



## Consent Agenda: Nov. 2019

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### **Moon Family Roosevelt Gingerbread Display Debuts Dec. 1**

Stephen and Sabrina Moon will bring their annual gingerbread display to Roosevelt on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 4 PM. You are invited to come and see it first. This year's display will be scenes from The Hobbit. It will be on display throughout December.

### **Roosevelt Harry Potter Escape Rooms a Big Success**

Sami and Kelly Merrell's Harry Potter Escape Rooms hosted nearly 80 patrons. The events were by scheduled appointments of about 20 minutes each and they sold out in about two days of being announced. They will be hosting a second round of the event in early December, just to fill the wait list from the previous escape rooms. It will not be advertised publicly.

### **New History Center Manager**

Janessa Haslem left the History Center on Nov. 8 to accept a position in her actual field of study at a Head Start in Brigham City. Lee Nichole Merrett was hired to the position. She comes from extensive experience as the Uintah Basin Standard editor, Roosevelt City's Public Information Officer, and a great deal of freelance work on media campaigns. She has helped digitize the Standard's newspapers, written grants and planned major events for Roosevelt City, and has been a great advocated for the library over the past few years.

### **History Center Aide Hired**

Angelique Miller was hired in late October as a part-time History Center aide to help continue the various projects already being done in the center while providing coverage in the center so the manager can leave from time to time to trainings and other offsite work. The position became necessary as we have had little success in getting volunteers on a regular basis and the long-time volunteers have had increasing health issues themselves or in their families.

### **EBooks Boycott**

The Utah library directors serving on the newly formed OverDrive Consortium Committee voted unanimously to boycott the purchase of Macmillan eBooks after the majority of library directors agreed. The boycott is due to Macmillan's new policy of only allowing each library to purchase one copy of an

eBook in the first 2 months of a title's release date. That includes only one copy for the entire state consortium, forcing each library to have to buy their own copy, or in the case of the smallest libraries, to not get access at all due to small budgets. This is also bad for the largest libraries in the state since they can only buy one books for all their patrons for the first two months, leading to patron frustration and long waits. Following the 2 month embargo by Macmillan, they will also only allow libraries to purchase copies that have limited circulations, usually 24, after which, the title has to be purchased again. They are also not allowing libraries in the consortium to share those items like we do the others if they are not being used by our own patrons.

In Daniel's opinion, these very restrictive practices are disabling the collective power of the Utah consortium, are unfair to the state's smallest and largest libraries, and would force us to spend even more in eBooks. Though it is not desirable to deny patrons access to those titles, if nothing is done, Macmillan will simply press on until libraries submit to their selling demands. As such Duchesne County Libraries is willingly joining in the boycott. Macmillan audiobooks will still be purchased since there is no embargo on them.

The American Library Association has engaged the US House Judiciary Committee in investigating the restrictive practices and has launched a campaign [www.ebooksforall.org](http://www.ebooksforall.org) for a petition to be signed to Macmillan to cease the embargo. It has been signed by 200,000 readers and authors.

## **Negotiation Initiated with University of Utah to Host Historical Photos**

Daniel visited with Marriott Library staff at the University of Utah to explore options for them to host our digitized historical photos on their servers. Our IT department has found our system to be inadequate to host them here. Hosting them at the U of U servers will also provide a second copy of the photos outside of Duchesne County should a disaster occur at the History Center. Daniel will work with the new History Center Manager on arranging a contract with them. The library catalog should then be able to finally make accessible that digital collection to our patrons.

## **Make & Take Events**

USU Extension is co-sponsoring holiday Make and Take Events in Duchesne Library on Dec. 5 and in Roosevelt on Dec. 10. Attendees create bread and soup mixes that they can put in pint jars and then decorate as holiday gifts. Last year, nearly 90 attended the Duchesne Event. It will be the first time the event is hosted in Roosevelt.