

2023 Summer Reading Program

June 1 - July 31

Registration begins May 18

**READING MAKES US
HAPPY CAMPERS**


All ages are welcome in
the big tent that is SRP!
Sign up using the Beanstack
app or ask us for help.

Reading Respite

Dear Patrons, we've got a challenge for you that Ramona would like

It all began when a girl named Ramona Quimby started third grade at Cedarhurst Primary School. In the second week of school, her teacher, Mrs. Whaley, introduced the students to D.E.A.R.

D.E.A.R. stands for Drop Everything and Read, which is the time after lunch students could silently read any books they wanted, and they didn't have to do book reports.

Ramona, of course, is the spunky creation of author Beverly Cleary, who wrote a series of Ramona books that have been read by children around the world.

Cleary passed away in 2021 at the age of 104, but her April 12 birthdate has been celebrated as D.E.A.R. Day by schools and libraries for years. The reading promotion now stretches across all of April.

Rolling Hills Library is joining the celebration this year with an all-ages Beanstack challenge asking participants to read for at least 30 minutes twice a week. Beanstack is the library's online reading challenge platform that uses an app for registration, tracking reading amounts and providing online prizes for accomplishments.

Patrons who complete the challenge will be entered into a prize drawing for a library-themed prize bag.

Beanstack can scan book bar codes to collect titles and author names, allows users to see what their friends are reading and provides a reading timer.

The main objective of the challenge is to promote reading and its benefits.

Reading "gives you a break from your regular day," Belt Branch manager Kelly Morris said. "It gives a chance to sit down and refocus, and if you read together as a family, a chance to reconnect."

Don't be scared off by 1000 books

A great way for families with young children to read together is to take part in the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten



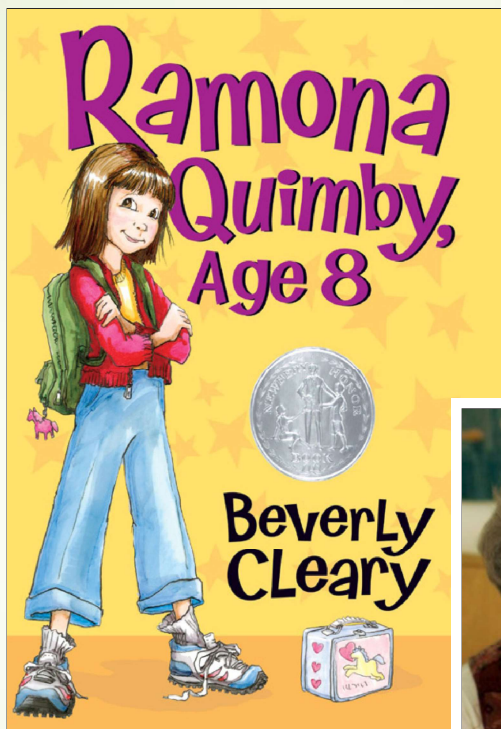
challenge, either using Beanstack or a log book families receive when signing up in person. The book-based challenge is designed for children (including babies) up to age 7.

While 1000 books seems like a large amount, any time a book is read with a child counts toward the goal. That includes readings at library Storytimes, at preschool, when visiting grandparents and with parents. If children have a fa-

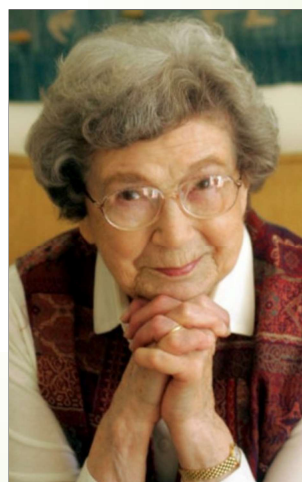
vorite book they want read multiple times, each reading counts.

Research has shown that the more children read before kindergarten, the more successful they will be in school. And reading with their parents and caregivers builds stronger bonds.

