FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Belleville Public Library Launches Belleville Reads Book Club

Belleville, Ill. – October 9, 2020 – The City of Belleville’s Public Library will launch Belleville Reads: A City-Wide Book Club starting Mon., Oct. 19

“We’re exploring ways to keep the sense of community around the library given the restrictions of the pandemic and thought this would be a great way to get a variety of individuals together to celebrate reading even though we’re apart right now,” said Director of Libraries Leander Spearman.

The first book the club will read is "The Vanishing Half” by Brit Bennett. This novel looks beyond the issues of race and explores reasons people feel pulled to live as something other than their origins, according to the author.

The library will have several copies that patrons can check-out with their library card; patrons can order the book at-cost through the library; or patrons can purchase a copy on their own.

The Belleville Public Library works with Amazon and for novels ordered through the library’s unique portal, at www.wowbrary.org/belleville, the library will receive a rebate for the purchase.

There is no cost to participate and patrons can discuss the book and participate in interactive events through the library’s Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/bellevillereads. The club is open to those 18 years and older as some content is not appropriate for children. A new book will be selected two or three times a year.

To learn more, visit www.bellevillepubliclibrary.org or call 618-234-0441.

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The City of Belleville, Illinois, incorporated in 1814, is the St. Clair County seat and the largest city in southern Illinois. With a current population of 44,478 (2010), Belleville is home to the longest contiguous main street in the United States, excellent education and healthcare organizations, and thriving businesses and neighborhoods, including three National Historic Districts. Mayor Mark Eckert runs the municipal government along with elected officials including City Clerk Jennifer Gain Meyer, Treasurer Dean Hardt, and 16 aldermen representing eight city wards. The vision for the City of Belleville is one where all sectors of the community work together to help the city grow and prosper and to become a model for other communities to follow.