



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Freeport Public Library is proud to announce that it has received a grant of \$5,849 to support the 2017 One Book, One Freeport community-wide reading program. The grant was awarded by the Community Arts & Humanities Fund of The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois' Community Grants Program.

Gloryland by Shelton Johnson was selected for 2017 One Book, One Freeport, with an accompanying title for youth: *Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy US Marshal*, by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. Free copies of the books will be handed out at the Freeport Public Library on Saturday, February 11 from 9 a.m. to 12noon.

The mission of the One Book, One Freeport program is to encourage a shared reading experience, foster a sense of community, and promote literacy to people of all ethnic backgrounds, economic levels, and ages. Based on similar programs in communities across the country, One Book, One Freeport provides free copies of a selected book and coordinates educational programs and events to explore topics related to the book.

A wide variety of One Book, One Freeport events for all ages will take place in February, March, and early April. Visit <http://freeportpubliclibrary.org/onebook/> for more details. The highlight of the One Book, One Freeport event will be a visit from *Gloryland* author Shelton Johnson for a community-wide program on Thursday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m.

The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (CFNIL) has been a regional leader in philanthropy since 1953. CFNIL serves as a catalyst for giving in order to attract, grow, and preserve an endowment for the needs of Northern Illinois. Since its founding, CFNIL has granted more than \$60 million for charitable purposes.

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