DARE TO DREAM: Kickoff event for Library’s Capital Campaign

The community is invited to learn about and share in our dream of a new library building at a kickoff event on Saturday, October 24 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. The event will be held at the future building site, near the corner of First Street and Center Street in Carthage (north of the Dollar General).

There will be a story walk and coloring pages for the kids. Food will be available for purchase from area food trucks. Entertainment will be provided by Mind and Sole Dance Company, Carthage Tang Soo Do, Celebration School of Dance, and music by Kelly Logan & students. A presentation and press conference will be held at noon. Some seating will be provided, but please bring a lawn chair.

After learning of the high cost to remodel the second floor of the current building, which would also require building a new elevator and additional stairway, the Library Board began investigating the feasibility of constructing a new building. The Library applied for a Public Library Construction Act Grant, and we were informed in August that our application was approved. In order to receive the $1,258,862.94 from the State, the local cost share of about $1.2 million must be raised by June 30, 2021.

The Trustees are daring to dream that, with the community’s support, the library will be able to reach that goal, and construct a beautiful 10,660 sq. ft. one story building, designed to be a library. Features include: a large room for programs or meetings, two study rooms, ample comfortable seating with charging stations throughout the building, a drive-up book return and pick up window, and an attractive outdoor space for activities.

The event on Oct. 24 is not in itself a fundraiser, and there is no charge to attend, but it is the kickoff for our capital fundraising campaign. For gift ranges beginning at $100, donors may choose to have a brick or paver engraved, possibly with the family members’ names or in memory of a loved one. Plans are also underway for a read-a-thon and a cash raffle. Community members can also contribute by serving on a committee, participating in fundraising events, and advocating for the new library, helping to spread the word to others.

Library Mourns Loss

Library staff member Janet Nicholas passed away unexpectedly in her home on Sept. 17. Janet grew up in Carthage, graduating from Carthage Community High School in 1960 and from Carthage College in 1964. She attended Illinois State Normal University, earning a teaching degree, and earned a Master’s Degree in Library Science from Leeds Polytechnic School of Librarianship in England.

Janet worked at the Carthage Public Library when she was in high school, and again in 1972, serving as the Library Director from July 1973-Dec. 1976. She taught Jr. High English in Warsaw and served as their Jr/Sr High School Librarian for 7 years. She was also librarian at Carl Sandburg College Carthage campus for a while.

Janet was the librarian at the Western Illinois Correctional Center in Mt. Sterling for about 13 years from April 1989-Aug. 2002. After retiring, she again worked at the Carthage Public Library, as a sub beginning in 2005 and a regular part-time staff member for the past 10 years.

Janet was involved in the community. She volunteered at the Kibbe Museum, served as an election judge, and was a member of BPC, the Carthage Woman’s Club, Friends of the Library, and PEO, and was currently an officer for at least three of the groups. She was the organist for St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, or a cat shelter of the donor’s choice.

Saturday, October 24
Library open 1:00 - 5:00 pm only.
(Closed 9:00 am - 1:00 pm for kickoff event)

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<th>Fall Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday - Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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Special Hours for Senior Citizens:
Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30—10:30 am

Hours are subject to change depending upon state health phases and guidelines.

NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS:
Closed Nov. 11 (Veterans’ Day)
Early closing 5:00 pm Nov. 25 & closed Nov. 26

CONTACTING THE LIBRARY
The best ways to contact us are to call 217-357-3232 or email us at cartlib@mtnow.net.

INTERNET ACCESS—WIFI
The Library’s WiFi Signal extends to the sidewalks and parking areas by the Library. Look for the network Library Guest and log-in using the password Library1234 (with a capital L)
PROGRAMMING

The Rubber Ducky Club is for children ages 0-5 and their parents! Read, write, sing, talk, and play with your child. The activities are simple and don’t take very long! Complete 15 and get a rubber duck, 15 more during the month to receive another rubber duck and a new book! Activity sheets are available at the Library, or download one from our website. Preschool story hour is live via Zoom on Fridays at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. If a different time works better for your family contact the library. Bags are available with materials for crafts or other activities. Theme for the first four weeks of October is “Things that Move” and the theme for Oct. 30th is Halloween! Be sure to join the “Carthage Public Library Preschool Group” on Facebook.

