PageTurner UNITER 2019-20

Your library is growing! A funding plan has been approved for two new library branches based in Sparta and Clever. Construction begins early next year.

STORY ON PAGE 5



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WINTER 2019-2020

A publication of Christian County Library www.christiancountylibrary.org

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NIXA BRANCH

(417) 724-6100 208 N. McCroskey St., Nixa, MO 65714 Mon.–Thurs.: 8:30 AM–8 PM Fri.–Sat.: 8:30 AM–5 PM

OZARK BRANCH

(417) 581-2432 1005 N. 4th Ave., Ozark, MO 65721 Mon.–Thurs.: 8:30 AM–8 PM Fri.–Sat.: 8:30 AM–5 PM

CLEVER BRANCH

(417) 743-2277 7450 W. Veterans Blvd., Clever, MO 65631 Mon.–Thurs.: 10 AM–7 PM Fri.: 2–6PM, Sat.: 9 AM–2 PM



Christian County Library staff hosted a bittersweet farewell party on Sept. 18 for Christian County Library Deputy Director Katy Pattison. Katy is moving on to fulfill the role of Branch Manager at the Schweitzer-Brentwood Branch of the Springfield-Greene County Library District. Katy has worked in nearly every department of Christian County Library since she started out as a Collection Services Assistant in 2007. She has served an integral role in raising community support for the expansion of Christian County Library from one building in Ozark to what will soon be four full-service library branches across Christian County in Sparta, Clever, Nixa, and Ozark, MO.



Friends and family gathered at the Clever Branch in memory of Library Assitant Tina Carson on Sept. 14. Community memberes joined the Carson family (Jena, Shawn, and Ema) in honoring their wife and mother with a bench dedication ceremony. The new bench reads, "*In Memory of Tina Carson* who deeply loved her family, was devoted to her friends and community, and believed, 'the library should have a bench!'"



In August, the Library's Board of Trustees approved a funding plan for the construction of the new library branches in Sparta and Clever. Christian County Library already owns the land where the new branches will be located. Building designs are being finalized with Sapp Design Architects, an agency that has regularly worked with libraries and public schools. The library administration and Board of Trustees have the fullest confidence in this architectural firm to produce designs that will meet the needs of the Library and the Christian County community.

The exact timeline of construction projects has not been finalized yet and will depend on whether it is more cost-effective to build the two projects at the same time, or to stagger the builds one after another. Each branch is estimated to take 10–12 months to construct. If the branches are built at the same time, both are expected to be up and running by the summer of 2021. If they are built in a staggered manner, then both are expected to be open by Spring of 2022. See p. 5 for more information about expansion plans.

The prospect of having four branches across the Highway 14 corridor will mean 85% of the population of Christian County will be within five miles of a public library. The expansion of the past year and coming years would not be possible if it were not for the support from the residents of Christian County during the August 2017 tax levy renewal election. Thank you, thank you, thank you! We look forward to serving you in East and West Christian County.

GERI GODBER Executive Director



Y our library system is growing again, and I am excited to get to work preparing for two more branches to serve Christian County! You may notice that shelves at the Ozark and Nixa Branches will be thinning out a little over the next year as we designate materials to go to our new branches in Sparta and Clever. I want to assure you that this will be minimal, and we will still be adding new materials to each of our current locations throughout the year.

As our digital collections grow in popularity, we are continuously looking for ways to improve the patron experience. In an effort to better meet the needs of our patrons, we will continue our subscription with **RBdigital magazines**, but will be ending our subscription with **RBdigital audiobooks** in November 2019. By making this change, we hope to focus on growing both our Hoopla and Overdrive collections in 2020.

Thank you for your continued support of the Christian County Library District!

SARAH HAYTER COLLECTION SERVICES MANAGER



Sarah Hayter joined the Christian County Library team in April 2018, and took on the role of Director of Collection Services in July 2019. Together with her Collection Services team, she ensures your library shelves are well stocked with a diverse variety of materials including books, DVDs, audiobooks, and more.

The Collection Services team also manage our "digital collection" of eBooks, audiobooks, movies, and magazines—all accessible through digital apps such as Hoopla, Overdrive, Libby, and RBdigital. To browse our digital collection, visit christiancounty library.org/library/digital-collection/. Click "Ask a Librarian" in the top right corner of our web page for assistance getting started using these digital resource.

Your Library is Growing! A Funding Plan has Been Approved for Two New Library Branches Based in Sparta and Clever.



ne question we often hear at Christian County Library—in person at library branches, in response to our recent community survey, and when our staff is representing the library at community events—is, "When are you going to build branches in Sparta and Clever?" Christian County voters approved a tax levy renewal for the library in August 2017 to fund a library branch in Nixa, renovations to the existing branch in Ozark, and the construction of new branches in Sparta and Clever to serve the eastern and western portions of the county.

The library has accomplished half of those promises, and the Nixa Branch Library celebrated its first anniversary in May 2019. August 2019 marked one year since the completion of major renovations at the Ozark Branch Library. That year has allowed the library district to analyze the costs of operating the expanded district and create an updated strategic plan to ensure continued growth of facilities and services is thoughtful and community-driven. Christian County Library is pleased to announce that the Library Board of Trustees has now approved a funding plan for Sparta and Clever branches.

The library district already owns the land on which the Sparta and Clever branches will be constructed, and has nearly complete architectural plans for both branches. Since those plans were initially created more than ten years ago, the district's first step will be to work with Sapp Design Architects to re-visit branch designs and ensure they meet the current needs of the library and community. That process has already begun. The design review phase is expected to wrap up in early 2020, when the library will seek bids on the two construction projects.

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CHRISTIAN COUNTY, MO

The exact timeline for the construction of each branch will depend on whether bids indicate it is most cost-effective to build the two branches together, or to build them one after the other. Either way, construction is projected to begin on at least one of the branches in the spring of 2020. Each branch is estimated to take 10 to 12 months to complete. If the branches are built together, both may be up and running by the summer of 2021. If they are built sequentially, then both will likely be open by spring of 2022.

"We are so pleased to be able to offer the public a timeline for the final phase of this expansion," said library Executive Director Geri Godber. "In the meantime, we hope folks will continue to stay tuned in to our progress. We hope the community makes use of our existing branch in Clever as well as our community partner resources in the eastern and western parts of the county, like our storytimes at the the Sparta Fire Station and Billings City Library, and pick up and drop off of library materials at Sparta Town and Country Grocery and the Billings Library."