Rolling Hills began the 1000 Books challenge in 2016 with only paper logs. From the time it began until adding Beanstack in November 2021, 359 children were registered. In 2022, 234 kids joined the challenge using



The late author Beverly Cleary (right) introduced the idea of Drop Everything And Read, which has become a celebration of reading every April.



Adding On

Libraries serve the public by offering more than just books

Often you will hear me say something like, “this isn’t your grandmother’s library,” usually in reference to something new or different that we have implemented. It’s really more than that. As an institution funded by tax dollars, we are dedicated to serving the public in as many ways as we can. Public libraries must change and evolve over time, like all other aspects of our lives.

Sometimes we add a service based on demand, like fax and notary service. Neither one of these things is a traditional library service but we have the staff, space, and equipment to do them without much extra effort. I honestly thought faxing was near the end of its useful life until we started doing it, and it continues to be something that people request every week.

Other services we offer are based on community need.

No one was beating down our doors begging for passport or fingerprinting services, but the opportunities presented themselves and we saw the need. Passports were only done at the main post office in Buchanan County and not anywhere in Andrew County before we started. The closest place to get fingerprints for a comprehensive background check was 30 miles away in Cameron. Both of these are staff intensive services which interrupt the flow of our primary library tasks and daily work. However, we have evolved to the point where we believe

the benefits of these services have a greater value to the community than the inconveniences to staff.

What other new services might there be on the horizon? We have talked about health and wellness opportunities, like vaccine clinics or healthy cooking programs. There is interest in a media conversion studio, where people can bring in their VHS tapes or photo negatives and digitize these memories before they are gone. Maybe we can help small businesses like local food trucks get started.

Public libraries can’t be everything to everyone. There is a real danger of “mission creep” where too many bright and shiny new services will dilute our ability to offer excellent customer experiences. But our umbrella is still pretty large and there are an amazing number of collections and programs we offer to the community. Come in out of the rain, and check us out!

Michelle Mears, Rolling Hills Library Director
mmeears@rhcl.org

Other ways to reach and follow us

Text the library at **816-287-9828** using these keywords, and we’ll help with your account:


Status for account information **Renew all** to renew everything on your account

Renew due to renew overdue items **Help** for a list of available commands
or text anything else to start a conversation with a librarian.

 www.goodreads.com/group/show/397463-rolling-hills-library

 facebook.com/RollingHillsLibrary

 twitter.com/RollingHillsLib

 www.instagram.com/Rolling_Hills_Library

 www.pinterest.com/rollinghillslib

Browse

a quarterly publication from
Rolling Hills Library that is
sponsored by the Friends of
Rolling Hills Library

Rolling Hills Library

rhcl.org

Belt Branch

1904 N. Belt., St. Joseph
816-232-5479
HOURS: 9-8 Mon-Sat
12-6 Sun

Savannah Branch

514 W. Main, Savannah
816-324-4569
HOURS: 9-7 Mon-Fri
9-5 Sat/12-5 Sun

Business Office

1912 N. Belt, St. Joseph
816-236-2106

Bookmobile & Outreach

1912 N. Belt, St. Joseph
816-205-7100

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*The board generally meets
at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday
of each month.*

Friends of the Library

The Friends support the library through
volunteer and fund-raising efforts.
The Friends board meets monthly.

Rolling Hills Library Foundation

The Foundation strives to provide
financial support for large
endeavors and future growth of the
library by seeking substantial gifts from
patrons and supportive foundations.



Clay Play

Kids! Have you ever wanted to try sculpting with clay? Now's your chance. We'll provide everything you need to make your masterpiece. Limited seating. Registration opens Feb. 28 under March 30 at events.rhcl.org/events. 5 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Savannah Branch

Her-storical Perspectives

Programs to feature park ranger's impactful life, dangers of past women's clothing

A film about a 100-year-old national park ranger and a program about deadly women's fashions in the 1800s and later are planned at the Belt Branch to celebrate March as Women's History Month.

At 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, the 52-minute documentary **No Time to Waste** will tell the story of Betty Reid Soskin, who has used stories from her life to add another dimension to the history of America presented at the Rosie the Riveter-World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, Calif.

