



Rolling Hills Library News

Serving Andrew & Buchanan counties since 1961

November 2016 • Vol. 14, Issue 5

New Items

DVDS

- The Jungle Book
- Dark Horse
- Citizen Soldier
- Captain America: Civil War
- Free State of Jones
- By The Sea
- The Lobster
- Barbershop: The Next Cut
- Carter High: A True Story
- The Legend of Tarzan
- Money Monster
- The Nice Guys
- Quantico: The Complete First Series
- Rock the Kasbah
- A Taste of Honey
- 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi
- America's National Parks: Yosemite and Olympic
- The Dick Van Dyke Show: Seasons 1, 3-5
- U.S. Cavalry: History of America's Mounted Horses
- Atonement
- The Man Who Knew Infinity



Going Mobile

New library app will provide direct access to e-features

According to industry statistics, 69 percent of American library patrons use mobile apps to get information from the Internet instead of using a browser, such as Safari, Chrome or Firefox. And people who have mobile devices spend 2½ hours a day using apps and only 30 minutes a day using a browser.

Wanting to continue providing convenient service for patrons, Rolling Hills Library is introducing its own mobile app later this month.

“This is one more way to connect with our library users,” library Director Michelle Mears said. “We’re trying to be a part of our users’ lives, and if they’re living with their mobile devices, that’s where we want to be.”

Basically, the app provides one-stop-



The library’s new mobile app can be used on computer tablets, cell phones and other devices. It will launch later this month.

shopping for patrons using cell phones, computer tablets and other devices. After downloading the app, patrons will have direct access to the library’s website, catalog, personal accounts and several new features.

Among the new features is Barcode Wallet, an electronic image of a patron’s library card that can be scanned to check out materials. Parents will be able to have electronic images of their children’s cards to make it easier to keep track of cards.

With the new Book Look feature, patrons can scan the barcode of a book they see somewhere (in a store, for example), and the link will show if the book is in the library catalog and will place a hold

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Please turn to Page 6

LUCKY NUMBER

If your library card number is **22003000089480**, you’ve won a \$10 gift certificate to Books Revisited, the Friends of the Library store. Bring in your card to claim your prize by Nov. 30. Bookstore hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

Rolling Hills Library

Belt Branch

1904 N. Belt., St. Joseph, Mo.
816-232-5479
HOURS: 9-9 Mon-Thu
9-6 Fri-Sat/1-5 Sun

Savannah Branch

514 W. Main, Savannah, Mo.
816-324-4569
HOURS: 9-6 Mon, Wed, Fri
9-8 Tue, Thu/9-5 Sat/1-5 Sun

Business Office

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

Bookmobile & Outreach

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

Michelle Mears
Library Director

Alan Stolfus
Library News editor

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Easton

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Keith Ferguson
Cosby

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*The board 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. Meetings are set for January, April, July and October.

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.

Balancing act

Library programs used to draw patrons through doors

While not as contentious as this year's presidential election, the work of managing library programs versus library collections is quite a challenge. In my mind I see a swarm of faces, holding up banners and signs that say "Make America Read Again" and "Storytime Makes Us Stronger" while red, white and blue confetti falls from above like snow. All politics aside, it's not really a choice of one or the other but a melding and cooperation of the two that makes a library great.



Programs in libraries serve two purposes, to teach or inform and to increase library usage. We want people to enjoy themselves and to have fun at all our events, but we also want them to check out MORE books and make MORE library visits and come to even MORE library programs. If all we had were programs and no collection, then people might wonder just exactly how many tax dollars are being spent on glitter glue. Conversely, if we only had books and no programs, some toddler moms might start a revolution and storm the castle.

The real dilemma is this: library staff spend a crazy amount of time planning and doing library programs, and staff time is expensive. When programs are planned and promoted and then few people show

up, it breaks our library hearts.

But like a hamster on a wheel, we jump right back on and start spinning. We often try to analyze why some things work and some things don't. We measure satisfaction, count attendees, try to figure out if something else was going on that same day, anything to explain why some programs are more successful than others.

I try to emphasize to staff the importance of connecting programs to our collections. If you are doing a knitting program, have some knitting books on the table for people to look at. If someone is invited to do a lecture on their trip to Ireland, bring in some books on travel and history on a cart. Promotion is a two-way street, and programs and collections need to share the road.

