

## Calling All Spellers

**Library Fundraiser Bee will test spelling abilities of all ages / Page 3**

## 2019 Annual Report

**Levy renewal highlights another good year for library / Inside**

## Pony Express Celebration

**Bestselling author Jim DeFelice will discuss his Pony Express book / Page 5**

# App-plied Reading

**You take your cell phone everywhere. Now you can take us along, too**

Springtime means getting out of the house after a long winter and feeling the sun on your face. Whether you're planning a week-long getaway or just a day at the park, you don't have to set your reading aside. Take it with you on your mobile device!

Rolling Hills Library has had its own app for mobile phones and tablets for a few years, but our new version allows you to log into the library catalog, place reserves, show a scannable bar code for your account, renew your items, look up branch information, browse library programs, check out a

digital magazine, link to our social media and explore our digital resources.

The app is available for both iOS and Android in their respective app stores. Just search for Rolling Hills Library.

Why does the library have an app? We know people have incorporated mobile devices into all aspects of their lives and always carry them, so we want to be right there with them and make the library a part of that world too.

Using your mobile device, you can send and receive text messages with the library. Your library account can be set up to send holds, overdue materials, and 3-day reminder notices as messages to your mobile phone. And questions you might have for the library can be sent as messages to (816) 287-9828 any time.

Free e-books and e-audios are available through the library, so check with us first before buying a book or movie. The library offers several services to download materials, including OverDrive, Axis360, RBDigital and Hoopla. Each has its own app to search and check out titles. The umbrella app SimplyE combines the holdings from three of our services onto one platform.

One of the best things about e-books is that apps allow you to adjust the size and design of the words to suit your comfort level.

For those non-readers out there, the library has free e-resources for them, too. The new app Freegal lets you stream three hours of music a day and download three songs per week. Hoopla allows you to download up to six albums a month or six videos



**The library app is available for both iOS and Android in their respective app stores.**

# Make It Count

## 2020 Census is different from past ones, and we can help

As a librarian and an administrator, I love numbers. I might have been an accountant or a math teacher, I love numbers so much. Among my library director peers, I'm seen as kind of a freak for enjoying annual reports and the statistics we need to submit to the state. But this year is an extra special year for numbers, because it is the Census!

Every 10 years, the United States government engages in the biggest counting game ever. The count of all residents is required by the Constitution and is used to determine representation in Congress and the Electoral College. It is the source of data for drawing representative districts for federal, state, and local offices. It also determines the allocation of billions of dollars in federal funding to states and localities, including libraries.

For the first time, most of the Census data collection is going to be "digital." Instead of filling out paper forms, almost all households will get a postcard that directs them to an online form. Some households also will get the American Community Survey in print form.

The online effort poses some challenges. First, everyone should trust that the process is safe, fast, and easy. The government cannot share your personal data, and Census workers swear an oath to keep your information confidential.

Where the library figures in is that not everyone has internet access. Luckily, we're here for you. We can put you at a computer and help get the form filled out quickly and easily. You should also be able to use your smartphone, but not everyone is comfortable on such a small screen. Many people in rural areas can't get internet or cell phone service, so they may get a paper

form in the mail or a visit from a Census worker. But one of our goals as a library is to connect our communities to technology, so don't forget we are here for you.

The importance of a complete count cannot be overemphasized. It means money for our communities and representation in our government. The Census should be a celebration every 10 years, not a chore. And for numbers geeks like me, we can't wait to see the results.

