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KIRKWOOD
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

For Immediate Release

Kirkwood Public Library Will Sponsor "One Book, One Kirkwood" Community Reading Project in Summer 2012

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Kirkwood, Missouri: Kirkwood Public Library is excited to announce a new summer reading program: **One Book, One Kirkwood**. The One Book program is a community-wide reading event, similar to the "One Book" programs that have been launched in other cities across the country since the first one in Seattle in 1998. The Kirkwood community will read the 2011 novel, *The Coffins of Little Hope*, by Timothy Schaffert.

The goals for this program are to encourage reading across all ages and to strengthen the sense of community as residents enjoy a good book together. The library will purchase many copies of the book and make it available for checkout. In June, the library will sponsor book discussions, and the "Community Read" will wrap up at the end of the month with a visit from the author, Timothy Schaffert, at 7:00 p.m., on June 27, at the Kirkwood Public Library, 140 East Jefferson.

KPL Director Sarah Erwin has spearheaded the program. "We're delighted to offer this program in Kirkwood," Erwin said. "Kirkwood is home to many readers."

More details will be available in the coming months as the Library gears up for the reading program. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with One Book, One Kirkwood should contact Library Director Sarah Erwin at 821-5770, ext. 1016.

A summary of the book: "When a young country girl is reported to be missing, perhaps whisked away by an itinerant aerial photographer, Essie (an octogenarian obituary writer for her family's small town newspaper) stumbles onto the story of her life. Or, it all could be simply a hoax, or a delusion, the child and child-thief invented from the desperate imagination of a lonely, lovelorn woman. Either way, the story of the girl reaches far and wide, igniting controversy, attracting curiosity-seekers from all over the country to this rural town. And then it is revealed that the long awaited final book of an infamous series of gothic novels is being secretly printed on the newspaper's presses. *The Coffins of Little Hope* tells a feisty, energetic story of characters caught in the intricately woven webs of myth, legend and deception even as Schaffert explores with his typical exquisite care and sharp eye the fragility of childhood, the strength of family,

the powerful rumor mills of rural America, and the sometimes dramatic effects of pop culture on the way we shape our world.”

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