WHEREAS, on June 10, 1910, a group of seven civic-minded residents, responding to the needs of a young and growing community, met with the objective of establishing the first public library in Park Ridge; and

WHEREAS, with a grant of $7500 from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation to build the library at the corner of Northwest Highway and Prospect Avenue, and a gift of 1,500 volumes bestowed by the estate of George B. Carpenter, the Park Ridge Public Library opened its doors on December 6, 1913; and

WHEREAS, from these modest beginnings the Library’s collections grew along with the community, to the point that a new building was erected at the corner of Touhy and Prospect in 1958, with an addition built in 1977 and a current collection of 194,000 books; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Library has offered programs for all ages, outreach services, literacy initiatives, job seeker and small business resources, expanding information services, computer training, Internet access, and other means of community support and enrichment; and

WHEREAS, through times of recession and prosperity, war and peace, the Park Ridge Public Library has continued to serve the people of Park Ridge as a place of learning, culture and community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David F. Schmidt, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Park Ridge, in the County of Cook, State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim 2013 as the “Year of the Library” in honor of its 100th Anniversary, and extend sincere gratitude to its trustees, staff and volunteers, past and present, for their accomplishments, commitment, and dedication to the City of Park Ridge and its residents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Park Ridge to be affixed this 21st day of January, A.D., 2013.

Attest:

________________________________    ________________________________
David F. Schmidt, Mayor               Betty W. Henneman, City Clerk