

More than Books

Money Smart Week kicks off reminder

During Money Smart Week, April 5 – 12, financial institutions, not-for-profits, and government agencies across the country are joining together to present classes, activities, and activities that promote financial fitness. The University of Illinois Extension is taking the lead in bring more Money Smart events to Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties, whereas in previous years, the focus has been limited to the Greater Rockford area.

The Stephenson County Money Smart Week kick off is tomorrow, here at the library, with a morning of concurrent seminars, starting at 9 a.m. Topics range from building credit scores to veterans' benefits to home energy savings.

A special children's activity at 10 a.m. is built around the book, *Curious George Saves his Pennies*. The first 20 participants even get their own copy of the book to keep.

Several of the Saturday seminars will be repeated as evening offerings next week. I am almost out of brochures, but I promise we will keep one at each of our information desks for reference.

Look for more announcements of Money Smart events in the paper or go to the Money Smart website, <http://www.moneysmartweek.org>, for additional information about all the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoon and evening programs. Locations include Cub Foods and Highland Community College, in addition to the library.

Parking reminder

What a great central location our library has! You can't beat sharing a campus with the Lincoln-Douglas Debate Square and Union Dairy.

What a pleasure to be able to host an event such as tomorrow's Money Smart Week Kick Off. Since its doors opened in December, 2003, the library has had the opportunity to demonstrate, time and again, that it is "More than Books on a Shelf". With a two-story building that is fully ADA-accessible and with parking for approximately 75 cars on site, Library Board's vision of the library as a community center has become a reality.

Not only are there 75 parking spaces on-site, the library is located kitty corner from a municipal parking lot just across from the Stewart Centre. We do ask that people who are attending a meeting, who are physically able to do so, park in the municipal parking lot. Otherwise, those 75 spaces can quickly fill up, leaving no spots for folks who are dashing in to pick up or drop off library materials.

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