Elementary School Students: Monster Packets are available. Also in October, check out a book in which the main character is a different gender than you are and get a piece of candy! Teens/Tweens. October is TEENTOBER! CMS Inking Book Club is meeting Oct. 28 to discuss Some Places More Than Others by Renee Watson. Tentative plan is to meet outside on the courthouse lawn beginning at 2 or 3, with an on-line option. Check with Ms. Lewis for details.

High School students will discuss the stories in the anthology Fresh Ink via Zoom on Thurs. Oct. 29 at 2:30. Copies are available at the Library. If you only have time to read a couple of the stories that’s fine. Be sure to contact the library for the Zoom link.

State-wide Readers’ Choice Programs

There is a list of suggested books for each grade level range. Students who read the minimum number of books required by February will be eligible to vote for their favorites. The Library also awards small prizes, as well as giving a book to students who read all of the books on their list.

Grades K-3, Monarch: The books have finally arrived! We received them through a grant, and there were many delays, but now they’re ready to be checked out.

Grades 3-5, Bluestem: Third graders may participate in both Monarch and Bluestem. Although 4th graders may also participate in Rebecca Caudill, we really encourage them to participate in the Bluestem Program; as these books have a more appropriate content level and reading level. 5th grade may do RC and Bluestem.

Grades 4-8, Rebecca Caudill: Most of our RC books are currently checked out, so please ask us to place a hold so we can borrow through Interlibrary Loan. We hope to hold the Battle of the Books again this year.

High School, Abraham Lincoln and Read for a Lifetime. Besides basic prizes, if 10 HS students participate, we will have a special prize, so challenge your friends to read the books & confirm their participation.

ACTIVITIES for Adults

RECIPE SWAP! We are hosting a Recipe Swap Just in time for the holidays. It’s super simple! All you need to do is send us your favorite recipe (by mail, email, or drop it off at the library) along with your contact information. The deadline is Halloween, Oct. 31. We will make copies of all of the recipes, and send them out to all participants by Nov. 6th. Hamilton Public Library is also holding a Recipe Swap, so you will receive recipes from both.

Library’s Book Club is reading Circe by Madeline Miller. This novel features Greek gods and goddesses. It’s on the Read for a Lifetime list, so High School students are welcome to join us.

The discussion will be held on Thursday, November 19 at noon and 6:00 pm. We will meet at the library with masks and social distancing. A Zoom option will be available during the 6:00 session.

Pushing the Limits Book and Video Discussions

Monday, Nov. 16 at 6:00 pm will be our rescheduled discussion of Monuments Men by Robert Edsel that was cancelled last March. We will obtain additional copies of the book. Please let us know if you plan to attend. In the future we may merge this group with our Book Club.

2020 FOCUS Adult Reading Challenge

For October, read a book with a local connection. (Local means our county or neighboring counties). The author, subject, setting, or characters can be connected to our area. We’ve prepared a bookmark with suggested titles, but any book that meets the criteria is fine. November’s theme will be to read a book by a male Illinois author.

Congratulations to our 3rd quarter winner Sara Brodie. She received a $20 Dairy Queen card.

InterLibrary Loan Question of the Month

To what city in Illinois did we send the most items in September 2020? Enter for a chance to win your favorite candy bar.

Congratulations to last month’s winner, Glenda Putnam. She guessed that we received 205 Interlibrary Loan items for our patrons in August. The actual number was 215.

Be sure to check out the databases on our website: Ancestry, Gale Business Entrepreneurship, and Testing and Education Reference Center.