



# Book Report

AUGUST 2019 VOLUME VI

## In the middle of suburbia, a garden grows Overland Park Community Garden



Photo by Lauren Bond

**T**he next time you visit Oak Park Library, take a look around. Nearby, you'll see the Overland Park Community Garden. More than 10 years ago, it was just a hope. Today, it's a thriving community resource

that became a reality with the help of Johnson County Library.

The 5,000-square-foot piece of land at 9500 Bluejacket Street had been deeded to Johnson County Library for 99 years after the owner's death. The former farm field had rich soil that was perfect for growing crops.

In 2008, Johnson County native Bev Jaderborg led an exploratory committee seeking a land partner for a community garden. They approached the Library, and with the approval of the Library Board, the Library donated the land in 2010.

The Overland Park Community Garden, formally established in 2011, is managed by a non-profit organization headed by a volunteer board of directors, Overland Park Community Garden, Inc.

From the start, the garden has received support from City of Overland Park and Johnson County. The city's Parks Department broke the ground and put in the hydrants. The city's Parks Department provides ongoing maintenance help -- like maintaining the water hydrants -- and delivers the mulch every year.

The Library provides resources when needed, too. When there was no funding for a sidewalk from the parking lot to the garden, the Library's head of facilities, Mike Heffernan, made it happen.

But it's the volunteers who do the day-to-day work in the garden. They transformed the donated land into a patchwork of 20' by 4' plots gardeners can rent to plant vegetables and flowers. They help to maintain soil quality. And the kids do their part, too. One Boy Scout's Eagle Project was to build the wooden three-bin compost system, and this season, a Daisy Girl Scout troop turned the compost piles to uncover



Photo by Lauren Bond

the finished product that they spread around the raspberries.

In fact, the children have been especially excited about gardening. They love to get their hands into the soil, planting and harvesting their own lettuce, tomatoes, carrots and onions. Some may learn for the first time that food doesn't just come from the grocery store.

Stop by Oak Park Library, walk over and take a look at the Overland Park Community Garden. When you see all the tomatoes, lettuce, artichokes, carrots, onions, basil plants and colorful flowers growing, you may feel the call of the soil, too. You can find out how to rent a plot for next season at [opgarden.org](http://opgarden.org).



Photo by Lauren Bond

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July 2019

## PATRON POINT OF VIEW

## Bev Jaderborg

**She planted the seed for a community garden, and Johnson County Library helped it grow**



*Bev Jaderborg*

**“W**hy doesn’t Overland Park have a community garden?” With that question, Bev Jaderborg embarked on a journey that led to the creation of the Overland Park Community Garden.

“Both of my folks grew up on farms. I was exposed to the farms and saw huge gardens, and I felt a draw to getting more connected to the land,” Jaderborg says. “They had to grow what they fed their families, and that was hard, especially in northwestern Kansas. I admire them -- they were at the mercy of nature.”

In 2010, the Library became the garden’s land partner, donating land next to Oak Park Library for the Overland Park Community Garden. Today, more than 50 people rent plots and plant crops and flowers each year. Jaderborg especially enjoys seeing kids getting close to the land and excited about planting and tending their plots.

She and her husband, Michael Burlingame, are both great fans of the Library. Jaderborg enjoys reading historical fiction, especially “Radium Girls,” about

the women who painted radium watch dials; and “The Triangle Fire,” the horrifying New York shirt factory fire that prompted the creation of workplace safety laws. Burlingame likes nonfiction, science fiction and books about mindfulness. Jaderborg encouraged him to check them out at the Library instead of buying them.

She said, ‘Why are you buying all of

these books? You’ve got this great library.’”

The couple travels annually. They’ve been to Greece and Sicily – and to Costa Rica, where they rappelled down a canyon, did a Tarzan sling and Burlingame did the zipline (Jaderborg said “No, thank you.”) They have seen stunning wildlife in Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Park, and Alaska is next on their travel list.

Both of them were manufacturing engineers for AT&T. After working at Lucent in Omaha, they returned to the Kansas City area to escape the frigid Nebraska winters and to be close to Jaderborg’s family. They have one “kid” – a Labradoodle/Basset Hound mix rescue dog named Buzz.

After working with Library staff and Board through the community garden project, Jaderborg says, “I’m just floored by the quality of the people leading the Library and the Board. The whole system is wonderful. This garden has really shown me what a good asset the Library is.”

**“ Both of my folks grew up on farms. I was exposed to the farms and saw huge gardens, and I felt a draw to getting more connected to the land. ”**





# eLIBRARY RESOURCES

## Johnson County Library's eResources – A World of Knowledge

**eNewspapers, eBooks, music, genealogy resources, history, language lessons and more**

**A**s you walk into the Library, you'll see books, CDs and DVDs immediately. But they're only the tip of the iceberg. What you don't see is the treasure trove of digital resources right below the surface. Whether you're looking for facts, news, educational materials or just something fun to read or listen to, you'll find it in the Library's eResources.

