



Rolling Hills LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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Compiled by:

Michelle R. Mears, Library Director
February 2018

Locations & Operating Hours

Administrative Offices

1912 N. Belt Hwy.
St. Joseph, MO 64506
816.236.2106
Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm

Belt Branch

1904 N. Belt Hwy.
St. Joseph, MO 64506
816.232.5479
Mon-Thurs 9 am to 9 pm
Fri-Sat 9 am to 6 pm
Sun 1 pm to 5 pm

Savannah Branch

514 W. Main
Savannah, MO 64485
816.324.4569
Mon-Wed-Fri 9 am to 6 pm
Tues-Thurs 9 am to 8 pm
Sun 1 pm to 5 pm

Bookmobile

1910 N. Belt Hwy.
St. Joseph, MO 64506
816.232.5479
Mon-Sat
Visits as Scheduled

Introduction

This annual report reflects the activities of Rolling Hills Consolidated Library, serving Andrew and Buchanan counties, for the 2017 calendar year and the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Our library staff is the primary reason for our success, and none of this would be possible without them. Everyone is dedicated to fulfilling our mission to engage our community of users in literacy and life-long learning.



Library Programs

Rolling Hills Library took some time in 2017 for a programming “recess” to stop and examine current practice and invigorate programs with new ideas. We considered reducing programs, but with high demand from users and so many fun and interesting programs to do, it was agreed to continue on but with a different planning process. Library staff transitioned to a quarterly programming calendar aligned with the seasons and the library newsletter changed its publication schedule to match. New programs, such as an open-mic music/spoken-word event and ukulele lessons, have been added to rave reviews.

Summer Reading Program 2017 included all ages with a theme about architecture and social good saying “Build a Better World...READ!” We continued our brief sign-up system to make it faster and easier to enroll and again allowed participants to set their own reading goals for the program. Reading incentives in the form of a mid-point prize and imprint items were supplemented by drawing tickets for gift baskets and gift cards. There were 2,232 registrations for summer reading (an increase of 10% over the previous year), with 1,037 participants completing the program and getting a free book or voucher for the Friends’ bookstore.



In the fall of 2017, the library hosted an exhibit from the Minnesota Children’s Museum titled “The Amazing Castle.” This early literacy exhibit featured a child-sized castle and surrounding village, all designed to stimulate imaginations and encourage cooperative play. Volunteers helped keep the exhibit open 35 hours per week for 15 weeks, and we had an “amazing” 5,015 visits, many of whom were repeats.

Library Collection

Selective weeding of the collection carried over into 2017, especially of the Savannah Branch which had not been thoroughly examined in many years. At 160,223 items, the collection was 5% smaller than at the end of 2016. Over 13,400 items were added in 2017. A full inventory was completed in 2017, the first in a very long time, which allowed us to improve our catalog records for both local patrons and interlibrary sharing.

Community Outreach

The Bookmobile & Outreach department worked hard to continue service in spite of ongoing mechanical problems with the bus, but relief will soon be on the way in the form of a new bookmobile that was ordered in 2017 and is scheduled to arrive in late March 2018. The Bookmobile visits communities in both counties every

month and also participates in the Summer Reading Program by visiting summer schools and other locations on request. They also maintain the Community Collections deposited in post offices and banks throughout the district as well as run the STAR program for homebound delivery of library materials.

Facilities & Equipment

Savannah Branch got an interior facelift in January 2017, made possible by generous donations from the Margaret Perry and Winifred McCauley estates. A grand re-opening reception in February 2017 wowed the community with the new look and feel for the branch and a much expanded and more welcoming children's area. In addition to new LED lighting in Savannah, the Administrative Offices and Belt Branch also replaced all light fixtures with LED, resulting in rebates from KCP&L and over \$9,000 in savings in the 2017 calendar year.

Library Staff

Positions that were open and filled in 2017 included a full-time Public Services Librarian at Belt Branch, two part-time Circulation Assistants at Savannah Branch, two part-time Circulation Assistants at Belt Branch, Volunteer and Bookstore Coordinator, and Technical Services Manager. Staff participated in ongoing training throughout the year, and took part in an online course in cybersafety.