For more information, contact Christian County Library Executive Director Geri Godber at (417)724-6100. Library cards are free to all Christian County residents.



The Ozark Branch Celebrated its One-Year Anniverary Since its 2018 Rennovation with an Updated Gazebo and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

O n August 10th, 2019, the Ozark Branch Library celebrated the one-year anniversary of its first major remodel since 1985, along with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly-remodeled gazebo outside the library. The gazebo sits next to the entrance of the library's Netzer Meeting Room, and has often served as an outdoor gathering place for library patrons, programs, and community members. The remodel added power and lighting to the space, new furniture, brought the look of the gazebo in line with the updated look of the library branch, and made the entrance to the Netzer room handicap-accessible. The gazebo remodel was funded in part by a memorial donation from Anne Appleby, and Anne's family was in attendance that day.

The gazebo was originally constructed in 2000 with a gift from Genella (Kissock) Sondhi, who grew up in Ozark. When returning for a class reunion, Sondhi was looking for a way to make a lasting contribution to the community. Her friend Anne Appleby (whose mother was Christian County Library's first director, Lucile Anderson) suggested the library. Sondhi worked with the library Director at that time, Mabel Phillips, to fund a space that would be a waiting area, a place for storytimes and library programs, and a place for library staff and community members to eat and relax.

The gazebo has served as that space since, and with the recent remodel, can serve modern library users who might like to enjoy the outdoors while using or charging devices, or host events requiring lighting or electricity.

The library in Ozark, which is part of the Ozark Historic River District, has even bigger plans for its outdoor space on the west side of the library and is seeking donors to help fund that project. Those plans include a second tier for the gazebo, an outdoor amphitheater on the hillside, paved parking in the lower lot, and outdoor exhibit spaces for local history, art, or storywalks.

To find out more about how you can help fund this project or leave a lasting gift for the Christian County Library like Sondhi and Abbleby, contact Director of Development Tory Pegram at (417)724-6100, or tpegram@christiancountylibrary.org.

"Our Shared Shelf" Launches in the Ozark and Nixa Branches to Help Combat Hunger in Christian County

September is Hunger Action Month, and the Christian County Library is joining with other Christian County organizations like Least of These and the City of Nixa to combat food insecurity and hunger in Christian County by launching a new program the library calls "Our Shared Shelf." The Ozark and Nixa Branch Libraries now feature a small shelving unit stocked with healthy, library-appropriate snacks, heartier shelf-stable food, and a variety of basic hygiene items that are available for anyone with a need to take. This month the shelves are stocked with donations from library staff, but the library welcomes residents and businesses to sponsor the shelf to help keep it continually stocked.

"People traditionally think of the library as offering books and promoting literacy, but we think it's important that we see literacy as a holistic enterprise that depends on making sure our neighbors in the community have access to materials and the basic needs that allow them to thrive inside and outside of the library stacks," said library Executive Director Geri Godber. Our Shared Shelf is a small thing the library can do to combat hunger, but it may also serve to connect residents with hunger or food insecurity to Christian County organizations suited to assist with that need in a more lasting way, like Least of These.

The library recently began a very successful partnership with Least of These, Christian County's food pantry, after donating their \$500 prize money for reading more than one million minutes during the Winter Reading Challenge to Least of These in January of 2019. At the Least of These facility in Ozark, the library maintains a shelf of free books for families to read and take home while they wait to register for services, and every branch of the Christian County library is also now a location for picking up Least of These applications.



Local businesses can have a critical role in combating hunger too. Our Shared Shelf at the Nixa Branch Library was purchased with the proceeds from the first monthly fundraiser for the library at Marcos Pizza. The third Thursday of each month, Marcos will be donating 10% of the day's profits to support Youth and Family Services at the Nixa Branch. Marco's manager, Jon Schend is keenly aware of the connection between hunger, nutrition, and literacy. In addition to giving monthly donations to the library, he will regularly donate free pizza coupons for Our Shared Shelf. Schend explained that Marcos partnered with the library because he believes the responsibility of local business and local government is not just about profits or numbers, but about making the community stronger and ensuring every family and every child has the resources they need to thrive.

For more information, contact the Christian County Library at (417) 581-2432.

MISSOURI AND THE GREAT WAR

ON DISPLAY OCTOBER 16–NOVEMBER 11

AT OTC RICHWOOD VALLEY CAMPUS

Monday–Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Explore WWI History Through the Lens of Missourians.

C hristian County Library is partnering with OTC Richwood Valley Campus to bring Missouri and the Great War, a traveling World War I exhibit, to Christian County residents. Visit the student atrium of OTC Richwood Valley Campus to explore Missouri's vital role in WWI, even before the United States joined the hostilities in April 1917.

The exhibit will be on display Oct. 16 through Nov. 11 between 7:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. on Monday– Thursday and from 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Fridays. The traveling exhibit features images and artifacts from museums, libraries, archives, and private collections from across the state to tell the story of WWI through the perspective of local Missourians.

Missouri and the Great War was developed by the Missouri Humanities Council and the Springfield-Greene County Library District, with funding provided by the Missouri Humanities Council, Friends of the Springfield-Greene County Library District, and the RDW Family and Community Fund.

TECHNOLOGY COURSES

RESUME BUILDER CLASSES

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Ozark Branch Weekly on Saturdays:

Nov. 9, Nov. 16, and Nov. 23; 12:30-1:30 PM

Improve your tech knowledge to boost your resume with these quick, fun Saturday classes. Throughout the month of November we'll cover some of the most important and common skills that employers want from their applicants.

- Nov. 9: Gmail—Learn how to stay organized and efficient using Gmail, Google's email app.
- Nov. 16: Excel—Go beyond the basics and get more out of your spreadsheets.
- **Nov. 23: Typing**—Get work done faster with quicker typing skills! Start on the road to touch-typing (typing without looking) and learn about keyboard shortcuts.

