Events Featured
Opening Reception & Cosplay Contest
“Life & Love Letters”
Time Capsule Unveil

You’re Invited

Library Exhibits
Friends & Partners Events
Library Events

A Newsletter of the Northern Illinois University Libraries and Friends of NIU Libraries
Time Capsule Unveiling

The Douglas Hall time capsule, a copper box, was sealed behind the cornerstone during the dorm’s construction in 1962. Douglas Hall was open to residents in 1963. The time capsule was removed and placed in the University Archives when the Hall was demolished in the summer of 2014.

The opening of the time capsule, which celebrated the 55th anniversary of the Douglas Hall’s opening, occurred on Saturday, October 13 during the NIU Alumni Village Homecoming Tailgate at Huskie Stadium. Items found within the capsule included a city map, NIU official documents, and photographs and newspaper clippings about Douglas Hall.

For more pictures and information about the items in the time capsule, visit the Regional History Center’s Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/NIUarchives/ or contact them directly at rhcua@niu.edu or (815) 753-1779.

Douglas Hall Timeline

1961

Nov 13 – Groundbreaking Ceremony

1962

Nov 13 – Cornerstone was laid, sealing in copper box time capsule

1963

May 19 – Dedication Ceremony

1963

Sept – Dorm was first occupied

2014

Apr 27 – Closing Ceremony
Thank you to our Life Members (donating $1000.00 or more)

Paul & Jean Burtness
Glen & Dawn Ericksen
Deborah Erickson
James Erman & Lydia Vitello
Glen & Jamie Gildemeister
Elroy & Urla Golden
Samuel & Corinna Huang
E. Nelson & Marilyn S. James
William C. Johnson
Yvonne Johnson
Harriet Kallich
Ron Klein
Mike Korcek
Judith M. Looney & John Jefferson
Scott & Kathy Miller
William & Josephine Monat
Carla W. Montgomery
Charles & Mary Munroe
Todd & Joanne Nebel
James Block Pick & Rosalyn Laudati
Ron & Barbara Provencher
Gordon Rasmussen
Lawrence Rast
Larry & Judy Sill
Sally Stevens
Peggy Sullivan
Rebekah Wilson
Arthur & Pat Young
Jerrold & Carol Zar

Social Media

For the latest updates on news and events follow the Library’s Twitter (@NIULibrary)

‘Like’ the following Facebook pages to stay up-to-date with news from the Library’s collections:
NIU Digital Library  https://www.facebook.com/niudigitallibrary/
NIU Music Library https://www.facebook.com/NIUMusicLibrary/
Regional History Center & University Archives https://www.facebook.com/NIUarchives

NIU Digital Library Tumblr https://niudl.tumblr.com/
Regional History Center & University Archives flicker https://www.flickr.com/photos/niuarchives/
Programming & Promotion Committee Events

The Programming & Promotion Committee was established in April 2018. Members are charged with promoting library services, collections, and programs to the NIU community; recommending policies and procedures in support of library promotion; ensuring consistency and quality in the presentation of promotional materials; managing the libraries’ new outlets; and enhancing participation in NIU life by representing the Libraries’ at appropriate student and faculty events.

The following faculty and staff are members of the P&P Committee (two-year terms):

Associate Dean Leanne VandeCreek, ex officio
Joanna Kulma, Co-chair
Kathy Ladell, Co-chair
Cindy Ditzler
Wayne Finley
Renee Kerwin
Beth McGowan
Sarah McHone-Chase
Matthew Short

Past Events:
Haish Portrait Dedication
Tuesday, October 9, 2018
Founders Gallery (1st floor), Founders Memorial Library.
President Lisa Freeman spoke and local historian Steve Bigolin gave a talk about the history of DeKalb’s founding fathers with an emphasis on Jacob Haish. Thank you to Prof. Ferald Bryan for Securing the permanent loan for the library.

Alumni Village Homecoming Tailgate
Saturday, October 13, 2018
The library had a table in the Alumni tent with snacks and giveaways (i.e., magnets and postcards). The Regional History Center and University Archives opened the Douglas Hall time capsule.

Upcoming Events:
Midterm dogs
Week of October 15th
Dogs will be in the library lobby for students to interact with between their exams.

Final exam dogs
Week of December 10th
Two Newfoundland dogs will be in the library lobby for students to interact with between the exams.

Color our Collections
Week of February 4th
Print outs of items in our digital collections are available for students to color anyway they want and post on social media.

Author Talk by David Gunkel
Late fall semester/early spring semester
NIU Dept. of Communications professor Dr. David Gunkel will talk about his new book Robot Rights. There will be an opportunity to purchase the book as well as a book signing after the event.

Faculty Book Reception
Spring Semester (March or April 2019)
Reception for faculty members who have written books in the past year.

