

# Off the Shelf

Volume 11, Edition 1

Events at the Poplar Bluff Public Library

January - March 2012

## Events Calendar

### JANUARY

- 3 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.; The Way We Worked exhibit begins at Wheatley School; Romeo and Juliet auditions
- 4 - Computer Class 10 a.m.
- 5 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 7 - Stories by Steve 1-3 p.m.
- 10 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 12 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 17 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 19 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 24 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 27 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 28 - Chinese New Year celebration 1-3 p.m.
- 30 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.

### FEBRUARY

- 1 - Winter Reading begin; Computer Class 10 a.m.
- 2 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 4 - Visit Flat Stanley at TRCC basketball games
- 7 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 9 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 14 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 16 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 21 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 23 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 28 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.

### MARCH

- 1 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 2 - Special Story Time with Dr. Seuss 10:30 a.m.
- 3 - Renaissance Festival 1-3 p.m.
- 6 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.
- 7 - Computer Class 10 a.m.
- 8 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 9 - Teen Tech event 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Romeo and Juliet begins
- 13 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.; Author appearance 6 p.m.
- 15 - Theater Thursday 4-7p.m., Tech Talk 4-7 p.m.
- 20 - Story Time 10:30 a.m.; Hunger Games release party 5:30-6:30 p.m.

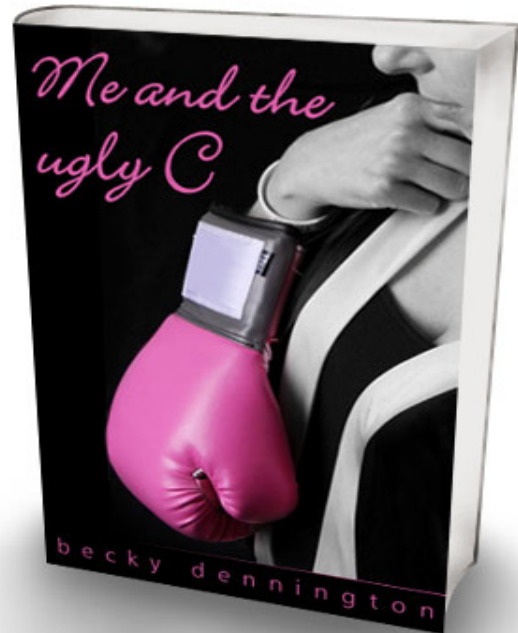
## Blog to book: Becky Dennington

Things are about to get ugly. Becky Dennington is on tap to visit Poplar Bluff Public Library for a talk about her experience writing *Me and the Ugly C*.

Dennington is a cancer survivor who turned to blogging as a form of self-therapy. She began writing in her online journal after a breast cancer diagnosis in August 2010. She soon found that her blog wasn't just a way to channel her feelings; it also became a way to keep her family and friends updated about her treatments and encourage other women to be more proactive about regular screenings.

Dennington's blog has now taken the shape of her first book, *Me and the Ugly C*.

Join Dennington at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, for discussion about her experiences and blogging and writing process.



In the meantime, readers are invited to visit her blog at [www.deepthoughtsbybeck.blogspot.com](http://www.deepthoughtsbybeck.blogspot.com).

## Mark your calendar for storyteller performance

Join freelance storyteller Steve Otto for a special presentation on Jan. 7 in the Library Theater.

Patrons of all ages are invited to see Otto from 1 to 3 p.m., Jan. 7 in the Library Theater.

Otto is based in Kansas City and has a repertoire for more than 450 stories, according to biographical information at his website [www.i-tell.net](http://www.i-tell.net). He delivers more than 200 presentations each year to a variety of different groups of people including everyone from those in nursery schools to those in nursing homes.

### IF YOU GO

**What:** Stories by Steve  
**When:** 1-3 p.m., Jan. 7  
**Where:** Library Theater

This event is sponsored by the Missouri Humanities Council and Holiday Inn. The Library appreciates the support of these organizations.

### About Steve Otto:

Steve Otto has a degree from the University of Missouri in speech and dramatics. He started telling stories in 1986, and became a



full time freelance teller in 1994. His specialties are stories from the Ozarks, ghost stories, stories from literature, inspirational, and creative audience participation stories.

# So cool: Winter programs in the Children's Library

Celebrate the Chinese New Year at the Library **Jan. 28** from 1-3 p.m. It is the year of the dragon. Come in and enjoy popcorn, juice, make your own dragon and watch a movie in the library theater.



