IT'S TIME FOR THE 2020 CENSUS!

We’re sure you’ve heard about the upcoming Census. You’ve heard it is important and who wants what question to be included or excluded, but we want to make sure you know why it was so important and how you have a helping hand in it.

So, why is it important? Apologies in advance for a mini history lesson, but libraries love facts. The first US Census was conducted in 1790. Six hundred and fifty US Marshalls and assistants set out on horseback and on foot to make sure every person living within the United States was counted. After having won a revolution started largely due to inadequate representation, we needed to be sure we were representing everyone as equally as possible. And the Census is still important today for the same reason. Everyone needs to count and therefore, we need to count everyone.

Now you may be wondering how does the Census affect you? Is it really that important that you be counted? The answer can be both short and simple and long and complicated. Short answer, it affects you in a great number of ways and yes, you not only need, but deserve, to be counted.

Want the longer answer? Here goes. The Census, as we've already said, determines how many representatives in the House of Representatives each state gets. If we skip counting people, we lose representatives in Congress. Back in 1790, they learned that the 65 members of the House weren't sufficient to be split between the newly formed states. They increased the number to 105. We've since put a cap on the number, but we move those seats around to where people are living. And that's not all. The Census determines how federal funding is distributed. This is where it affects us on a community level. School lunch programs, Head Start, highway construction, grants to assist teachers, programs to provide housing assistance to older adults, and so many more receive federal funding. We can't do that without counting you.

You’re vital.

So, how can we help you? In any way we can, of course. Throughout the process which will start March 12 through March 20, with invitations mailed to each household by the Census Bureau, we will have laptops and computers reserved specifically for census takers on our lower level. Uncomfortable with a computer, our highly skilled staff can get you started. The form in total should take approximately five minutes to complete and we hope you can see that five minutes are well worth the effort.
ADULT BOOK CLUB

With two separate meeting times, you're sure to be able to make it to our adult book club. We meet at 2 and 7 pm on the third Monday of every month. Both meeting times are held in the Kewanee Library Community Room. Don't be intimidated if you're new to the book club world; we're not a formal group of literary critics. Most of us just like to read a good book.

Stop by the Information Services desk in the lower level to get this month's book selection.

March 16th - The Boston Girl by Anita Diamant

“Anita Diamant’s The Boston Girl introduces[a] woman of substance…[who] relates how growing up in a time of gender inequality, strict family expectations, and a widening generation gap of social values made her a successful person.” - Boston Herald

April 20th - Lab Girl by Hope Jahren (An NEA Big Read)


May 18th - The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion

“Funny, touching, and hard to put down, The Rosie Project is certain to entertain even as readers delve into deep themes. For a book about a logic-based quest for love, it has a lot of heart. . . . [an] immensely enjoyable novel.” - Booklist

Join us March 25 at 1 pm. Missy Jackson will be here to tell us all about Decluttering, Purging, and Organizing. This is the second in a series after our Newest Updates on Recycling presented by Eagle Enterprises on March 5 at 1 pm. The third in the series will be April 2 at 1 pm when Sara Umphleet, dietitian at OSF Saint Luke will be here for Ask the Expert: Keeping Up with Fad Diets.

January 2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. In commemoration, Dr. Ralph Troll will be here to tell us about his experiences as a child growing up in war-torn Germany. Join us Wednesday, April 8 at 1 pm for The Holocaust Experience thru a Child's Eyes.

Are you ready to push the limits? Stop in and register for the next round of our Pushing the Limits program. Blending science and reading, each group is facilitated by our science partners, both Blackhawk College professors. We have two book discussions planned in March, March 4 and March 18, both Wednesdays at 6 pm. Two final book discussions will follow in May and June.
**UPCOMING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING**

Stop by and join us for returning favorites **Clothespin Puppets**. They'll be here to put on what is sure to be a great show **Saturday, March 21 at 11 am**.

Our **Sensory Storytime** will return **March 23 at 11:15 am**.
Children **ages 2-4** and their caregivers are invited to attend. We'll read stories, sing, dance, and explore new ways to play.

Mr. Steve is coming back! Join us **Wednesday, May 27th at noon** as Mr. Steve returns to entertain us with hilarious audience participation songs, silly magic, and wacky balloon creations.

Don't forget to register for our **Summer Reading Program "Dig Deeper: Read, Investigate, Discover!" Registration starts May 11**.

**"WHO WAS" BOOK CLUB**

We didn't want to leave our younger crowd out of the book club circle, so we started our new monthly **Who Was Book Club**. *Who Was* is a popular children's non-fiction book series. Each month, we'll focus on a different person from the series to discuss. We'll also have various activities to go along with the book selection.

**Register on at the Youth Services desk on the upper level to get this month's book selection.**

March 17th - Who Was Stan Lee?

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If you're interested in crochet, knitting, quilting, weaving, and other crafting, stop by our **Creativity at the Carnegie** held every third Thursday of the month from 5 - 7 pm.

Every second Tuesday of the month we show a **recently released movie**. Stop in and watch on our big screen while snacking on some popcorn courtesy of **Wanee Theater**.

**Recipe Round-Up** is back April 23rd! The first theme of the year is **Sandwiches**, so stop by at noon with your recipe and dish, and let's all chow down.

2020 marks 100 years since the 19th Amendment was ratified forbidding states to deny the right to vote on the basis of sex. Celebrate with us, **Thursday, April 23, at 6:30 pm** as musician Phil Passen presents his program **"March of the Women: Music for the 100th Anniversary of Suffrage."**

Stressed out? Need some time to relax? Stop in **April 30th at 2 pm** for **Jazz, Relaxation, and a Paintbrush with Jill DeKeyser**. Please **register at the Main Desk** as supplies are limited. A small fee for supplies will need to be paid at time of registration.
THINK SPRING / THINK SALE

Friends will once again hold its annual Spring Book Sale during National Library Week — April 19-25.

We thank those of you who donate books for the sale. While this is a huge help to us, please bring in only books which are in good condition so they may be welcomed into the hands of another reader.

Other events will also be scheduled during Library week, so check the library and look for flyers at the library and around town.

Thank you for your continued support of Friends.