

SATURDAY NIGHT MOVIES NO JANUARY MOVIE

Movies are held in the Swan Room, bring your snacks, lawn chairs, family and enjoy the movie. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult!

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Library Closed	1	2
						3
4	5	Library Board Meeting at 5 PM	6	7	8	9
						10
11	Virtual Story Hour starts at 9:30 AM with "Blue Cookie Monster"	12	9:30 Story Time in Swan Room 11 AM--Geri-Fit 12 PM--Lunch 12:30--Wit's Workout with Kathy Goul 3:45 STEM	13	9:15 Toddler Time in the Play Room	14
					11 AM-Geri-Fit 12 PM Lunch 12:30 Program 1:00 BINGO	15
						16
						17
18	no school No Virtual Story Time	19	9:30 Story Time in Swan Room 11 AM--Geri-Fit 12 PM--Lunch 12:30 --Games 3:45--Paper Roller Coaster with 4H	20	9:15 Toddler Time in the Play Room HomeSchool Day 10 AM PK-2 12 Lunch 1 PM--3rd & up Theme Gingerbread & Kansas Day	21
					11 AM-Geri-Fit 12 PM Lunch 12:30 Program 1:00 BINGO	22
						23
						24
25	9:30 Virtual Story Time--Green Frog	26	9:30 Story Time in Swan Room 11 AM--Geri-Fit 12 PM--Lunch 12:30--Games 3:45--STEM	27	9:15 Toddler Time in the Play Room	28
					11 AM-Geri-Fit 12 PM Lunch 12:30 Bill Nicks Program on Sunflowers 1:00 BINGO	29
						30
						31

January 2026 Menus (Menus are subject to change and if there is no school due to a weather event there are no meals or programs)

Jan. 13—Cook's Choice, Corn, Peaches, Apple Peanut butter dessert

Jan. 15—Tator Tot Casserole, Mixed Veggies, Pears and No Bake Peanut Butter Bars

Jan. 20—Biscuits, Gravy, Turkey Sausage, Scrambled eggs, hashbrowns banana muffins

Jan. 21—Breakfast Burritos, Biscuits, Turkey Sausage, Hashbrowns, Coffee Cake

Jan. 22—Chili, Cinnamon Rolls, Carrot, Celery, Pickle Spears, Pineapple, Cottage Cheese

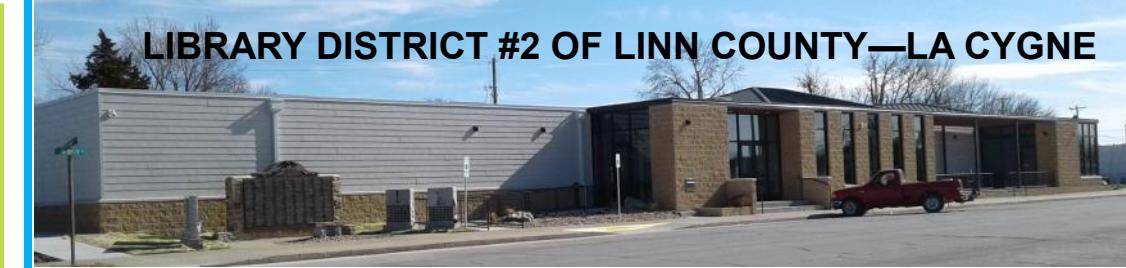
Jan. 27—Hot Dogs, buns, Deviled eggs, French Fries, Cauliflower, Ranger Cookies, fruit

Jan. 29—Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Tators, Gravy, Green Beans, Applesauce, Texas Peanut Butter Sheetcake

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"Unearth a Story" in 2026—
Start at YOUR Library"
Serving our Community:
One book, One program,
One individual at a time!
January 1, 2026
Issue 1 Volume 24

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Do Libraries and/or Librarians Really Have a Purpose?

After nearly 47 years serving in the library world in one capacity or another, I certainly hope that there is a purpose. Talking to folks who live in other places, all they have to say is to complain about their taxes, the lack of services and seeing no purpose for libraries. I usually stand up and defend libraries as a whole, but sometimes I wonder just how people see libraries. I read a meme on Facebook, where a high school football player came to the library and they asked how they could help him. He said his teacher told him to find something old and out of date. Ouch that hurt! But then I think, well he's grown up with technology at his fingertips and has never had to research using the library, and with AI and things like Chat GPT to do research and write their papers, he doesn't see a purpose.

I'm proud of our library in La Cygne, we didn't choose to stay in the rut, and as books seemed to go out of popularity, we expanded our horizons and began to investigate ways that we could stay current with the times and actually have a purpose. People looked at us kind of funny as we started to broaden our horizons, DVDs, audiobooks, Hoopla, and online databases. Then we started focusing on programming and what does our community as a whole need?

I started seeing kids who were hungry after school and during the summer. A group was organized and we started doing summer lunches for kids, then it evolved to kids and caretakers. The senior center closed and we started to offer meals two times a week to help meet that need. Then exercise programs for seniors. Opportunities for social interaction and learning for the seniors. And if there's anything 2020 taught us was the importance of socialization. Our folks were starving for it. Young moms needed a place to meet and share and learn and our playroom was developed to meet that need. Homeschool kids and families needed a place to come together on occasion and learn so we started doing that. School classrooms need mini-field trips and we gave them a chance to explore learning outside the classroom. All of these things helped keep our library real and relevant.

