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Celebrate National Library Week – April 10 – 16, 2016
*Local Community Leaders will participate as
Community Readers at the Worcester Public Library*

Worcester, MA – The Worcester Public Library joins libraries in schools, campuses and communities nationwide in celebrating National Library Week from April 10 to 16, 2016. With the theme Libraries Transform, we aim to highlight the dynamic changes that are happening in today's libraries, as well as the changing role of libraries, librarians and library workers.

Libraries today are more about what they do, for and with library users as opposed to what they have for patrons. Libraries aren't only a place of quiet study, but also creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies, take classes, enjoy programs, or just relax. Our library offers access to a variety of print and digital resources that can be accessed in person or online.

The Worcester Public Library is celebrating National Library Week with community readers, a Library Card help desk, I love my Library display, #takeashelfie campaign, and a book exhibit. Community readers include a visit from City Manager Edward M. Augustus, Jr.; State Senator Harriette L. Chandler; State Representative Kate Campanale, State Representative Dan Donahue; Greg Byrne, Community Affairs/Marketing Specialist for Harvard Pilgrim's Massachusetts Emerging Market areas; Tim Garvin, CEO and President of the United Way of Central Massachusetts; and Geoffrey Dickinson, Head Librarian.

The Main Library will also be hosting a special exhibit with favorite books chosen by community leaders, including Kate McEvoy-Zdonczyk, Vice President of

Massachusetts Emerging Markets for Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, and her choice, *The Secret Soldier: The Story of Deborah Sampson* by Ann McGovern.

The Library Express mobile libraries "Libby" and "Lilly" will also be on the road next week as we honor National Bookmobile Day on Wednesday, April 13.

"Service to the community has always been the focus of the library," said Geoffrey Dickinson, Head Librarian. "Libraries level the playing field for people of any age who are seeking the information and access to technologies that will improve their quality of life."

Libraries are many things to many people. They work with elected officials, small business owners, students and the public at large to discover and address the needs of their communities. Whether through offering e-books and technology classes, materials for English-language learners, programs for job seekers or offering a safe haven in times of crisis, libraries and librarians listen to the community they serve, and they respond.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.

For more information, please contact Linnea Sheldon, Community Relations and Communications Manager at the Worcester Public Library at 508-799-1654 or lseldon@mywpl.org.

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Worcester Public Library

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Worcester Public Library, A department of the City of Worcester**