**Michelle Mears**, *Rolling Hills Library Director*  
[mmears@rhcl.org](mailto:mmears@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](https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/397463-rolling-hills-library)

 [facebook.com/RollingHillsLibrary](https://facebook.com/RollingHillsLibrary)

 [twitter.com/RollingHillsLib](https://twitter.com/RollingHillsLib)

 [www.instagram.com/Rolling\\_Hills\\_Library](https://www.instagram.com/Rolling_Hills_Library)

 [www.pinterest.com/rollinghillslib](https://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

[www.rhcl.org](http://www.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

### Michelle Mears

Library Director

### Alan Stolfus

Browse editor

## Board of Trustees

### Elbert Turner Jr.

president, St. Joseph

### Deborah Birr

vice president, Easton

### Carlene Miller

secretary, Rea

### Mary Beth Thomas

treasurer, Country Club

### Keith Ferguson

Cosby

### Lynn Hudson

St. Joseph

### Cindy Jones

St. Joseph

### Ken Rosenauer

Country Club

*The board generally meets  
at 6 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.



## Women's History Month

Dr. Emily Gioielli, assistant professor of history at Missouri Western, will discuss the essential role of women in the Solidarity social movement in 1980-81 that led to the downfall of communism in Poland. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, Belt Branch



# Speling Matters

## Third annual fundraiser will test participants' smarts but won't be for adults only

Successive. Consecutive. Ensuing. Subsequent. All words that could be used to describe the third Annual Library Fundraiser Bee – and all words that participants could be facing in the 2020 event.

Scheduled for 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday, March 28, in the Belt Branch Upper Story, the bee is a spelling contest open to all ages. Participants are encouraged to put together teams of friends and family members. Teams can register and pay their fees at Books Revisited.

The contest is limited to 10 teams of four to eight spellers. The entry fee is \$15 per person, and spectators can purchase \$5 tickets to watch the action. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Rolling Hills Library Foundation, the event will benefit the library's endowment fund.

Teams will face eight rounds of spelling, with each round having different themes. Words spelled correctly are worth four points, while words spelled with the help of mulligans are worth three points. Misspelled words will earn one point. The team with the most points wins.

A variety of mulligans will be available for spellers or their fans to purchase and use in case they run into trouble spelling. Some of the mulligans include a "team huddle"

to consult with team members and "15 seconds with a dictionary" to look up a word but then spell it correctly without looking at the dictionary.

Because minors will be participating or attending the bee, only non-alcoholic beverages and snacks will be offered by the Friends. A 50-50 drawing will be the event's other money-making effort.

The Foundation endowment fund currently has \$126,000 invested with the Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri. The bees are a way to help grow that fund through donations and publicity for the library.

"We're trying to make sure that people remember we have an endowment fund," library Director Michelle Mears said. "The money grows exponentially over time, and anything we add to it helps."

Growing the endowment also helps secure the library's future.

"You hope your taxpayers will adequately fund the library in the future, but having an endowment is to help fund the icing on the cake, those things that will make the library special," Mears said, referring to special performers, building and technology improvements.



### Movie: DeeJ

Teens and adults are invited to watch the award-winning documentary about David Savarese, a nonspeaking autistic teenager, who is a college graduate. A discussion afterward will take up the movie's issues and resources available locally. **2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Belt Branch Upper Story.**

# Numbers Count

2020 Census is important, so library is ready to help citizens be counted

Once a decade, the U.S. Constitution mandates that every person living in the United States be counted. The federal government uses the numbers and data gathered in the U.S. Census to decide how to spend more than \$1.5 trillion annually for programs and services that benefit communities.

The numbers also determine how many representatives states have in Congress and how many Electoral College votes they get. States and local communities rely on the numbers to plan the services they provide to their citizens.

The 2020 Census will be taken this spring, with an official count day of April 1. Most households will be able to respond earlier because, for the first time, census forms can be filled out online. Households that don't have internet service can respond by phone or by mail – or go to a library to use public computers.

Beginning March 12, the Census Bureau will mail information to households, and the large majority of those will be invited to respond online. The other households (which may have limited internet access) will receive the same letter and a paper questionnaire.

Households will be sent reminder letters if they don't complete a questionnaire. After the letters will come a



phone call or an in-person visit from a census employee beginning in May. All census data will be kept anonymous and confidential and will not be shared with other government agencies.

