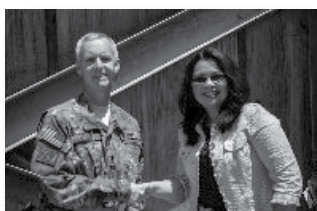


## Board of Trustees Welcomes Naval Reservist Home



Library Board trustees welcome Trustee Brian Gilligan home. From left: Dick Tani, Jane Everett, Dale Barbara Draznin, Barbara Burns, Brian Gilligan, John Zulaski, and Sylvia Haas.



Brian Gilligan with Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth during a House Armed Services Committee trip.

Brian Gilligan joined the MPPL Board in 2011. He also served on the Mount Prospect Youth Commission and the Elk Grove Township Elementary School District 59 board.

### Brian Gilligan spent seven months in Afghanistan

The Mount Prospect Public Library Board of Trustees recently gave a warm welcome home to Board Member Brian Gilligan after a seven-month assignment in Kabul, Afghanistan.

In March of 2013 Gilligan first reported to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, for three weeks of combat skills training. "Combat skills training is not for the faint of heart or weak of body and spirit," said Gilligan in a written correspondence to the Board. From there he traveled on to Afghanistan to complete his tour.

In addition to his position with the Library, Gilligan is an instructor at Morton College in Cicero and Chairperson of the College Department of Business Technologies. While on deployment his responsibilities were covered by a substitute, and he took a leave of absence from his position on the Library Board. Gilligan stated that "the Library Board made a great effort to keep me connected in what was happening at the Library, and the ongoing communication was very positive while I was away."

After returning home, Gilligan said, "There has been a seamless transition with the students and board members of the Library. I am happy to be back in Mount Prospect."

Gilligan has been with the Navy Reserve for 23 years and currently holds the rank of commander, serving as an Operations and Productions Officer.



Harold, pictured here in 2012, was always a top ticket seller for the Foundation's raffles.

Mount Prospect lost a friend in February with the death of Harold Weary at 105. Turn to page 4 to read about Harold's life and decades-long commitment to the Library.



In 1988 the Library named the genealogy collection in Harold's honor. (Journal photo by Dan Budinger)

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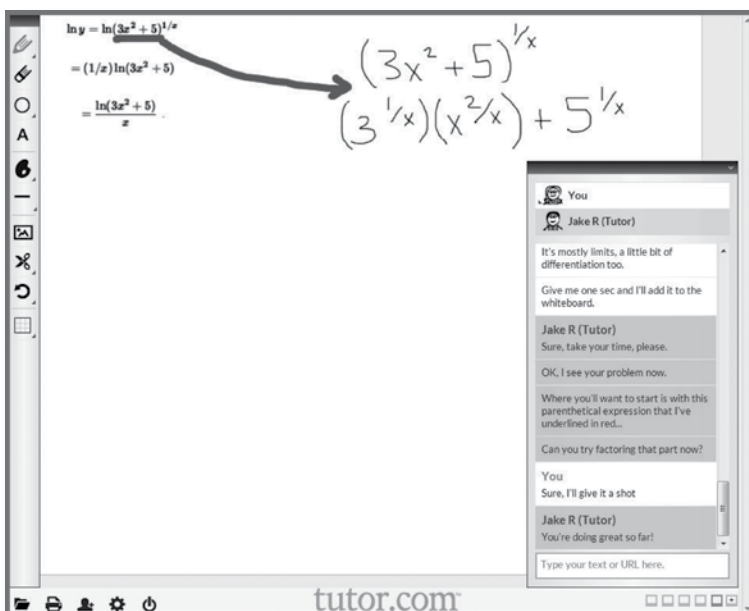
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### Save Time With Our On-shelf Reserve Service

Did you know that an item on shelf can be pulled and held at the Circulation Desk for you? MPPL cardholders can place their own requests through the catalog. If the item is on the shelf, staff will retrieve it and hold it at the Circulation Desk. **The limit is five per person per day.**

Please note that holds are pulled three times each day, so wait until you have been notified that the item has been located and is available for you at Circulation. If the item is coming from our South Branch, there may be an extra day's wait.

M@iL

## eNews YOU Can Use!

Sign up for the Library's eNewsletter! Click on the e-Library tab on our website to sign up for our e-newsletter and get Library news delivered to your inbox twice per month. Hear about events and programs, discover new services, and find out what's happening in Mount Prospect. You also have one-click access to program registration, the catalog, your account, and the Library calendar.

## Artist's Works Reflect His Mexican Heritage

Mount Prospect Public Library recently purchased prints from artist Enrique Suárez's Music series for permanent display at the South Branch. The works, hung on the wall near the e-net computers, are a colorful addition to the newly expanded space. A grant from Wal-Mart was used to purchase the art.

The works are titled *Nolti's Babies*; *Honoring the Great Maestro—Don Andrés Segovia*; *John Coltrane's Money Maker*; and *El Maestro Antonio Vivaldi: Four Seasons and Louis Armstrong*.

Raised in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, Enrique studied with David Alfaro Siqueiros, who tutored him in the technique of using and applying vibrant colors. Proud of his history, culture, and traditions, Enrique was encouraged by Siqueiros to convey a universal expression of his Mexican identity.

