

Yuletide Events

Santa to make several visits to the library / Page 3

Help for Adult Students

Library offering computers to help study for HiSET / Page 9

Older Rocker

Age has burnished Paul McCartney's writing on new album / Page 10

Winter Wanderings

Go on a literary escapade with the Adult Winter Reading Program

For armchair travelers, reading takes them to new places, lets them meet new people and experience new cultures without leaving home. And in winter, reading is a great way to ride out the cold weather.

"Passport to Reading" is the theme of the 2019 Adult Winter Reading Program, which kicks off Monday, Jan. 7, and concludes Friday,

March 1. Now in its 12th edition, the annual promotion has added a variety of travel-related programs and is expecting to serve more people than ever.

"Last year we set a goal of 170 people completing the program after taking a year off and rebooting," said Belt Branch manager Kelly Morris. (The program wasn't offered in 2017 because the Savannah Branch was closed in January and for part of February for remodeling.) "One hundred and seventy (completions) would be more than we had ever had before, and we exceeded that goal. I think there's still more room for growth."

More and more adults are taking part in the Summer Reading Program now that it is open to all ages, and that could be fueling the interest in adults reading for prizes in the winter, she said.

This year, participants will need to read four books from themes suggested on their reading log-bingo cards. They are encouraged to try for a bingo, but they can read any four books to match the themes.

Reading categories include such topics as "Island Getaway," "Road Trips," "Hot Locations," "Imaginary Places," "Foreign Author" and "Missouri Author." The reading can be either fiction or nonfiction and be in traditional, audio or electronic form.

The first 500 people who sign up will receive reading

Please turn to Page 11



Pass the Word

Word-of-mouth is the best advertising we can get

Public libraries are like a business, but also not like a business. We have customers. We have products that we put on display. We provide services. We teach classes. But we don't charge people for these things at the point of contact. We don't have to show a profit.

Marketing our "business" is hard work. We advertise in traditional places, like newspapers and television. We make flyers and bookmarks to promote the library. We also do online advertising and use social media.

In some ways, it feels like a constant uphill battle. Our greatest "fans" know all about us, but how do we let everyone else know about the great things we offer for FREE? Every day, people walk into our locations and say, "I didn't know you had all this available." No matter how much advertising we do, it seems there are always some we are missing. We worry the ones who don't know about us are the ones who need us the most.

In a way, every single one of you are owners of this business. Whether you rent or own a home or just visit and spend money in our district, you are paying relatively small amounts that eventually turn into the library's income. The library creates an operating budget based on this income to provide the best possible library service to all of our users. And we do ask for your feedback periodically; we have a library survey available from now until the end of December on our web site.

So, how do we get the word out to everyone that the library is a great place to visit? That we have materials to borrow for free? That you can download books, movies, and music to your mobile devices without having to go to the library at all? That we have traveling exhibits for children to encourage play and learning? That we received a great donation of cake pans that will soon be available for checkout as well? The list goes on and on.

We need your help to get the word out about how great the library is and all the great stuff we have for free. Personal and passionate word-of-mouth recommendations are so much more effective than regular advertising. So, please, tell a friend or

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

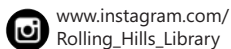
Other ways to reach and follow us

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.



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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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.



Shop St. Joseph Holiday Program

Books Revisited is taking part in the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce annual effort to promote local Christmas shopping. Customers who purchase items at the store through Dec. 17 will receive tickets for the \$10,000 prize drawing on Dec. 20. The winner will be announced in local media. Customers also will be entered into a secondary drawing for a \$30 gift certificate from the store.

Holiday Happenings

December will be a busy month, including 4 chances for kids to meet Santa

Like a lot of stores and businesses, the library began celebrating Christmas before Thanksgiving with a Mom's Morning Out program on Nov. 17. December brings the bulk of our holiday events, with the largest one being our first.