To help explain the census, Classy Seniors will have a program by a representative of the Census Bureau's regional office at **10 a.m. Thursday, March 19, at the Belt Branch.** The program will discuss the history and evolution of the census, how it is taken and how the data is used. Anyone interested in becoming a census

worker also can get information about that at the program.

Leading up to April 1, library Storytimes will emphasize numbers and counting and the Belt and Savannah branches will have candy jars for adults and youths to guess the number of pieces inside. A candy-jar guessing game also will be posted to Facebook.

On **April 1**, census workers will be at the Belt and Savannah to help the public complete the online questionnaires. They will be available at the **Belt from 10 a.m. to noon** and **at Savannah from 1-2 p.m.** Library staff will help the public with the census whenever needed.

## Library app allows you to take multiple books, albums with you on the go

From Page 1

a month. Television shows, concerts and learning videos can be checked out from Rbdigital's Acorn TV, Stingray Qello, IndieFlix or The Great Courses with a seven-day pass.

E-books and e-audio are great for travel because you can "carry" multiple titles on the devices you were planning to take with you anyway. E-audio is

also good when working in the garden, walking the dog, or during spring cleaning.

If you need help getting started with the apps, make a one-on-one appointment with technology services librarian Bridgid Reeves and she'll help with your specific device. If you want to give it a try yourself, click on the Technology category on the library website at <https://rhcl.org> then download the apps.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

## Board of Trustees 2018-2019

Elbert Turner, Jr.

*President*

Deborah Birr

*Vice President*

Mary Beth Thomas

*Treasurer*

Carlene Miller

*Secretary*

Lynn Hudson

Cindy Jones

Keith Ferguson

Ken Rosenauer



*Compiled by:*

Michelle R. Mears, Library Director

February 2020

## Locations & Operating Hours

### Administrative Offices

1912 N. Belt Hwy.  
St Joseph, MO 64506  
816-236-2106  
M-F 9 am to 5 pm

### Belt Branch

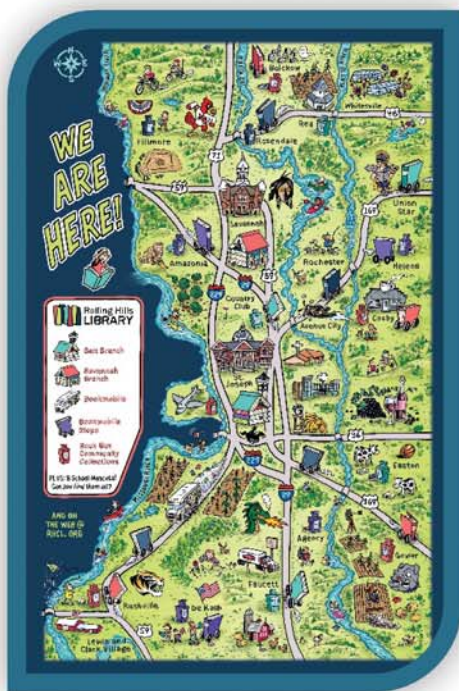
1904 N. Belt Hwy.  
St Joseph, MO 64506  
816-232-5479  
M-SAT 9 am to 8 pm  
SUN 12 pm to 6 pm

### Savannah Branch

514 W. Main St.  
Savannah, MO 64485  
816-324-4569  
M-F 9 am to 7 pm  
SAT 9 am to 5 pm  
SUN 12 pm to 5 pm

### Bookmobile

1912 N. Belt Hwy.  
St Joseph, MO 64506  
816-205-7100  
Mon-Sat  
Visits as Scheduled



## Introduction

This annual report reflects the activities of Rolling Hills Consolidated Library, serving Andrew and Buchanan counties, for the 2019 calendar year and the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

Our library experienced a milestone achievement in August 2019 when the voters in our district overwhelmingly passed a renewal of a portion of our operating levy for another 20 years. We are grateful for the confidence and support of our community of users and look forward to planning for the next 20 years of library service.