Sometimes it feels like we are preaching to the choir, that the only people who come to library programs are our steadfast "fans." No matter how much we try to reach out beyond our boundaries to snag a few fresh fish to swim in our waters, our nets are oftentimes empty. It's one of the reasons why we want to instill the joy of reading in our youth, because it is almost impossible to convince a full-grown adult that reading really is an enjoyable activity.

To our supporters, we love to see you at our programs. To those who think library is a four-letter word, give us another shot. It can't possibly be as boring as you think it was last time you stopped by.

www.rhcl.org



To read Library News via e-mail, visit www.rhcl.org and sign up on our home page.

Library Scenes



Holly (left) and **Debby Cornelius** talk about their lives as dairy farmers at a Crafternoon program Oct. 21 at the Belt Branch. Kids then made butter by shaking bottles of heavy cream until the cream turned into butter.



Kids made torn paper monsters using candy corn for teeth during Storytime Oct. 26 at the Savannah Branch.



Library staff members **Martin Canchola** and **Anali Mathies** talk with high school students about library jobs during the My Success! event on Oct. 6 at Wyatt Park Baptist Church.



Belt Branch circulation assistant **Kathy Vaughan** (left) taught Classy Seniors how to make fabric pumpkins in a program Oct. 20 at the Belt Branch. Everyone took home a pumpkin.



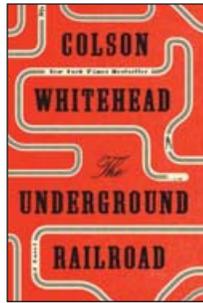
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Check out a Mobile Hotspot from us and connect to the World Wide Web! Hotspots check out for 3 weeks and offer unlimited data. Look up "Mobile Hotspot" in our catalog or ask a library staff member for details.



Slavery takes new track in novel

Colson Whitehead's much-anticipated new book, "The Underground Railroad," tells the story of the antebellum South while centering on the escaped slave, Cora. Whitehead's sparse writing style makes the horrors of slavery and dangers for all those who tried to escape or aid those who escaped all the more striking. These vignettes stand out like lone figures on a blank canvas.



Book review

The novel starts on the Randall plantation in Georgia around 1812. This plantation is an amalgamation of every horror and tragedy you've ever heard about slavery. In the midst of it all, Cora, a stray who's gained a bit of a scarlet letter because her mother fled the plantation, starts her journey to freedom with nothing but a sack of unripe turnips, two companions and the North Star as a guide. But the untold horrors she will face will sometimes rival those she left behind. With a bounty on

her head and dreams of education and freedom beckoning her forward, she will make her way through a slew of Southern states, all with their own systems of justice and oppression until she finds herself on Whitehead's re-envisioned Underground Railroad.

In this part of the story, you'll embark on a re-imagined historical truth that could only be a creation of the author. Here, the Underground Railroad is an actual train (or a single, rickety locomotive), complete with a conductor. At times that term is more allegorical than actual, but even the conductors have their own pasts that sometimes ensnare Cora. Human sterilization to control the growth of the Negro population, blackface and the Tuskegee Project are all experienced by our heroine in some periphery of

her journey.

The story itself is great, a truly epic adventure, but the pace at which it jerked, sometimes lulling slow and others at whiplash-inducing speeds, made it difficult to keep up with from time to time. But Whitehead's work is unique in its own right, and for that I would recommend this novel to anyone who would be interested in this subject.

– Robbie Morton

Morton is the former manager of Books Revisited. He recently joined the Buchanan County Assessor's Office.

Bookmobile Schedule

Amazonia Elementary School

Noon-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 9 & 30

Avenue City School

9-11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2

Cedar Tree Apartments, Savannah

1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1

Cosby

3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21

Faucett

Noon-1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16

Gower City Park

2:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17

Helena Elementary School

8-10:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 18

North Andrew County

Rosendale – 9-10:30 a.m.; Bolckow – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.;
Fillmore – 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19

Union Star Elementary School

Date and time will be announced
on the school website.

School visits are open to the public. Visits may be canceled because of inclement weather or mechanical problems.
Call 205-7100 to verify visits.

