

Putnam County Library hosts Great Lakes Holiday concert Dec. 11

SHAW LOCAL NEWS NETWORK

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The Putnam County Public Library District will host folk musician Lee Murdock for a Great Lakes-themed holiday concert at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at the Granville branch. Murdock will present "The Christ-mas Ship: A Holiday Concert" honoring the turn-of-the-century tradition of schooner captains delivering Christ-mas trees to port communities.

The performance will feature his signature song about the Rouse Simmons, known as the legendary "Christmas Tree Ship."

And it will blend music, history and storytelling.

Murdock is recognized as a premier interpreter of Great Lakes songs and tales.

The guitarist and storyteller combines historical research with original ballads and folk songs about sailors, wooden vessels and life on the inland seas.

The library system will also close at noon on Friday, Dec. 12, for staff training.

The concert is free and open to the public, sponsored by Mennie's Machine Company.

For more information, contact the Granville branch of the Putnam County Public Library District.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Illinois Valley Democrats plan Christmas party Dec. 18

Illinois Valley Democrats will hold its annual Christmas party at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at the La Salle Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4668, 2325 Donahue St.

There will not be a meeting in November, because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

All Democrats are welcome and encouraged to attend. Food can be bought through the La Salle VFW.

Putnam County Library to screen Pearl Harbor documentary Dec. 4

The Putnam County Public Library District's Condit Branch will host a screening of "L'Ille: Pearl Harbor's Unknown Hero" at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4.

The documentary tells the story of Joe George, a sailor aboard the USS Vestal during the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. George defied a direct order from a superior officer and helped save six crewmen from the USS Arizona - the final sailors to escape the battleship alive.

The film highlights George's courage and

- Maribeth Wilson

Putnam County Library plans December events, holiday closures

The Putnam County Library will close for staff training on Dec. 5 and after noon on Dec. 12.

The library will also be closed Dec. 24 to Dec. 26 for Christmas and Dec. 31 to Jan. 2 for New Year's.

December events at the Hennepin branch include:

All month: Pet food and supply drive for local shelters. The library also will hide an elf on bookshelves throughout December, with prizes for those who find it.

Dec. 1-6: Holiday family photos with pets welcome during library hours.

Dec. 4: Holiday painting workshop featuring Christmas trees, suitable for beginners, available all day.

Dec. 9-12: Critic Maker workshops during library hours. Adults can learn to create framed silhouettes of sheet music - appointments required.

Dec. 13: School-age seasonal crafts from 10-11 a.m.

Dec. 18: Silent Book Club with warm drinks provided all day.

Dec. 19: Cookie decorating and hot chocolate from noon to 5 p.m. with prizes, food and drinks.

Dec. 23: Bingo party from 1 to 5 p.m. with prizes, food and drinks.

Dec. 27: School-age seasonal crafts from 10-11 a.m.

Dec. 30: New Year's Open House with raffle, food and drinks all day.

The Putnam County Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., alternating between Hennepin and Granville libraries. The group is seeking new members.

For information, follow the library on Facebook or call during regular hours.

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