Breakfast with Santa -

Families can drop in for a morning meal, crafts, stories by Mrs. Santa Claus and meeting Santa himself. Breakfast will be doughnuts, yogurt, fruit, milk and juice. Kids also will receive a coupon for a free book at Books Revisited. Food and craft supplies are guaranteed for the first 300 people. **9-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, Belt Branch.**

Make a Holiday News-

letter- For traditionalists who like to mail out Christmas cards, you can add a holiday newsletter this year after taking our class on how to use Microsoft Publisher. Basic computer skills are required. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, Savannah Branch, and 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, Belt Branch.**

Family Ornaments Painting Classes - Youths and adults can create a fun painting that shows a Christmas ornament for everyone in your family. Free. All materials provided. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **All-ages classes @ 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, and Tuesday, Dec. 11. Adults-only class @ 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5. All at Belt Branch.**

Holiday Murder Mystery Event - All the usual Christmas suspects and a few others are suspects in a dastardly death at the North Pole. Participants will create the personas of each cast member while trying to solve – *or sidestep* – the crime. Light refreshments will be served. Seating is limited, so sign up in advance at



"Are you sure you know the way to my house?" this tyke appeared to be wondering at last year's Breakfast With Santa at the Belt Branch.

rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **5:45 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, Belt Branch.**

Storytime With Santa -

Preschool-aged children will hear Christmas stories, sing songs, do crafts AND visit with the jolly ol' elf himself. Be sure to bring your cameras, parents and grandparents. You won't want to miss this opportunity. **6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, and 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, Savannah Branch. 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, Belt Branch.**

Christmas Sing-Alongs -

Make new friends while singing Christmas carols led by some of our musically talented library staff members in two programs on **Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Belt Branch. Classy Seniors at 10 a.m. and all ages at 4:30 p.m.**

Holiday Label Making - If you're sending out holiday cards

this year, add some decorative return address labels you've learned how to make by using Microsoft Word. (And don't forget the holiday newsletters you learned how to make.) Basic computer skills required. Sign up at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, Library Administrative Office, 1912 N. Belt.**

Christmas Herbal Smudge Sticks - Carrie Watkins will show adults how to use wintery herbs at home and how to make smudge sticks to add fragrance to their holidays. Sign up at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, Savannah Branch.**

Gingerbread Cookie Decorating - Just in time for the holidays, kids can drop in 4-5 p.m. to decorate gingerbread people! Adults have their own session at 7 p.m. but must sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. Free. All supplies provided. **Wednesday, Dec. 19, Belt Branch.**



Fact or Fiction? Identifying Good Sources of Information

Aliens have invaded the library! Or have they? How do you tell reliable information from internet click bait? In this class on information literacy we'll learn how to tell what information is and isn't trustworthy. Basic computer skills required. 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14, Savannah Branch. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, AND 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22, Belt Branch

Monkeying Around

Curious George continues to bring children, families to exhibit at Belt Branch

A very curious monkey has one month left on his stay in the Belt Branch's Upper Story, which is plenty of time for kids and their families to take in the free traveling exhibit one last time. Or multiple times depending on how much they enjoy the activities there.

Curious George™: Let's Get Curious is open through Saturday, Jan. 5. After that, the exhibit from the Minnesota Children's Museum is off to its next stop on its national tour. The interactive display of characters and scenes from the children's book and television show opened Sept. 21.

"We brought the exhibit, with the help of the Friends of the Library, to St. Joseph so kids and families could have a fun and educational experience like what is usually found in children's museums in larger cities," library Director Michelle Mears said. "It's important to their educational development that children have early positive experiences with literacy. We think this exhibit and others we want to bring to the library provide that type of experience."

The library has been bringing national touring exhibits to Belt Branch for several years, and the Curious George exhibit is the second one designed for early literacy development. The Amazing Castle™ attracted 5,000 children and adult visitors for its three-month stay in 2017. By mid November, more than 3,200 had come to see Curious George.

Two special events for the exhibit remain in December:

- A Curious George Storytime featuring books and crafts is planned for 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, in the Belt Story House.
- While kids are out of school for Christmas break, they can take part in a scavenger hunt at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, in the Belt stacks.

Curious George television series merchandise © Universal Studios. Curious George and related characters, created by Margaret and H.A. Rey, are copyrighted and trademarked by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Co. and used under license. Licensed by Universal Studios Licensing LLLP. All rights reserved.



