



Rolling Hills Library News

Serving Andrew & Buchanan counties since 1961

December 2016 • Vol. 14, Issue 6

New Items

HOLIDAY BOOKS

- *The Christmas Boot* by Lisa Wheeler
- *A Colorado Christmas* by William W. Johnstone
- *Plain Christmas* by Sarah Price
- *An Amish Family Christmas* by Shelley Shepherd Gray
- *The Christmas Secret* by Wanda Brunstetter
- *The Trouble With Mistletoe* by Jill Shalvis
- *Celebrate Hanukkah With Lights, Latkes and Dreidels* by Deborah Heiligan
- *Eggnog Murder* by Leslie Meier
- *Death of a Toy Soldier* by Barbara Early
- *Christmas Caramel Murder* by Joanne Fluke
- *Yitzi and the Giant Menorah* by Richard Ungar
- *Stowaway in a Sleigh* by C. Roger Mader
- *The Day Santa Stopped Believing in Harold* by Maureen Fergus



A remodeling project will bring brighter and bolder colors to the Savannah Branch and change the layout so that youth materials will be on the north side of the library.

Savannah Redo

Remodeling project will close branch for one month

Libraries are known to have books, magazines, music, movies, public computers and programs for all ages to attend. But not everyone sees them as a place to make a specific trip to and to stay awhile at.

Rolling Hills Library Director **Michelle Mears** believes an upcoming \$200,000 remodeling project to the Savannah Branch will change people's minds about what the library is and can offer.

"We're trying to create a destination, and we want it to be memorable," she said.

The Savannah Branch will close at the

end of the day Friday, Jan. 6, for the monthlong project that will flip the library's floor plan to put the children's and teen areas on the north side and the adult books on the south side. A new information desk will be built along with a dedicated teen space and two new study rooms. A new permanent wall with glass doors will separate the Community Room from the library, replacing the existing folding wall. Walls will be painted bold colors after the existing wallpaper is re-

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LUCKY NUMBER

If your library card number is **22003000115301**, 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 Dec. 31. 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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*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.

Out with the old ...

... and in with a new look at the Savannah Branch

This time of year, many of us are trying to finish up projects and wondering how we will get anything done with holidays and vacations and parties to attend. It seems like the last days of the year are always hectic, and it feels like little gets accomplished. We wake up in January with a “holiday hangover” and wonder how the time flew so fast.

It is also a time of rebirth and renewal, finishing one year and beginning another. Father Time gives way to the New Year’s Baby. The winter solstice passes and days begin to get just a little longer each week. Not to mention all those New Year’s resolutions we make.

We go through renewal periods in public libraries, too, though not always based on the calendar.

Our Savannah Branch has seen some improvements this year and is set to get a bigger makeover in January. We are very excited about the changes and want them to be revealed in a grand re-opening where we can celebrate with the community, so we plan to put up brown paper in the windows to keep the changes under wraps until the big reveal.



Michelle Mears

*Rolling Hills
Library Director*

Despite our good intentions, there are a surly sort of folk who have to be against anything if it involves change. They hate when you move a chair from one side of the room to the other, and they really hate it when everything gets moved around.

The Savannah Branch was renovated in 2002, which means all the colors and furniture are 14 years old. The library is in pretty good shape, but it is stale and somewhat subdued. We want people to remember coming to the library, to be positively impressed when they walk in the door, to smile on the way in and the way out, and to tell all their friends and family that a visit to the library is an absolute must-do.

We started the Savannah update with a few pieces of display furniture, added a memorable globe, painted interesting murals on the outside of the building, and now we are going to give the inside a booster shot of design and comfort.

All the good stuff will still be there, and your favorite staff aren’t going anywhere. But we want to spur some renewed interest in our services and re-introduce Andrew County residents to their library. We believe members of our library district deserve the best possible library we can provide, and we plan to give them something to brag about.

Books Revisited

Shop the Friends of the Library bookstore for great bargains on used books. Located upstairs from the Belt Branch. Hours: 9-6 Monday-Thursday, 9-3 Friday, 1-4 Saturday & Sunday. 205-7125.

www.rhcl.org



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

Library Scenes



TOP: Dorothy, aka Belt Branch manager **Kelly Morris**, greeted youths Oct. 29 at the Belt Branch's Boofest Halloween Party. The Wizard of Oz was the party's theme, which had reference assistant **Angie Holmes** dressed as the Scarecrow (middle picture). Youths could pick out a free book from the Friends of the Library (bottom right) and also enjoy a free hot dog lunch provided by the St. Joseph Kiwanis Club.



