



Library supporters celebrate renewal of tax levy / Page 3

What do next 20 years look like for the library and you? / Page 2

TELLTALE EXHIBIT

Fairy tales from around the world
await youths, families in new show

For children, fairy tales are fun stories about talking animals, princesses, giants and elves. For adults, they can be links to their own childhoods while being recognized as the basis of many modern books and movies.

The history, meaning and significance of fairy tales is the subject of the colorful children's exhibit *Once Upon a Time ... Exploring the World of Fairy Tales* coming to the Belt Branch Upper Story from Sept. 20 to Jan. 5, 2020.

Children and families will step into seven stories from around the globe in this very hands-on exhibit. The large-scale settings feature art from children's books and have interactive components, including computers, costumes to wear, a dinner table with play food and a cobbler's shop to make shoes.

Please turn to Page 8



Children will be able to dress up like Beauty and enjoy a fancy meal in the Beast's castle in the *Once Upon a Time* display.



When to visit *Once Upon a Time*

Hours: 10 a.m. -6 p.m. Wednesday
through Saturday and 1-5 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 20 to Jan. 5, 2020.

Location: The Upper Story, 1906A N. Belt
(upstairs from the Belt Branch).

School and group visits can be arranged
by calling 205-7101.

Now What?

With the levy election behind us, it's time to plan the future

It is two days after our successful levy vote as I write this column, and the glow has not yet worn off. It makes me want to smile until my cheeks hurt, thinking of how much our users love and support our library. I don't think I can say thank you in enough ways to all who were a part of our win at the polls.

So, now what? For one thing, we have another 20 years of stable funding, so we don't have to worry about how to pay the electric bill every month. It's a relief to know we can continue on as we have been, serving our members and promoting literacy and learning. As much as we might wish, however, we cannot stand still or be content with things as they always have been.

We also can't be content just reacting; we should be more proactive and get out in our communities. We have some ideas and goals, and here are a few things on the horizon:



- **Library Card Drive** – More people need library cards and should know about the great stuff we have available for free. Just like the lottery, you can't win if you don't play, and your library card is your forever ticket.

- **Civic Engagement** – The library is seen as a respected, neutral location. We need to leverage that to open dialogues to find common ground and rise above partisan rhetoric. Anger is often fueled by misinformation, and what better place to communicate the facts than a public library?

- **Digital Citizenship** – The world will not be getting any less digital, and we should be a leader in helping people adjust and adapt to that. Banking, filing taxes, and the 2020 Census are all areas that are going digital faster than some are ready for, but the library can assist those who want or need to be more digital.

- **Community Spaces** – Even with the growth in online access, the library still is an important physical place where people can get help and engage with others. What do our communities need? Meeting rooms, private spaces, small business support? How can our buildings and the Bookmobile best serve these space needs?

Someone said to me, aren't you going to relax now that you won your levy vote? Who has time to relax with all this great stuff we have to do!

Michelle Mears, Rolling Hills Library Director
mmears@rhcl.org

Other ways to reach and follow us

Text the library at **816-287-9828** using these keywords, and we'll help with your account:

Status for account information **Renew all** to renew everything on your account


Renew due to renew overdue items **Help** for a list of available commands

or text anything else to start a conversation with a librarian.

 www.goodreads.com/group/show/397463-rolling-hills-library

 facebook.com/RollingHillsLibrary

 twitter.com/RollingHillsLib

 www.instagram.com/Rolling_Hills_Library

 www.pinterest.com/rollinghillslib

Browse

a quarterly publication from Rolling Hills Library that is sponsored by the Friends of Rolling Hills Library

Rolling Hills Library

www.rhcl.org

Belt Branch

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

Savannah Branch

514 W. Main, Savannah
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
816-236-2106

Bookmobile & Outreach

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

Michelle Mears

Library Director

Alan Stolfus

Browse editor

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Savannah

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. The Friends board meets 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.



