

Danse Macabre fans from around the world (and underworld) have gathered for the World Finals of the Danse Macabre Competition – where the winner takes possession of The Centennium Cup. The Centennium Cup is a coveted prize: those in possession of The Cup are under its supernatural protection – no curses, no hunters, no visits from the Grim Reaper – for one hundred years. In addition, when the holder of The Cup drinks from it, they are revitalized and do not age.

It is a prize worth dancing – and killing – for.

**Guests are invited to dress in ghoulish formalwear to enjoy an elegant evening of delicious food and monstrous merriment while they dance for their lives amongst the creatures of the night.**

**Visit our website for details and ticket information or use the QR code above.**

## LOVE THE LIBRARY? BECOME A FRIEND!



The Friends of HPL helped bring author **Ann Garvin** to this year's HPL Book Fest, introducing dozens of local writers to her talent and expertise.

As sponsors of the annual celebration, the Friends helped the library to create networking opportunities for local authors, budding writers, and book lovers.

Look for details in this edition's Book Fest highlight.



### USED BOOK SALE

**Friday, November 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Saturday, November 23, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

HEDBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$6/bag sale all day Saturday.





A Service of the City of Janesville

**316 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
JANESVILLE, WI 53545**

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Permit Number 678  
Janesville, WI 53545

### Connect with HPL Online



## NEW FREE ONLINE RESOURCES AVAILABLE WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD!



### **BRITANNICA SCHOOL EARLY ELEMENTARY** (BRITANNICA EDUCATION)

Learning resource collection tailored to the unique needs of PreK-2 students and educators. Access Britannica Fundamentals content through this new resource.

### **EDUCATION SOURCE**

(EBSCO)  
Research database designed for education students, professionals, and policymakers.

### **HOBBIES AND CRAFTS SOURCE**

(EBSCO)  
Magazines, recipes, and videos with "how-to" instructions and creative do-it-yourself ideas.

### **HOME IMPROVEMENT SOURCE**

(EBSCO)  
Magazines & reference books on home improvement and repair project topics.

### **LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE SOURCE**

(EBSCO)  
Research database for library and information science students, professionals, and policymakers.

### **POINTS OF VIEW REFERENCE SOURCE** (EBSCO)

Resources presenting multiple sides of an issue to help assess and develop persuasive arguments and essays, better understand controversial issues, and develop analytical thinking skills. For high school and adult learners.

### **CHILTONLIBRARY**

(GALE)  
OEM repair, maintenance, and service information on most cars, trucks, vans, and SUVs. Provides step-by-step procedures, diagnostic and troubleshooting help, and a video library.

**Explore these resources and many more on our website.**

**[HedbergPublicLibrary.org](http://HedbergPublicLibrary.org)**



## TECHNOLOGY HELP OFFICE HOURS

Sign up for a 45-minute tech help appointment with Tyler, HPL's Innovation Librarian. Get help with a new device, troubleshoot tech problems, or learn a new skill!

Walk-ins are welcome, but registration is recommended. Call 608-758-5833 to make your appointment today!

**Wednesdays at 10 & 11 a.m.**  
**September 11 & 25, October 9 & 23,**  
**November 6 & 20**  
HPL | STUDY ROOM 1

**Thursdays from 11 a.m. & 12 p.m.**  
September 5 & 19, October 3, 17 & 31,  
November 14  
HPL EXPRESS | UPTOWN JANESVILLE  
2500 MILTON AVE.