INTRODUCTION TO APPLE DEVICES

Ozark Branch Tuesday, Nov. 26, 3:30–5 PM Do you have an iPhone or iPad and want to learn how to use it? We'll show you how to download and organize apps, use Siri, take advantage of built-in programs and features, change your settings and the look of your screen, make calls and Facetime with other iPhone users, and more. *Registration is required and opens Oct. 21. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

INTRODUCTION TO ANDROID DEVICES

Ozark Branch Thursday, Dec. 5, 3:30–5 PM Learn the basics of your Android phone or tablet, including managing security and privacy, downloading apps, taking photos, communicating with others, and more. *Registration is required and opens Oct. 21. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

INTRODUCTION TO WINDOWS 10

Ozark Branch Thursday, Dec. 12, 3:30–5 PM Have you upgraded to Windows 10? Learn how the operating system differs from previous versions of Windows. Bring your own laptop to follow along if you like. *Registration is required and opens Oct. 21. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

COMPUTER SKILLS I: MEET THE COMPUTER

Nixa Branch Friday, Jan. 3, 3:30–5 PM

Begin at the beginning! Discover basic computer parts and what they do. Learn how to use a mouse or trackpad, what the keyboard does, and how to improve your typing skills. Find out how digital information is stored and how portable storage devices can help you. *Registration is required and* opens Dec. 2. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.

COMPUTER SKILLS II: SOFTWARE

Nixa Branch Friday, Jan. 10, 3:30–5 PM

Learn the difference between hardware and software, how to manipulate Windows, and how to access the internet. *Registration is required and opens Dec. 2. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.*

COMPUTER SKILLS III: SETTINGS

Nixa Branch Friday, Jan. 17, 3:30–5 PM

Learn how to go into the Control Panel on your computer and discover the tasks you can perform from there. We'll discuss how to customize the appearance and behavior of your computer, including useful accessibility options. *Registration is required and opens Dec. 2. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.*

COMPUTER SKILLS IV: FILE MANAGEMENT

Nixa Branch Friday, Jan. 24, 3:30–5 PM

Learn how to organize your files so you can easily recover information on your computer. Gain the skills needed to create new folders, rename old ones, and locate files you have saved on your computer. *Registration is required and opens Dec. 2. Register online with your library card or call* (417) 724-6100.

COMPUTER SKILLS V: COPY AND PASTE Nixa Branch Friday, Jan. 31, 3:30–5 PM

Learn how to use the copy and paste functions to save information from the Internet, email, or hard drive, and how to move information around on your computer. We'll also discuss how to use keyboard shortcuts to complete tasks more quickly. *Registration is required and opens Dec. 2. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.*

JOIN THE 2020 WINTER READING CHALLENGE!

Readers of all ages are invited to join in the third annual Winter Reading Challenge hosted by Beanstack[™]. Your family can join in the fun by using the Beanstack App to log the minutes you spend reading or listening to audiobooks throughout the month of January. Get started by downloading the Beanstack Tracker App or by visiting christiancountylibrary.beanstack.org.

Our community goal is to collectively log one million minutes of reading in January. During last year's 2019 Winter Reading Challenge Christian County logged a collective 1,008,022 minutes of reading, bringing home a \$1,000 donation! The library reserved half of the funds for future children's programming, and shared the remaining \$500 with Least of These, Inc. a local Christian County food patry.

This 2020 Winter Reading Challenge will be sponsored by Penguine Random House. Over \$50,000 in free books and author visits are on the table for prizes this year! Will you help us meet our goal in 2020 and beat our 2019 record? Keep an eye on library news and social media for more information about how to participate.

#WinterRead2020

EVENTS FOR ADULTS

MONTHLY BOOK CLUBS FOR ADULTS

BOOKS & BARISTAS

Monthly on Tuesdays: Nov. 12, Dec. 10 and Jan. 14; 6–7 PM at Walkabout Coffee Shop 1860 North Commerce Drive, Nixa, MO

Are you a busy adult who'd like some time out to discuss books and drink coffee with fellow literature lovers? Then join us for our monthly book club at Walkabout Coffee Shop.



- Nov. 12: Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
 Dec.10: Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant? by Roz Chast
- Jan. 14: The Heart's Invisible Furies by John Boyne

READING BETWEEN THE WINES

Monthly on Thursdays: Nov. 21, Dec. 19, and Jan. 16 6:30–7:30 PM; at Vineyard Market in Ozark 1759 West State Highway J

Adults 21+ Join us at Vineyard Market for a glass of wine and book discussion. Participants are not obligated

to drink alcohol to attend, but the 21+ age limit is firm.



- Nov. 14: Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
 Dec. 19: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik
- Dec. 19: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman
- Jan. 16: An Absolutely Remarkable Thing by Hank Green

BROWN BAG AND BOOK CLUB

Ozark Branch Monthly on Tuesdays:

Nov. 26, Dec. 17, and Jan. 28; 1–2 PM

Join us each month to discuss recent and popular fiction and non-fiction titles. Bring your lunch if you'd like, and we'll provide drinks and dessert.



- **Nov. 26:** *Flags of Our Fathers* by James D. Bradley and Ron Powers
- Dec. 17: If you Ask Me by Betty White
- Jan. 28: Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng

WEEKLY & MONTHLY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

YOGA AT THE LIBRARY

Nixa Branch Weekly on Thursdays: Nov. 7–Jan. 30 (Except Nov.28); 6–7 PM Ozark Branch Weekly on Tuesdays: Nov. 5–Jan. 28 (except Dec. 24, and Dec. 31); 6–7 PM This gentle, restorative yoga class taught by certified instructor Debra Tucker of 417Create Art and Yoga will introduce students to the basic principles of alignment and technique while slowly strengthening the body and calming the mind. Yoga at the Nixa Branch is funded by The Nixa Community Foundation as part of the Rural Ozarks Health Initiative from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks.

ACOUSTIC JAM AT THE NIXA BRANCH

Nixa Branch Weekly on Wednesdays: Nov. 6–Jan. 29 (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1); 5:30–7:30 PM

All Ages Welcome Come to the library with family and friends to listen to local musicians play acoustic music in a laid-back, informal environment. Feel free to bring your own acoustic instrument and join the jam!

FITNESS: BEGINNING TAI CHI

Clever Branch Monthly on Mondays and Wednesdays: Nov. 6, Nov. 20, Dec. 2, Dec. 18, Jan. 6, and Jan. 22; 10:30–11:30 AM

Chuck Mercer, founder and lead instructor of Legacy Martial Art Schools, will demonstrate the basics of Tai Chi in this beginning fitness class. Tai Chi can strengthen your body, increase your coordination, and improve your mental alertness. *Registration is required. Registration opens two weeks before each session and closes the Friday before each session. Register online with your library card or call (417)* 743-2277.

