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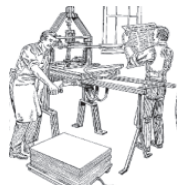
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New Beginnings



*"Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new
thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the
wilderness and streams in
the wasteland."*

— Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV

*Let us not go over the old ground but rather prepare
for what is to come." - Cicero*

January is named after the two-faced Roman god Janus (one facing forward and one backward), suggesting we should simultaneously look backwards and forwards at the start of the new year. But sometimes it is best to just look forward and forget about the past. We can't change it, and sometimes the best that we can say about the past is that it is over. As we look forward to the new year, learn from the past but leave it behind. Being forward-looking allows us to lean into our plans for the new year. Think about your goals for this year and what you can do to make them happen. Some of these goals may benefit from planning and writing them down, but keep in mind that you can rarely anticipate everything that will happen. Do not get discouraged if you slip up on your resolutions. No diet or exercise plan is ever adhered to perfectly, but get back to your regimen after a slip-up. And finally, ask the Lord to help you with your plans and resolutions. True saintliness is giving up your will and surrendering completely to the will of God. Let this year be the year that you follow God's will in everything. —Christopher Simon

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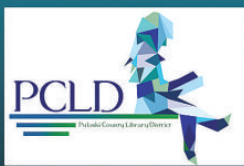
The Crocker Journal

By Donna Morgan

PLCD Winter News

Starting a New Chapter

Pulaski County Library District
goes Fine Free!



BIG NEWS!

PCLD goes fine-free!

Beginning Jan. 1, 2021, Pulaski County Library District (PCLD) is going fine free for all items (except our WiFi Hotspots)! Due dates still apply, existing fines will remain, and lost/damaged items will still be charged.



Food for Fines - Pay it Forward

Every year, PCLD offers "Food for Fines" where patrons bring canned goods / non-perishable food

items and each item cancels out \$1 in overdue fines. With the announcement that we're going fine free, we wanted to offer creative ways for patrons to take care of existing fines on their accounts. So, beginning Jan. 1, 2021, we're offering a new dimension to this popular program. If patrons bring extra canned goods, they will cancel out overdue fines on other patrons' accounts! For example, if you have \$3 in overdue fines but bring in 5 canned goods, your \$3 will be cancelled and \$2 in fines for another patron (or patrons) will also be cancelled out. All canned goods collected will be donated to local food pantries.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Winter Reading Challenge - January 2021

From January 1st to January 31st, Pulaski County Library District will participate in Beanstack's Fourth Annual Winter Reading Challenge, sponsored by Simon & Schuster. Books Like Us is a celebration of diversity, harnessing the transformative power of seeing oneself reflected in a book. This

Winter, participating communities are invited to explore these books, from authors spanning an array of diverse backgrounds.

We challenge our patrons to read at least 10 Hours during the month and keep track of their reading on our Beanstack site at pulaski-countylibrary.beanstack.org.

New this year, every badge you earn for registering, reading, and completing the challenge will earn a ticket for weekly special prize drawings of gift certificates to local businesses! If logging on the website, click on "Ticket Drawings" to allocate your tickets as you choose. If logging on the Beanstack App, select the Winter Read 2021 Challenge and then select "Drawings" to allocate your tickets. Each Saturday in January we'll draw tickets for these gift certificates to local businesses, so be sure your contact information is up to date!

Thousands of libraries and schools across the nation will encourage their communities to read a target number of minutes and books. Top-performing libraries and schools will earn rewards from Simon & Schuster, including book collections and virtual author visits. Happy reading, **Pulaski County!**

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Speak Your Peace features "Pay Attention" in January

The Waynesville-St. Robert Area Chamber of Commerce announced its plans to continue to participate in a year-long program that started in 2017, known as the "Speak Your Peace Civility Project"

The Program is designed around three key topics: "Be Informed," "Be Empowered," and "Be the Difference," and each offers a monthly theme, or focus area, to help people navigate using social media both effectively and respectfully.

The program officially kicks off its 4th year this month with the theme, "Pay Attention."

"Without attention, no meaningful interaction is possible. However if you pay attention, you automatically become alert to the world, which therefore improves your life and the lives of those around you." This is "When we slow down the pace of attention we do justice to life by taking it seriously", says Dr. P.M. Forni, the author of Choosing Civility, for which the program is modeled after. Dr. Forni goes on to say, "When we pay attention we do justice to the presence of others in our lives."

The Waynesville-St. Robert Chamber of Commerce plans to offer Facebook posts and public service announcements throughout the month in order to "bring respect to the forefront of social media with friendly reminders.

"We encourage people to visit our page for tutorials, open discussion and success stories," Executive Director Cecilia Murray said. "The program is a great way for parents and families to discuss proper social media etiquette with their children."

For Speak Your Peace updates, visit the chamber's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/WaynesvilleStRobertChamber/.
#SpeakYourPeace #ChooseCivility #BeInformed
#BeAwareBeforeYouShare



SEAN PINKMAN

Sean Alen Pinkman, of Dixon, was born on January 7, 1975, at Seattle, Washington and departed this life on Sunday, December 20, 2020 at his residence. Sean had attained the age of 45 years, 11 months and 13 days.

Sean had worked for Cable America and as an electrician in construction and at the time of his death he was employed at Quaker Window Products, Freeburg. He enjoyed being outdoors and fishing but above all he enjoyed spending time with his daughter.

Those left to mourn the passing of Sean include: his daughter, Brianna Pinkman; his wife, Sabrina Bruce; his step-children, Eddie Metcalf and Abby Gill; his mother, Kathy Magers; uncles and aunts, Karen Williams and her husband, Art; Peggy Ball; Brandt Pinkman, and Debbie Moore and her husband, Bill; several other uncles; aunts; nephews; nieces, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Sean was preceded in death by his mother, Carla Haynes in 2008 and his sister, Debra Vodicka on May 18, 2016.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Sean from 12:00 Noon until 5:00 p.m., Saturday, January 9, 2021 at the St. Robert Municipal Park, Old Route 66 and J.H. Williamson Drive, St. Robert, Missouri.

Arrangements under the direction of the Long-Kloeppel Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Dixon.

**We welcome any
tips from our readers
about good people
doing good things in
Dixon and
surrounding
community.
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