



Rolling Hills Library News

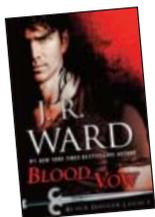
Serving Andrew & Buchanan counties since 1961

February 2017 • Vol. 14, Issue 8

New Items

ROMANCE

- *An Irish Country Love Story* by Patrick Taylor
- *Defender* by Diana Palmer
- *Margherita's Notebook* by Elisabetta Flumeri
 - *Winner Takes All* by Erin Kern
 - *Waves of Mercy* by Lynn Austin
- *The Worthington Wife* by Sharon Page
- *The Possibility of Somewhere* by Julia Day
- *Someone to Love* by Mary Balogh
- *Wrong Question, Right Answer* by Elle Casey
- *Viking Warrior Rebel* by Asa Maria Bradley



- *Blood Vow* by J.R. Ward
- *The Sea Keeper's Daughter* by Lisa Wingate
- *The City Baker's Guide to Country Living* by Louise Miller
- *If I Forget You* by Thomas C. Greene

Filling a Need

Many patrons look to library to offer creative classes

Karen Talley remembers a day when libraries were places to check out books -- and only that. No knitting classes or painting classes or anything else for adults to be creative and meet new people.

"It used to be just books when I was growing up," she said. "Having the crafts groups now is absolutely wonderful."

Talley frequently takes part in adult craft programs at both the Belt and Savannah branches. She's painted, knitted, sewn, done rug hooking and made new friends along the way. And that's exactly what should be happening, says **Holly Hutchinson**, the new public services librarian who teaches some of the art classes at the Belt Branch.

After all, the library's vision statement,



Karen Talley created a fabric pumpkin during a Classy Seniors program in October at the Belt Branch.

Hutchinson points out, says the library will provide patrons with the chance to connect "to the world around us through learning, enlightenment, creativity, and enjoyment."

More people are turning to libraries for arts and crafts classes now because of need and because of availability, Hutchinson

Please turn to Page 5

LUCKY NUMBER

If your library card number is **22003000508976**, 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 Feb. 28. 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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Keith Ferguson
Cosby

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*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. Friends board meetings are held 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.

Libraries & politics

Now is the time for public to stand up for libraries

No matter where you land on the political spectrum from liberal to conservative, one thing most people have been able to agree upon is the value of a public library and its services. Unfortunately, right now libraries are moving into the crosshairs of those who want more limited government and wish to cut all tax funding for arts and humanities, including public libraries.

First, I think we have to agree that there are some things that government pays for that are useful and valuable parts of our communities. We may disagree on exactly what parts these are, but our society would not exist as it is today without the actions and activities of government.

The way government activities get paid for is through taxes. Just like any organization, we watch very closely for waste, fraud, and abuse. Public libraries have survived the ups and downs of the economy over the past 40 years probably better than most because we are used to stretching every dollar as far as it will go.

The slice of the government pie assigned to public libraries is a fraction of a fraction. It is nearly unnoticeable when looking at the total expenditures of our state and federal budgets, but it means a

whole lot to the smaller, more rural libraries that depend on that funding to provide even minimal services. All libraries benefit from a network of strong libraries of all sizes, including interlibrary cooperation and staff training. Some of us may survive the cuts, but many public libraries will be forced to close their doors for good if budget cuts are enacted.

One way to support public libraries is to stop thinking of them as a luxury. We provide important, necessary services to everyone who walks through our doors, including access to the internet, computer classes, tax forms, health information, early childhood literacy programs, and now passport processing.

Public libraries are more of an educational institution than a museum, though museums and arts organizations are just as important and necessary to our development of the human race as learning to read and applying for jobs. Public libraries have been called the “people’s university” for a reason – we are where anyone can go to design and implement their own education program to learn whatever they wish.

I urge everyone to become more politically active and to engage with our elected officials. Let them know what is important to you. Let them know that you will vote based on your views. Let them know how much you value your public libraries, before it is too late.