YARNIES! KNITTING & CROCHETING

Clever Branch Weekly on Thursdays: Nov. 7–Jan. 30 (except Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and Jan. 16); 6–7 PM

Ages 16+ Would you like to learn to knit or crochet, or are you looking to make connections with those who share an interest in these crafts? Bring your supplies or works-in-progress to our weekly knitting and crochet group. Learn the basics with fellow crafters or demonstrate your expertise to beginners. *RSVP is requested: call (417) 743-2277.*

STRESS LESS WORKSHOP

Nixa Branch Saturdays, Nov. 9 and Jan. 11, 10–11 AM Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 10–11 AM

Self-care during the holiday season is important. Debra Tucker of 417Create Art and Yoga will demonstrate breathing techniques, stretches, and many other methods for finding calm and relieving stress. *Registration is required. Registration opens Oct. 7 for the Nov. workshop, Nov. 12 for the Dec. workshop, and Dec. 9 for the Jan. workshop. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.*

WRITING THE STORIES OF OUR LIVES

Ozark Branch Monthly on Tuesdays:

Nov. 12, Dec. 10, and Jan. 14; Noon–2 PM

Find your voice so you can begin to tell your story in writing. Discover what tools work best for you and find inspiration for the story you want to tell, no matter what it is.

CITIZEN SCIENCE: PROJECT FEEDERWATCH

Ozark Branch Weekly on Mondays and Tuesdays: Nov. 12, 2019–March 31, 2020 (except Nov. 11, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31, Jan. 20, and Feb. 17); 8:30–10:30 AM All Ages Welcome Join us each week in the Netzer room to participate in Project FeederWatch, from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Contribute to wildlife research by counting the different bird species that visit the library's bird feeders while you relax, enjoy some coffee, or play a game. Bird identification guides will be available for beginning birdwatchers. Thank you to Wild Birds Unlimited in Springfield and Family Center Farm and Home in Ozark for donating feeders and bird seed for this project.

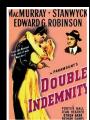
FRIDAY FILM CLUB

Nixa Branch Monthly on Fridays: Nov. 8, Dec. 13, and Jan. 10, 6–8:30 PM

Love watching and talking about movies? Come to Friday Film Club, where we'll watch a recent or classic film and discuss its writing, acting, and technical artistry. The library will provide refreshments. Pre-registration is requested but not required.







- Nov. 8: Persepolis, rated PG-13.
- Dec. 13: Doubt, rated PG-13.
- Jan. 10: Double Indemnity, not rated.

THE ART OF ACRYLICS PAINTING SERIES

Nixa Branch Monthly on Saturdays:

Nov. 16, Dec. 7, and Jan. 11, 1:30–3 PM

Learn different acrylic painting techniques each month with instruction from local artists. *Registration is required. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.*

- Nov. 16: Guided Autumn Tree Painting with Art Zone. Registration opens Oct. 19 and closes Nov. 9
- Dec. 7: Clay Gingerbread Houses & Clay Canvas Painting with Art Zone. *Registration opens Nov. 9,* and closes Nov. 30
- Jan. 11: Acrylic Pouring with Katie Gaspard. Registration opens Dec. 14, closes Jan. 4

LIBRARY DAY AT MARCO'S PIZZA

Monthly on Thursdays: Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16 11 AM–10 PM, at Marcos Pizza in Nixa 830 W. Mt. Vernon St. Suite 13

All Ages Welcome Enjoy some pizza with your family for a good cause! Every third Thursday of the month is Library Day at Marco's Pizza in Nixa. 10% of all profits from the day will go towards Youth and Family programming and services at the Christian County Library Nixa Branch.

BETWEEN THE LINES COLORING CLUB

Clever Branch Monthly on Mondays: Dec. 9, and Jan. 13 (no meeting in Nov.) 6–7 PM Clear away the Monday blues and relieve stress in this coloring club for adults. The library will provide some supplies. You are welcome to bring your own if you wish.

MORE EVENTS FOR ADULTS

LOCAL AUTHOR MEET-AND-GREET WITH CYNTHIA HERRON

Nixa Branch Saturday, Nov. 9, 11:30 AM–12:30 PM All Ages Welcome Meet meet local writer Cynthia Herron, author of *Her Hope Discovered*. Cynthia will read an excerpt from the novel, and answer audience questions. There will also be fun giveaways!

HEALTH FORUM: DIABETES AWARENESS

Clever Branch Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1:30–2:30 PM A representative from Cox Center for Health Improvement will provide information about diabetes, including prevention, signs and symptoms, and what makes it so common. *Registration is required and opens Oct. 15. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277.*

WHOLE-MINDED COMMUNITIES: HOLIDAY GRIEF WORKSHOP

Nixa Branch Wednesday, Nov. 13, 5–7 PM

The holidays can be a tough time when dealing with grief or loss. A representative of Lost and Found Grief Center in Springfield will discuss creative ways to honor loved ones and process grief during the holidays. Together we'll build Christmas memory ornaments to take home. *Registration*

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL FAIR

Ozark Branch Saturday, Nov. 2, 9 AM–1 PM

All Ages Welcome Bring your heirlooms and antiques to the Christian County Library Foundation's 4th Annual Antique Appraisal Fair featuring local appraisers specializing in silver, glassware, art, toys, furniture, jewelry, and general antiques. No firearms, please. There is a fee of \$5 per item appraised. Tickets are available at the service desk of your nearest library branch, or at the door on the day of the event. is required. Registration opens Oct. 15 and closes Nov. 12. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.

CULINARY SCHOOL: FOOD SAFETY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Ozark Branch Saturday, Nov. 16, 2–3 PM

Food-borne illnesses make 48 million Americans sick every year. Learn food safety standards and tips on preventing food-borne illness at your holiday gathering from Jon Schend, owner of Marco's Pizza in Nixa. *Registration is required and opens Oct.15. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING

Ozark Branch Saturday, Nov. 16, 10–11 AM

All Ages Welcome All Friends of the Library members or those who are interested in becoming members are invited to attend our spring meeting. In meetings, we discuss and vote on Friends of the Library business, and plan book sales and other events.

ESCAPE FROM HOGWARTS: A HARRY POTTER ESCAPE ROOM

Nixa Branch Saturday, Nov. 23, 1–7 PM

All Ages Welcome Grab your fellow wizarding colleagues and fly, apparate, or Floo your way to the library for a magical escape room experience! Solve clues and find your way out of detention with a Hogwarts professor in 30 minutes or less or you'll be trapped forever... Teams may have up to four participants. *Registration is required for each time slot. Time slots are 1 p.m.*, 1:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 4 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and 6:15 p.m.

Please provide one registration per team, and include all team member names in the registration. Registration opens Oct. 26 and closes Nov. 20. Call (417) 724-6100 to register.