## Library Programs

Summer Reading Program 2019 was all about space with a “Universe of Stories” theme and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the moon landing. We continued our quick

sign-up system to make it easier to enroll and again allowed participants to set their own reading goals. Reading incentives in the form of a mid-point prize and imprint items were supplemented by drawing tickets for gift baskets and gift cards. We had 2,794 children, teens, and adults register for summer reading, with 1,447 participants completing the program and getting a free book or voucher for the Friends' bookstore.

In the fall, the library hosted a new travelling exhibit from the Magic House Museum in St. Louis titled "Once Upon a Time." This interactive exhibit was focused on seven different fairy tales and had costumes and props for lots of imaginative play. Volunteers helped keep the exhibit open 36 hours per week for 15 weeks, and we had 3,843 visits.



## Library Collections & Online Resources

The library continued to grow its physical collection and add to the digital resources available online. We added a cake pan collection, which was donated by a library user, so people could experiment with different cakes for celebrations without having to buy a one-time use piece of equipment. We added more wi-fi hotspots for checkout, along with gaming and learning tablets for all ages called Launchpads.

As a popular materials library, we work hard to keep the collection up to date. We purchase many titles based on requests from our users, so the collection reflects the community.

### Community Outreach and the Bookmobile

Our bookmobile was out on the road and reached out to more schools and more small towns in 2019. We built a garage for the bookmobile and moved its collection to an adjoining room, so staff can load and unload inside and not worry about the weather. We want the bus to stay nice for many years to come. We added 12 more Book Boxes in rural communities in addition to keeping many of the Community Collections in post offices. Interactions with homebound members in the STAR programs grew by over 75% in 2019, and we are serving two ladies who are over 100 years old and still reading and listening to library materials.



### Friends, Foundation, & Staff

The Friends of the Library had another year with over \$50,000 in sales at the **Books Revisited** bookstore. They also had a few special “pop-up” sales in the space next door to the bookstore to help reduce inventory, as donations to the Friends continue to increase. The Friends suffered a significant loss this year with the passing of LeRoy Bush, a long-time volunteer and board member emeritus. There are plans to honor his service with a photo and a plaque in the bookstore. The Friends ended the fiscal year with a balance of \$85,580.38.



The Rolling Hills Library Support Foundation, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri, continued to grow the library endowment. The Foundation and the Friends hosted an adult geography bee as the second annual fundraising event in March, raising almost \$1,000 for the endowment. The Support Foundation ended the fiscal year with a balance of \$120,102.32.

In October, long-time employee Connie Rehm retired after more than 28 years of service. A reception was held in her honor at the Savannah Branch, with lots of hugs and laughter, and a few tears.

### Looking to the Future

We expect 2020 will be another outstanding year for the library. Our expanded hours at both branch locations began in January, adding 292 hours of service annually. Then the Library Board will be working on a new strategic plan for the library’s future. Rolling Hills Library is committed to providing outstanding library services both in-person and online to our community of users, wherever they may be.

*To Engage the Community in Literacy and Life-Long Learning!*



## FINANCIALS & STATISTICS

### FY 2019 Revenue

Local Tax Income	\$2,810,770
State Aid	\$23,747
Grants	\$14,722
Donations	\$27,850
Rental Income	\$64,012
Other	\$228,524