School groups (including this one from Riverside School District), grandparents with their grandchildren, moms having group playdates and families coming upstairs after their library visits have all found their way to the Curious George: Let's Get Curious exhibit.



Maya Angelou



African American Read-In

Celebrate Black History Month with local residents reading from historical works, poetry, children's literature and contemporary pieces.

This is a drop-in program that features a meal from Bandana's Barbecue. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12, Belt Upper Story

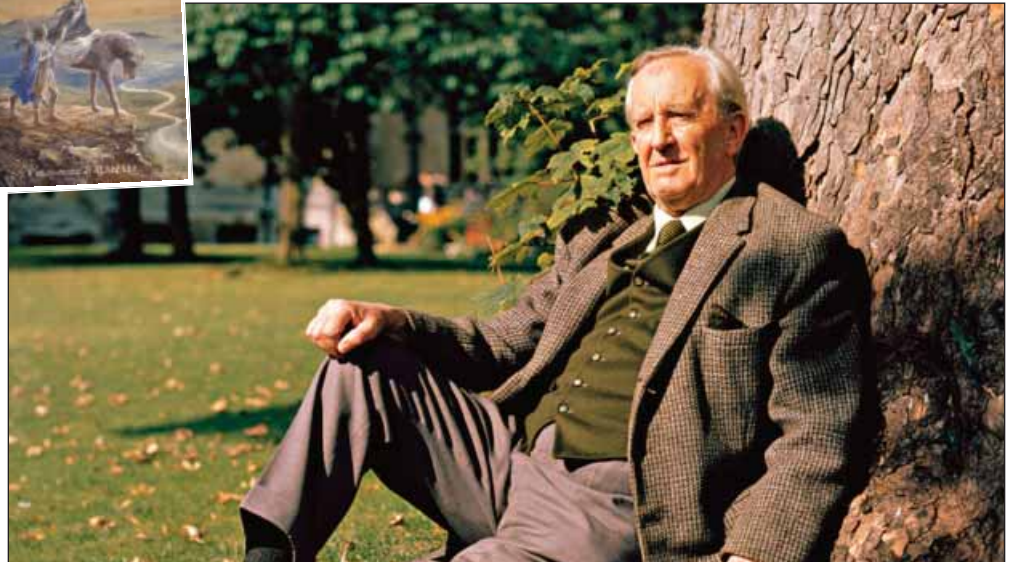
Fantasy and Facts

Tolkien is as much a character in this book as are his lovestruck human and elf

When I was a kid, one of my favorite authors was J.R.R. Tolkien. I devoured **The Hobbit** and fell in love with the details and depth Tolkien put into the world of Middle Earth in the Lord of the Rings trilogy. I watched the cartoon versions of his books in the late 1970s and early 1980s and still find myself humming the song “Frodo of the Nine Fingers” from **The Return of the King**, even if it



Throughout his career, J.R.R. Tolkien (below) wrote several versions of the love story between the human Beren and the elf Lúthien. His son, Christopher Tolkien, recreates the tale in a separate book and adds much insight into how his father worked.



wasn't exactly a fan favorite.

Book Review

After I finished the trilogy, I heard that Tolkien had written more about his epic fantasy world and I went looking for it. However, the only other book my library had at the time was **The Silmarillion** and, to be honest, the book was a little too dry for my tastes then. Tolkien had mapped his world out to such a degree that it just seemed too much to fit in one book.

Flash forward a few years. Tolkien's son, Christopher Tolkien, has spent a large part of his life organizing and recreating the extraordinary amounts of notes, stories and other writings his father created about Middle Earth on several other books. And while the history of Middle Earth is detailed all the way back to before the world began, there are a few great tales that Tolkien went back to over and over again, often re-writing them either in part or in whole.

One of these tales is the story of Beren and Lúthien, which readers first learned of from Aragorn in **The Fellowship of the Rings**. The story of Luthien who fell in love with Beren, a human – at least in most versions of the story – was one of the great tragic love stories of Middle Earth's Elder Days. Throw in a magical talking dog and a

quest to win the lady's hand set by her father and you have the makings of a classic love story.

