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Mid-Continent Public Library Celebrates Staff and Service

MCPL ‘Legacy Luncheon’ Features Bestselling Author, Raises Funds, Honors Staff

Independence, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library will once again host its Legacy Luncheon, an annual event that celebrates the impact of libraries and librarians on the community, on Friday, June 15, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., at the Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center [18011 Bass Pro Drive, Independence, Mo., 64055].

During the luncheon, which also serves as a fundraiser for the Library, attendees will hear a State of the Library speech from MCPL Director and CEO Steven V. Potter as well as a special keynote address from New York Times bestselling author Will Schwalbe. Recognition will also be given to outstanding staff and community members who have gone above and beyond to assist the Library in its mission of providing access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. The John Ferguson Legacy Award for Outstanding Library Service will be awarded to an MCPL staff member and the Victor Gragg Library Champion Award will be given to a Library supporter.

“The Legacy Luncheon is a celebration that pays tribute to the institution of libraries and the powerful impact they have on our communities,” said Diana Reiter, Fundraising and Development Director at MCPL. “It also allows us to shine a light on the people that make the Library’s success possible through their hard work every single day. They are the ones who truly leave behind a lasting legacy in our community.”

Author and podcaster Will Schwalbe will also talk about the impact of libraries during his presentation, and in particular, about the influence that reading has had on his life and career. Schwalbe’s written works include The End of Your Life Book Club, which was released in 2012, and more recently, Books for Living, which explores the power of reading and how it can help throughout life’s challenges. His podcast, But That’s Another Story, also centers on this topic and features conversations with luminaries such as the acclaimed novelist Louise Penny.

During the State of the Library address, Potter will reflect on the previous year as well as share the Library’s vision for the future. In particular, he will focus on MCPL’s recently launched Capital Improvement Plan, which calls for the renovation or replacement of all 31 MCPL branches, plus the addition of two new branches, by 2022. The plan was made possible by the passage of Proposition L by voters in November 2016.

More information about MCPL’s annual Legacy Luncheon can be found at mymcpl.org/legacy-luncheon.

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Access Your World
Mid-Continent Public Library is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 31 branches and three Library-To-Go locations and serving more than 800,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte
Counties. The Library strives to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. MCPL is a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service winner. Connect with the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.