**TOTALS** **\$3,171,985**

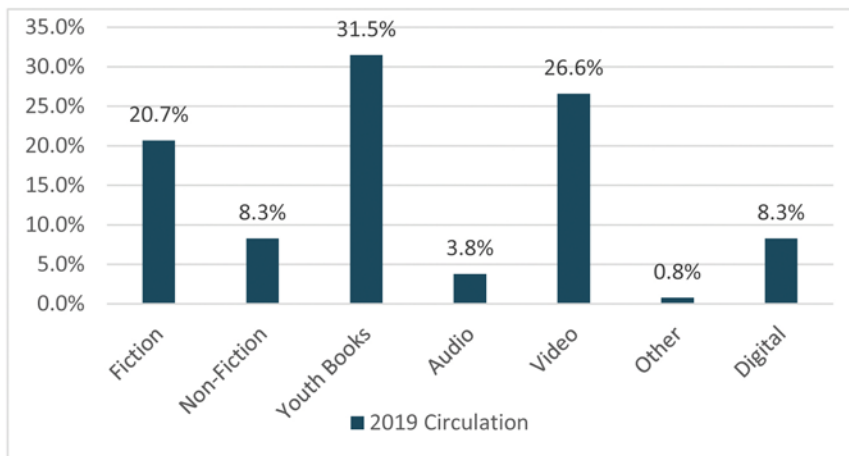
### FY 2019 Expense

Personnel & Benefits	\$1,224,380
Collection/Materials	\$279,442
General Operations	\$483,165
Building Operations	\$143,449
Other/Capital Improvements	\$242,840

**\$2,373,277**

Figures from Fiscal Year 2019, from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Audit completed December 3, 2019, by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP of St. Joseph, MO.

Statistics reported are for the calendar year ending December 2019, unless labeled "FY2019."



Population of Service Area: **41,428**

Active Registered Borrowers: **18,062**

2019 Circulation (Physical & Digital): **388,026**

Library Collection: **156,661**

Number of Reference Transactions: **2,746**

Computer Usage: **29,015**

Number of Programs Offered: **713**

Program Attendance: **12,879**

Bookmobile & Outreach Stops: **433**

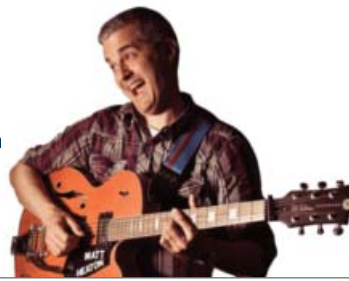
Meeting & Study Room Usage: **2,309**



## Kids Concert with Matt Heaton

This Boston-based children's singer-songwriter will entertain children and parents alike with his songs for kids that mix rockabilly, surf, American roots and Irish traditional music.

2 p.m. Sunday, April 19, Belt Branch Upper Story



## Spring Events

### These events can help gardeners wait out final days of winter

One of the best ways to survive the final days of winter is to start thinking about gardening and what to plant once the ground warms up. The library is throwing out such lifelines with several programs this spring.

University of Missouri Extension will present a three-program series "Gardening for Kids" at 4 p.m. Tuesdays, March 17, 31 and April 14 at the Savannah Branch. A different topic will be discussed at each event. Youths can register to attend at [events.rhcl.org/events](http://events.rhcl.org/events).

Master Gardener Sharon Weiser of Uniquely Yours Garden Design and Decor will share information on how to plan an easy-care garden at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26, at the Belt Branch.

At 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, at Savannah, adults can make sculptures to add a dash of color to their planters or gardens. They should bring a variety of glass or ceramic vessels such as bowls, plates, vases, cups and old silverware. Plumber's will be provided. Register at [events.rhcl.org/events](http://events.rhcl.org/events).



## Pony Author Coming to St. Joe

The author of the first comprehensive history in decades of the Pony Express will be in St. Joseph in early April to speak for the 160th anniversary of the frontier mail service.

Best-selling author Jim DeFelice will give three programs on Friday and Saturday, April 3-4, at the Pony Express Museum, Rolling Hills Library and the St. Joseph Public Library.

DeFelice will speak at 2 p.m. April 3 at the Pony Express Museum and at a 5:30 p.m. dinner program April 3 at the Belt Branch Upper Story. He will speak at 2 p.m. April 4 at St. Joseph Public Library's Downtown Library.

In his 2018 book **West Like Lightning: The Brief, Legendary Ride of the Pony Express**, DeFelice describes the route riders took for 1,900 miles, who those riders were, the rise and fall of a business model that was dubiously financed and the Pony Express legacy.