Throughout his book **Beren and Lúthien**, Christopher Tolkien shares some of the insights and history of when and how his dad created this story, making it almost as much a work of nonfiction as it is fiction. Readers are given a glimpse into the elder Tolkien's writing process and how Middle Earth evolved as we read different versions of the story written during different parts of Tolkien's life. Tolkien sometimes wrote in prose and sometimes used a style of epic poetry. Taken all together, it provides a rich tale of love and loss that is timeless.

Tolkien fans who want to learn more about Middle Earth will enjoy this book. Writers interested in understanding the work he put into his writing also will find something of interest. But if you're looking for a fantasy book with a simple beginning, middle and end, **Beren and Lúthien** is probably not what you are looking for.

– Bridgid Reeves, technical services librarian



More than 400 children (not to count the parents and other family members who came with them) turned out Oct. 27 for Boofest at the Belt Branch. Kids took part in trick-or-treating through the stacks, playing games and making crafts. The Kiwanis Club provided a free hot dog lunch to the first 200 kids. It was the largest Boofest ever!



**Library
Scenes**
August - October
2018



The Belt Community Room was decorated with colorful papeles picados on Oct. 4 for Fiesta Biblioteca, which celebrated National Hispanic Heritage Month. Families could enjoy a taco dinner provided by Sotelo Mexican Restaurant, play games, do crafts, listen to a bilingual Storytime and take turns trying to break a pinata.



St. Joseph Mustangs mascot Rally checks on two boys Oct. 11 at a pizza party to introduce homeschool students to the 2018-19 Mustangs Reading Program.



LEFT: Joan Davies shows off the serendipity scarf she created in a knitting class Sept. 25 at the Savannah Branch. **BELOW:** Library staff member Connie Rehm describes the types of dishes available to eat at the program “What in the World Do You Do With All Those Zucchini?” on Aug. 9 at the Savannah Branch. **BELOW LEFT:** Sherri Wittler folds maple leaves into a rose at the Fall Flora Fun program Oct. 9 at Savannah.



Tonya Jagodzinski (right) and Ivie Schuyler enjoy warm drinks during the last week of September at the pop-up coffee shop library staff members created at the Savannah Branch.



The library was one of the many businesses that took part Oct. 11 in the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce’s My Success! event for area high school students. The event allows students to visit with regional employers about careers. Here, Technical Services manager Jennifer George helps a student play the ukulele.



New members encouraged

These are some of the books to be taken up in December, January and February by the Belt Branch's two reading groups, Novel Ideas and Cover to Cover. The groups meet on the third Wednesdays of most months. Search the monthly events calendars at www.rhcl.org for a schedule.

Book Review

Women's friendship must face prejudice in era following WWII

Kitty Zeldis is a new author to me, and **Not Our Kind** is her first novel. Her writing is a pleasure to read, and she'll be one to read in the future.

The story takes place in Brooklyn following World War II, a time when people are openly prejudiced against Jews. Eleanor Moskowitz is on her way to a job interview when a car wreck forces Patricia Bel-



lamy into her life. Patricia feels responsible and takes Eleanor home to make sure she is fine.

Eleanor is a teacher, and Patricia has a 13-year-old daughter who must be home schooled. Margeaux is a difficult child and has been through several tutors, but she takes a liking to Eleanor. What seems to be a wonderful opportunity turns into a terrible situation when Patricia's husband finds out Eleanor is Jewish. He is very hostile to Jews, so the couple change Eleanor's last name so their friends won't know she's Jewish.

Margeaux blossoms under Eleanor's teaching, and the family includes Eleanor in their vacations to their summer home. Another family member joins them there and their lives take a different turn.

Zeldis does an excellent job of describing the class division and religious animosity of this era. I enjoyed this book and highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys historical fiction.