CRAFTING CLASS: GIFT WRAP DESIGN

Ozark Branch Saturday, Nov. 30, 10–11:30 AM Make your presents pop! Join our crafting class to learn gift-wrapping techniques for creative gift presentation.

WHOLE-MINDED COMMUNITIES: FAMILY SUPPORT RESOURCES IN CHRISTIAN COUNTY

Nixa Branch Wednesday, Dec. 4, 5:30–7 PM

Representatives from the Christian County Family Support Division will discuss public resources for families such as Medicaid and food stamps. Learn how to qualify for and access these resources. *Registration is required and opens Nov. 4. Register online with your library card or call (417)* 724-6100.

BIZ & REC: UNTIL I GET HOME

Clever Branch Saturday, Dec. 7, 10–11 AM Ages 16+ The mission of the nonprofit organization Until I Get Home is to bridge the distance between military service members and their babies born during deployment by gifting blankets made by volunteers. Find out how the ogranization started and how you might be able to join in contributing to military families. *Registration is required. Registration opens Oct.15 and closes Dec. 4. Register online* with your library card or call (417) 743-2277.

ART EXHIBIT: MELDED ORGANIC ABSTRACTS

Ozark Branch Friday, Nov. 1–Jan. 31, during branch hours (see p. 2) Photographs by local photographer Steve Kastner will be on display at the Ozark Branch during regular library hours. Take a moment to admire them next time you're at the library.



TECHIE Q & A

Clever Branch Tuesday, Dec. 10, 6–7 PM

All Ages Welcome Do you have a burning question about a new technology or need a bit of guidance with a device you already own? Drop by our open question-andanswer forum to ask Library IT staff about almost anything tech related.

HEALTH FORUM: BLOOD DONATION

Clever Branch Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1:30–2:30 PM Donating blood takes about an hour of your time and could save multiple lives. The Community Blood Center of the Ozarks will be here to share more info on how important it is to donate blood. Come learn if donating blood is right for you. *Registration is required. Registration opens Nov. 15 and closes Dec. 6. Register online with your library card or call* (417) 743-2277.

ANYONE CAN CODE! AN HOUR OF CODE™ EVENT

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 8:30 AM–5 PM

All Ages Welcome Help us celebrate Computer Science Education Week and learn how to code! Join us in an Hour of Code[™], designed for all ages to get creative while learning the basics of coding—whether you're 5 or 95. Pick a self-lead tutorial and learn how to use code to create a quacking duck piano, an adventure game with Cartoon Network pals, or just learn the basics with "My First Python Code." Anyone with basic computer skills can attend.

NUTCRACKER BALLET FOOD DRIVE

Nixa Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 2–3 PM

All Ages Welcome Help your community and enjoy a condensed performance of The Nutcracker Ballet presented by Nixa's own MidWest Dance Revolution. Bring any food items you would like—staples like flour, sugar, and cooking oil are suggested as are soups, canned vegetables, and mixes for baked goods—but nothing homemade, please. The food donated will benefit Least of These, the only full-service food pantry in Christian County.

FINANCIAL TIPS: IDENTITY THEFT

Clever Branch Thursday, Dec. 19, 1:30–2:30 PM Do you worry about your identity being stolen? Have you procrastinated about taking the necessary steps to protect yourself? Make an early New Year's resolution to attend this informational forum with Southern Bank and learn how you can keep your identity safe. *Registration is required*. *Registration opens Nov. 15 and closes Dec. 17. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277.*

IN YOUR COMMUNITY: HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS

Clever Branch Thursday, Dec. 19, 6–7 PM In recognition of National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week, join us to learn what our county does to foster community collaboration, advocacy, prevention, and intervention in relation to homelessness. *Registration is required. Registration opens Nov. 15 and closes Dec. 16. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277.*

HEALTH FORUM: UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA

Clever Branch Wednesday, Jan. 8, 1:30–2:30 PM A representative from the Alzheimer's Association will discuss the disease stages and risk factors of Alzheimers and how it differs from dementia. They'll also discuss research and treatment currently available, and present resources the organization has to offer. *Registration is required. Registration opens Dec. 1 and closes Jan. 3. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277.*

THE LIBRARY DOES THAT! "DO Y'ALL HAVE EBOOKS?"

Clever Branch Thursday, Jan. 16, 6–7 PM

Ages 16+ Did you know that your Christian County Library card gives you access to digital resources such as Libby, Overdrive, and Hoopla? These apps allow you to check out eBooks, audiobooks, movies, and more. Join us to learn about these resources and how you can access them from home. *Registration is required. Registration opens Dec. 1 and closes Jan. 10. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277.*

CULINARY SCHOOL: IMPOSTER CAKES

Ozark Branch Saturday, Jan. 18, 2–4 PM

Not everything is as it seems. Come learn to make sweet cupcakes masquerading as savory foods. These deceptively sweet treats will leave you and your friends doing a double take—is it savory or is it sweet? *Registration is required and opens Dec. 16. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

WHOLE-MINDED COMMUNITIES: HOW TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

Nixa Branch Wednesday, Jan. 22, 5:30–7 PM Learn what steps it takes to become a foster parent in the state of Missouri, and find out some of the benefits and challenges that becoming a foster parent entails. *Registration is required and opens Dec. 21. Register online with your library card or call (417) 724-6100.*

CRAFTING CLASS: BOB ROSS PAINTING PARTY

Ozark Branch Saturday, Jan. 25, 10 AM–Noon

Watch and paint along with an episode of "The Joy of Painting with Bob Ross." Paint and canvases will be provided, so all you need to bring is an open mind and a little creativity. *Registration is required and opens Dec.* 23. Register online with your library card or by calling 417-581-2432.

FIELD TRIP: MOTHER'S BREWING COMPANY

Saturday, Jan. 18, 5:30–6:30 PM at Mother's Brewing Company 215 S Grant Ave, Springfield, MO

Adults 21+ Come take a grown-up field trip to tour Mother's Brewing Company. Meet us at the Ozark Branch at 5 p.m. and follow us to the brewery or head to their tasting room a little early to grab a beer before the tour starts at 5:30 p.m. (you can take it with you). The tour lasts about one hour and will be followed by a guided tasting of four beers. The tasting room will be open until 10 p.m. for anyone who would like to hang out after. Dress for the weather, because there is no climate control in the brewery. *Registration is required and opens Dec.* 14. Attendance is limited to two-people per household. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.