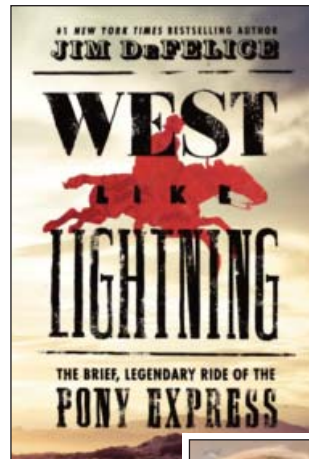
The library has ordered 20 copies of the book for patrons to read in time for a book discussion at 6:30 p.m. Friday,

March 27, at the Belt. The books will be available for check out beginning March 1.

Electronic versions of the book also are available through the library website.

DeFelice drove the Pony Express trail from Sacramento, Calif., to St. Joseph in 2016. He talked with museum curators, local historians and historical re-enactors and tracked down original documents to convey the full scope of the enterprise against the wider background of the U.S. Postal Service, American finance, the Gold Rush and the impending Civil War.

DeFelice has had 16 books on the New York Times Best Sellers lists, with several portraying modern American military heroes. He was a co-author of **American Sniper**, the autobiography of Navy Seal Chris Kyle, and **American Wife**, the memoir by Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, and author of **Omar Bradley: General at War**.



Jim DeFelice

## Irish singer, green crafts planned for St. Pat's events

Library patrons should be seeing green on March 17 after three library programs in the days leading up to St. Patrick's Day.

At 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, youths ages 5 and older can make leprechaun traps and other holiday crafts in a craft class at the Savannah Branch. Register in advance at [events.rhcl.org/events](http://events.rhcl.org/events).

Kids 8 and older will make leprechaun sand, hunt for gold coins and make their

own pots of gold in a "St. Patrick's Day Science" program at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at the Belt Branch. Younger children can participate also with adult supervision. No sign-up is needed for this program.

Irish folk singer Tom Meehan of St. Joseph will prep seniors and adults for the green day with a program at 3 p.m. Friday, March 13, at the Belt. Youths are welcome to attend the program, too.



## National Help a Horse Day

Sharon Bryant, owner of the Albee Farm near St. Joseph, will discuss how you can help horses and learn more about them in this all-ages program. The Albee Farm is Missouri's only horse hospice and offers classes for youths and adults of all levels of experience with horses. **3 p.m. Sunday, April 26, Belt Branch**

# Love: It's Complex

## Graphic novel provides a guide for teens navigating their first relationships

In **Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me** by Moriko Tamaki, Freddy Riley is a high school girl in a relationship with one of the most popular girls in school.

Freddy is quiet with a great group of friends and a best friend in a girl named Doodle, but Laura Dean flirts with other people, takes Freddy and her body for granted and, at one point, cheats on Freddy.

Laura Dean dumps Freddy many times, but they always end up getting back together. Freddy has settled for the love she can get rather than the love she deserves. Laura Dean's mistreatment causes a rift between Freddy and her friends, especially Doodle, who Freddy routinely ignores for Laura Dean. Soon Freddy is left alone by her friends and only has Laura Dean, who is still a terrible girlfriend.

This graphic novel – with beautiful illustrations by Rosemary Valero-O'Connell that are the perfect style for the novel's themes – was written for high school youths, especially lesbian, gay,

bisexual and transgender youths who find themselves navigating the new world of relationships.

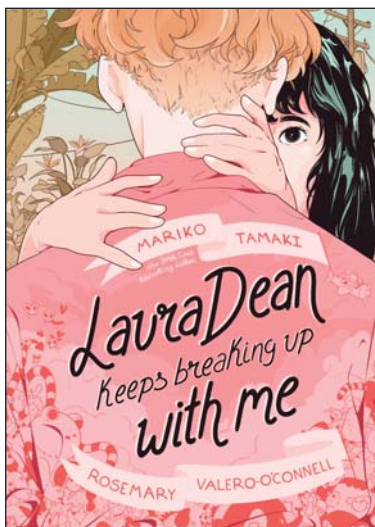
Freddy's experiences of maintaining her relationship and her friendships is complex and can be a guide for teenagers who may be struggling. Freddy goes on a journey of self-discovery and self-worth and comes to realize who is important in her life and how she should be treated.