Traces of Cubism, Realism, and Pre-Columbian works can be found in Enrique's art, but his paintings always reflect his spirituality, memories, and imagination.



Photos top to bottom:

"Honoring the Great Maestro—Don Andrés Segovia" by Enrique Suárez.

South Branch manager Maria Garstecki and artist Enrique Suárez talk to Community Connections Center Coordinator Victoria Bran during the reception honoring the new artwork.

All five pieces of artwork hang in a prominent location at the South Branch.





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## Container Store’s Expert Advice to Library Is a Great Story

Storytimes at a library are lively, imaginative events. Librarians use puppets, music, movies, flannel boards, and, of course, books to make tales come alive and to spark a love of reading in kids. Children’s departments accumulate a wide variety of props and supplies.

At MPPL, librarians are lucky to have a small storage area adjacent to the youth program room. But keeping the diverse set of storytelling tools organized has been a challenge. Over the years, Library staff has found that some of the room’s features were less important (desk space, for example) and could be removed. But many traditional storage solutions don’t easily accommodate the things that make storytime fun, like elephant puppets, different colored tablecloth rolls, costumes, and a tabletop barn. Other challenges included cords and outlets that could not be relocated and a narrow passageway.

When a resident nominated MPPL for an elfa® makeover as part of The Container Store’s “What WE Stand For” campaign, the Library’s Youth Services staff started thinking that the extra money and ideas from a storage expert could help them better organize the storytime storage area.

Annette Wegener of the Schaumburg Container Store designed some solutions, including media racks, a



*Youth staff member Barb Mack starts filling in the new shelves.*

moveable basket system, shelves on a sliding track, and even wrapping paper holders for the rolls of table coverings. Most of the area’s new shelving is modular and moveable, so the staff can expand their collection or change things around.

Not only was the MPPL staff delighted at the ideas and customer service they received from the Container Store, but designer Wegener was thrilled to be able to use her talents to help her home library. Along with the \$1,000 makeover and installation, MPPL also received a \$1,000 donation.



*Librarian Mary Smith at a storytime using some of the many items now neatly stowed, thanks to the grant.*





**Harold Weary**  
1908-2014

## MPPL Bids Farewell to a Faithful Friend

### Harold Weary's Amazing Legacy Is for All to Enjoy

Harold Weary began volunteering at the Mount Prospect Public Library in the late 1960s. He would soon retire from United Airlines, but he was also about to transition into another career. Fifty years and countless volunteer hours later, both the Library and Mount Prospect are better places for everyone because of Harold's enthusiastic efforts. Harold died on Valentine's Day at age 105.

Harold was a founding member of the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing funding for special programs and projects otherwise unattainable with tax dollars. Harold retired from the Foundation Board on his 105th birthday in October.

Harold passed away the day after the winners were chosen for the Foundation's annual *Unbelievable Chocolate Raffle*. Not only is this one of the Foundation's biggest fundraisers, but Harold was usually the event's top ticket seller. He would stop everyone who came through the Library lobby to tell them about the raffle.

"Harold was sharp as a tack, and also very humble," says the Library's Business Manager Carla Peterson, who relied on his financial expertise and institutional memory. "He was respectful of new innovations while bringing valuable knowledge to the Library's financial processes. We also shared rural family roots."

According to an oral history Harold recorded in 1991, he was born in Kansas in 1908. He recalled that a pasture across from his grandparent's farm had never been broken, or used for farming. Harold's curiosity about his family's history sparked his interest in

genealogy. His research uncovered the fact that most of his family came to America before 1800.

After earning a Master's degree from the University of Nebraska, he took a job with Drover's Journal Publishing Company in the Chicago stockyards, where he met his future wife, Irene. They had three children: Marlys, Sharon, and Ronald.

In 1942 Harold joined United Airlines and spent 31 years there, retiring in 1973 as a financial analyst in the comptroller's office. His family moved to Mount Prospect in 1962, and, in the oral history, he fondly recalled the changes to Lions Park over the years.

"I always enjoyed his company," recalls Tom Garvin, head of the Library's Building Services. Tom was impressed that whenever Harold's family was in town, he would bring them to the Library. "It showed how important the Library was to him," Tom said.

In 2009, the MPPL board awarded Harold with a Founders Award for his decades of volunteer work. If you've ever spent time in our genealogy room, you may have noticed that it is named for Harold. And it was Harold who put the Library over the one-million checkout mark in 2009.

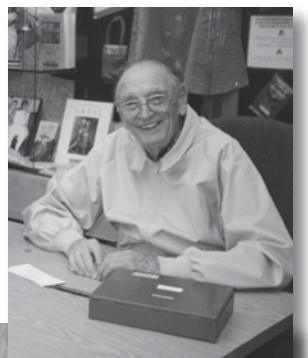
The former North Suburban Library System also honored Harold in 2004 as the Volunteer of the Year. The NSLS program for that event noted, "With a twinkle in his eye, Harold sells the benefits of libraries to everyone he meets, and we are all reaping the rewards of his efforts."



Harold with (clockwise from left) MPPL Executive Director Marilyn Genther; past director Mary Jo Hutchings; on the 4th of July float (2007) with staff member Hannah Horwitz; and checking out the millionth item from Daphne Yarrish.



Harold was always raising funds for the Library (2001).



Harold at a holiday party with former board member Bill Blaine (1991).

