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Celebrate National Library Week – April 9 – 15, 2017
*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 the many ways libraries are transforming their communities every day through the services and invaluable expertise they offer.

This year, National Library Week will take place April 9 to 15. It is a time to highlight the changing role of libraries, librarians and library workers. Libraries are not just a place of quiet study, but also creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies, gain valuable skills, and access entertainment and cultural programs.

Libraries of all types are evolving to meet the needs of the communities they serve. Elected officials, small business owners, students and the public at large depend upon libraries and the resources they offer to address the needs of their communities. By providing such resources as e-books and technology classes, materials for English-language learners, programs for job seekers or a safe haven in times of crisis, libraries and librarians transform their communities.

At the Worcester Public Library we are transforming our community in so many ways. By offering entertainment, technology, and services to everyone in our community, we are able to ensure equal access and opportunities for all our patrons.

“The library embraces the entire community, offering unlimited opportunities for

personal growth and lifelong learning,” said Geoffrey Dickinson, Head Librarian. “Libraries level the playing field for people of any age who are seeking information and access to technologies that will improve their quality of life.”

Libraries also offer something unique to their communities, the expertise of individual librarians. Librarians assist patrons in using increasingly complex technology and sorting through the potentially overwhelming mass of information bombarding today’s digital society. This is especially crucial when access to reliable and trustworthy data is more important than ever.

The Worcester Public Library is celebrating National Library Week with community readers, a library card help desk, an “I Love my Library” display, and a book exhibit.

Community readers include City Manager Edward M. Augustus Jr.; State Representative Kate Campanale; Councilor Sarai Rivera; Worcester Police Chief Steven Sargent; Dr. Matilde Castiel, Commissioner of Health and Human Services; Joseph Cox, President of the EcoTarium; Emily Kent of the Hanover Insurance Group; Judy Finkel, President of the Worcester Public Library Board of Directors; Greg Byrne, Senior Marketing Specialist/Community Relations Harvard Pilgrim Health Care; Tim Garvin, CEO and President of the United Way of Central Massachusetts; Terry Dorsey, President of the Friends of the Worcester Public Library; and Trax and Jillian Witkowski of the Worcester Railers.

The Main Library will also be hosting a special exhibit with favorite books chosen by community leaders. This display includes State Senator Harriette Chandler, Mayor Joseph Petty, and Barry Maloney, President of Worcester State University.

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 12.

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 lsheldon@mywpl.org.

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Worcester Public Library

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