



It's tradition to ring in New Year's with family and friends because it's a belief that the first people you see will either give you good luck or bad luck. So make sure to keep friends close by and enemies very far away.

Libraries & Ideas

This article was written by Drew Brookhart and was published in the December 26th edition of the Telegram.

As I was playing with my first child, he is three months old, I started thinking about what I could do that would make life better for his generation. As I considered my son's future I was drawn to thinking about the past and how decisions made then are benefitting me now. I have benefitted from roads, water systems, public schools, universities, libraries, hospitals, the internet, and the postal system. I have benefitted from access to medicine, and the freedom to learn. I have benefitted from affordable energy, the banking system, and smart agriculture. All of the things that are making my life possible today would not exist without the investment of those generations that came before. We are lucky to be in a position to invest and build something great for the future right here in Columbus.

We have a new wellness center, a new health care facility, a new high school, and soon a new library and cultural arts center. These Quality of Life projects have attracted the support of people who believe in the transformational power of education, healthy living, technology, literature, and art. People that want to create a foundation for the future of their community. These people are our friends, neighbors, and family. All of the Quality of Life projects make Columbus a better place to live, work, and raise a family. By extension these projects make Columbus a stronger place to locate a

business and invest. The Library/Cultural Arts Center is the only Quality of Life project that will use City sales tax funds. No property tax will be used in the construction of the new facility. The City is working to make this huge improvement possible at our existing sales tax level.

I have heard from several people that they are concerned about the price of developing a new library building in downtown Columbus. As the Columbus Public Library Director I am working hard to meet the community's needs and keep them in harmony with our community's budget. I am not alone in this effort. Elected and appointed board members are all concerned about protecting the financial viability of our community now and for the future. We all live in the same town and we all want to have safety, prosperity, and progress for our families. To that end we are working together to build a lasting legacy that will be financially sustainable over the long term. Early in the New Year we will be working with the community to develop the final design of the Library/Cultural Arts Center. We will be considering materials, size, service and function. Together we will refine our plan and arrive at an accurate project price that will help us be successful.

The new Library/Cultural Arts Center will be a place where we can learn, interact, discuss ideas, hold business meetings, hear speakers, listen to live music, watch a play, experience new technology, access the internet, and gain a deeper understanding of our world. Experiences at the Library/Cultural Arts Center will help our children understand that learning is fun and that the more they learn the more they will be able to contribute to the world their children will inherit. This is a time, a place, and an opportunity to do something great.



Calendar Connection

The Columbus Public Library will close at 5 pm on Thursday, December 31st. We will be closed all day Friday, January 1st and will re-open at 10 am on Saturday, January 2nd.



Calendar Connection

Find more at www.columbusne.us/library



Now that the holidays are over and a new year is beginning, the children's programs will be going full force again! Mr. H has been busy gathering the stories and planning the crafts to keep children happy and entertained in the Children's Room. Look at what is happening during the first two weeks of January.

Story Time

10:30 a.m.-Noon & 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

January 7th-Winter, Snow & Snowmen

Story ART

10:30 a.m.-Noon & 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

January 14th- Cats

Monday Night Book Adventures

6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

January 11th- Art

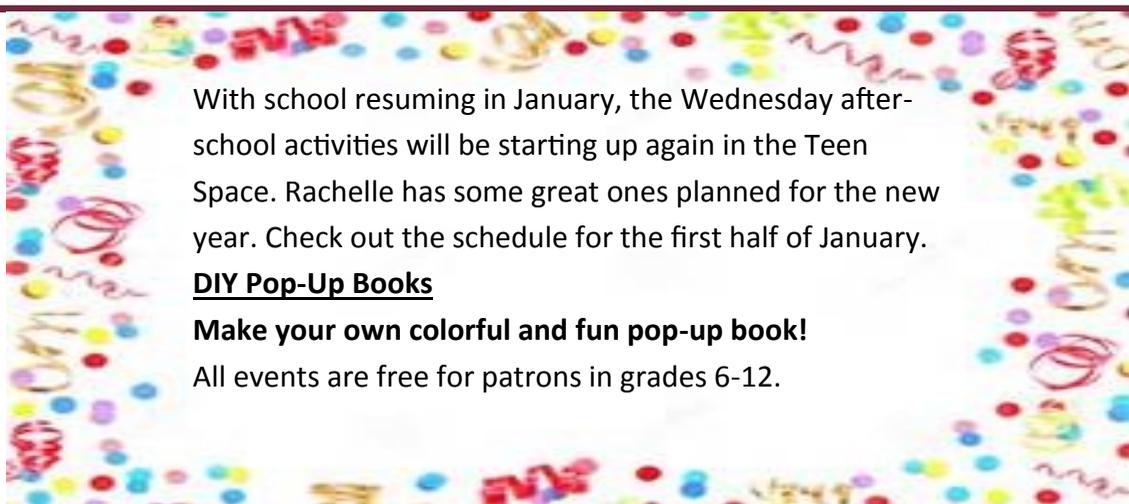
There will be stories about art, crafts, and yummy bedtime snacks!