— Cindy Keiber
Outreach assistant

Get Your Craft On

A good way to spend the coming cold months is to stay inside and put your creativity to work. The library offers a variety of craft classes, and here are some of the highlights:

Knit for Your Pet – Just in time for the holidays, you can make easy gifts for your pets. Create a Christmas mouse for your cat to chase, a collar for your dog or a bird bell chime. Materials list available when you sign up at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, Savannah Branch.**

Build a Candy Ski Lodge or Cozy Cabin – Kids will build with candy, cookies, crackers and other ingredients. They'll also make hot cocoa from scratch! **2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, Savannah Branch.**

Curious About Building – Kids inspired by "Iggy Peck, Architect" can build their own unique structures from recyclable materials. For ages 6 and older. Younger children will need adult supervision. All materials provided. **4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, and 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, Belt Branch.**

Snowman Art – Kids can come to the library after school to paint and create snowman art using paints, found objects, markers and more. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **3:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, Savannah Branch.**

Intro to Art Journaling – If you're looking for a creative outlet, come to the library to learn the finer points of creating an art journal. Participants must furnish their own journal and are asked to bring scrapbooking supplies. **6 p.m. Thursday, Jan 10, and 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14,**

Savannah Branch.

Contemporary Rug Hooking –

This is not your grandma's rug hooking. You'll make a heart or valentine wall hanging, pillow or mat using a variety of materials in this three-week class. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events.

10 a.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 15, 22, 29, Savannah Branch.

Build a Snowman Painting Class

– Kids and families can try out acrylic paints when they create a snowman painting. Try such finishing touches as adding puff paint, sparkles, buttons and more. For ages 4 and older, with ages 4-7 needing adult supervision. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, Savannah Branch.**

Learn to Knit Cables –

Cabled pillow covers are very hip now, so come make this handy and colorful home accessory in these two-part classes. You'll learn how to do a simple knitted cable and other stitches to complete the design. For experienced knitters who know how to knit, purl, increase, decrease and yarn over. A materials list is available when you sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. Questions? Call Sandra Keiffer at 324-4569. **6 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 7 and 21, or 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 12 and 26, Savannah Branch.**

Sewing Make and Take –

Cuddle up with a good book in your new, homemade slippers made using the library's sewing machines. All supplies provided, but you can bring your own fabric. No experience necessary. Sign up in advance at [rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/](http://rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events) events. **6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, Belt Branch.**



'Hot' Chocolate Recipes

We're kicking off National Chocolate Month one day early, so you'll have plenty of recipes to use in February. Bring your favorite chocolate dish to share with others, and if you bring the recipe to us a few days before the program, we'll include it in those we hand out at the event! **6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, Savannah Branch**

Back-to-School Aid

New library program to provide adults with tech help needed for taking the HiSET

For people who did not finish high school with their peers, going back to school can be challenging. Whether it's work schedules or family obligations, finding time to study and prepare for the high school equivalency test (HiSET) can be difficult.

Library Director Michelle Mears hopes a new library effort will make that a little easier, especially for people who need flexibility and technology to make it happen.

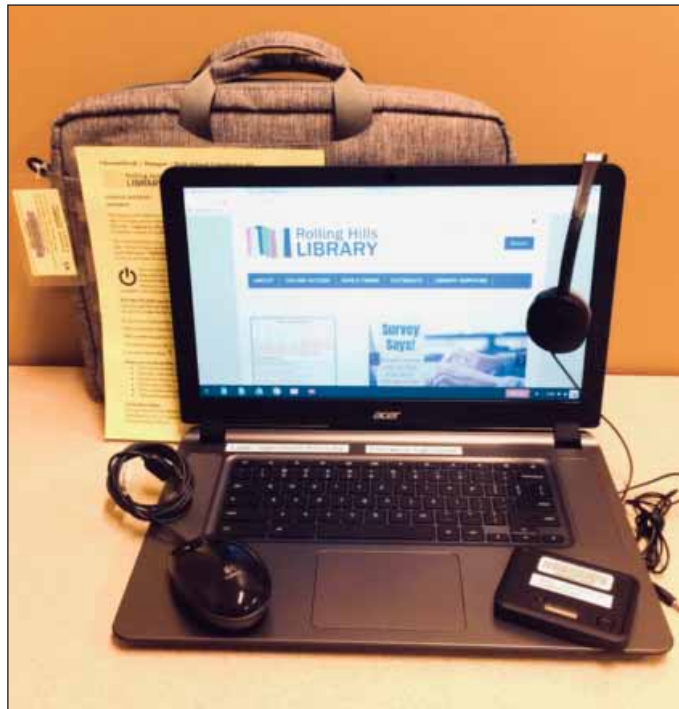
In 2014, the state of Missouri changed the high school equivalency test from the GED to the HiSET. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which administers and certifies the test, developed a free, web-based learning platform for students to use called MOlearns (www.molearns.com). The service provides individualized learning plans and online instructors to motivate and help students make progress towards their goals.