The film captures her fascinating life – from the experiences of a young African American woman in a wartime segregated union hall, through her multi-faceted career as a singer, activist, mother, state legislative aide and park planner to her public role with the National Park Service.

At the historical park, Soskin provides insight into the invisible histories of African Americans and other people of color. Her efforts changed the way the Park Service conveys this history to audiences across the United States, work that has brought So-

skin fame and international recognition.

At 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Missouri Western history professor Dr. Evan Hart will speak on the topic “Death by Fashion: How Clothing Killed in the 19th and

Early 20th Centuries.”

Men and women were exposed to chemicals that often caused illnesses or had fatal effects. Milliners, or hatters, used felt that was made with a mercury-based compound, which led to mercury poisoning. Stylish women were in danger of poisoning if they wore dresses dyed green with arsenic.

Another danger of hoop dresses was the light-weight fabrics that were used. Their gauze, tulle, silk and lace could catch fire easily from burning candles and fireplace sparks and quickly go up in flames. With so many buttons holding the garments together, it was impossible for women to get out of the dresses in time to save themselves.



Betty Reid Soskin, 101, has retired from the National Park Service but still educates and entertains visitors to the Rosie the Riveter-World War II Home Front Historical Park with weekly virtual chats.



This old political cartoon draws attention to dresses that were dyed green with arsenic, causing women to become ill and die. The cartoon is titled “The Arsenic Waltz: The New Dance of Death” and is dedicated to “the Green Wreath and Dress-Mongers.”

Library Scenes

December 2022 - February 2023



Library Bingo has become a “thing” in Savannah, as this crowd on Jan. 17 shows. This was the biggest turnout yet at the monthly bingo sessions for adults.

Santa Claus waits while this youngster makes up his mind on what he wants for Christmas on Dec. 13 at the Parents as Teachers of Andrew County Family Night at the Savannah Branch. A toy or a Super Bowl victory, hmm ...



Miss Angie (in left photo) helps these guys get started making snowman paintings in the Family Art Night program on Jan. 26 at the Belt Branch.



One half of the Ethetton family beat out four other teams (including the other half of the Ethetton family) to win the Nailed It! competition on Jan. 14 at the Belt Branch. The teams had to create a clay version of a winter scene and then recreate it using doughnuts, doughnut holes and frosting. Lots of frosting.



When Santa came to the Belt Branch Upper Story on Dec. 2, he was wearing different glasses and had his hands full with these twin brothers.

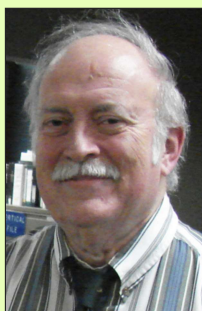




It “snowed” again Feb. 3-4 in the Belt Branch Story House. Kids had fun making snow angels, throwing snow on each other and jumping into snow piles.

IN MEMORY

Rodney Combs, 73, who served as the Belt Branch reference librarian from 2003 until retiring in 2015, passed away Dec. 26, 2022, in St. Joseph. He was laid to rest in Bedford, Iowa.



Ron Woods and Cheryl Seibert patiently wait, hoping Dave Hehn doesn’t take the last of the Crack Green Beans. The recipe gets its name for being so addictive of a dish.

We’ve said it before that you should consider volunteering at the library for no other reason than you will be treated to some great meals a couple of times a year. That proved true again Dec. 8 when volunteers gathered at Books Revisited for their annual Christmas dinner.

The library provided fried chicken from Brothers Market and drinks, with volunteers bringing side dishes and desserts. For the past few years, volunteer manager Hans Bremer and your faithful Browse editor have picked the best side dish and best dessert prizes. Here are the 2022 winning recipes.

Crack Green Beans

made by Karen Steeby

5 cans of green beans, drained
12 pieces of cooked bacon
2/3 cup of brown sugar
7 teaspoons of soy sauce
1½ teaspoons of garlic powder
¼ cup of butter, melted

Mix together brown sugar, soy sauce, garlic powder and melted butter. Place beans and bacon in a 9x13-inch pan and add sauce. Stir so the beans and bacon are well mixed. Bake 40 minutes at 350 degrees. Serve and enjoy.