Winter Reading: Travel the World with Flat Stanley. Sign up begins **Feb. 1**. Visit the library throughout the month of February to make a Flat Stanley and the library will mail him to different libraries. Enter for



a chance to win free registration for the summer camp at the Margaret Harwell

Art Museum, tickets to the Stage Company production of Romeo and Juliet and tickets to see the movie The Hunger Games.



Visit Flat Stanley at the Three Rivers College basketball game **Feb. 4**. There is a women's game at 5 p.m. and a men's game at 7 p.m. Make a Flat Stanley and bring it to the library to send him

on his adventure.



Special Story Time **March 2** at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday. Join the library for stories, cake and have a chance to Seuss yourself!



Geek out at your library for Teen Tech Week on **March 9** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Animotofy yourself and friends and post your video to Facebook. Turn your photos, video clips, and music into stunning video masterpieces to share with

your friends. Registration will begin **Feb 27**. Limited seating, register early.



Join the library to celebrate the release of the movie The Hunger Games on **March 20** from 5:30-6:30 p.m.. Learn survival skills, show off your archery talent and leave with your own Mocking jay pin.



**Need computer help?**

## Get on board with Learning Express

Looking to gain new computer skills or brush up on a specific program? Learning Express Library, available through the Library's database access page, features a variety of tutorials sure to help you become an expert in no time.

These free, interactive, self-paced, multimedia computer skills tutorials cover a wide array of today's most popular applications, including Microsoft Office Access (2003, 2007), Excel (2003, 2007, 2008-for Macs, 2010), PowerPoint (2003, 2007, 2008-for Macs), Outlook (2003, 2007, 2010) and Word (2003, 2007, 2008-for Macs, 2010). Design tools such as Adobe Creative

Suite, Microsoft SharePoint (2007), Visio (2003, 2007) and Project (2007) are also accessible.

For those looking to get back to basics, simple instruction in Operating Systems including Windows 7, XP, Vista and Mac OSX are also available.

Courses are available at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels, so there is likely a program available to suit your current level of knowledge.

Need help getting started? Point your browser over to [www.poplarbluff.org/databases.html](http://www.poplarbluff.org/databases.html) and select "Learning Express Library." See a Library staff member for more information.

## Now available: Your Library on Your Schedule

The Poplar Bluff Public Library offers patrons an even easier way to use the Library. An e-mail service to notify patrons of arrived holds and share friendly due-date reminders is available.

Why is this such good news for Library users? E-mail service offers patrons:

- **Immediate notification of arrived holds.** No more waiting for library staff to phone to share the news of an eagerly-anticipated arrived title; the Library's e-mail notification system will alert you as soon as your book becomes available.
- **No more missed messages.** Ever miss out on an item because your spouse or kids forgot to tell you the library called? Notifications will now be sent right to your inbox, so you'll be immediately aware of your hold status.
- **Your privacy is protected.** When Library staff calls from a public building, eavesdroppers can pick up on personal information, including your name and the titles you've requested. E-mail will keep this information private.
- **Better service.** E-mail notification will make library staff available to help you with other tasks, like making sense of a new computer program, searching the catalog for items and more in-depth reader-ship advisory and reference services.

Ready to start using the Library's e-mail service? Talk to a staff member today to sign up. We can even help you set up a free e-mail account to take advantage of this great program.

sponsored by



# Theater Thursday

Join library staffers and fellow movie fans each Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Children's Theater for movies, popcorn and juice!



## January Career Month

- Jan. 5 - Scientist Marie Curie
- Jan. 12 - Astronomer Galileo
- Jan. 19 - Artist Leonardo da Vinci
- Jan. 27 - Composer Beethoven

## February Black History Month

- Feb. 2 - March On MLK
- Feb. 9 - Harriet Tubman
- Feb. 16 - Rosa Parks and Civil Rights
- Feb. 23 - Langston Hughes

## March

- March 1 - Cat in the Hat
- March 8 - Horton Hears a Who
- March 15 - Romeo and Juliet
- March 22 - City of Ember
- March 29 - Sword in the Stone (Be sure to check out the play March 30 at The Tinnen Center at TRCC!)