Through Johnson County Library, you can access the world digitally. Patrons have access to 116 electronic collections, including The New York Times, Britannica Online, Heritage Quest, Mango Languages, Rosetta Stone, Ancestry, historical material and much, much more.

The State Library of Kansas provides access to 68 of JCL's electronic collections, and the other 48 are made available through the Library's subscriptions to various providers.

"For the majority of eResources, we pay for a subscription to access that content that is licensed to us for a specific period of time," says Hope Harms,



eResources Librarian. "We do not actually own the content the way we do with physical items."

There are digital versions of physical resources -- eAudiobooks, eMagazines, eNewspapers, eMusic and streaming video -- and other eResources for patrons of all ages and interests:

- eLearning resources to build skills: language learning, tech skills, hobbies and more.
- Business and personal finance databases.
- Consumer information.
- Legal forms and government information.
- Local history, regional information, genealogy databases.
- Tools for job seekers.
- Science, health and wellness databases.
- Homework help, including online tutoring and test prep.
- Articles across a variety of trade magazines and scholarly journals.

Harms says eBooks and eAudiobooks from Axis 360 are the most popular eResources: More than 640,000 Axis 360 checkouts in 2018. Through the Axis 360 Community Share Program, most Johnson County K-12 students can access portions of

this public library collection via their school libraries.

History buffs enjoy the digital collections of historic Johnson County photographs, atlases, newspapers, yearbooks and more that are available through partnerships with the Johnson County Museum and local history groups. And genealogists can access Ancestry at the Library to discover their family history.

The Library's electronic collection is a core component of Johnson County Library's mission to provide access to information, ideas, experiences and materials that support and enrich people's lives.

Due to the variety of technological systems of different eResource providers, Harms says, "It takes a Library village -- from IT staff on our Customer Experience Team behind the scenes to frontline staff assisting patrons in-person and online -- to keep our eResources ecosystem thriving."

"JCL does not charge patrons to access any of our eResources," she says. "I like to think these resources are better than 'free' for our patrons; they're more like an intentional gift from taxpayers back to the community for all of us to share."



### TOP 10 HOLDS



#### JULY 2019

#### 1022 **Where the Crawdads Sing**

Delia Owens

#### 452 **Educated: A Memoir**

Tara Westover

#### 459 **Mrs. Everything**

Jennifer Weiner

#### 441 **City of Girls**

Elizabeth Gilbert

#### 349 **Summer of '69**

Elin Hilderbrand

#### 305 **The Silent Patient**

Alex Michaelides

#### 244 **Evvie Drake Starts Over**

Linda Holmes

#### 237 **The Guest Book**

Sarah Blake

#### 233 **Normal People**

Sally Rooney

#### 209 **The Mother-In-Law**

Sally Hepworth

# FRIENDS SPOTLIGHT

## Hot Deals on Used Books

### At the sizzlin' summer book sale



On June 27 at 9 a.m., the Friends of Johnson County Library 31st annual Sizzlin' Summer Book Sale got underway. By 10 a.m., cars overflowed the Lackman Building's parking lot and spilled into neighboring retailers' lots. Dozens of people streamed in and out in the hot summer sun carrying bags, boxes, and even rolling suitcases to hold the treasures they found

Johnson County Library's largest sale of the year, the summer book sale is organized by the Friends. More than 50 volunteers worked for months assembling, sorting and placing books, CDs and DVDs on shelves in boxes to prepare for this event.

Book lovers arrived in droves, drawn by the fire-sale prices: \$1.00 for paperbacks, \$2.00 for hardbacks, children's books for \$0.50 - \$1.00 each, and some unique

pieces specially priced, with net proceeds going to support Johnson County Library. Some of the sale materials had been donated to Friends of Johnson County Library, and others had been culled from weeded items across the Library system.

Friends Operations Manager Shanta Dickerson said the event kicks off "kind of like retail shopping during the holiday season: BUSY! We raised \$63,000, which was \$5,000 more than projections. And Friends gained a lot of new members at the event."

Jodie Deitz, a volunteer and Friends of Johnson County Library Board member, greeted visitors at the entrance with a smile and invited them to spin a wheel to win cool prizes: Book Bucks, BOGO Bookstore coupons and eye-boggling Hypno Rings.

Volunteers directed customers, kept the shelves stocked and in order and carried boxes of books to cars. Others kept busy at the checkout desks, where steady streams of shoppers brought stacks of books, CDs and DVDs to buy.

Mothers and grandmothers shepherded kids through the aisles to choose their summer reading from a plentiful supply of books -- everything from board books for infants to novels for young adults.

High school student Maria Heath, tending one of the checkout desks, said she's been volunteering for the book sale since she was 12 years old. "I love it!," she said with an enthusiastic thumbs-up.

If you missed the in-person sale, no



*Jodie Deitz, volunteer and Friends of the Library Board member*

worries. You can purchase books at the Friends bookstores in the Libraries or at Friends' online sellers: AbeBooks.com, Amazon.com and eBay. You'll find links to those sellers on Johnson County Library's website: [www.jocolibrary.org/support/friends-book-sales](http://www.jocolibrary.org/support/friends-book-sales).





# EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Book Report

## Rocking and Rolling with Mr. Stinky Feet



*Mr. Stinky Feet (aka Jim Cosgrove)*

**M**r. Stinky Feet (aka Jim Cosgrove) had about 120 kids and adults clapping, drumming and dancing at Antioch Library on July 2, part of his high-energy performance, “Mr. Stinky Feet’s Rock & Roll Galaxy.”

He sang and played original songs about the planets, accompanied by “three cowboy chords” he learned when he picked up the guitar at age 19. “If I’d picked it up earlier, I might have learned something,” he jokes.

Both kids and adults became members of the Alien All-Star Band, playing simple instruments, jumping, stomping and yelling out some of the words as Mr. Stinky Feet led them in a raucous chorus.



Cosgrove’s two daughters, ages 14 and 12, used to tour with him “when it was cool” (in other words, when they were younger). His wife, Jennie, works in Youth Services at Monticello Library. Audiences around the country have enjoyed Mr. Stinky Feet’s performances for more than 20 years.

## Fringe Festival KC Preview

### Circus arts, dancers and more entertain at Central Resource Library

**F**or 15 years, the popular Fringe Festival KC has presented entertainments from dance to drama to comedy to, well, whatever, to Kansas City area audiences. And for the past several years, Johnson County Library has partnered with Fringe.

On July 9, a Fringe visual arts display lined the walls of Central Resource Library’s lobby, and Cheryl Kimmi, Fringe Executive Director, introduced snippets of some of this year’s live acts, including a play, two circus arts acts and a modern dance performance.

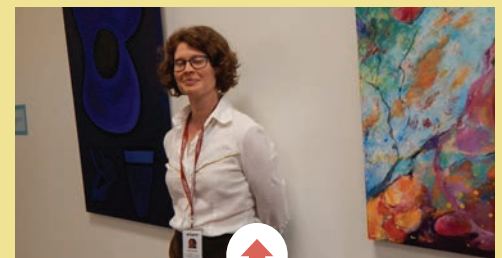
Attendees picked up free Fringe programs and purchased \$5.00 Fringe buttons that serve as passes to attend the events.

In August, Johnson County Library has planned to present one Library Pick Fringe event for three days at Central

Resource Library – a chance for patrons to see a Fringe performance for free.



*Flights of Faerhy Fancy – Voler Aerial Academy*



*Michelle Holden facilitated the Fringe art exhibition*



*Vida Dance Company*

# TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

## Social Media Highlights

Library followers love book-related memes, like these posts that went viral last month.



### Did you hear? Johnson County Library's podcast tackled a number of topics in July, including:

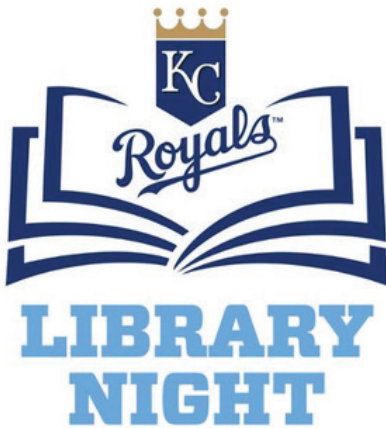
- Summer Reading Space Books
- Interlibrary Loan - "One of the best things about Interlibrary loan, AKA ILL," says ILL Manager Kari Sime, "is the amount of money we save patrons who might otherwise buy CDs, books, or DVDs. Every time we borrow an item for free, a patron may save \$10 - \$30 or more!"
- An interview with author and astronaut Mike Massimino

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- Apple Podcasts • Google Podcasts • Google Play • Stitcher • Or wherever you get your podcasts!



## July Month in Review



Johnson County Library teamed up with other metro libraries and the Royals for **Library Night at the K** on July 30. A portion of ticket proceeds benefited Johnson County Library.



Patrons joined **KC Fringe Festival** artists and performers for a sneak peek and reception at Central Resource Library.



On **July 4th**, we celebrated **Independence Day** with our patrons with a patriotic slideshow. We took the opportunity to salute the **freedom of information**.



## KIDS SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

catholic  charities  
OF NORTHEAST KANSAS

Serving summer meals for ALL children  
18 years and younger.



**NO COST!** No Sign-up Necessary / Parents and care-givers welcome

This institution is an equal opportunity provider



catholic  charities  
OF NORTHEAST KANSAS

Catholic Charities operates the **Kids Summer Food Program** in partnership with the **USDA** and **Kansas Department of Education**. Children up to age 18 can receive a free nutritious sack breakfast at **Antioch Library** or a free nutritious sack lunch at **Central Resource Library**.



### NEXT ISSUE

- 
-  **Cover Story:** Bike Fix-it Station
  -  **Top 10 Holds:** August 2019
  -  **Friends Spotlight:** Teen Volunteers
  -  **Event:** Monticello Time Capsule Ceremony; Meet the Astronaut
  -  **eLibrary Resources**

JOHNSON COUNTY  
KANSAS

## Library

### BOOK REPORT

*A monthly publication for government officials and residents of Johnson County*

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