Touch-a-Truck

Inclement weather caused the Belt Branch to cancel one of its most popular events in May. But now we're trying again ... on a day when kids are out of school! So come see and climb in emergency vehicles and work rigs and meet the people who use them. **10-11:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 27, Belt Branch Parking Lot**

Rolling to Victory

Voters emphatically renew 15-cent library tax levy for another 20 years

By Alan Stolfus
Browse Editor

It was an evening of interminable waiting on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

First, the pizza delivery driver took too long to bring the ordered meal to the Belt Branch Upper Story, where a watch party was underway for the library's tax levy election.

Second, election results seemed to take forever to be posted to websites that library staff, board members and supporters were monitoring.

But then, like Christmas morning when little gifts lead up to bigger gifts, early results hinted at the good news that lay ahead. Cosby voters went 75-15 in favor of the levy. Voters in St. Joseph's 16th Precinct at Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church approved it 153-17. Andrew County absentee ballots produced a 185-39 win.

"Waiting for the results was hard," Library Director Michelle Mears said. "We knew there were a lot of library supporters, we knew our campaign had reached a lot of people, but the uncertainty wasn't over until the final results were in."

Voters in Andrew and Buchanan counties overwhelmingly agreed Rolling Hills Library should continue its 15-cent tax levy for another 20 years. The measure that provides \$1.3 million annually – or almost 50 percent of the library's budget – had 3,211 yes votes (80 percent) and 822 no votes (20 percent) in the two counties. Andrew County passed it 2,345-683, and Buchanan County passed it with 866-139 votes. The measure won in every precinct.

Library Board of Trustees vice president Deborah Birr, who chaired the levy campaign committee, sees a clear message in the results.

"We know from our numbers that people know us and use us and love us," she said. The margin of victory "gives us the permission and the courage to keep building Rolling Hills Library into a greater community asset."



Library officials gather around library board member Carlene Miller and her cell phone on Aug. 6 in the Belt Branch Upper Story to view election numbers from the library's tax levy election.

Mears indicated much of the credit goes to one particular area of library services.

"I am absolutely positive that the success of our levy is the result of our outreach efforts and the Bookmobile," she said. "It's very clear to voters that we are serving the entire library district now instead of concentrating on our two branch locations, and that makes people happier."

"I truly believe that outreach services enable people to continue a rural way of life. They don't have to go to an urban setting to get the amenities needed for their lives."

Mears and Birr thanked and complimented the library board, staff and supporters for their efforts.

"I can't tell you the number of people we would knock on their doors, hand them a brochure and ask them if they knew about the library levy vote and if we could count on their support," Birr said. "And they would hand us back the brochure and say keep it for somebody who needs it because they were voting yes."



Rad Dads Read Storytime & Breakfast

Dads add a certain pizzazz to books when they read, and kids love that! Join us to hear some of our favorite dads read stories – but come hungry. We’re serving up biscuits and gravy with a side of fun! 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, Savannah Branch.

Book Review

College student seeks truth about old crime in this gripping novel

Joe Talbert isn't a typical college kid in author Allen Eskens' mystery novel, *The Life We Bury*. With an alcoholic mother, an autistic brother and barely enough money to attend school, Joe must plan his life as carefully as anyone can. But life has a way of spinning off in its own direction.



An English assignment sends Joe in search of someone to interview, and a decision to stop at a nursing home puts him in contact with Carl Iverson, who is a willing subject and promises to only speak the truth. And what is Carl's truth? He spent years in prison for the rape and murder of a teenage neighbor, a crime he claims he didn't commit.

Joe begins the slow process of finding out the truth about Carl, about the crime, about Carl's tragic past, digging deep with the help of his secret crush, Lila. Together they uncover the murky details of the 30-year-old crime. In a fascinating adventure Joe proves there is much more to him than the circumstances of his life.

This is an intriguing book. It takes the reader into Carl's sordid world and tracks the path that brings him into contact with the girl. It also shows Joe's world as he struggles to solve the mysteries.

Anyone wanting a novel that will grip them from the first page to the last will enjoy this book.

— Gena Fisher,
Belt Branch public services
assistant

Flood Relief

Book Box comes to the rescue when road to library is out

When flooding this spring closed U.S. Highway 59 between Rushville and Atchison, Kan., it cut off Rushville resident Robyn Klawuhn from the Atchison Public Library.