Mears wondered if there was a way for the library to get involved.

"Many students who drop out of high school can't go back to that classroom learning environment, but they don't all have a computer and internet access at home, either," she said.

To support those students, Mears has created five High School Completion Kits that can be checked out for six months, giving students longer periods of time to work toward their goal. The kits contain a Chromebook laptop, prepaid Sprint wi-fi hotspot for internet access, charging cables, headphones, mouse and laptop carrying bag.

The kits will be available to students not only in the



The new High School Completion Kits contain everything a student who does not have a computer and internet access will need to study for the high school equivalency test.

Rolling Hills district of Andrew and Buchanan counties but across the region, including those in Maryville, Plattsburg, Trenton and other towns.

To check out the kits, students must have a Rolling Hills library account in good standing and can do that by applying for a library card and showing a picture ID. They must show proof of registration with MOlearns and have taken the MOlearns placement test. They will fill out a separate library application for the kits (no money deposit is required) and meet with the library's technology librarian to learn about the equipment and answer questions. After earning their high school diploma, stu-

dents are asked to write a letter to the library telling how the kits helped them reach their goal.

Students must return the equipment to the library every six months to be inventoried, but they can check out the kits again to continue their work as long as they are making some progress. The kits can be deactivated remotely, so there is little incentive for students to check out the laptop and then quit the program.

Mears is starting the program on a small basis but is willing to add more kits if there is demand.

"Right now, we are looking for people who want to start the program," she said. "Those currently enrolled in MOlearns from our region seem to already have a computer and internet access. We're hoping to help those who want to get that high school equivalency but who don't have these resources at their disposal."

More information about MOlearns can be found at <http://www.molearns.com/FAQ>.



B-I-N-G-O!

Adults are in for a night of fun, prizes and refreshments when they play Library Bingo! Playing bingo is like riding a bike: Play it once, and you'll never forget. 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, Savannah Branch

Older and Wiser

McCartney's latest is contemplative about aging, but upbeat when it needs to be

I have had a beautiful and almost lifelong relationship with Paul McCartney. My dad loved the Beatles and had many of their albums on vinyl, so I grew up listening to them and looking at their albums. Paul was

Music Review

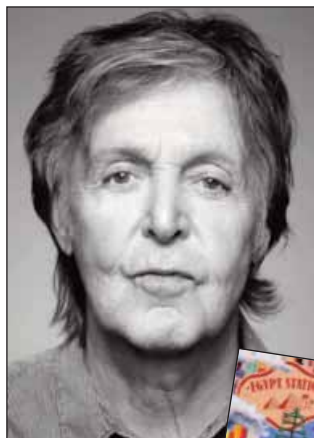
the cute one, the most accessible Beatle, the easiest to

understand and my favorite.

I've always listened to the Beatles because their songs never get old, never grow tired. I'd check in occasionally on Paul's solo career and his new songs, but the spark was never bright enough to capture my full attention.

His new album, **Egypt Station**, is sweet and lovely. It's a contemplative album, vacillating between light, upbeat lyrics and melodies and dark content that seems to demonstrate ponderances of getting older and feelings of mortality. He mixes acoustic guitar reveries like "Confidante" with intimate piano revelations like "Do It Now."

The album begins with a 41-second intro, "Opening Station," that is ambient, railway-station noise married to angelic voices. It's an ethereal opening that segues into a beautiful piano intro for "I Don't Know," all of which is quintessential McCartney. The song soon takes a dark turn, with Paul singing, "I got crows at my windows, dogs at my door/I don't think I can take anymore." Those



At age 76, Paul McCartney has released his newest album, **Egypt Station**.



lyrics seem to be Paul contemplating his age and mortality. "But you know that I'm only a man/why am I going wrong/I don't know."