Author Talk by Ingrid Rojas Contreras
April 2019
Ingrid Rojas Contreras will talk about her debut novel Fruit of the Drunken Tree. Books will be available for purchase. Possible book signing as well.

Pride month event
June 2019
Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

This Fall 2018 issue begins the green option (electronic issue sent via email) unless you contacted Angie via the email below or by calling (815) 753-8091 to receive the print version.

Please help us save trees and support campus sustainability initiatives by receiving Founders’ Type via email.

Members can update their email address by sending a message to libraryfriend@niu.edu with the subject line ‘Founders Type green option.’
On October 19, 1978 Mr. Charles W. Bradt donated his mother’s historical manuscript collection to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center. The Bertha Glidden Bradt Collection contains family genealogies, including more than 1,000 research volumes, materials from S.E. Bradt’s role in the development of Illinois highways, and Glidden family manuscripts. The family manuscripts consist of family correspondence, Bradt and Glidden family photographs, and Josiah Willard Glidden’s poetry, journals, and scrapbooks. Josiah Willard was the younger brother of barbed wire baron Joseph Glidden, and the father of Annie Glidden. Both names are easily recognizable. What you may not know is that Josiah Willard married Mary McConnell, a woman he met at a Unitarian Church conference in Philadelphia, PA. After exchanging only ten letters dating from May 31, 1857 to August 30, 1857, Mary, accompanied by Brother Abel Thomas, left Philadelphia and headed to Illinois a week after sending her August 30th letter. On September 14, 1857, three and a half months after Josiah Willard’s first letter to Mary, she arrived in Chicago where she met and married Josiah Willard that same day.

The ten letters written between Mary and Josiah Willard in Mrs. Bradt’s collection are a wonderful example of a whirlwind romance. The letters also show their devotion to family and illustrate the uncertainty Mary felt about leaving the comfort of her life in Philadelphia (a large city) and moving to DeKalb (a small farming community).

Here is an excerpt from one of Mary’s letters to Josiah Willard with original punctuation,

“Since you have told me you would come for me I think I can trust you, to tell you that I am willing to become your wife. do you know why I am willing to come? because I think you love me, is it true? I wish you to ask yourself that question many times before you write to me again, you have said it but perhaps you have changed your mind since you last wrote. be sure you have no other motive before you send for me, for it would be a crime for which I fear you would be sorry, to take me from those whom it will make so unhappy if you do not truly love me.”

Josiah Willard fancied himself a Renaissance Man. While a farmer by trade, he was also a poet, composer, and painter. Here is an excerpt from one of Josiah Willard’s letter to Mary which included one of his poems,

“Although we are separated by a wide distance, yet our spirits will often hold communion, and the telegraphic line of thought will often be freighted with messages of love to cheer us on our way. I think of thee when softly falls, The robe of night o’er land and sea, In lowly cot, or palace halls, Where’er I roam I think of thee.”
Josiah Willard and Mary went on to have six children: Lizzie, William (who died at 22 months), Cora, Annie, Bertha, and John. Josiah Willard’s journals not only include entries of his farm and business undertakings but of his personal life as well. He wrote a heartbreaking entry when he learned of Willie’s death. Mary, Lizzie, and Willie were visiting friends in New Jersey when Willie became sick. Josiah Willard’s entry reads:

“I received this message (Willie died Sep 24 meet us in Chicago Saturday morning). Thus without any warning of his sickness did I receive the sad tidings of his death. I went to Chicago Friday night. And Saturday morning Mary and Lizzie arrived there with the precious body of our little Willie. We arrived home Saturday evening. And is it thus we must bear thee home, my dear dear child but a little while ago so full of life and joy. I could have borne the precious body in my arms all the way.”

Josiah Willard died on December 10, 1876 at the age of 54 in a farming accident leaving Mary to raise the five children. A stick flew up and cut a gash above Josiah Willard’s eye while he was chopping wood. The wound became infected and resulted in his death within the week. With the help of Josiah Willard’s brother, barbed wire baron Joseph Glidden, all the children were able to attend college: Lizzie went to Rockford College, Cora, Annie, and Bertha went to the Normal School in Bloomington, while John Willard went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology. An interesting fact about John is that he was the first man in the west to use drainage tiles in his fields, draining the Glidden lands creating what is now NIU’s lagoon.

The Regional History Center partnered with the J.F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center to bring history alive by showcasing Josiah Willard and Mary’s love letters. The historical reenactment entitled *Life and Love Letters* took place Sunday, September 23, at Faranda’s in DeKalb. Actors Dennis and Maria Boynton from Stage Coach Players portrayed Mary McConnell and Josiah Willard Glidden. NIU Communications Instructor Matt Swan served as the master of ceremonies, while vocalist Rachel Hunter-Rosene performed before the reading. Along with the dramatization, Mary McConnell Glidden’s 1857 self-made wedding dress was on display and attendees had the opportunity to savor a delicious Sweet Dreams wedding cake.

