FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Washington-Centerville Library

Contact: Georgia Mergler Date: 7/18/2016
Telephone: 433-8091

Fax: 610-4455

Email: gmergler@wcpl.lib.oh.us

Library Supports Serviceman/Employee on Tour

Teens who frequently visit the Washington-Centerville Public Library know teen librarian Charlie Hacker by his great reading recommendations and witty, laid back personality, but they may not know that when he's not at the library, Charlie is defending their freedom.

Charlie is a member of the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat unit of the Ohio Army National Guard and has been since 2011. He is deploying on a 14-month overseas mission starting in late summer. In his unit, he serves as a Chief Legal Non-Commissioned Officer, maintaining legal records, assisting in operational law and paying claims as a result of military action. Charlie downplays his service to his country but his supervisors and co-workers are quite proud of the work he does in, and out, of the Library. "Charlie's positive energy and wry sense of humor helps him relate well to teens that visit the Library. We are proud to have him on our staff and we wish him a safe mission," says Library Director, Kim Paras.

"The Library has always been very supportive of my military service and understands that serving my country is important to me," says Hacker. The Library provides Military Leave benefits to all eligible employees who are members of the uniformed services, including leave with pay for up to 22 days each calendar year, continuation of healthcare benefits, participation in retirement plan and restoration to the employee's former position upon return from service.

As a teen librarian, Charlie helps plan and promote events and exhibits for teens, updates the teen website, reading lists and does a great job encouraging teens, especially boys, to get hooked on reading. "I truly love coming to work every day and appreciate everything the Library does for me," says Hacker. To show appreciation for Charlie's service, and to help young patrons track his whereabouts, the Library will frequently be posting updates in the Library, and on the teen website, dubbed "Where in the World is Charlie?"

For more details on Washington-Centerville Public Library or to get updates on Charlie's tour, visit teens.wclibrary.info.

###