Klawuhn can get to the Atchison library in just 11 minutes from Rushville, so it's easier for her to use than driving 30 minutes to a library in St. Joseph, she said. Especially when she would need to load up her baby granddaughter to take with her.

"I just really felt cut off down here," she said.

Then, one day, Klawuhn spotted the new Rolling Hills Library Book Box outside of the Rushville Post Office while taking her granddaughter for a walk.

"I saw that box and thought 'What's that,' so I went over and looked at it, and I just felt really grateful to be able to get something to read," she said.

Rushville residents go to the post office to pick up their mail, so placing the box there seemed like an ideal spot, said Deb Ezzell, Outreach and Bookmobile manager. The box is one of 13 the library is placing in rural communities throughout Andrew and Buchanan counties this year, supplementing the deposit site bookshelves the library has inside post offices in those towns. In Rushville, the bookshelf is inside Exchange Bank and Trust, a few doors down from the post office.

The Book Boxes provide a more visible presence for the library in the towns that are visited monthly by the Bookmobile. Users can take books and return them when they are finished



Robyn Klawuhn and her granddaughter Lizzy often visit the Rushville Book Box.

reading and can donate books to them also. The boxes are restocked when the Bookmobile visits.

It's all part of the library's effort to serve rural residents who pay library taxes but may have issues traveling to the Belt and Savannah branches on a regular basis.

Klawuhn took a couple of mysteries the day she discovered the Book Box. "I've been down there several times to get books," she said. "And it's not just me – I've seen other people using it."

The book boxes can be found now in Agency, Amazonia, Bolckow, Cosby, Country Club Village, De Kalb, Easton, Faucett, Fillmore, Gower, Helena, Rea and Rushville.

Coding Club

School-age youths and teens wanting to learn how to write computer code to make games or interactive stories can do so in these new monthly programs starting in September. Sign up at events.rhcl.org/events.
6:30 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 16, Oct. 21 & Nov. 18, Belt Branch



Stretch Your Minds, Adults

Local history, cooking, money & faith walk just some of the fall program topics

Adults will be given a stroll through the history of Mount Mora Cemetery, a tour of the library's new cake pan collection and ushered along a 500-mile spiritual trail in Spain in programs offered this fall at the library. And only one event requires advance registration.

So You Want to Start Investing – Wakefield Hare of Greater Than Financial LLC in Savannah will present tips and encouragement for new and want-to-be investors. 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, Savannah Branch.

Banned Books History – Missouri Western State University library staff members Sally Gibson and Jim Mulder will discuss Banned Books Week, the annual celebration of the freedom to read and the books involved. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17, Belt Branch.

Classy Seniors: Alzheimer's Disease Awareness – Brenda Gregg of the Alzheimer's Association will share information about medical advancements, resources for caregivers and tips for brain health while also highlighting the local Walk to End Alzheimer's. 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, Belt Branch.

Mount Mora Preservation – Local historian Suzanne Lehr will discuss the history of the only cemetery in St. Joseph listed on the National Register of Historic Places. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8, Belt Branch.

Adult Bingo – Join your friends or make new ones as we play bingo for prizes. 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 8 and Nov. 19, Savannah Branch.

Classy Seniors: AARP Smart Driver Class – Seniors will learn tips for driving safely and about any changes to driving laws. Advance registration is required and costs \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-



In 2016, Peri Zahnd and her husband, Brian, walked the Camino de Santiago, an ancient Christian pilgrim route that stretches 500 miles across Spain.

members. Payment is due at the class. 1-5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, Belt Branch.

Classy Seniors: Board Games – Celebrate International Games Week by grabbing a cup of coffee and a snack and playing some classic and new games with your friends. 10 a.m. Nov. 7, Belt Branch.

Bow Making – Adults can learn how to make a variety of bows to use as home decorations or on holiday presents. All materials provided. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12, Savannah Branch.

