

True Crime in St. Joseph topic Dec. 9th

True Crime in St. Joseph is the topic of the next Local History Stage speaker, Allegra Cloud, scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, at 1:30 p.m. The program is presented by the St. Joseph Public Library and the Joyce Raye Patterson Senior Center in the Multipurpose Room of the Senior Center at 100 S. 10th Street. It is free and open to the public.

Light refreshments will be served.

Ms. Cloud is a discussion leader of the True Crime Book Group which meets the second Thursday of the month at the Downtown Library, 927 Felix Street. Non-fiction literary works about murders and other crimes are a popular subgenre. True crime stories have the ability to grab a reader and pull them into researching the crimes in detail. Ms. Cloud is such an enthusiast.

She has researched numerous sensational crimes and will recount her discoveries about the most infamous local crimes she has studied. Ms. Cloud intends to focus on five major crimes that occurred from the early 1900's to the 1970's. She has encountered surprising details in her research that are little known.

This is one of a series of monthly programs held the second Wednesday of the month called the Local History Stage. The program brings presenters from the community who are knowledgeable about facets of history related to the St. Joseph area together with others who enjoy reminiscing about local history. The senior center and the library present the program jointly. The partnership allows the program to be open to all without membership.

Contact Debbie Gentry at 236-2107 or Ann Salanky at 271-4666 for more information about this presentation or with questions about the Local History Program.

Support for this program is underwritten by the St. Joseph Public Library Foundation. Find out more information about library programs and services at the library website at sjpl.lib.mo.us. Patrons with disabilities who wish to attend the program should contact the ADA coordinator at 232-4038.

Harry Potter Trivia Tournament at EH Library

ATTENTION ALL MUGGLES! The St. Joseph Public Library will host its 9th Annual Harry Potter Trivia Tournament on December 12th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the East Hills Library, 502 N. Woodbine Road. This event is limited to participants ages 8 through 17. Contestants will be tested on their knowledge of the world of Harry Potter as well as some new categories such as physical challenges and "spell"ing bee. It is recommended that each participant has at least read the first book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. This is not a requirement as there will be a "Movie" category, but it will help contestants participate in other events during the day. The schedule is as follows:

10:00 am – 10:20 am:
Sorting of the students into house teams and explanation of rules.

10:20 am – 11:20 am: First Elimination Round. Four of the eight teams will be eliminated. All participants may stay to enjoy the entire day of events.

11:20 am – 11:30 am: Winner announced of the Mountain Troll Tough Question and Muggle Question.

11:30 am – 2:00 pm: Watch the 6th Harry Potter movie, Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince, while enjoying lunch. Pizza and drinks will be provided for all of the contestants.

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm:
Second Elimination Round. Two teams will be eliminated.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm:
Final Round. The winning house team will be determined.

Every registered contestant will receive a prize for each round they participate in and will also be provided with pizza for lunch. Registration is required and limited. Call soon as the sign up sheet for this event is filled in less time than it takes for Hermione to raise her hand. Contact Will Stuck at 236-2136 to register or for more information.

This program, and all other library programs, are free and open to the public. Underwriting for this program was provided by the St. Joseph Public Library Foundation. Persons with disabilities who wish to participate in the program should call the ADA coordinator at 816-232-4038.

Rep. Sam Graves continues mobile office tours

A member of U.S. Congressman Sam Graves' staff is holding Mobile Office stops. Graves' Mobile Office will tour the district giving constituents the opportunity to speak with a member of his staff.

"I have always believed you learn more by listening than talking. My priority in Congress is constituent service and the Mobile Office is an additional opportunity for me to stay in contact with the people of the Sixth District. I encourage everyone to come by these informal sessions to discuss their views or receive assistance with federal agencies," said Graves.

The Mobile Office provides regular, monthly contact for communities and individuals who have a question or problem with federal government agencies.

The Mobile Office schedule for December 2009 is as follows:

Tuesday, December 8th
Clinton County Courthouse, Plattsburg- 8:30 a.m.
Buchanan County Courthouse, St. Joseph- 1:30 p.m.
Andrew County Courthouse, Savannah - 3 p.m.

Monday, December 14th
DeKalb County Courthouse, Maysville - 9 a.m.
Gentry County Courthouse, Albany - 11 a.m.

Wednesday, December 16th
Holt County Courthouse, Oregon - 8:30 a.m.
Atchison County Courthouse, Rock Port - 10 a.m.
Nodaway County Courthouse, Maryville - 1:30 p.m.
Worth County Courthouse, Grant City - 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph seeking more stimulus money

The city seeks to repeat its record of success in attracting federal stimulus funds to St. Joseph. Federal stimulus funds are being made available to communities on a competitive basis through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) approved by Congress in February 2009. Essentially, the City Council and staff are trying to bring as many federal stimulus dollars back to St. Joseph as possible. To date the city has been awarded over \$6 million dollars from various federal agencies. Three additional stimulus funding requests totaling \$3,450,000 have also been submitted and are being pursued via stimulus grant applications.

Stimulus funding requests that have been awarded to date are as follows:

- Police Department of Justice Equipment \$126,932
- CDBG Housing Urban Development Neighborhood Stabilization \$2,598,717
- CDBG Housing Urban Development, Four community agencies \$ 727,371
- CDBG Housing Urban Development Five renovations \$ 475,429
- CIP Federal Highway Admin 2010 Urban Trail (Phase 10) \$ 195,200
- Transit Federal Transit Authority Various Equipment \$1,386,000
- Various Department of Energy Various Energy Projects \$ 757,200

Stimulus funding requests that are in a pending status are as follows:

- Fire FEMA / Homeland Security Fire station construction \$1,250,000
 - Health Health Human Services Chronic Disease Prevention \$ 200,000
 - HealthCenter for Disease Control Related to tobacco use \$2,000,000
- Another \$1 million plus in federal stimulus funding for assessment and clean up of approved St. Joseph Brownfields sites is also being pursued for use in areas adjacent to the city's downtown core.

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■ **CONTINUED from Page 1.** Supplemental income received totaling \$5,000 or more. The disclosure must include the source of the income and the general nature of the business conducted.

"Because of the close nature and influence staff can have on the lawmakers they work for, we should hold our staff to the same standards of

income disclosures that we as elected officials adhere to — adding an additional layer of accountability and transparency."

A summary as well as full text of the bill will be available online at www.senate.mo.gov in the coming weeks. The 2010 Legislative Session begins on Wednesday, January 6, 2010.