Sour Cream Apple Pie

made by Gail Tyler

1 cup cream
1 teaspoon vinegar
¾ cup sugar
2 tablespoons flour
¼ teaspoon salt
1 egg, beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 cups peeled and diced apples

Topping ingredients

½ cup brown sugar
¼ cup butter
1/3 cup flour

In a small bowl, mix the vinegar with the cream. In a larger bowl, mix the sugar, flour and salt and then add cream. Stir in the egg, vanilla and apples. Pour the filling into a pre-made, 9-inch pie shell and bake for 20 minutes at 400 degrees.

While the pie is baking, prepare the topping by cutting together the brown sugar, flour and butter. Spread the crumb topping over the pie when it comes out of the oven then bake the pie another 20 minutes or until topping is lightly browned. Let the pie cool before serving.

Information about volunteering at the library can be found at rhcl.org/volunteer-3528 or by calling Hans at 816-205-7125.



World Amateur Radio Day

On April 18, 1925, the International Amateur Radio Union was formed and is now the day each year when ham radio operators celebrate their hobby. The Missouri Valley Amateur Radio Club will share their expertise and promote their activities. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, Belt Branch

A Feminist What-If

Novel creates a world where Germany wins the war and women are caste aside

C.J. Carey's novel **Widowland**, a dystopian alternate history of England after World War II, is a mixture of **1984** with a dash of **Divergent** meets **Handmaid's Tale** with a feminist twist.

Germany has won the war, with England surrendering to the Nazis in 1940. Thirteen years later,

The Leader (Adolf Hitler) is coming to London for the coronations of a new king and queen.

One of the many strict ideologies Germany has imposed is the classification of women into hierarchical groups based on their value to society. There are six classes with the young and blonde Gelis at the top. Beneath them are the Klaras, who produce four or more children; the professional class known as Lenis; Paulas are nurses; Magdas are shop and factory employees; and the Gretls, who do the grunt work. But beneath all of them lurk the Friedas.

Rose Ransom, a member of the Geli class, remembers life before the war but knows better than to let it show. She works for the Ministry of Culture, rewriting the classics of English literature to ensure there are no subversive thoughts that will give women dangerous ideas.

Rose reads such books as **Wuthering Heights**, **Jane Eyre**, **Emma** and **Little Women** and sees herself as a

collaborator with the original authors when rewriting text in line with the new imposed ideologies. The rules are that no female protagonist should be overly intelligent, dominant or subversive; no woman should be rewarded for challenging a man; and no narrative should undermine

The Protector's views of the natural relationship between the sexes.

Outbreaks of insurgent graffiti begin popping up on buildings in Widowland, the slums where the Friedas, childless women older than 50, have been banished to. They are feminist quotes from forbidden books such as "The beginning is always today" and "Strengthen the female mind by enlarging it, and there will be an end to blind obedience."

Rose is given the task of infiltrating Widowland to find the source of the rebellion before The Leader arrives. But is she the only spy?

Tense, thought-provoking and chilling, with a little bit of romance mixed in for balance, **Widowland** is a beautifully written story about a woman's search for truth in a world bent on destroying it. I highly recommend this read, and when you finish it, you can continue the story in the sequel, **Queen High**.

– Jennifer George

Rolling Hills Library technical services manager



Book Review

New Cookbooks @ the Library

- Everyday Cake by Polina Chesnakova
- Star Wars: the Padawan Cookbook by Jenn Fujikawa
- Sundays with Sophie by Bobby Flay
- Go-To Dinners by Ina Garten
- The Blue Zones
- American Kitchen by Dan Buettner
- The Way Home by Kardea Brown

- Cook as You Are by Ruby Tandoh
- The Instant Cookbook by C. Morante
- Treasures of the Mexican Table by Pati Jinich
- Home is Where the Eggs Are by Molly Yeh
- Vegan Cooking for Two by America's Test Kitchen
- The Simply Happy Cookbook by Steve Doocy
- My America: Recipes from a Young