Josiah Willard died on December 10, 1876 at the age of 54 in a farming accident leaving Mary to raise the five children. A stick flew up and cut a gash above Josiah Willard’s eye while he was chopping wood. The wound became infected and resulted in his death within the week. With the help of Josiah Willard’s brother, barbed wire baron Joseph Glidden, all the children were able to attend college: Lizzie went to Rockford College, Cora, Annie, and Bertha went to the Normal School in Bloomington, while John Willard went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology. An interesting fact about John is that he was the first man in the west to use drainage tiles in his fields, draining the Glidden lands creating what is now NIU’s lagoon.

The Regional History Center partnered with the J.F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center to bring history alive by showcasing Josiah Willard and Mary’s love letters. The historical reenactment entitled *Life and Love Letters* took place Sunday, September 23, at Faranda’s in DeKalb. Actors Dennis and Maria Boynton from Stage Coach Players portrayed Mary McConnell and Josiah Willard Glidden. NIU Communications Instructor Matt Swan served as the master of ceremonies, while vocalist Rachel Hunter-Rosene performed before the reading. Along with the dramatization, Mary McConnell Glidden’s 1857 self-made wedding dress was on display and attendees had the opportunity to savor a delicious Sweet Dreams wedding cake.

Interested in reading the original letters, Josiah Willard journals, and looking at the family photographs? Drop by the Regional History Center and ask to see the inventory for the Bertha Glidden Bradt Collection (RC 46). The Center’s staff would be happy to retrieve the archival boxes from the closed stack area for you to use in the Reading Room. The Center is open Monday through Friday from 8am-noon and 1-4:30pm. It is located on the 4th floor of Founders Memorial Library.
Friends of the NIU Libraries & Partner Events

Past Events
Oct 5    *Al-Kitab* Exhibit Opening Reception
Oct 9    Jacob Haish Memorial
Oct 12   Screening of *Young Frankenstein* at DeKalb Public Library
Oct 13   Time Capsule Unveiling at Alumni Village Homecoming Tailgate
Oct 13   PopCon: Frankenstein and More at DeKalb Public Library

Upcoming Events
Oct 23 – 6:30-8:30PM    STEM Café – *Frankenstein’s Legacy: The Past, Present, and Future of Anatomy and Synthetic Biology* at Fatty’s Pub and Grille in DeKalb

Oct 31 – 2-3PM    Comic Book Nook and Graphic Novel Collection Reception – Cosplay contest for NIU students.

Oct 27 – 10AM-5PM    STEMfest 2018 at the NIU Convocation Center – Meet authors Ruth Spiro, Gillian King-Cargile, and Mike Mullin. These authors create fun, exciting stories that help young readers explore science concepts. This year’s festival also includes hundreds of hands-on activities that get learners of all ages excited about science, technology, engineering, and math. New in 2018 is the Northern Illinois Maker Faire, which will feature artists and makers from around the region. More information at [https://www.stemfest.niu.edu/stemfest/](https://www.stemfest.niu.edu/stemfest/)

Nov 4-10 – varies    International Games Week – Come to Founder’s Memorial Library and play STEM Read’s escape-room style game based on the book *Artemis* by Andy Weir. Teams with the fastest solving time will win copies of the book.

Nov – TBA    Author and NIU Media Studies Professor David Gunkel will give a talk on his latest book *Robot Rights*.

Dec 4 or 5 – 9AM-2PM    Public talk with Kiersten White, author of *The Dark Descent of Elizabeth Frankenstein*. More information at [https://www.stemread.com/fieldtrips/](https://www.stemread.com/fieldtrips/)

2018-2019 Friends of NIU Libraries Board Members and Officers

Ferald Bryan (President)  Sarah Cain
Gillian King-Cargile (Vice President & Program Chair)  Mary Lincoln
Gary Vander Meer (Treasurer)  Emily Faulkner
Josephine Burke (Secretary)  Jerry Zar
Fred Barnhart (Ex Officio)  Sara Finnigan
Holy Jackpot, Batman!
By Faculty Librarians Sarah Cain and Wayne Finley

The NIU Library will celebrate the launch of the new Graphic Novel Collection and Comic Book Nook with a student cosplay competition on Halloween at Founders Memorial Library from 2-3pm. Attendees are encouraged to come as their favorite comic book, science fiction, or pop-culture character. Costumed student attendees will be entered into the cosplay contest, which will be judged by a panel of faculty and staff from the Library and University. Winners will receive prizes! Pizza and soda will also be provided. You don’t have to dress up or be a student to join us in the fun – spectators are welcome.

Interested in comics, old or new? Stop by the Holy history, Batman! exhibit to view comics since the Golden Age. The exhibit is on display through the month of October in the cases near Rare books and Special Collections (4th floor).