I enjoyed this book because of its exploration of the toxic relationships we can find ourselves in. These relationships can affect everyone you're close to and how you view yourself. We must be the ones to move on from the relationship as the other person isn't likely to change. Therefore, we must make decisions about our relationships that better us as people. The novel does a beautiful job of exemplifying these points.

I recommend this graphic novel because it illustrates that romantic love has its limitations and we should cherish all

the kinds of love we experience in our lives.

– Lex Hersh, Belt Branch circulation assistant



Our reviewer isn't the only one who likes Tamaki's book. *Forbes*, *National Public Radio*, *Booklist* and the *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* all honored *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me* as one of the best graphic novels of 2019.

### Book Review

### New Large Print @ the Library

- Moral Compass by Danielle Steel
- The River Murders by James Patterson  
mi& James O. Born
- The Dutch House by Ann Patchett

- Seconds to Live by Susan  
miSleeman

- Cut and Run by Fern Michaels

- Lake Season by Denise Hunter
- Olive, Again by Elizabeth Strout
- The Man from Misery by David C.  
miNoonan

- Apache Sundown by Jory Sherman
- The Light of Cimarron by Jim Jones
- Frontier America by William W.  
miJohnstone & J.A. Johnstone

- Our Dogs, Ourselves: The Story of  
mia Singular Breed by Alexandra  
miHorowitz

- A Dog Named Beautiful: A Marine,  
mia Dog & a Long Trip Home by  
miRob Kugler

- The Ghost Ships of Archangel: The  
miArctic Voyage that Defied the Nazis  
mi by William Geroux

- An Irish Country Family by Patrick  
miTaylor

- Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson
- The Camera Never Lies by David  
miRawlings

- The Gryphon Heist by James Hannibal
- Ellie & the Harp Maker by Hazel Prior
- The Sisters of Summit Avenue by Lynn  
miCullen

- The Night Country by Melissa Albert
- Someone to Remember by Mary  
miBalogh



## World Turtle Day

Remington Nature Center naturalist Shelly Cox will introduce you to turtles and tortoises she keeps at her rescue shelter on her farm near Savannah. The creatures come from various habitats, including deserts and rain forests. **2 p.m. Saturday, May 23, Belt Branch**

# From Crafts to Finances

Crafts, personal finances, movies and music are the focus this spring for the library's monthly featured electronic resources. The season begins with Creativebug in March.

Creativebug is a video-based resource for artists and crafters. The topics are varied and include everything from drawing and printmaking to sewing, knitting and Cricut projects. Jewelry-making, canning, cake decorating and upholstery work are covered as well as crafts specifically for kids.

Most videos include a materials list, discussion forum and gallery for users to upload photos. Videos range from just a few minutes long to more in-depth classes of several hours. If you're looking to build skills in a medium, the "Daily Practice" series gives small projects to complete each day.

Using Creativebug is free. Access the site at [www.creativebug.com](http://www.creativebug.com) or follow the link from the library's website, [rhcl.org](http://rhcl.org). You will be prompted to enter your library card number and PIN number (which is typically your 7-digit phone number) then create a free Creativebug account. Favorite videos can be added to your "watchlist" so you can easily find them again later.

April is National Financial Literacy Month, an effort to encourage adults



**Creativebug is a free e-resource for crafters that the library offers on its website. One of its activities is the Daily Practice series that challenges crafters to improve their skills.**

and youths to establish healthy financial habits, so the featured e-resources are Valueline and Financial Literacy.