The album takes on a silly feel with the track "Fuh You," which is exactly what the title means: "I just wanna ... (insert title)." Paul seems to be following today's social media-driven youth in creating slang terms to get around censors. Another silly song on the same subject, "Come on to Me,"

proclaims, "I used to get stoned/but these days I don't/Cuz I'm happy with you."

Of course, Paul being Paul, there's a political burner on the album. "Despite Repeated Warnings" is his protest song that starts with a simple piano melody and

after about two-and-a-half minutes adds a techno beat to thump out "How can we stop him/Grab the keys and lock him up." The last lines state, "It's the will of the people," his reminder for people to band together for what they believe.

One of my favorite songs is "Hand in Hand," which has a piano and flute solo and sounds like classic Paul. The most reflective and hopeful song is "Dominoes," which includes a fantastic little guitar solo and ends with the lyrics "In time we'll know/It's all a show/It's been a blast."

– Jennifer George, Technical Services manager

- The Beachcomber's Companion by Anna Marlis Burgard
- Your Dad Stole My Rake and Other Family Dilemmas by Tom Papa

New Nonfiction @ the Library

- American Princess: The Love Story of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry by Leslie Sara Carroll
- My Squirrel Days by Ellie Kemper
- Twilight of the Gods: A Journey to the

- American Princess: The Love Story of Meghan Markle and

End of Classic Rock by Steven Hyden

- My Dead Parents: A Memoir by Anya Yurchyshyn
- Rough Beauty: 40 Seasons of Mountain Living by Kren Auvinen
- Perfect is Boring by Tyra Banks
- Chasing New Horizons: Inside the Epic First Mission to Pluto by Alan Stern
- The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels by Jon Meacham
- The Debatable Land: The Lost World Between Scotland and England

by Graham Robb

- Redemption: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Last 31 Hours by Joseph Rosenbloom
- Sargent's Women: Four Lives Behind the Canvas by Donna M. Lacey
- Life After Darkness: Findy Healing and Happiness After the Cleveland Kidnappings by Michelle Knight
- Forage, Harvest, Feast: A Wild-Inspired Cuisine by Marie Viljoen
- The Art of Death: Writing the Final Story by Edwidge Danticat



Talk to us. We're listening.

Periodically, we like to check in with users about how well the library is serving them and what more we could do for them. Now is one of those times. Through the end of 2018, you can take a survey either online at www.rhcl.org or using forms available at the branches. The surveys are confidential and not tied in any way to your library account.

Learn to eat healthier and how to make a calendar for 2019

The launch of a new year brings promises of a new you in the days ahead. We have four programs to help:

Calendar Creation with Canva – A new year calls for a new calendar. Learn how to make a personalized calendar using Canva online software. Sign up at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, Savannah Branch, and 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, Belt Branch**

Get Up and Move Games – Have you and the kids been sitting too much during Christmas break? Get moving with a variety of fun games emphasizing action. **10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, Belt Branch.**

New Year, New Salads – Come get some fresh ideas for healthy salads. We'll make and eat several different salads, so come hungry. Sign up at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, Belt Branch**

Cravings, Weight Loss and the Blood Sugar Roller Coaster – This Classy Seniors program features nutritional health coach Stephen Kelly of Natural Grocers sharing his expertise about making good nutritional choices. He'll also answer questions about diets, including paleo, ketogenic and others. **10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, Belt Branch**

Travel events open to all

From Page 1

logs along with a metal writing pen and a passport journal. When they turn in their logs after completing four books, they'll receive a free book or a coupon for a book at Books Revisited, be entered in the grand prize drawings and be invited to a program party in March. The first 200 people who complete also will receive a library travel bag set.

The grand prizes are \$50 Walmart gift cards for the Belt and Savannah branches and a travel gift basket valued at \$50 for bookmobile and Service to Adult Reader patrons. The grand prize drawings will be held March 4.

