

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Board of Trustees 2018-2019

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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

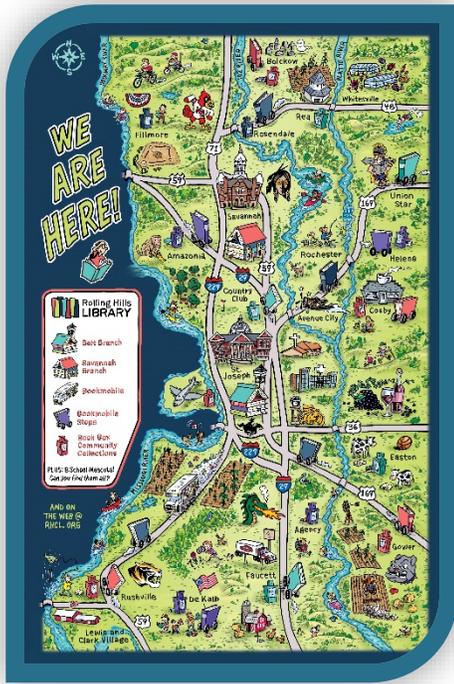
1904 N. Belt Hwy.
St Joseph, MO 64506
816-232-5479
M-SAT 9 am to 8 pm
SUN 12 pm to 6 pm

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 50th 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

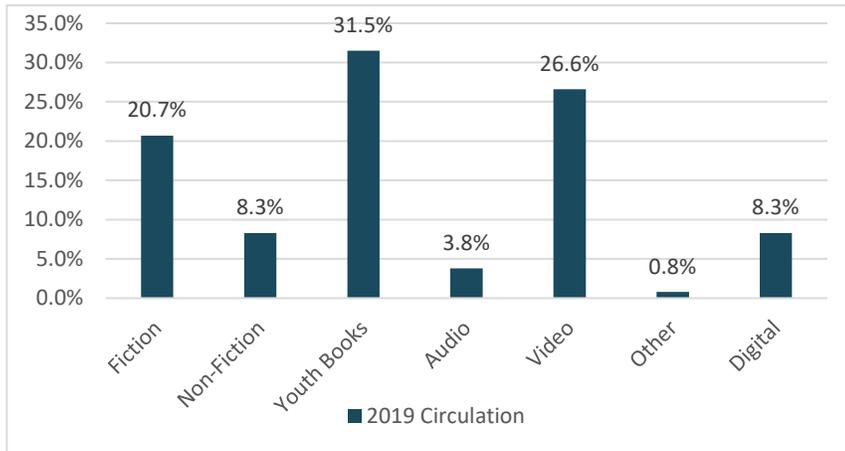
FY 2019 Expense

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**

175,633
Library Visits

OVER 29,000
public computersessions

MORE THAN 355,000
items checked out

32,295 eBOOKS, eAUDIOS, & VIDEOS
downloaded

12,879 PEOPLE
attended
713 LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Total Value of 2019 Library Programs & Services:
\$ 7,468,967

Every tax dollar invested =
\$3.71 RETURN ON INVESTMENT