Medicare Part D Enrollment and Information – Northwest Missouri Area Agency on Aging staff will review and make changes to your existing plans and help others ages 65 and older enroll for the first time. This is a

drop-in program that does not require registration. Participants should bring a list of their prescriptions and dosages. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13, Belt Branch.

Instant Pots – Do you have this newest kitchen appliance that is transforming cooking but aren't sure how to use it? Pam Nelson and library staff members will show you how and offer trouble-shooting tips and food samples, too. 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, Belt Branch.

Walking the Camino de Santiago – Peri Zahnd will speak about the 500-mile spiritual pilgrimage across Spain she and her husband walked in 2016. She wrote the book "Every Scene by Heart: A Camino de Santiago Memoir" about her experience and will have copies of her book for sale at the program. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, Belt Branch. The Friends of the Library will show "The Way," a movie starring Martin Sheen that portrays a man walking the Camino in memory of his late son. 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, Belt Branch Community Room.

Library Scenes

May - August 2019

A UNIVERSE of Stories

This little guy dressed the part July 1 for the Train Like an Astronaut program in the Belt Upper Story. He's drinking Tang, of course, the drink of astronauts.



7



At the Belt Branch, these three sisters show off the ice cream cones they had painted on their faces during the Ice Cream Social on July 26. BELOW: St. Joseph Mustangs player Jack Wagner reaches out to a young girl during Storytime with the Mustangs on June 12.



At the Savannah Branch, kids could climb into a police car during Touch-a-Truck on May 23 (left) and were dancing and jumping with singer Jennifer Daniels on June 17.

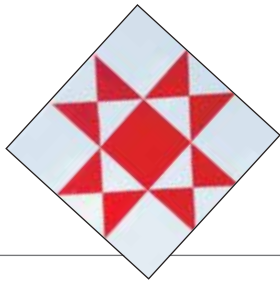


The smaller Community Room at the Savannah Branch puts performers in closer contact with their audiences. From top: Dulcimer Guy Mike Anderson, puppeteer Mike Horner of Messner Puppets, Serengeti Steve and biologist Jonn Casey (in background) and his reptile menagerie.



Serengeti Steve (above) made sure as many people as possible at his shows got to see his creatures up close and personal. It was more than some expected.





Barn Quilts on Canvas

Have you ever driven across country and admired the quilt designs displayed on barns? Now you can paint one to display at home! All supplies provided in this adult program. Sign up at events.rhcl.org/events.
1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22, Savannah Branch.

Exhibit is a Big City Treat for ...

From Page 1

The traveling exhibit was produced by The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum and the St. Louis Public Library and is made possible by a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Friends of the Rolling Hills Library provided the funds to bring the exhibit to St. Joseph.

It's the third large-scale children's exhibit the library has brought to town in three years in a continued effort to provide a big-city experience that families can enjoy for free.

"We know of moms and grandmas who bring their kids to these exhibits multiple times because they find something different every time," said Library Director Michelle Mears. "With these exhibits, you can come as many times as you want in the 14 weeks they're here because it's free. It's not like going to Kansas City and seeing something only once because it costs too much to do."

Not just for children

Fairy tales are playful stories featuring mythical and royal characters from long ago. They usually have happy endings and can include a moral lesson for children where good conquers evil.

But they didn't start out that way, according to Missouri Western English professor Dr. Mike Cadden. Fairy tales developed from folktales, which really are stories about people, relationships and life's issues.

"There's nothing inherently childish about Beauty and the Beast and Cinderella, but we make them that," Cadden said. "You think you've grown out of them, but when you go back to them, there are simple



Children can create colorful shoes in The Shoemaker and the Elves section of the *Once Upon a Time* exhibit. A young visitor (below) tries out the monkey king's throne in the Anansi and the Talking Melon section.



truths in them about life. We just think the simplicity is for children."

Fairy tales continue to be reworked into books and movies for youths and adults today, with a whole genre that retells the stories from other characters' points of view.

Originally, fairy tales were stories to prepare children for the world and had their share of violence and brutal endings, Cadden said.

