



Johnson County Library

County Librarian's Report April 2014



Staff at the Lackman Neighborhood Library created an interactive display using the art of famous illustrator Clive Thompson to promote its **708 Gallery Art Open House** in April. With permission from the artist, patrons were invited to color in his extraordinary murals.

INFORMATION ITEM

June 12, 2014

To: Members of Johnson County Library Board of Directors

From: County Librarian Sean Casserley

Re: County Librarian's Report for April 2014

COMMUNITY

A husband and wife from Birmingham, Ala., stopped by the **Blue Valley Neighborhood Library** while in town visiting their daughter and remarked how much they love it. “We always look forward to visiting your library when we come to Kansas,” said the husband.

The Library continued its focus on **producing original video content** to engage with patrons. The Video Interest Group debuted “[Mom vs. Kid](#)” in April. The Library also shared a [patron-produced video](#) on the MakerSpace’s 3D scanner and printer.



Knowing the childcare facility at the **Jewish Community Center** would be closed following the tragic shootings of April, Johnson County Library offered additional youth programs at several locations immediately following the tragedy. After seeing news of the programs on social media, a balloon artist came to the Lenexa Neighborhood Library to help entertain the kids.

Johnson County Library celebrated its **roster of all-star volunteers** at an April 11 luncheon hosted at Shawnee Town Hall. This year's event took on a sports theme and included remarks from County Librarian Sean Casserley and Board of County Commissioners Chairman Ed Eilert. The Library received 51,659 hours of volunteer service from 950 dedicated volunteers in 2013.



CONVENIENCE

*I think the Johnson County Library system is excellent. I get **more benefit from it per tax dollar than anything else government provides**. The online system is excellent and I like the self-checkout system. Keep up the great work!*

- Grant, Library patron

On a dreary Monday morning an older gentleman browsing new books at the **Blue Valley Neighborhood Library** turned to the information desk and said, "Isn't this nice! I love this look!" He was referring to the increased number of "faceouts," or books with the front cover facing out toward the patron.

*The way this library is set up **made it so easy for me** the first time to come in and find what I need! The space in the library was so unexpected. Plenty of room for everyone and the lighting was great, too. I look forward to studying here!*

- Marilyn, Library patron

EDUCATION

Early Literacy Coordinating Librarian Bradley Debrick and Youth Services staff are creating a **new ecology 6by6 kit** that will include a new book on air quality created for the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC). Bradley assisted MARC staff in finding an author for the book, of which several copies will be donated to the Library.



Teen Services Coordinating Librarian Kate McNair met with **American Prison Data Systems and the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC)** to talk about how tablets would be used at the JDC to access Johnson County Library's collection of eBooks. She also met with JDC staff and the department's English teacher to talk about improving library service at the JDC.

Kate also **led a webinar on gaming in the library** for the Kansas State Library as it opens up a grant for gaming systems.

*"Reading to me means a way for me to escape reality and let my imagination run wild. **I've benefitted from the books here by being more open-minded.** I always look forward to Thursdays to get new books and talk about books we're reading. While I've been incarcerated I've gotten an idea of writing a book about Greek Mythology!"*

- Juvenile Detention Center resident

Two **new eLearning resources** debuted on JoCoLibrary.org, allowing patrons to learn anywhere and at their own pace. Universal Class offers a wide variety of lifelong learning classes and Treehouse provides online tutorials for web design, development and more.



Storytime at Mill Creek Activity Center continues to bring in large crowds. Four April sessions attracted a total of 233 children and adults.

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