- Black Chef by Kwame Onwuachi
- Betty Crocker Cookbook: Everything You Need to Know to Cook Today
- Kids Can Cook Anything by America's Test Kitchen
- One: Simple One-Pan Wonders by Jamie Oliver
- I Dream of Dinner (So You Don't Have To) by Ali Slagle
- Farmhouse Entertaining Cookbook by Taste of Home



Harry Potter Escape Room

The Dursleys have locked Harry in his room and Hedwig in her cage and have hidden the cage's key. You and your team of 3-6 players (including one adult) have 25 minutes to find the key to Hedwig's cage and escape. Registration opens April 8 at events.rhcl.org/events. **All day Saturday, April 29, Belt Branch**



The gardens created from 1883-1926 by French painter Claude Monet attract hundreds of thousands of visitors today.

Master gardener Sharon Weiser has been gardening herself for more than 45 years and now is a professional garden consultant. This past fall, she and a friend went on a group tour of France that included a visit to the famous gardens of Impressionist painter Claude Monet.

Seeing the iconic gardens for the first time brought her to tears.

"Monet believed his garden was his greatest work of art," Weiser said. "He was really all about the gardens, and then the gardens were the muse for his art."

At 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, she will present a Belt Branch program on the lessons local gardeners can learn from Monet's gardens, which are in a climate similar to that of southern Kansas City and St. Louis. Winters there are not as cold as those of northwest Missouri.

Being a garden consultant, Weiser looked at the land with a trained eye. What caught her attention were color combinations, reflection from water and the use of focal

Cultivating Inspiration

Garden expert to share ideas from Monet's gardens that you can adopt

points. And all of the many flowers and plants.

"My garden is very, very full, but I can see from seeing his, I can put a lot more plants in mine," she said.

Monet, who was born in 1840, lived on an estate in Giverny, France, from 1883 until his death in 1926. His gardens include formal plantings around his house and the famous water garden.

He transformed his property over the decades and hired as many as seven gardeners to maintain the land. Monet preferred painting outdoors and planted thousands of flowers. He acquired land adjacent to the house and created the water garden by diverting water from a nearby river. The water garden became famous for a series of paintings of its water lilies. After his death, a daughter-in-law lived on the estate until passing away in 1947. The house and land were left untended for many years and ultimately were given to a French arts foundation that restored them to their previous glory.



Books Revisited
The Friends of the Library Bookstore

Offering used and rare books, music and more!
1908 N. Belt 205-7125
12-5 Monday, 9-5 Tuesday-Friday & 9-6 Saturday

Beanstack has helped 1000 Books program grow

From Page 1

paper logs or Beanstack.

Morris says the fast growth last year can be credited to Beanstack.

Many children were entered in May and June, likely when they were being signed up for the Summer Reading Program.

"It's a great program, but having all of our reading challenges in one place on the app has helped it," she said.

"When parents are signing up their kids for the summer on the app, it's easy for them to see the 1000 Books challenge, and they add that, too."

Red-Hot Recipe

Cinnamon chips give this dessert an uncommon tasty zing

This dessert could be served any time of the year, so enjoy the blend of flavors whenever you can.

Maple-Glazed Cinnamon Chip Bars

1 cup butter, softened
2 cups packed brown sugar
2 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
2 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup cinnamon baking chips
1 tablespoon cinnamon sugar

Glaze ingredients

1/2 cup powdered sugar
3 tablespoons maple syrup
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

In a large bowl, cream butter and brown

sugar until well blended. Beat in eggs and vanilla. In another bowl, mix the flour, baking powder and salt; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Stir in cinnamon chips.

Spread mixture into greased 13x9-inch baking pan and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown and a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool completely in pan on wire rack.

In a small bowl, mix glaze ingredients until smooth then drizzle it over top of cake before cutting it into bars.



Information about all library programs can be found at rhcl.org

St. Joseph, Mo. 64506
1912 N. Belt
Administrative Office
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