

For immediate release:

Warren-Newport Public Library District

224 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee, Illinois 60031

Contact: Sandy Beda, Head of Communications

sbeda@wnpl.info or 847-244-5150 ext. 3018

January 12, 2023

The Warren-Newport Public Library District Celebrates 50 Years of Service

As the Warren-Newport Public Library District joins with our communities to celebrate the New Year in 2023, the library is also celebrating an incredibly significant recognition of fifty years of service – the library's 50th birthday!

Warren-Newport Public Library is looking forward to celebrating our 50th birthday throughout the year with fun events and creative opportunities to reflect on our library's history as well as envision our library's future. This will be a year-long, community birthday celebration to remember! The library's events calendar can be found online at <https://calendar.wnpl.info/events>.

It was the dream and vision of the Gurnee Woman's Club in August of 1971 to establish library service for Warren and Newport townships to improve our community. Through their dedicated work and effort, in addition to the efforts of numerous other community leaders, the Warren-Newport Public Library District was born fifty years ago on January 10, 1973. The library is grateful for and proud of the team effort that led to the creation of our amazing library.

With many societal and technological changes occurring within fifty years, including the advent of the Internet for public use; digital downloads and streaming services; online resources for learning and researching from home; and methods of collaborating and working together both in-person and remotely, Warren-Newport Public Library has been ready to pivot at a moment's notice to meet community needs along the way.

More than any other aspect of our services, WNPL is focused on people – our patrons, staff, and communities at large. The library is dedicated to inclusiveness and is committed to improving collections, programming, and adapting staff roles to serve patron needs.

Additional information about the library's 50th birthday can be found at <https://www.wnpl.info/happy-birthday-to-us/>.

The Warren-Newport Public Library District, founded by volunteers in 1973, serves a population of approximately 67,000 within a 55-square mile area that covers all or most of Warren and Newport townships, including Gurnee, Wadsworth, Park City, Wildwood, Grandwood Park, Old Mill Creek, and portions of Grayslake, Millburn, Lake Villa, Libertyville and Waukegan.

###