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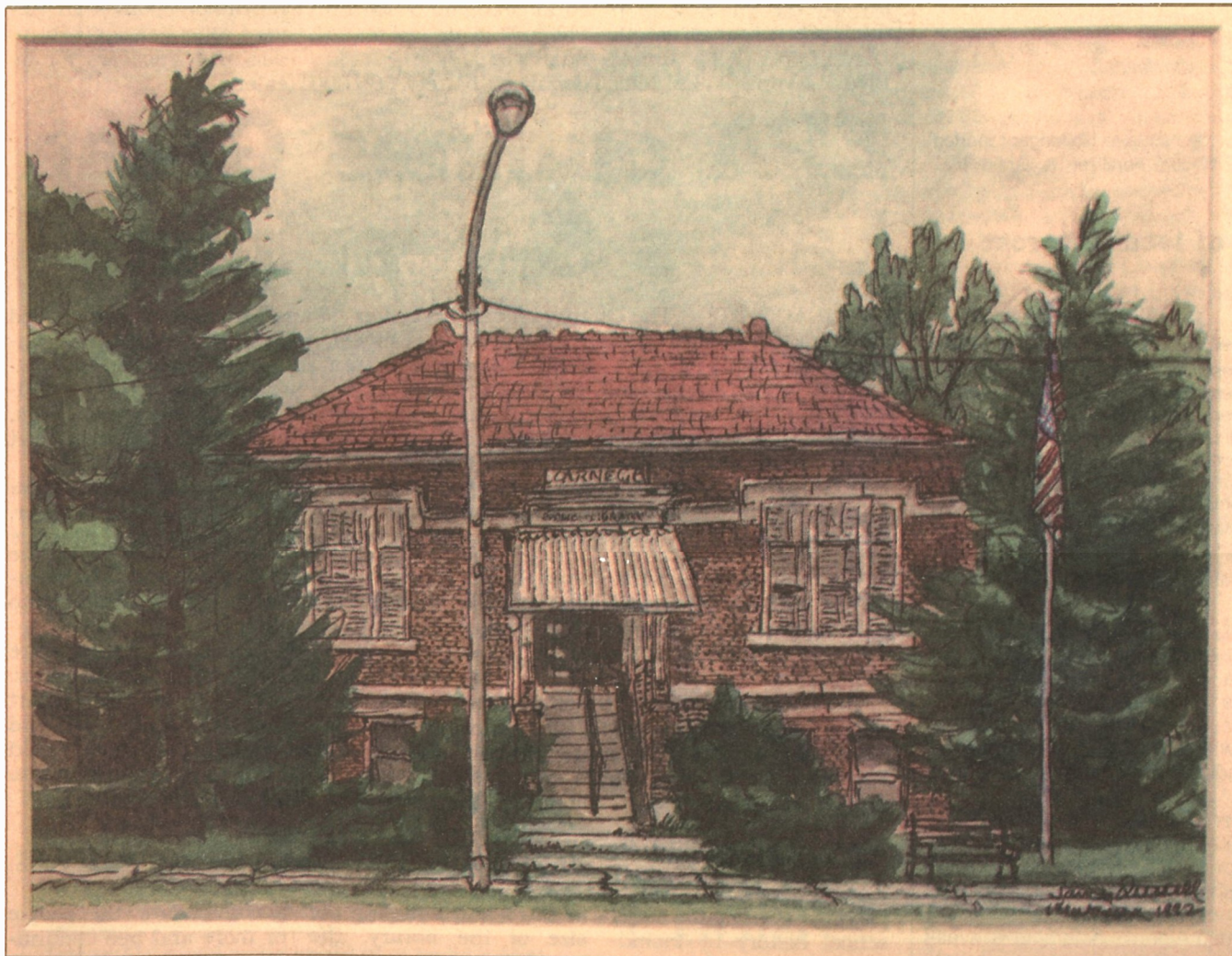
Thursday, September 25, 2014

# THE ROCHESTER SENTINEL.

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**100 YEARS** The Kewanna-Union Township Public Library, as depicted in painting, turns 100 this year.

Photo submitted

## Kewanna library turns 100

The Sentinel report

The Kewanna Union Township Public Library invites the public to a 4-6 p.m. Friday open house with music and refreshments to celebrate its 100th birthday.

The Kewanna library was organized in 1905 and housed in the local school building. Soon outgrowing the space, a corner room was rented in a downtown business for the library collection. It was not long though before the library again outgrew the space it was in.

Through a grant received from the Carnegie Foundation, Kewanna's first library building was completed at a cost of eight thousand dollars. At 210 E. Main St. in the center of Kewanna the new library was dedicated on Nov. 24, 1914, becoming the cultural center of the community.

Meetings and educational programs were held in the assembly room. Uses for the library included, the Red Cross during World War I, first aid classes during World War II, and kindergarten classes for the Kewanna School. The Pinhook Grange used the library as its official meeting place until their new building was constructed in 1961. Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and 4-H clubs have also

held regular meetings at the library.

There are unique features in the library. Several Carnegie libraries were built in the early 1900's, but the stage located in the basement set Kewanna's apart. Having a stage for public performances and programs has encouraged more of the community to use and visit the library, a press release states.

Unique collections at the library include local history, Kewanna school pictures and trophies, and the entire collection of The Observer, Kewanna's local newspaper. This local newspaper was in publication from the 1930's to 2011. Joe and Karen Good, the most recent publishers of the Observer, donated their collection of the original copies of the Observer.

"Even though Kewanna can be considered a small community, it still has a long, rich his-

tory. Kewanna librarians have captured and maintained this history, accepting donations from the community," said Librarian Charles Rude.

"I have tried to maintain Kewanna's history and display it. This library has a bit of a museum quality to it, dis- Please see **Kewanna**, Page 2

**Kewanna takes pride in its library and the role that it plays...**

## Looking ahead for little ones

BY TAMI MCMAHAN

Columbia Elementary Principal

I remember as if it was yesterday, sitting in my first grade classroom, BerryLand! My first-grade teacher, Nancy Berry, had asked us to write a story answering the question: What do you want to be when you grow up? In first grade I knew I wanted to be a teacher just like Mrs. Berry. What I didn't know was that making that goal at the age of 7 was the first step in many steps that would lead me to completing a college education.



Tami McMahan

**Talking Zebras**

Studies show that by providing early preparation and college awareness builds the foundation of skills needed to be successful in college. It also shows that kids who are socialized earlier and start reading and writing earlier, tend to not only perform better but also have the intrinsic motivation to keep doing well over the course of their educational career.

Columbia Elementary is participating in College Go Week this week. During this week students begin discovering the answer to questions such as what is college and why is college important.

They are becoming "Career Explorers" and journeying down a virtual path that starts at

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## Shireman new school treasurer

BY CHRISTINA M. SEILER

Managing Editor, The Sentinel

Rochester Community Schools has a new business manager.

Sheila Howe, hired February 2012, is leaving Rochester for a new job in Allen County, closer to her residence and family.

The school corporation is gaining Penny Shireman, the first deputy auditor of Fulton County. Shireman currently does the county's