More pictures of library events can be found at www.facebook.com/RollingHillsLibrary.

Special events in works for Christmas and school break

Visits from Santa Claus, movies, crafts and songs will mark the holiday season this month at the Belt and Savannah branches.

Santa Claus will be at a special Storytime at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at Savanna. Christmas crafts, songs and books are part of the event.

Breakfast with Santa from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, in the Belt Upper Story will serve breakfast for up to 200 children as they enjoy crafts, face painting, Story-times and visiting with Santa. No sign-up is required, and families can come and go as they choose.

Michael Shaw will present a concert and sing-along of holiday music at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Savannah.

A variety of craft programs for young and old alike are being presented before Christmas so participants can make gifts to give to friends and relatives. Check the events calendar at www.rhcl.org for information about signing up.

Both branches also have planned craft programs and movie sessions for youths during the holiday break from school. More information can be found on these events at www.rhcl.org.

No Internet access at home? In the car?

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.



Many choices when computer shopping

By Bridgid Reeves

Rolling Hills Library
technology services librarian

The holidays are here and with them comes holiday shopping.

When shopping for electronics, the first thing to remember is that what is best for one person may not be the best choice for another. Different devices have different things they do best and picking the right one depends on what is most important to the person receiving your gift.

Do they need something portable? Do they need something that's versatile? Are they kids or do they have kids? Are they into computer games?

Computers have been around longer than tablets and have some advantages. Desktop computers aren't portable but they often have better performance for less money than laptops or tablets.

Because they don't have to worry about keeping weight or size down

like portable devices need to do, computer makers can put their money into making desktop computers faster and more powerful. But laptops are coming closer to and, in some cases, even overcoming

some desktops



Screen size is just one element to consider between different types of computers. for power and performance.

Laptops are great for versatility and portability. There are some that can be used almost like a tablet with built-in Wi-Fi, a camera, CD/DVD drives, USB and HDMI ports.

Some tablets are as fast and versatile as laptops, and some are even as powerful as laptops, though that

is one advantage laptops generally have over tablets. Laptops often have better power and performance and do better at multitasking than tablets. They usually have more memory and storage space, too.

A tablet may have as much as 128 gigabytes of storage space, but laptops usually have at least 500 gigabytes. Tablets get around some of their shortcomings by offering accessories, which must be purchased separately.

So, if your special someone just needs something to get online, watch movies or read books, take pictures and other standard tasks, a tablet may be all they need. If they need something with more power, speed, or storage; if they like to play the more involved computer games; or if they just don't like having to rely on a touch screen because it lacks precision, you may want to look at a laptop.

Bookmobile Schedule

Amazonia Elementary School

10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14

Avenue City School

9-11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 2

Cedar Tree Apartments, Savannah

1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 13 & 27

Cosby

3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19

Faucett

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7

Gower City Park

2:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8,
and Friday, Dec. 30

Helena Elementary School

8-10:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16

North Andrew County

Rosendale – 9-10:30 a.m.;

Bolckow – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 17

Rushville

2:30-4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28

Union Star Elementary School

11:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9

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

Library staff lends hand to tribal library

By Gena Fisher

Belt Branch reference assistant

On a chilly November morning, seven former and current employees of Rolling Hills Library headed for White Cloud, Kan. While some might think it was the White Cloud Casino that lured us there, it really was the chance to help the new Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Library and to bring literacy and learning to their community that had us on the road.

All of this came about because Rolling Hills patron **Kathy Perkins** came to me seeking assistance in stocking the library for the Native American tribe to which she belongs.

Four years ago, the tribe received a grant to build a community rec center and library. While the rec center quickly fell into place, the library languished in the form of a small room with second-hand bookshelves and donated books. The grant came with a deadline, and tribal leaders knew they needed someone to get the library up and running before they lost out on the funding to finish the project. They turned to Kathy, a lifelong reader, who called on me.

To purchase the materials the library would need, I turned to **Patti Swartz**, our former Belt Branch children's specialist. She and I spent 10 days ordering classic Native American books as well as popular children's and juvenile fiction. With a budget of over \$3,000, nearly 300 items were bought – but that was only the beginning.