Comic Book Nook
Rare Books and Special Collections is home to the Comic Book Nook, a collection that steps outside of the bounds of conventional restricted access policies related to rare materials. Visitors are able to browse, handle, and read anything and everything on the Nook’s shelves! The majority of the comics currently held in the collection are superhero themed, but a few issues of alternative comics are available as well. Check back periodically for new acquisitions as the Comic Book Nook will continue to grow!

Visitors are always welcome, no appointment necessary. RBSC is open Monday-Friday from 8am-noon; 1-4:30pm. If you are interested in donating to the Comic Book Nook or the Comic Book Collection (restricted access materials), please contact Sarah Cain, Head of Rare Books and Special Collections.

Graphic Novel Collection
In addition to the Comic Book Nook, the Library is expanding its collection of comic book/sequential art materials with the introduction of the Graphic Novel Collection. The collection, which was started by NIU Libraries Professors Wayne Finley and Beth McGowan, is intended to meet the growing demand for graphic novels among university patrons – not only for leisure reading, but also as the subject of scholarship in a number of fields. In addition to popular superhero titles from major publishers such as Marvel and DC, this circulating collection contains works from independent publishers, memoirs, travel narratives, and other works of non-fiction.
Founders Memorial Library Exhibitions

Founders Gallery (Main floor)

October 2018: Al-Kitab: A solo exhibition of handmade books. By artist Zeinab Saab

November 2018: 50th Anniversary of the CHANCE Program

December 2018 / January 2019: Illinois Bicentennial Celebration

February 2019: Suicide Prevention

March 2019: Women’s History Month

April 2019: 100th Anniversary of the Bauhaus Movement

May 2019: Flowers

June / July 2019: Gay Pride Month

August / September 2019: Raya Garbousova

Fourth floor

Rare Books and Special Collections

October 2018: Comic Books through the Ages

November / December 2018: What else happened in 1968?

Spring 2019: TBA

Regional History Center

Fall 2018: Homecoming

Spring 2019: History of student events and activities

For more information visit [https://library.niu.edu/ulib/content/aboutus/exhibits.shtml](https://library.niu.edu/ulib/content/aboutus/exhibits.shtml)

Member Benefits:

Friends tote bags! Contact Angie Schroeder at aschroeder@niu.edu or 815-753-8091 for details.
NIU Libraries is currently hosting a solo art exhibition of handmade books by Zeinab Saab, third-year MFA candidate in printmaking at NIU’s School of Art and Design. *Al-Kitab* explores the relationship between terminology used within bookmaking and its ties to the body. Like books, the body has a beginning and an end, and with the use of Arabic script, the artist ties the work back to specific points within Islamic history, practice, and philosophies. More specifically, the Qur’an’s views on the creation of the body, the return of the body to the dirt, and descriptions of the afterlife are the paths that navigate the work.

Utilizing Islamic script as the source of inspiration ties it all back to Saab’s upbringing, and how her family brought their practice of Islam, both culturally and spiritually on foreign soil. Understanding today that their history is shrouded beneath layers of soil mixed with the rubble of the past, her job is to make sure their stories and spiritual way of life are preserved in some fashion, and their history isn’t lost in translation.

An opening reception took place on October 4 and included an accompanying performance by the artist on the grounds of the library. Saab gave a “eulogy” for a book she made within the last year and then buried it in a hole she dug earlier. The book, entitled *Kilam Al-Awal* (*The First Word*), is about the practice of starting over, or more importantly, giving yourself permission to start over. As Saab states, “The act of burying this book meant that I was able to lay to rest past ways of thinking that no longer applied to my life, as well as traditions that were no longer beneficial to my development as an individual. I wanted this performance to be in conjunction with the change of seasons, because the transition from one season to another means that something must be sacrificed for another to prosper.”

*Al-Kitab* is at Founders Memorial Library until October 31st.
Yes! I/We wish to join the Friends of NIU Libraries at the following level:

- $1,000 or more Life Member
- $500 Benefactor/Corporate
- $100 Donor
- $50 Family
- $35 Individual
- $10 Student (Must show ID)

Enclosed is a gift of $______________

(Installment plans are available for large gifts)

Please charge to my

- Visa
- MC
- Discover

Credit Card Number__________________________
Expiration Date______________________________
Signature__________________________________

Make checks payable to Friends of NIU Libraries

Would you like any of the following brochures?

- Library Book Fund
- Ensuring the Future Trees
- Friends of NIU Libraries

If a gift is in memory of someone, please include the purpose

NIU also offers Payroll Deduction for faculty and staff

Make checks payable to Friends of NIU Libraries

Name_______________________________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________
City_________________________________________________________
State/Zip Code________________________________________________
Telephone (      )_______________________________________________
Email________________________________________________________

Mail to: Friends of NIU Libraries, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115-2868

Thank you for your support!