Books Revisited

The Friends of the Library's bookstore located next door to PepperJax Grill upstairs from the Belt Branch! Books, music, snacks and more for sale!

Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday

1-4 p.m. Saturday & Sunday

Friend us on Facebook!

205-7125

Library to start passport service

Libraries always have helped patrons travel the world via a good book, but soon Rolling Hills Library will have a more direct hand in helping travelers when it begins processing passport applications.

Travelers will be able to apply for passports and have passport photos taken at the Belt Branch and Savannah Branch beginning later this month. It's another way of providing convenience and service to patrons, says library Director **Michelle Mears**.

Once the library has received all of the needed forms and supplies from the State Department it will begin handling applications. News of the start will be announced on the library website (www.rhcl.org) and through local media.

To apply for a passport, patrons will make an appointment through the library website or by calling the library. Library staff members trained to be passport agents will meet with applicants to verify their identity, fill out forms, witness them signing application documents and accept the fees. Staff also can take and print passport photos for an additional \$10 fee.

Travelers must bring original birth certificates and proof of identities



(such as name-change records and current or expired passports) to the appointments. Those original documents will be mailed with the applications to the State Department and returned to travelers with their new passports. Routine processing of applications takes four to six weeks by the State Department.

For now, patrons should plan for the appointments to take about an hour while library staff get used to handling the applications.

"In the beginning, the process will be slower, but as we become more experienced, it will go faster," Mears said.

Mears, who is one of several staff members trained as passport agents,

warned travelers not to wait until the final weeks before a trip to apply for passports. If the State Department has an issue with an application, a passport could be delayed and a trip could be missed.

With this new service, the Savannah Branch becomes the only place in Andrew County where travelers can seek passports. In St. Joseph, travelers can use the Main Post Office downtown and soon the Belt Branch.

And what does the library get from adding this service, besides the goodwill of patrons? The library will use the proceeds from the application fees and the photo fees to support library programs and events.

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The Cake Lady

Thanksgiving without pumpkin pie?! Sacrilege! But if you must, **Barb Dalrymple** suggests this cake that is as close to pumpkin pie as it could be without being pie.

Pumpkin Pie Cake

2 1½-oz. cans pumpkin filling
4 large eggs, beaten
12-oz. can evaporated milk
1½ cups sugar
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
Dash of salt
2 sticks butter or margarine
1 cup chopped pecans
1 yellow cake mix

Mix together pumpkin, eggs, milk, sugar, spices and salt. Pour into a greased and floured 9x13-inch cake pan. Sprinkle yellow cake mix on top of pumpkin mixture. Melt butter and add chopped pecans; pour over cake mix. Bake at 300 degrees for 80 minutes or until knife comes out clean. Serve with whipped topping.

Belt offers NaNoWriMo events in November

November is National Novel Writing Month, a worldwide effort to encourage authors and would-be authors to sit down and start a 50,000-word novel. And once again, Rolling Hills Library is reaching out to help writers achieve their goals.

The Belt Branch will provide weekly events when writers can meet to discuss their projects and work in a supportive environment. The library will provide a quiet space to work that has free Wi-Fi, electrical outlets to plug in computers and refreshments. A room will be open for writers 2-4 p.m. Sundays in November and 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 2, 9, 23 and 30.

App provides quick access to library site

From Page 1

on it if desired.

The app will have links to the library's website, the library catalog, events calendar, social media, a patron survey and a link to donate to the library Foundation. There also will be links to the library's online resources, including reading lists, databases and e-book and e-magazine sites.

"This collects a lot of our resources

Teen Tuesdays programs at the Belt Branch also will have a writing theme. Teens will make custom pen holders Nov. 1 and on Nov. 15 will watch the movie "The Help," a story about an author whose book tackles racism in her hometown. On Nov. 8 and 22, teen writers will do writing exercises and share their own writing. Teen Tuesdays programs meet at 5 p.m.

NaNoWriMo is in its 18th year of encouraging writers. Last year, 431,626 people on six continents participated, and nearly 500,000 people are expected to start a novel this month.

into one place," Mears said. "It will have everything digital you should possibly need at the library."

The library will announce on its website (www.rhcl.org) and through local media when the new app is ready for the public to use. Patrons who need personal help with downloading and learning the app can contact technology services librarian **Bridgid Reeves** at Ext. 120.

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