Knowing that more than ordering books was needed to get the library functioning, I asked for volunteers from my co-workers as well as from former colleagues. That's how our road trip came about.

We dove into the work. Belt Branch manager **Kelly Morris** put together the large shelving units the tribe had ordered, while Belt circulation assistant **Bobbie Dreier** labeled new books. Savannah Branch circulation assistant **Janet Phillippe**, Belt retiree **Merrilee Whitson**, Patti and I sorted through old books, keeping usable items and boxing up ones we could pass on to other community entities. Former technical services head **June Stancliff** helped create a system for cataloging and checking out books.

It was an exhausting afternoon but also exciting to see the small library begin to take shape. Although Kathy didn't

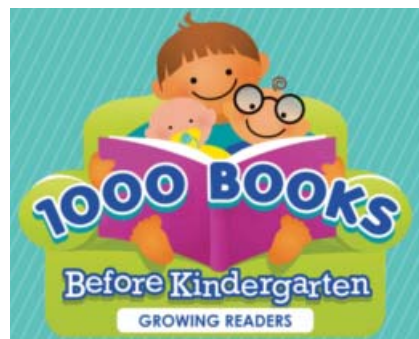


Patti Swartz (left to right), **Gena Fisher**, **Kelly Morris**, **Janet Phillippe**, **Bobbie Dreier**, **June Stancliff** and **Merrilee Whitson** used their Rolling Hills Library experience to help organize the new Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Missouri Library.

think very many items would be checked out, at least not in the early days, a place was created for kids to find books on all kinds of subjects.

The grant also provided for computers and a craft area for after-school programs. We didn't get to work on those spaces, but we hope to help out there in the future.

All in all, it was a good day. The reservation library was organized, the shelves were filled and we, the Rolling Hills' staff volunteers, were planning our next trip over to pick up where we left off.



The more children are read to before they start school, the more success they will have. Start this fun program any time before school starts. It's easier than you think!

The Cake Lady

Barb Dalrymple recommends this cake for people who love the classic pie but who don't want to go to the trouble of making a pie.

Southern Pecan Pie Cake

- 1 butter pecan cake mix
- 1 16-oz. can of coconut pecan frosting
- 4 large eggs
- ¾ cup vegetable oil or coconut oil
- 1 cup half-and-half or whole milk
- ½ cup chopped pecans

Butter Pecan Glaze

- 1 14-oz. can condensed milk
- 3 tablespoons butter
- ½ cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9x13-inch baking dish. In a mixing bowl, combine all cake ingredients except for chopped pecans and mix well.

Add chopped pecans and stir until combined. Pour batter into baking dish and bake for 40-50 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.

To make the glaze, melt butter in a small saucepan over medium heat then add condensed milk and stir. Heat thoroughly then add chopped pecans, stirring to combine. Remove from heat. Spoon glaze over individual slices of cake or the entire cake.

Patrons will be served by Bookmobile during closure

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moved, and energy-efficient LED lighting will be installed throughout the building. New furniture in bright colors also is planned.

The branch was last remodeled in 2002, so the look and design are 14 years old and ready for a redo.

"It's a true makeover," Mears said. "Sometimes, when you move the furniture around in your home, it can give you a new perspective. We should get that in regards to patrons seeing and using our collection and services."

A grand re-opening on Saturday, Feb. 11, will show off the new and improved library. Until then, patrons will be able to check out materials from the Bookmobile, which will be at the library 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 3-5 p.m. Thursdays from Jan. 10 through Feb. 9.

About \$155,000 for the project comes from two donations with the library covering the remaining \$45,000.

In 2012, the library received \$186,400 from the estate of California resident **Margaret Perry**, who often visited the library as a girl when she visited her grandparents in Savannah. Some of that gift has been used already to make repairs and upgrades, including the exterior murals on the building's east and west walls.

Another \$9,000 for the project comes from the estate of longtime Savannah resident **Winifred McCauley**, who died in May.

Much of the library's \$45,000 contribution will pay for the LED lighting. Not only will the new lights be more energy efficient, but they will produce less heat, which means it will take less air conditioning to cool the library. The library also will receive a rebate from KCP&L for installing the new fixtures.

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