## Coming soon: 1940 census to be made available online

### *Documents will be useful to researchers and genealogists*

Here's some exciting news for those researching their family trees: The 1940 census will become available to the public at 9 a.m. on April 2.

Why is this old news good news? Census records are a valuable source of information for genealogists and historians.

By using these records, researchers may be able to trace their family trees and show them pieces of their ancestors' lives.

Law prohibits public access to any census until 72 years after its compilation. This means the 1930 census was released in 2002; the 1940 this year; and the 1950 census won't be available until 2022.

This census illustrates the changing world Americans were facing in 1940. World War II had begun the previous September abroad and the shifting boundaries of nations in Europe and Asia could result in potentially erroneous answers to the question "place of birth." The solution for those of foreign birth was to "give country in which birthplace was situated on Jan. 1, 1937." Also



Learn more about their lives by exploring 1940 census documents.

new to this census, "Does this person have a Federal Social Security Number?" If yes, this opens yet another avenue for potential research with Social Security Applications.

What can you do to get ready for the April 2 release of the 1940 census? Here are a few hints to help get started on genealogy research:

- Make a list of all the names

of ancestors you plan to look up. Remember that some names often have alternate spellings: Smith might be Smyth or Smithe, or Johnson might be Jonson or Johnston.

- Know where your ancestors lived. If you know your ancestors are from Kentucky, be ready to look through Kentucky census results. Keep an open mind here: If you can't find the information you're seeking in one state, search a neighboring state.

- Even if you don't have exact dates, have a general idea about when he or she was alive. A general rule of thumb is to allow 25 years for each generation.

### NEED HELP?

Contact **Shon Griffin**, genealogy/reference and interlibrary loan librarian, at [shon@poplarbluff.org](mailto:shon@poplarbluff.org); or **Erin Rigby**, reference and circulation librarian, at [erin@poplarbluff.org](mailto:erin@poplarbluff.org).

If you need help getting started with genealogy research and have questions about the 1940 census, contact Shon Griffin, genealogy/reference and interlibrary loan librarian, at [shon@poplarbluff.org](mailto:shon@poplarbluff.org); or Erin

Rigby, reference and circulation librarian, at [erin@poplarbluff.org](mailto:erin@poplarbluff.org).



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Phone: (573) 686-8639

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

# Basic computer classes on tap

Improve your computer-skills, have fun and make new friends!

For information about any class, check out <http://poplarbluff.org/computerclasses.html> or call 686-8639.

**MORE INFO?**  
Click over to [poplarbluff.org/computerclasses.html](http://poplarbluff.org/computerclasses.html) or call 686-8639.

apps, cameras and more.

■ **Feb. 1 @ 10 a.m. Cell Phones for Seniors**

Are you getting the most out of your cell phone plan? Learn how you can make this device work for you.

■ **March 7 @ 10 a.m. I Read, You Read, We All Read on eReaders**

Curious about eReaders? Check out this class for a quick crash course! Learn about what these devices are and how they can be used.

Join instructor Shannon Mangrum for these upcoming classes:

■ **Jan. 4 @ 10 a.m. iPads for Seniors**

Get a feel for tablet computing at this month's basic computer class. The iPad features a touch screen, downloadable

## My Account

Manage your library account online easily through our website. Using your library card number and password, you will be able to:

- Renew your materials online
- Place a book on hold
- Pay your fees
- Review your account
- Update your account information



Now Available

Library eBooks are  
Now Available for **Kindle®**

NO Late Fees

Available 24/7

Enjoy library books on your Kindle or Kindle reading apps.

## Much ado about something: Stage Co. brings the Bard to PBPL

Ready for some Shakespeare? The Stage Company of Poplar Bluff is bringing the Bard to you this season.

Auditions for The Stage Company's upcoming production of Romeo and Juliet will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on **January 3 and 4** in the Library's theater room. According to information from the group's Face-

book page, the auditions will be in the style of a traditional Shakespeare workshop and actors of all ages are encouraged to attend.

In March, the Stage Company will return to the Library for a Renaissance Festival. Join them from 1 to 3 p.m. on **March 3** to learn more about the Elizabethan period and William

Shakespeare himself. The Stage Company's performances of Romeo and Juliet are slated for the following two weekends -- **March 9, 10 and 11** and **March 16, 17 and 18** -- at Rodgers Theater in downtown Poplar Bluff.

For more information about The Stage Company, click over to [www.stageco.org](http://www.stageco.org).