Michelle Mears

*Rolling Hills
Library Director*

www.rhcl.org



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

Library Scenes



This is what it looks like when you pack up a library for a remodeling project. Display cases, bookshelves, the globe and more were moved in January to the south end of the Savannah Branch and covered in plastic for the first phase of the project.



After drywall was installed on the dropped ceiling of the children's stage (left) and the new Circulation Desk (above), it was sanded to get ready for paint.



The new Community Room wall (left) will have glass doors to provide a view into the main part of the library. Round soffits (right) will be above the new bench seating that will surround several pillars.



‘What if’ idea refreshes Holmes myth

Everyone knows Sherlock Holmes is a brilliant man with amazing deductive powers, who can tell where you’ve been and what you’ve done just by the cut of your suit or the color of your dress.

His fans also know about his home at 221B Baker St., his violin, housekeeper Mrs. Hudson and sidekick Dr. Watson. But what if the things everyone knew about Sherlock Holmes were wrong?

That’s the premise for Sherry Thomas’ “A Study in Scarlet Women.” In her retelling of the Holmesian mythos, gone is the hawk-featured man and instead Sherlock’s genius is housed within a petite blonde, named Charlotte, who has golden hair and dimples.

Charlotte is the youngest of four sisters, an intelligent but peculiar young woman who comes up with a daring plan to achieve independence. Unfortunately, her plan to force her parents to allow her an education

backfires and leaves her ruined in the eyes of society. That’s when Miss Holmes comes into her own.

When a series of seemingly unrelated deaths occur, a letter from Mr. Sherlock Holmes stirs Scotland Yard to investigate. How are the three deaths connected, what is their cause and just who would benefit if three upper society members were removed from the picture?

But a bigger mystery is Holmes.

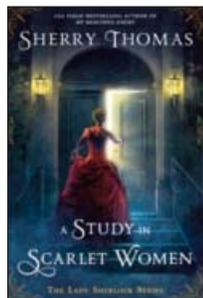
How is Charlotte going to maintain her ruse of being the mysterious and reclusive detective even as she deals with being the society scandal of the moment and handle her oldest friend, who is now a lord and offering to help save her from scandal?

This book is a remarkable take on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s

iconic character. Thomas is able to inject her own take on Holmes’ talents as well as maintain the flavor of the original books. The mystery plays out slowly, but that provides room for imaginative takes on familiar characters and introductions to new ones. Although the story takes a while to gain speed, it’s a worthwhile read in the end.

– Gena Fisher

Belt Branch reference assistant



Book review

Bookmobile Schedule

Amazonia Elementary School

10-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 8 & 22

Avenue City School

9-11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 27

Cosby

3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6

Faucett

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15

Gower City Park

2:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24

Helena Elementary School

8:30-10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 3

North Andrew County

Rosendale – 9-10:30 a.m.; & Bolckow – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 18

Rushville

2:30-4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23

Savannah

Savannah Branch – 10 a.m.-noon Tuesdays, Feb. 7 & 14, and 3-5 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 2, 9 & 16;
Cedar Tree Apartments – 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14

Union Star Elementary School

11:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10

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 upstairs from the Belt Branch! Offering gently used newer materials to antique books!

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

Classes create both art, friendships

From Page 1

said. As schools and public arts organizations have reduced the number of art classes they provide because of tighter budgets, classes at libraries have become more popular.

“People want to be creative,” Hutchinson said. “I think they feel a disconnect in this digital age, and they’re craving hands-on experience.”

When the library offers art classes, registration tends to fill up quickly. Patrons often suggest other classes they wish the library would offer.

“They are very popular – there’s proof that they’re very popular,” Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson, who teaches many of the painting classes at the Belt Branch, joined the library in September 2016 after serving as youth services librarian for five years at the Atchison (Kan.) Public Library. Before that, she was a high school art teacher for three years in Kansas.