"When the (Brothers) Grimms published their first two volumes for kids, they yielded to pressure in subsequent volumes to change some things," he said. "In Hansel and Gretel and Snow White, they changed the mothers to step-mothers who were evil because people couldn't tolerate mothers doing those things to their children."

This fall, Cadden is teaching Approaches to Literature, an introductory literature class for non-literature majors. His students will study

Continued on Page 9



Fairy Tale Crafts

Visit the Once Upon a Time exhibit in the Upper Story, then bring the kids downstairs to make fairy tale-related crafts in the Community Room. All materials provided. Most appropriate for school-age children. **2-4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18, Belt Branch.**

... Children and Adults

From Page 8

Cinderella, Red Riding Hood and Beauty and the Beast and how they have been adapted through time and used today.

"I try to get them to divorce themselves from the idea that they are only children's stories," he said.

Familiar and some not-so-familiar tales

Some of the stories, or variations of them, that Cadden will be teaching are among the seven tales in Once Upon a Time. Here's what visitors can expect in the exhibit:

- **Anansi and the Talking Melon** – In the jungle world of Anansi, a mischievous spider from African folktales, visitors will cross a wooden bridge, sit on the monkey king's throne and play interactive games to see how Anansi tricks his friends.

- **Beauty and the Beast** – This French tale is one of literature's oldest tales. Visitors will enter the Beast's opulent palace, where they can play a harpsichord, look in Beauty's dressing table and try on costumes.

- **Jack and the Beanstalk** – This is an English story about a small boy who outwits a giant. Just like Jack, visitors will climb a beanstalk into the giant's oversized house, play a magical harp and discover a hen that lays golden eggs.

- **Cinderella** – This story has both Chinese and French roots and is the



A sleepy ogre watches over his gold coins which this young guy is coming out of hiding to try to steal in the Jack and the Beanstalk display.

classic rags-to-riches tale. Youths can ride in a pumpkin coach, try on a glass slipper and hear the clock bells ring at the stroke of midnight.

- **Thumbelina** – Wishes do come true in the Danish tale about a tiny girl who uses her mind instead of muscle to make her way in the big world. Guests will become pixie sized as they crawl through the moles' tunnel and search for the fairy's secret hiding spaces.

- **The Shoemaker and the Elves** – This German tale from the Brothers Grimm teaches that it's better to give than to receive. Visitors will work at a cobbler's bench to make some fancy footwear of their own.

- **Lon Po Po** – This 1,000-year-old Chinese tale is an early version of Little Red Riding Hood. Visitors will look through a picture window and make the wolf pop up from under bed covers, touch the wolf's bushy tail and use a rope to hoist him into a tree.

Halloween Events

Crafts, scary make-up program, trick-or-treating await youths in October

It's the spooky time of year and the library has its share of Halloween events for youths and families.

- **Kids Draw: Monsters** – Kids can learn how to draw cute monsters using basic shapes and techniques. All materials provided. Sign up at events.rhcl.org/events.

4:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 14, Belt Branch.

- **Pumpkin Patch Crafts for Kids** – Make bean bag people, scarecrows and creepy creatures. Best for school-age children, but preschoolers are welcome with adult assistance. Sign up at events.rhcl.org/events.

4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15, Savannah Branch.

- **Halloween Make-Up Tutorial** – Actor, director and make-up expert Patrick Hall will teach teens how to transform faces with scars, aging, injuries or beautiful effects.

10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, Belt Branch.

- **Uncle Fester's Costume Closet** – Our annual giveaway of free Halloween costumes to kids in need provides gently used costumes, masks and other items. One costume per child. All items have been donated, and donations will be accepted until the day of the event.

2-5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, Belt Branch.

- **Boofest Halloween Party** – Kids can trick-or-treat through the library, play games, make crafts and win prizes. Free hot dog lunch for the first 200 kids provided by the Kiwanis Club.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, Belt Branch.

- **Batty Facts** – Department of Conservation naturalist Shelby Smith will read a bat story and share interesting facts about these not-so-scary creatures of the night.