SAVE THE DATE: TRIVIA NIGHT 2020

Saturday, Feb. 1, 5:30–9 PM at St. Joseph The Worker Catholic Church 1796 State Hwy NN, Ozark, MO

All Ages Welcome The 5th Annual Trivia Night benefiting the Christian County Library Foundation will be held on February 1st. Players will compete as teams of eight, answering eight rounds of questions. Ticket holders will be treated to a catered dinner and dessert as well as the opportunity to bid on a variety of silent auction items. Cash bar will be open for players age 21+. Save the date now to join us next year! Ticket information will become available as the event date approaches. Funds raised by the Library Foundation support key Christian County Library projects.

EVENTS FOR TEENS

MONTHLY EVENTS FOR TEENS

TEEN BOOK CLUB

Grades 9–12 Join us for a discussion of this month's Young Adult book selection. Snacks will be provided. Need a copy of a book? Email youthservices@ christiancountylibrary.org to place a copy on hold.

Ozark Branch Monthly on Tuesdays:

Nov. 5, Dec. 3, and Jan. 7; 4:30-5:30 PM

- Nov. 5: Last Girl on Earth by Alexandria Blogier
- Dec. 3: XL by Scott Brown
- Jan 7: If You're Out There by Kate Loutzenhiser Nixa Branch Monthly on Thursdays:

Nov. 7, Dec. 5, and Jan. 9; 6–7 PM

- Nov. 7: The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
- Dec. 5: Last Girl on Earth by Alexandria Blogier
- Jan. 9: XL by Scott Brown

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Nixa Branch Monthly on Tuesdays: Nov. 5, Dec. 3, and Jan. 7; 4:30–5:30 PM Ozark Branch Monthly on Thursdays: Nov. 21, and Jan. 23 (No meeting in Dec.) 4:30–5:30 PM

Grades 8–12 We are dying to know what is cool in the teen world and what kinds of events you want to see

happen at the library! Join the advisory board and earn volunteer hours, play fun games, and meet other teens in your area. This will also look great on future job and college applications. Sound like a good time? Applications must be approved by Youth Services Staff before attending. apply at the library or online at christiancountylibrary.org/support/.

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS CLUB

Nixa Branch Monthly on Thursdays: Nov. 21, Dec. 19, and Jan. 16; 5:30–7 PM at the Nixa Branch

Grades 7–12 Have you ever wanted to be an elf, fight a dragon, or save a village? Join us for the role playing game Dungeons and Dragons! All experience levels are welcome.

ANIME CLUB

Ozark Branch Monthly on Tuesdays:

Nov. 26, and Jan. 28 (No meeting in Dec.) 6–7 PM at the Ozark Branch

Grades 7–12 Come watch anime and eat fun snacks! We'll vote on what show we watch at the beginning of each meeting. Participants will be entered into a drawing for a prize at the end of the program.

MORE EVENTS FOR TEENS

INTERNATIONAL GAMES WEEK TEEN GAME NIGHT

Ozark BranchTuesday, Nov. 12, 5–7:30 PMClever BranchThursday, Nov. 14, 3–5 PMNixa BranchMonday, Nov. 18, 3–6 PM

Grades 7–12 Celebrate International Game Week with an exclusive, teen-only, games day! Board games, card games, and a Nintendo Switch will be available. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Participants will be entered into a drawing to win a prize!

OREO TASTE-TEST CHALLENGE

Ozark Branch Thursday, Dec. 5, 5:30–6:30 PM

Grades 7–12 Put your taste buds to the test! We will be blind-tasting different flavors of Oreos. Can you accurately guess each flavor? Participants will be entered into a drawing for a prize at the end. *Be sure to register and secure your spot because seating is limited! Registration opens Nov.* 7 and closes Nov. 28. Register online with your library car or call (417) 581-2432.

UP-CYCLED BOOK ART

Nixa Branch Saturday, Dec. 7, 1–4 PM

Grades 7–12 Have you ever wondered what to do with those old books lying around? We have the solution: make art! Come in and create blackout poetry, paper flowers, garlands, and more. Used books will be provided. Feel free to bring your own.

COOKIES AND COCOA

Clever Branch Thursday, Dec. 12, 3:30–5:30 PM Grades 7–12 It's cold outside! Stay warm and cozy at the library. Decorate cookies and make some crazy cocoa concoctions at our hot chocolate bar.

ANYONE CAN CODE! AN HOUR OF CODE™ EVENT

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 8:30 AM–5 PM

All Ages Welcome Help us celebrate Computer Science Education Week by joining us in an Hour of Code[™], designed for all ages to get creative while learning the basics of coding—whether you're 5 or 95. Anyone with basic computer skills can attend.

POLAR EXPRESS MOVIE PARTY

Ozark Branch Tuesday, Dec. 17, 5:30–7:30 PM Grades 7–12 All aboard the *Polar Express*! Come along on a magical journey and enjoy snacks, drinks, and a hot cocoa bar. Participants will be entered into a drawing for a prize at the end of the program. *Be sure to register because seating is limited. Registration opens Nov.* 19 and closes Dec. 12. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.

NEW YEAR, NEW BUTTONS!

Ozark Branch Monday, Jan. 6, 5:30–7 PM Grades 7–12 Need some new customized buttons for your backpack to start the new year off right? Join us for an evening of creativity and make some mini-buttons yourself!

BOB ROSS PAINTING PARTY

Ozark Branch Friday, Jan. 17, 5:30–8 PM

Grades 7–12 Explore your creativity by painting along with an episode of "The Joy of Painting with Bob Ross." Food and drinks will be provided. Participants will be entered into a drawing to win a prize. *Registration is required. Registration opens Dec. 20 and closes Jan. 10. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

EVENTS FOR TWEENS

MONTHLY EVENTS FOR TWEENS

TWEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Ozark Branch Monthly on Fridays: Nov. 8, Dec. 13, and Jan. 10; 3:30–4:30 PM Nixa Branch Monthly on Tuesdays: Nov. 12, Dec. 10, and Jan. 14; 4:30–5:30 PM Clever Branch Monthly on Tuesdays: Nov. 19, Dec. 17, and Jan. 21; 4:30–5:30 PM Grades 4–7 We are dying to know what is cool in the tween world and what kind of events you wish were

happening at the library! Join the advisory board and you will get to help plan events, play fun games, and meet other amazing tweens in your area. Sound like a good time? Applications must be approved by Youth Services Staff before attending. Apply at the library or online at christiancountylibrary.org/support/.