For the second year in a row our patrons have nominated us as the "Best of the Best in Linn County" and we won. This shows me that we are relevant and we are important to our community. I continue to get stories from folks about the library and what it means to them. I have one lady who every Tuesday and Thursday tells me that these two days are the best days of her week. She is in her late 80's and lives alone, but loves to come to the library for exercise, eating, and programs. Another note in a card I received talked about being a stranger in our community and knowing no one. She was encouraged to join the groups meeting at the library, no longer an introvert, she is active in the various programs. Other stories what have been told to me in prior years only go to back this up. People (especially older widows or widowers) need a place to escape the isolation of home alone. The library has evolved over the years to meet that need. We are relevant and needed.

If we hadn't been willing to make the changes to meet community needs, we would be what that guy in the meme was looking for, something old, outdated and irrelevant. Thanks again for voting us Best of the Best in Linn County, for voting us the best library, for voting Chris and myself as best librarians. We also appreciate the fact that we were voted best community center for our activities in the "Great Room" and that you recognized us for our Community Outreach. If you have a story of how the library has helped you and would like to share it. I am collecting some to share to show the continued relevance of the library as a whole.



Virtual Story Hour Keeping up our theme of colors.
We are catching up with ones we missed in Nov.
and Dec. Facebook Live @ 9:30
Resumes Jan. 12th, 2026—Blue Cookie Monster
Jan. 19th—no virtual story time
Jan. 26—Green Frogs

Story time in the Swan Room Tuesday @9:30

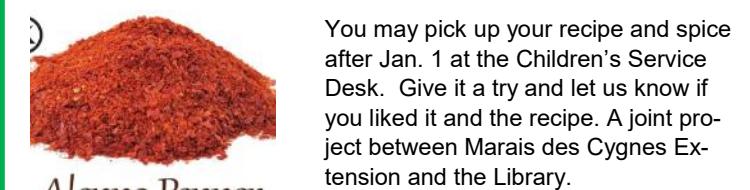
Resumes Jan. 13th, 2026
Jan. 13—Snowflakes are cool!
Jan. 20—Three Billy Goats Gruff
Jan. 27—Igloo Home

Toddler Time 9:15 every Wednesday in the Playroom.

Resumes Jan. 14th, 2026.

Jan. 14—Color Monster
Jan. 21—PAT Playgroup
Jan. 28—3 Little Pigs

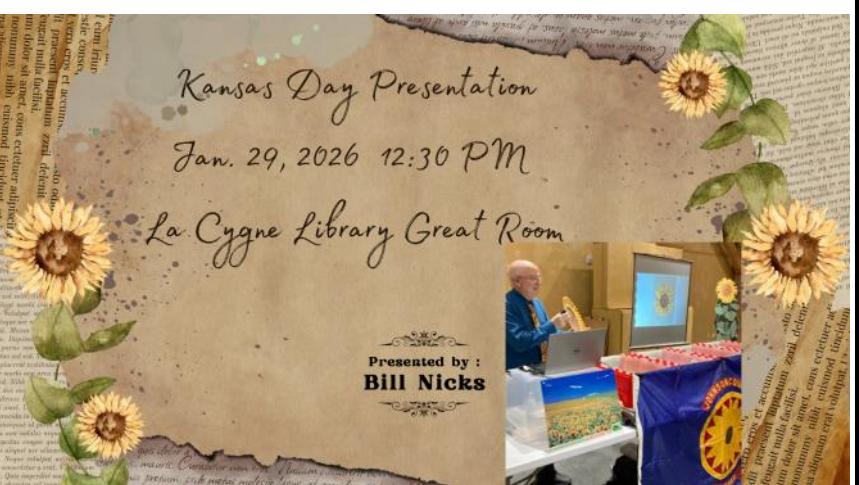
January Spice of the month is Aleppo Pepper



You may pick up your recipe and spice after Jan. 1 at the Children's Service Desk. Give it a try and let us know if you liked it and the recipe. A joint project between Marais des Cygnes Extension and the Library.

"THE WORLD'S LARGEST SUNFLOWER COLLECTION"

"The World's Largest Sunflower Collection" (tongue in cheek) is an eclectic mix of items that have a sunflower, The Kansas State Flower, in each items' design. The collection, which started in 1988, is over 2,500 items large. (At 50 items, I started calling it "The World's Largest...", and my wife, Marci, started calling it "The World's Onliest..." hence the tongue in cheek reference) It contains flags, a manhole cover, mugs, pins, paintings, plates, patches, an 1880s perfume card, mud-flaps, candles, state fair ribbons and medals.....You name it, if it has a Sunflower on it, it is a candidate for inclusion in the collection.



LaVeda's January Guessing Game

Guess the number of *mint candies* in the jar (Without going over) and win this *Noise and Sound Machine*!!



See librarian at the adult desk to enter!!
Winner will be announced January 28th!!

FIND THE SNOWMEN

Look for the snowmen hiding around the Library and fill in the letters to answer the riddle. Turn it in to the desk for a prize!

Why was the snowman looking in the bag of carrots?

1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 !



Year End in Photographs!