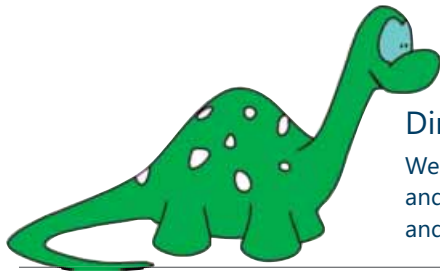
4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, Belt Branch.

- **Glove Monsters** – A cute craft to make and fun to play with! All materials are provided. Sign up in advance at events.rhcl.org/events.

4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, Belt Branch.

- **Trick or Treat at the Library** – Stop here for activities and treats while you're out on the trick-or-treat trail.

3:30-7:45 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, Savannah Branch.



Dinovember!

We're celebrating those creatures from the past in November with several events for kids and families! Look for weekly dinosaur scavenger hunts at Savannah and a T-Rex Storytime and T-Party at the Belt among others! All can be found at events.rhcl.org/events.

Even Cactuses Can Flower

Changes upset the structured life of a prickly protagonist in charming new novel

Thank goodness for audiobooks with narrators with British accents! "The Cactus" by author Sarah Haywood was a great listen on audiobook through the library's RB Digital platform.

Book Review

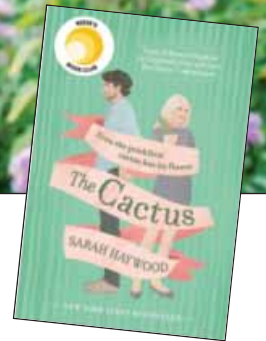
Susan Green is an unconventional character with very strident rules about life (hers and everyone else's). She has a perfectly ordered life with few close personal attachments and a job that suits her passion for order and logic. She has an "interpersonal arrangement" with formally scheduled liaisons with Richard, a similarly organized and methodical businessman whom she has been "seeing" for years until things go slightly amiss. Susan also has a stunning collection of cacti that she cares for lovingly. "The Cactus" is a great metaphor for her prickly personality.

But Susan's perfectly ordered life is rocked by the death of her mother and an unexpected will that specifies her lazy brother Edward, whom she doesn't get along with and who calls her Suze, can inhabit their mother's house indefinitely.

With motherhood looming in her near future, Susan wants to sell the house and split the proceeds with Edward.



Author Sarah Haywood's first novel is a selection for Reese Witherspoon's online book club.



She sets out to prove he coerced their mother into writing the will. Edward's buddy Rob is living with him due to hard times, so Susan befriends Rob hoping he will assist her in proving Edward's hand on the will.

Self-acceptance and life changes at a mature age are the themes that dominate Haywood's first novel. The story takes a serious twist towards the end, so don't stop listening to this endearing and delightful book.

— Jennifer George,
Rolling Hills Library technical services manager

New Books on CD @ the Library

- Internment by Samira Ahmed
- Redemption by David Baldacci
- Wolf Pack by C.J. Box
- The Reckoning by John Grisham
- Chocolate Cream Pie Murder by Joanne Fluke
- The New Iberian Rules by James Lee Burke
- Queenie by Candice Carty-Williams
- Keep You Close by Karen Cleveland
- The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens
- City of Girls by Elizabeth Gilbert
- The Lost Girls of Paris by Pam Jenoff
- Cemetery Road by Greg Iles
- Finding Dorothy by Elizabeth Letts
- Window on the Bay by Debbie Macomber
- Machines Like Me by Ian McEwan
- How to Build a Girl by Caitlin Moran
- Sweet on You by Becky Wade
- The 18th Abduction by James Patterson
- Upheaval: Turning Points for Nations in Crisis by Jared Diamond
- The Lady from the Black Lagoon by Mallory O'Meara
- My Squirrel Days by Ellie Kemper
- West Like Lightning by Jim DeFelice
- Son of a Midnight Land by Atz Kilcher
- Becoming by Michelle Obama



Apple Turkey Centerpieces

Thanksgiving just wouldn't be the same without a colorful table decoration. All ages and families can make these edible and eye-catching crafts. All materials provided. Sign up at events.rhcl.org/events. 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26, Savannah Branch

Cake Pan-oply

Bakers have much to choose from in library's newest materials addition

Fishing poles, ukuleles, folding tables and wi-fi hotspots are some of the less traditional items that members can check out from the library. Add cake pans to that list now.