Valueline is an online vault of financial investment research providing information on about 3,500 stocks and 800 mutual funds. It can be found on the library website under Technology/Online Learning and Research tabs.

Financial Literacy is designed for students in grades 7-12 and offers information using videos and interactive activities on such topics as job hunting, credit cards, home and car buying, personal finances, banking, financial crises and more. Look for it on the library website under the Technology/Online Learning and Research tabs.

The May e-resources are Hoopla and Freegal, digital services that provide ebooks, audio, video, magazines and music to your smartphone, tablet or enhanced TV.

## A Look Ahead

### Touch-a-Truck events ready to kickstart Summer Reading

Fairy tales, tall tales, superheroes and mythology are the types of stories that participants will find in the 2020 Summer Reading Program with a theme of "Imagine Your Story."

Registration begins Monday, May 11, for the reading extravaganza that features crafts, entertainers, music, prizes and fun from June 1-July 31. Kids of all ages, teens and adults will set their own reading goals when they register at the Belt and Savannah branches and Bookmobile and earn prizes for achieving those goals.

If they haven't done so already, families can register when they come out for Touch-a-Truck set for 10 a.m.-noon Thursday, May 28, at Savannah and 10 a.m.-noon Friday, May 29, at the Belt. Kids will be able to explore vehicles from local fire and law enforcement agencies, state and local agencies, businesses and industries.

A very special vehicle from the Explor-a-storium, a national children's book museum being built in North Kansas City, will be at the Belt's Touch-a-Truck. The vehicle is a bus that families will "ride" to watch an animated reading of the book "Last Stop on Market Street." The bus, which was built to resemble the one in the book, will be parked in the Bookmobile garage.

Magician Adam White will be the first featured entertainer of the summer, appearing Monday, June 1, at 11 a.m. at the Belt and at 4 p.m. at Savannah.

## Books Revisited

The Friends of the Library Bookstore

Offering used books, music and more! 1908 N. Belt 205-7125  
Hours: 9-6 Monday-Friday, 9-5 Saturday & 1-4 Sunday

# Spring Brunch Star

No time to bake cinnamon rolls? This cake will make morning meal memorable

*This hearty cake could be served for breakfast or brunch along with your choice of eggs, bacon or ham. Enjoy!*

## Cinnamon Roll Cake

½ cup butter, melted

Cake:  
3 cups flour  
1 cup sugar  
4 teaspoons baking powder  
¼ teaspoon salt  
1 cup evaporated milk  
½ cup water  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla

Cinnamon topping:  
1 cup very soft butter  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 tablespoon cinnamon  
2 tablespoon flour

Glaze:  
2 cups powdered sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla

Preheat oven to 350, and spray a 13x9-inch baking pan. Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl. In a medium bowl, beat eggs with milk, water and vanilla. Add the melted butter to the dry cake ingredients, then stir in the egg/milk mixture until all dry ingredients are incorporated. **It's important not to use an electric mixer but to mix with a**

**spoon.** The cake is actually a muffin base batter so it should not be over-mixed.

Pour cake batter into prepared pan. Set aside.

In another bowl beat the topping ingredients until they resemble a paste. (You can use an electric mixer for this.)

Drop topping randomly over top of cake batter. (I did 4 rows with 3 dollops in each row, each dollop being about 2 tablespoons.) Pull a knife through the cake and topping to "marbleize" the topping into the top part of the cake batter.

Bake 25-35 minutes or until toothpick put in the center comes out clean. Remove from oven and cool slightly.

Mix glaze ingredients in a small bowl, adding **only enough** milk to make a thick but pourable glaze. Always start with the lowest amount of liquid.

Drizzle glaze over cake and let it set for 15 minutes. Cake may be served warm or cooled. Serves 12.



Information about all library programs can be found at [www.rhcl.org](http://www.rhcl.org).

Newsletter Sponsor  
Administrative Office  
1912 N. Belt  
St. Joseph, MO 64506