Super Sensational Saturdays

10:00 a.m.-Noon

January 9th

This program is geared toward children in Pre-K through 3rd Grade, but all ages are welcome. There will be 3-4 different art projects set up, with one being an edible craft.



With school resuming in January, the Wednesday after-school activities will be starting up again in the Teen Space. Rachelle has some great ones planned for the new year. Check out the schedule for the first half of January.

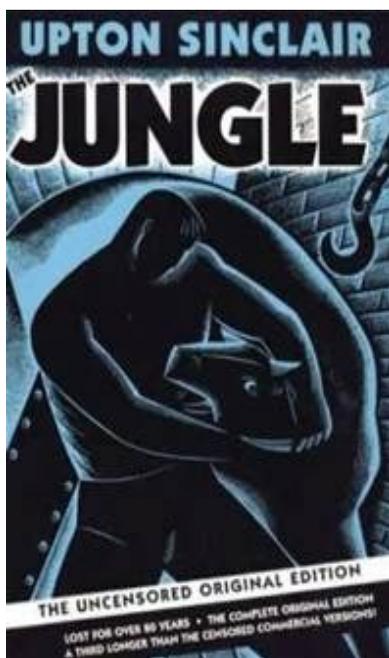
DIY Pop-Up Books

Make your own colorful and fun pop-up book!

All events are free for patrons in grades 6-12.

Your Columbus Public Library

Our monthly Tech Tuesday will be held on January 12th from 6-8 p.m. on the first floor of the East Wing. You are welcome to bring your own electronic devices or just explore the ones we have in the library for patrons to use. This is a great opportunity to ask any questions you have about our online resources, or to learn tips to better understand your own devices. Call 402-564-7116 for more information. Ask for Karen, Rachelle, or Melissa.



Our CPL Book Discussion Group selection for January is "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair.

This novel was written in 1906 to portray the harsh conditions and exploited lives of immigrants in Chicago and similar industrialized cities. The book depicts working class poverty, the lack of social supports, harsh and unpleasant living and working conditions, and a hopelessness among many workers. These elements are contrasted with the deeply rooted corruption of people in power. The story follows Jurgis Rudkus, a Lithuanian immigrant, and the hardships he faces trying to make a better life for himself and his family.

We will have our book discussion on Thursday, January 28th at 7:00 p.m.

New Releases

There have been many great books added to our catalog recently. To place a hold on any of the titles listed below, or another book, please call the library at 402-564-7116.

Iron Wolf– Dale Brown

Rogue Lawyer– John Grisham

The Gift– Wanda E. Brunstetter

Stand Down– J.A. Jance

A Heart's Home– Colleen Coble

Perfect Touch– Elizabeth Lowell

Host– Robin Cook

The Potter's Lady– Judith Miller

The Scam– Janet Evanovich

Streams of Mercy– Lauraine Snelling

A Banquet of Consequences– Elizabeth George

Code of Conduct– Brad Thor

The First Confessor– Terry Goodkind

Ties That Bind– Cindy Woodsmall

Connecting Readers & Writers

Happy Birthday to these authors:

J.D. Salinger– January 1, 1919

Jacob Grimm– January 4, 1785

Terry Brooks– January 8, 1944

Anne Rivers Siddons– January 9, 1936

Walter Mosley– January 12, 1952



We spend January 1st walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives, not looking for flaws, but for potential– Ellen Goodman