

News

Women's history celebrated at library

By Sara Luneburg
Staff writer

For every story of a man's invention or achievement, there is a lesser known story of what a woman has done.

In celebration of Women's History Month, the La Grange Public Library will host a dramatic performance at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at the library, 10 W. Cossitt Ave. in La Grange. WomanLore, a theatrical group re-creating the life stories of women in history through the use of their diaries, letters and autobiographies,

will present a play by Betsey Means and directed by Eileen Vorbach on the life of Gertrude Bell, a British woman.

Pat Prohl, head of circulation, said the success of a dramatic woman's history program last year led the library to try something similar this year. After hearing from other libraries about how much they enjoyed the group, La Grange library booked them for the free show.

The program's only character, Bell, lived from 1868 to 1926. She was recruited by British intelligence during World War I and was crucial in gaining the loyalty of

Arab leaders.

She left behind a posh Victorian life and worked diligently to explore, map and excavate the Arab world. During that time, she was considered the most powerful woman in the British Empire.

Prohl said the program choice of "Adventures of a Desert Queen" was made for a reason.

"Today, everybody is curious about that part of the world," she said.

Sara Luneburg e-mail address is:
sluneburg@libertysuburban.com