TINKER TUESDAY

Ozark Branch Monthly on Tuesdays: Nov. 26 and Jan. 28 (no meeting in December); 3–5 PM Grades 1–6 Have you ever wanted to use your imagination to create amazing things? Come use your mind to solve a problem or just make something fun. Every month will have new activities to try.

HOMESCHOOLERS CONNECT

Clever Branch Monthly on Fridays: Nov. 22, Dec. 20, and Jan. 31; 10–11 AM Grades 4–7 Get creative and innovative with other homeschoolers as we work together to take on new S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts. and Math) activities and projects each month. *Registration is required. Registration opens at the end of each previous session and closes three days before each session. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277 to register.*

MORE EVENTS FOR TWEENS

INTERNATIONAL GAMES WEEK TWEEN GAME DAY

Clever Branch Friday, Nov. 1, 1–4 PM

Ozark Branch Monday, Nov. 4, 2:30–5:30 PM

Grades 4–7 Celebrate International Games Week with board games, card games, and video games. Anyone who participates in this program will be entered into a drawing to win a prize.

PIE WARS FOOD CHALLENGE

Ozark Branch Saturday, Nov. 16, 2:30–4 PM Grades 4–7 Celebrate the season by creating a delicious and unique pie with the ingredients provided. Can you make the most delicious one? *Registration is required*. *Registration opens Oct. 26 and closes Nov. 9. Register* online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.

I SURVIVED

Clever Branch Friday, Nov. 22, 2:30–3:30 PM

Grades 4–7 Enjoy fun activities related to the popular *I Survived* series by Lauren Tarshis! Anyone who participates in this program may enter into a drawing to win a prize.

CHRISTMAS MOVIE TRIVIA

Nixa Branch Monday, Dec. 2, 4–5 PM

Grades 4–7 Let out your inner Buddy the Elf and cut loose all your Christmas movie knowledge. No Scrooges or Grinches here! The top team will win a prize.

ANYONE CAN CODE! AN HOUR OF CODE™ EVENT

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 8:30 AM–5 PM All Ages Welcome Help us celebrate Computer Science Education Week by joining us in an Hour of Code[™], designed for all ages to get creative while learning the basics of coding—whether you're 5 or 95. Anyone with basic computer skills can attend.

DISNEY PARTY

Nixa Branch Friday, Dec. 20, 3–4 PM

Grades 4–7 Wish upon a star and "Hakuna Matata" it, Disney style! Wear your most magical costume and join us for an afternoon of fun inspired by Disney classics.

THE GREAT SNOWMAN BATTLE

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 28, 1–3 PM Grades 4–7 Better practice your cardboard fort making skills, because there is going to be a battle. Make a cardboard fort to protect your team's snowman, and use snowballs to try and knock down the other team's. Everyone on the winning team will earn a prize. *Registration is required. Registration opens Nov. 23 and closes Dec. 21. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*

TWEEN 3D PRINTER CLASS

Ozark Branch Friday, Jan. 24, 3–4:30 PM

Grades 4–7 Bring your laptop to the library for a special 3D printing class—just for tweens. Learn the basics of Tinkercad, and create your own keychain-sized trinket. The trinket you design in this class will be printed for free and can be picked up at the library of your choice a few weeks after the program. *If you would like to join the class, but do not have a laptop, please let the library know when you register. Registration is required. Registration opens Dec. 19 and closes Jan. 10. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432.*



CELEBRATE YOUR LOVE OF GAMING ALL MONTH LONG IN NOVEMBER

Games, games, games! Whether they're board games, video games, or role-playing games that exist solely in the imagination, gaming can enrich community by bringing individuals together to compete and cooporate toward a common goal. This November libraries all over the world are uniting to celebrate International Games Week and the joy of gaming with their communities. We're hosting Game Days across the district all month long, for every age group. Want to join in the fun? Look for the "blue die" icon throughout this issue to find a library gaming day near you!

EVENTS FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Your library card grants your family access to over 1,000 animated, talking picture books for children in grades K–6 via the TumbleBooks Library. Vist christiancountylibrary. org/programs/kids/ and scroll to the bottom of the page to find TumbleBooks.

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY EVENTS FOR KIDS

FAMILY STORYTIME

Clever Branch

Every Tuesday, Nov. 5–Jan. 28 (Except Nov. 26, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31); 11 AM–Noon

Sparta Fire Station:

Every Tuesday, Nov. 5–Jan. 28 (Except Nov. 26, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31); 10–11 AM

Ozark Branch Every Wednesday, Nov. 6–Jan. 29

(Except Nov. 27, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1);

10–11 AM and 11 AM–Noon

Nixa Branch Every Thursday, Nov. 7–Jan. 30 (Except Nov. 28, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2);

10-10:45 AM and 11-11:45 AM

Families with infants – age 6 This storytime has stories, songs, and activities for parents and children to do together while practicing early literacy skills using Racing to Read, the library's early literacy initiative.

BABY BOUNCE

Nixa Branch Every Friday, Nov. 1–Jan. 31 (Except Nov. 29, Dec. 27, and Jan. 3); 9–9:30 AM Ozark Branch Every Thursday, Nov. 7–Jan. 30 (Except Nov. 28, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2); 10:30–11 AM Families with infants – age 2 This storytime includes finger plays, action rhymes, and plenty of songs! Your child will learn early literacy skills that will help them grow into eager readers using Racing to Read, the library's early literacy initiative.

PAWS FOR READING

Nixa Branch Monthly on Mondays: Nov. 18, Dec. 16, and Jan. 20; 4:30–5:30 PM Clever Branch Monthly on Wednesdays: Nov. 27, Dec. 18, and Jan 29; 4:30–5:30 PM Ozark Branch Monthly on Mondays: Dec. 9, and Jan 13 (No meeting in Nov.); 4:30–5:30 PM Kids and Families Read to a dog trained by the Alliance of Therapy Pets! Children who are having reading difficulties can be self-conscious about reading aloud, but reading with a dog can help them relax, build self-esteem, and associate reading with a fun experience.

LIBRARY DAY AT MARCO'S PIZZA

Monthly on Thursdays: Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16 11 AM–10 PM, at Marcos Pizza in Nixa 830 W. Mt. Vernon St. Suite 13

All Ages Welcome Enjoy some pizza with your family for a good cause! Every third Thursday of the month is Library Day at Marco's Pizza in Nixa. 10% of all profits from the day will go towards Youth and Family programming and services at the Christian County Library Nixa Branch.

