

Genealogy Newsletter

Mary B. B. Crouch Genealogy Library

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Don't Be Afraid

We're Here to Help

The Cass County Public Library's Genealogy Branch entrance is located just steps away from the Harrisonville Branch's DVD section, yet it seems we are a few steps too far for some because just the other day a Cass County Public Library Patron stood in the DVD section of the Harrisonville Branch and admitted that they have always wanted to dawn the doors of the Genealogy Branch but were too intimidated.

Does this describe you? Perhaps you attended your first genealogy class with doubts, or maybe looking up your initial ancestor's name on a database was daunting. If this mirrors your thoughts about the Genealogy Branch, or genealogy and family history in general, we are here for you! Some of our favorite words to hear are, "this is my first time coming in here to work on my genealogy" or "I want to learn about my family history but don't know where to start." We seriously want to help you, and it begins with you taking a brave walk through our door.

Inside the Genealogy Branch, you will find computers set aside for genealogy use; on which the staff at the Genealogy Branch will assist and guide you in using CCPL's genealogy databases such as Ancestry Library Edition, Fold3, and more. We are also equipped with a microform (microfilm and microfiche) reader, work/study spaces, and a copy machine that will print pages or scan to a memory device. We also have over 4,000 books and physical resources in the Genealogy Branch that will provide a wealth of information for various family histories.

So, please walk bravely through our door...we are looking forward to working with you!

DO YOU HAVE A RESEARCH QUESTION?

Patrons may submit a specific research inquiry at any time, and we will do our best to aide in your genealogical search.

Email: askgenealogy@casscolibrary.org

Phone: 816.884.6285



Why Isn't Everything I Need Online?

Digitization vs. Books

One of the most common misconceptions about genealogy research is that it can ALL be done online. The truth is that it takes TIME to scan, edit, audit, and process physical material into a digitally publishable format. Imagine each page of a book or file being scanned individually and those pages multiplied by the mass of printed genealogical and historical information within. Such a task would take years and years to accomplish.

In the meantime, we have books, and I don't mean this like "we have to settle for books." Books shouldn't be viewed as a second choice when they are often the only place to find information. If you visit CCPL's Genealogy Branch, you will find a repository of valuable and meaningful books to aide in your genealogy research.

Check out this online blog to further explore this point:

<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/why-arent-more-genealogy-records-online/>

What's New

Resources and More...

- FamilySearch has finally digitized their 2.4 million rolls of microfilm! This has been an ongoing task for several years, so the completion of the work is monumental. What this means for researchers is that we can find more things online instead of traveling to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, or Family History Centers nearer to us. The best part is that it is available for free on FamilySearch.org. Check out the details at:
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/familysearch-microfilm-collection-digitized/>
- Genealogists love a good family history story, so it was great news when NBC recently announced the return of their show: "Roots Less Traveled." You can catch up on previous seasons of this show on NBC.com, or watch the sixth season as it returns in October 2021.
<https://www.ancestry.com/corporate/blog/nbc-announces-return-roots-less-traveled-fall-partnership-ancestry>
- The Cass County Public Library's Genealogy Branch will be offering many of our much-loved books as circulation copies. This process begins in October, so come in and browse our collection for books you can borrow and take home!
- Another item of interest that is NEW is the new face you will see at CCPL's Genealogy Branch. Kari Schooley is the NEW Genealogy Branch Manager and comes to the Cass County Public Library from The Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, MO. Kari has been working in the Genealogy field for over 8 years and has experience and education to share with Genealogy Branch patrons. Before working in libraries, Kari was a 5th grade teacher. Kari is currently working on her Masters of Library Science degree by attending classes through Emporia State University. Besides hunting for ancestors, Kari enjoys photography, reading YA novels, baking, traveling, taking walks, and sitting by a fire. Kari enjoys spending time with her family on a mini-farm with their 23 chickens. Kari looks forward to meeting all of the current Genealogy Branch patrons as well as the new family history enthusiasts who will use the Genealogy Branch in the future. Come in and meet our new manager, Kari Schooley!

Visit us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/GenealogyCCPL>

