



On Sept. 24, 2009, Hennepin County Library (HCL), in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Investor Protection Trust (IPT), the Investor Protection Institute (IPI), the Financial Planning Association of Minnesota (FPA-MN), Twin Cities Public Television (tpt) and the Vital Aging Network (VAN), will launch a major public education initiative called “How Can I Afford Retirement? Investor Education at Hennepin County Library.” The “How Can I Afford Retirement?” investor education series is an “Investor Education in Your Community” program funded by a grant to the Library Foundation of Hennepin County from the (IPT). The IPT is a nonprofit organization devoted to investor education. Since 1993 the IPT has worked with the States to provide the independent, objective investor education needed by all Americans to make informed investment decisions. www.investorprotection.org

“How can I afford retirement?” is one of the major questions the baby boomer generation is asking as they become eligible for Social Security. This program is designed for individuals at all levels of investment experience who are either approaching retirement or have recently retired. The purpose is to provide free access to objective, noncommercial information about investments and retirement planning, so that individuals can make informed choices, recognize and avoid investment fraud, and manage their retirement finances effectively.

The four-part series is free and open to the public and will be offered in two locations:

- Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Thursday, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 22 and Nov. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Ridgedale Library, 12601 Ridgedale Dr., Minnetonka, Saturday, Oct. 3, 17, 31 and Nov. 14, 10 a.m.-noon

Session topics cover:

- Taking the Mystery out of Retirement Planning
- Closing the Gap -- Investment and Expense Strategies, Even for Late Starters!
- Investing Wisely to Avoid the Financial Risk of Longer Life Expectancy
- Protecting Your Investments -- The Best Defense Is a Wise and Safe Investor

Participants will learn about the investment process from financial experts and discover the resources available at Hennepin County Library. Community resource information tables will be available before and after the sessions. A question and answer period follows every presentation. Space is limited and registration is required. Participants may attend all sessions or just the one(s) of interest. The sessions at Central Library will be recorded for broadcast by Twin Cities Public Television.

The series will be offered again at two locations in spring 2010. Grant funds will cover adding investor education and protection materials to the HCL collection. Visit the program website: www.hclib.org/affordretirement

For more information contact the project leader, Melinda Ludwiczak, Senior Librarian, Partnerships, Hennepin County Library, 952-847-8633, mludwiczak@hclib.org