HOMESCHOOLERS CONNECT

Clever Branch Monthly on Fridays:

Nov. 22, Dec. 20, and Jan. 31; 10–11 AM

Grades 1–5 Get creative and innovative with other homeschoolers as we work together to take on new S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts. and Math) activities and projects each month. *Registration is required. Registration opens at the end of each previous session and closes three days before each session. Register online with your library card or call (417) 743-2277 to register.*

TINKER TUESDAY

Ozark Branch Monthly on Tuesdays:

Nov. 26 and Jan. 28 (no meeting in Dec.); 3–5 PM Grades 1–6 Have you ever wanted to use your imagination to create amazing things? Come use your mind to solve a problem or just make something fun!

MORE EVENTS FOR KIDS

INTERNATIONAL GAMES WEEK FAMILY GAME DAY

Nixa BranchTuesday, Nov. 5, 1:30–3:30 PMOzark BranchSaturday, Nov. 9, 10:30 AM–3 PMClever BranchFriday, Nov. 15, 2–4 PMKids and FamiliesBeat the winter blahs with your familyby Celebrating International Games Week. Team up or
compete in in all sorts of games!

FROZEN WINTER FESTIVAL!

Nixa Branch Tuesday, Nov. 5, 10 AM–Noon

Kids and Families Get ready for the release of *Frozen 2* by meeting all of your favorite characters! Elsa, Anna, Kristoff, and Olaf will all be here to read stories, take pictures, sign autographs, and sing songs.

GAME DAY WITH META GAMES UNLIMITED

Nixa Branch Saturday, Nov. 23, 10 AM–4 PM

Kids and Families We're celebrating our love of board games with Springfield's Meta Games Unlimited! Staff from Meta Games will be available all day to assist in learning how to play new and exciting board games. Feel free to bring

along a favorite game to share. Refreshments and prizes will be provided, so bring a friend!

A CRANBERRY THANKSGIVING

Clever Branch Tuesday, Nov. 26, 10:30–11:30 AM Kids and Families Enjoy Wende and Harry Devlin's timeless tale, A Cranberry Thanksgiving, and indulge in cozy Thanksgiving activities!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS: FESTIVE THINGS TO MAKE AND DO!

Clever Branch Friday, Dec. 6, 2:30–3:30 PM Kids and Families Create some delightful festive holiday crafts! Need inspiration? Take a peek in *Christmas Crafts: Festive Things to Make and Do!* by Danielle Lowy.

LETTERS FROM FATHER CHRISTMAS

Nixa Branch Monday, Dec. 9, 4:30–5:30 PM Kids and Families Listen to charming letters from Father Christmas to J.R.R. Tolkien's children and explore some delightful European Christmas Traditions. We will have food, trivia, and more.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Ozark Branch Friday, Dec. 6, 2–5 PM, and Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 AM–5 PM

Children of all ages are invited to Santa's Workshop, where they can meet and have their photo taken with Santa, and shop for inexpensive gifts for parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends. Gift-wrapping is available. Presented by the Christian County Friends of the Library. Note: the Friends of the Library are seeking donations of gift bags, tissue paper, ribbons, bows, and small new or lightly used household items and toys. Bring your donations to your nearest library branch.

ANYONE CAN CODE! AN HOUR OF CODE™ EVENT

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 8:30 AM–5 PM All Ages Welcome Help us celebrate Computer Science Education Week by joining us in an Hour of Code[™], designed for all ages to get creative while learning the basics of coding—whether you're 5 or 95. Anyone with basic computer skills can attend.

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS STORYTIME

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 14, 2:30–4 PM

Kids and Families Your heart will grow three sizes while you decorate cookies with your family and watch *How the Grinch Stole Christmas (1966, not rated). Registration is* required for cookie decorating. Registration opens Nov. 16 and closes Dec. 7. Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432 to register.

BUILDING BLOCK BASH

Clever Branch Monday, Dec. 16, 10:30–11:30 AM, Kids and Families It's time to vote for your favorite 2019–2020 Building Block award nominee! Read all the nominated books, make an official vote for your favorite title, and participate in fun nominee-themed activities.

STAR WARS CELEBRATION

Nixa Branch Friday, Dec. 20, 9:30–Noon

Kids and Families School is out and *The Rise of Skywalker* is almost here! We are celebrating by making Star Wars-themed crafts and activities. Anyone who participates in this program will be entered into a drawing to win a prize.

LIBRARY PLAY DAY: SNOWFLAKE DAY

Ozark Branch Friday, Dec. 20, 11 AM–4 PM Kids and Families Did you know you have animated children's books at your fingertips with Tumblebooks? At home on your tablet or computer, watch, listen, and read through the "Brr... It's Cold Outside" playlist on Tumblebooks then come to Library Play Day for a day of winter activities. Visit *christiancountylibrary.org/programs/ kids/* then scroll down to "TumbleBook Library." From there, click "playlist" and find the "Brr... It's Cold Outside" playlist. Come to the library to try it out on the children's computers.

HUGO KRINGLE'S COMING TO TOWN

Ozark Branch Saturday, Dec. 21, 5:30–6:30 PM Kids and Families Come meet Santa Claus's younger brother, Hugo Kringle in this Mike Anderson performance. Sing holiday songs and listen to Hugo tell stories of growing up with the boy who will become Santa Claus. A great event for young and old, so bring the whole family!

SPECIAL GUEST: CHIEF OF POLICE Clever Branch

Thursday, Jan. 9, 4:30–5:30 PM

Kids and Families Meet Clever Chief of Police, Jeff Loftin. Listen to a story, learn some safety rules, find out what he does at his job everyday, and see a brief demonstration of how the lights and sirens work in his patrol car.

DECORATE YOUR OWN BOOK TOTE

Ozark Branch Saturday, Jan. 11, 2:30–4 PM

Pre-K – Grade 3 Use fabric paint to create a library book tote that's all your own. *Registration is required. Registration opens Dec.* 14 and closes Jan. 4. *Register online with your library card or call (417) 581-2432 to register.*



MAKE THURSDAY NIGHT

PIZZA NIGHT AND HELP SUPPORT

THE NIXA BRANCH LIBRARY

LIBRARY DAY AT MARCO'S PIZZA Every Third Thursday of the Month: Nov. 21, Dec. 19, and Jan. 16 at Marco's Pizza in Nixa 830 W. Mt. Vernon St. Suite 13

Enjoy some pizza with your family for a good cause! Every third Thursday of the month is Library Day at Marco's Pizza in Nixa. 10% of all profits from the day will go towards Youth and Family programming and services at the Christian County Library Nixa Branch.