Special travel-themed events that are open to everyone include:

Travel Photo Albums – Trying to figure out what to do with the pictures you took on your last vacation? This program will help you create a fun photo album on the computer using Microsoft Publisher! Bring your pictures on a USB drive, phone or camera or upload them to a cloud drive. You will transfer them to a computer to create an album. Basic computer skills required. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7, at Savannah, and 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at Belt.**

Travel Smart, Travel Safe, Travel

Well – Travel advisor Wendy Eidmann of Round Tuit Travel will offer advice on how overseas travelers can prepare their trips, what to do about medical care and travel insurance and how to contact American embassies. No sign-up needed. **2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at Savannah.**

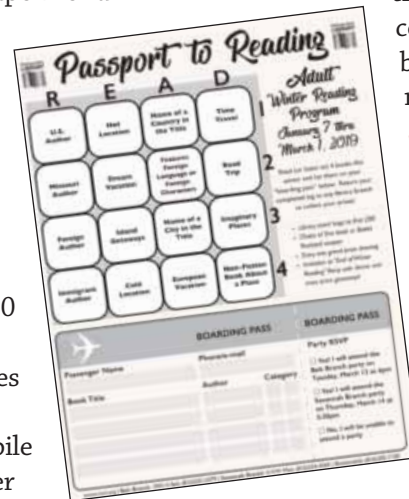
Travels with Patrick and Wendy – Travel advisor Patrick Dare and Eidmann will tell about their travel adventures, hot new destinations and offer travel tips. **2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at Belt.**

Make and Take

Sewing – Travelers can hit the road in comfort with a homemade neck pillow they've made using library sewing machines. No sewing experience needed. All supplies provided but you may bring a fabric of your choice. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at Belt.**

Travel Scrapbooks and Journals – Learn tips and tricks for making travel scrapbooks and journals and see examples of completed scrapbooks and photo books made online. You'll also decorate a journal to record your own travels. Sign up in advance at rhcl.libcal.com/calendar/events. **6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, at Belt Branch.**

The start of the New Year is a great time to renew your membership to (or join) the Friends of the Library! Do so at www.rhcl.org or at Books Revisited.



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

A Pumpkin Present

Intimidated by making a pie? Try this recipe to give your holidays a taste of pumpkin

The Cake Lady sends you her holiday greetings along with this recipe. Authors Eugene Sue and Mario Puzo would have liked this cake, because like revenge, it's best served cold.

Pumpkin Pie Poke Cake

2 cups flour
2 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
¼ teaspoon cloves
¼ teaspoon ginger
4 large eggs
1 2/3 cups sugar
1 cup oil
15-ounce can pure pumpkin

Drizzle ingredients

12-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
¼ cup pumpkin pie spice coffee creamer (found in the milk aisle)
½ teaspoon pumpkin pie spice

Frosting ingredients

½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
8 ounces cream cheese, softened
3¾ cup powdered sugar
1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
coffee creamer
2/3 cup heavy whipping cream
½ cup chopped pecans

Heat oven to 350 degrees and spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray.

For the cake: In a large bowl whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice, cloves and ginger. In the bowl of a stand mixer (or use a hand mixer) combine the eggs, sugar, oil and pumpkin until light and fluffy.

Hand mix the dry ingredients into the pumpkin mixture until just combined and no flour streaks are visible. Spread the batter into the prepared pan. Bake 25-30 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Remove the cake from the oven and immediately poke holes all over top of the cake with the end of a wooden spoon.

Mix the can of condensed milk, pumpkin pie creamer and pumpkin pie spice and pour over the top of the cake, making sure to drizzle it evenly into all of the holes.

Cover the cake pan with foil and place in fridge overnight or until chilled.

For the frosting, mix the cream cheese, pumpkin pie spice creamer and butter with an electric mixer until light and creamy. Gradually beat in the powdered sugar until smooth. In a separate bowl, beat the heavy whipping cream until stiff peaks form. Fold the whipping cream into the frosting and whip to combine until smooth and creamy. Sprinkle frosting with pecans after applying it to the cake. Refrigerate for several hours after frosting the cake.



Information about all library programs can be found at www.rhcl.org.

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