Friends of the Library & Books Revisited

The Friends of the Library had a great year with over \$50,000 in sales at the bookstore! Under the Big Oak Tree, a very popular local music group, entertained members at the Friends' annual meeting in July 2017 with songs and stories. Friends' planned a trip to Independence in May 2017 touring the Truman home and library. The Friends ended the fiscal year with a balance of \$68,557.73.



Library Foundation

The Rolling Hills Library Support Foundation, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri, continued to grow the library endowment and worked on plans for a fundraising campaign. The Foundation will work with the Friends in 2018 for a joint fundraising event. The Support Foundation ended the fiscal year with a balance of \$82,224.65.



Future of the Library

Anticipated projects for 2018 include some interior renovations at the Belt Branch, promotion of the new bookmobile, updates of library policies, and another children's museum visiting exhibit. A committee will be formed for the levy vote and an election date set for the sunset levy portion of tax funding that will expire in 2020. Overall, the Rolling Hills Library will continue to provide the best possible library services to our users, both in-person and online.

***To Engage the Community in
Literacy and Learning!***



FINANCIALS & STATISTICS

FY 2017 Revenue

Local Tax Income	\$2,655,085
State Aid	\$13,206
Grants	\$16,892
Donations	\$37,630
Rental Income	\$81,908
Other	\$84,555

TOTALS \$2,889,276

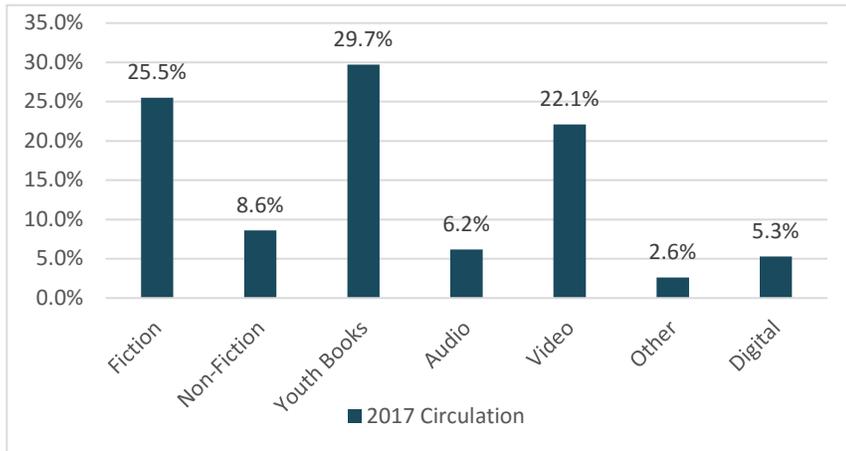
FY 2017 Expense

Personnel & Benefits	\$1,154,592
Debt Service	\$402,806
Collection/Materials	\$220,131
General Operations	\$455,543
Building Operations	\$157,261
Other/Capital Improvements	\$178,253

\$2,568,586

Figures from Fiscal Year 2017, from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017. Audit completed December 19, 2017, by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP of St. Joseph, MO.

Statistics reported are for the calendar year ending December 2017.



Population of Service Area: **41,428**
 Active Registered Borrowers: **15,937**
 2017 Circulation (Physical & Digital): **350,595**
 Library Collection: **160,223**
 Number of Reference Transactions: **3,729**
 Computer Usage: **28,704**
 Number of Programs Offered: **574**
 Program Attendance: **13,668**
 Bookmobile & Outreach Stops: **340**
 Meeting Room Usage: **1,323**


174,752
 Library Visits


18,486 eBOOKS,
 eAUDIOS, & VIDEOS
 downloaded


MORE THAN
332,000
 items checked out


13,668 PEOPLE
 attended
574 LIBRARY
 PROGRAMS


 Total Value of FY2017 Library
 Programs & Services:
\$6,862,199


 Every tax dollar invested =
\$2.58 RETURN
 ON INVESTMENT