More than 25 different pans are available to use for up to three weeks, just like most other library materials. The majority of the pans were donated by library member Sandy Mastrangelo, who used to have a small cake decorating business but is now retired.

The idea to give the pans to the library came from a friend who saw a similar collection at an Iowa library. She took a picture and sent it to Mastrangelo.

"I hope this generates some new life for the pans," she said. "To me, it's a dying profession because now everyone wants cupcakes."

The pans include animals, a flower, and Disney, Sesame Street and cartoon characters. They can be viewed online at rhcl.org. Look for the Library Catalog tab under the Technology drop-down menu. Then choose Booklists under the What's Hot listing of items. The pans are stored at the Belt Branch but are available to all library members.

Cookie Monster and Donald Duck are two of the the cake pans available.



Mastrangelo will discuss how to decorate cakes in a program at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22, at the Belt Branch.

The pans are another out-of-the-ordinary item to provide patrons who might need something for a limited time.

"If you were going to have a garage sale, you probably wouldn't go out and by a 6-foot-long table and use it just once. No, you can check those out from us," said Library Director Michelle Mears. "And how many Fred Flintstone cakes will you make in your life? Probably just one."

The library also checks out technology items. Wi-fi hotspots provide internet connections for people who don't have internet service at home or when they travel. For their preschoolers, families can check out computer tablets loaded with educational games.

Adults who want to obtain a high school diploma can check out kits that contain a laptop computer and mobile wi-fi hotspot for extended checkout times. The kits work in conjunction with the MOlearns.com program from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and are free to check out. For more information, visit rhcl.org/high-school.

Book clubs turning the pages on a new year

The Belt Branch adult book clubs will kick off another year of reading and discussions in September.

Cover to Cover meets at noon and Novel Ideas at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesdays of a nine-month cycle. Light refreshments are served during the meetings, and the groups sometimes view television or film versions of books they are reading.

On Sept. 18, Cover to Cover will discuss author Liane Moriarty's novel **Big Little Lies**, a tale of three

women at different crossroads in their lives, but who end up in the same shocking place. The book has been adapted into an HBO television series. Novel Ideas will take up **The Gown** by Jennifer Robson, a novel about two women who work on Princess Elizabeth's wedding gown in post-World War II London.

Cover to Cover will discuss the novel **The Life We Bury** and Novel Ideas will take up the novel **Deceptive Homecoming** on Oct. 16.

Books Revisited
The Friends of the Library Bookstore

Offering used books, music and more! 1908 N. Belt 205-7125
Hours: 9-6 Monday-Friday, 9-5 Saturday & 1-4 Sunday

Falling for Apples

Crisp apples will stand up the best in this cake with a topping that uses pecans

When the weather starts to cool down, Barb automatically thinks of apples in her cakes. We are all so blessed that she does.

Cream Cheese Apple Cake

Cake recipe

3 large apples peeled, cored and chopped (use a crisp apple like a Cameo or Gala)

1 tablespoon lemon juice to toss chopped apples with

1³/₄ cup white sugar

½ cup butter, room temperature

1 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened

2 large eggs

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

1½ cups flour

2 teaspoons baking powder

¼ teaspoon salt

Topping recipe

1/3 cup light brown sugar

3 teaspoons cinnamon

½ cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place baking rack in the middle of the oven and grease a 13x9-inch baking pan with cooking spray. Peel, core and chop apples and toss with lemon juice. Set aside.

In a large bowl, beat the sugar, butter, cream cheese and vanilla until smooth with an electric mixer. Add eggs and beat until combined and creamy.

Stir together the flour, salt and baking powder in a small bowl. Add the flour mixture to the creamed mixture, beating with mixer until just combined. Fold the chopped apples into the batter and then pour batter into pan, leveling out the batter as needed.

In a small bowl, combine the brown sugar, cinnamon and pecans then sprinkle mixture over the batter in pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes or until cake tests done with a toothpick.



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