Sandra Keiffer has offered many arts and craft classes in the years she’s been manager of the Savannah Branch and tries to stay in step with the latest trends. Painting classes are very popular with patrons now.

“Some people are creative people, and they want to express their creativity in a new way,” she said. They



Holly Hutchinson teaches painting classes at the Belt Branch, while **Sandra Keiffer** has been teaching knitting and other craft classes at the Savannah Branch for many years.

often try a new medium for the first time at the library.

As important as learning a new skill is for some people, the chance to socialize is just as important for others. For many years Keiffer led a weekly knitting group that became a close-knit group of friends. Members would do things together outside of the library, and if someone missed a knitting session or two, someone

in the group would usually call to check up on them.

The fact that the classes are usually free or have only a small fee is appreciated by patrons. They also compliment the library staff members who teach the classes.

“The instructors who teach these classes really love what they’re doing,” Talley said.

As long as patrons ask for the classes, the library will keep providing them. For many patrons, they are just as important as having books and movies on the shelves to check out.

“I’ve seen the classes, over the years, become more and more popular until now it seems to be more a matter of course to have them,” Keiffer said.

To learn what art and crafts classes the library is offering in February and beyond, visit www.rhcl.org.

mango
languages

French
Spanish
Chinese
Hebrew
Thai

and 65 more languages at www.rhcl.org

The graphic features a heart shape composed of many small, colorful flags, positioned above two stylized trees (one orange, one green) and a city skyline at the bottom.

Tumble Books
e-books for e-kids
at www.rhcl.org

The graphic shows a blue book character with a smiling face, arms, and legs, appearing to be running or jumping. Two blue arrows point towards the book character.

The Cake Lady

It's not chocolate, but this dessert from **Barb Dalrymple** is red and should win you points on Valentine's Day.

CHERRY CHEESE DELIGHT

1 cup flour
¼ cup packed brown sugar
½ cup chopped nuts
½ cup melted margarine
1 cup milk
10-oz. package miniature marshmallows
1 cup powdered sugar
12-oz. container of whipped topping
21-oz. can cherry pie filling
12-oz. package cream cheese, softened

Mix flour, brown sugar, nuts and margarine well and press into an ungreased 13x9-inch baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Cool.

Heat milk. Add marshmallows and stir until melted. Cool. Add the powdered sugar to the softened cream cheese and mix well. Then add the whipped topping and the cream cheese mixture to the marshmallow mixture and mix well. Pour over cooled crust. Spread cherry pie filling on top and refrigerate before serving.

Open house to mark reopening of remodeled Savannah Branch

After being closed for six weeks for an extensive remodeling project, the Savannah Branch will reopen for business Saturday, Feb. 18.

To mark the occasion, the library will have an all-day open house that begins at 10 a.m. with a ribbon cutting. Refreshments will be served throughout the day.

The project is flipping the library's floor plan, moving the children's and teen materials to the north side and adult materials to the south side. A new permanent wall with glass doors will separate

the Community Room from the main part of the library. New seating is being added throughout the library, including bench seating around several round columns. A new Circulation Desk will feature display areas for new books.

"We want to thank Savannah patrons for their patience while the library has been closed," Library Director **Michelle Mears** said. "We're excited to get the Savannah Branch reopened and believe the community will be proud of the new-and-improved library."

Photoshop alternative topic of new class

The free, online photo and image editing software Pixlr is the subject of a Belt Branch class at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Technology librarian **Bridgid Reeves** will introduce participants to the software, which is similar to Photoshop. It allows users to do everything from basic tasks such as cropping and resizing images to changing the color of an object or background and blurring or re-

moving parts of an picture. The software can be used on mobile devices as well as PCs and Macs.

Sign up for this class at <http://rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events>.

Some computers will be available to use, but participants can bring their own laptops as well.

Though Pixlr can be used on mobile devices, everyone will start by learning how to use it on a computer, Reeves said.

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

