



Johnson County Library

County Librarian's Report

December 2013



Johnson County Library partnered with Sprint Center to bring Sesame Street Live's Grover to select Library storytimes in December. More than 450 attendees across four locations enjoyed Grover's visits and several lucky families received free Sesame Street Live tickets.

INFORMATION ITEM

February 13, 2013

To: Members of Johnson County Library Board of Directors
From: County Librarian Sean Casserley
Re: County Librarian's Report for December 2013

I. Convenient, Delightful & Rewarding Library Service

Information Specialist Lisa Jordan helped a patron with printing at the **Gardner Neighborhood Library**. The patron came back the next day to tell Lisa, "You should be a teacher! I came in today and printed all by myself with no problems after you helped me yesterday. Thank you so much!"

Circulation Supervisor Chris Carleton called a patron back to discuss their account and was greeted by the patron's 3-year-old daughter. The toddler told Chris all about her Christmas list while finding mom. "Oh my goodness," the mom said after taking the phone. "I'm glad she was talking to a librarian!"

A patron walked into the **Gardner Neighborhood Library** on a mission to sell her car. Youth Information Specialist Catherine Groth helped her create a listing on Craigslist as well as a flier to share with potential buyers.

Using Library Resources

The **GO Topeka economic partnership** visited the Library's MakerSpace as part of its tour of creative spaces throughout Kansas City.

The Library web team completed another extensive round of in-person usability testing on the **new Library website** currently in development. The process will be delayed by the loss of the Library's web designer in January, but the search for another talented designer is already underway.

Early Literacy and Early Literacy Outreach

The **6 by 6 area of the Antioch Neighborhood Library** attracted 2,545 people in December, a 19.6% increase compared to the same period in 2012. This reflected an average of 85 people per day.

Serving Children & Teens

Johnson County Library partnered with Sprint Center to bring **Sesame Street Live's Grover** to select storytimes. More than 450 attendees across four locations enjoyed Grover's visits and several lucky families received free Sesame Street Live tickets.

Teen Librarian Kate McNair and Central Youth Services Supervisor Dennis Ross went on **KCUR's Up To Date program** to recommend the best books of 2013 for children and teens.

Two girls from Mill Valley High School came in to the **Shawnee Neighborhood Library** to replace their library cards and search for books. The two struck up a lively conversation with Youth Services Librarian Kathee Goldsich about books and movies. At one point, the girls realized they had just spent an hour at the library. The pair later tweeted about their great time at the library with Librarian Kathee.

Collection Development

November's strong launch of **eAudiobooks service** carried into December, with 76% of eAudiobook titles having been checked out by month's end.

InterLibrary Loan

Items Johnson County Library loaned to other libraries: **1,914 (49% of requests)**

Items Johnson County Library borrowed from other libraries: **1,399 (63% of requests)**

II. *Serving Underserved Populations*

Staff from the **Oak Park Neighborhood Library** visited metro libraries that currently provide services to the Latino community, including the Ruiz Library of Kansas City Public Library and the South Library of the Kansas City Kansas Public Library. Oak Park and South Library staff will reunite in March to receive training and share best practices about Latino services.

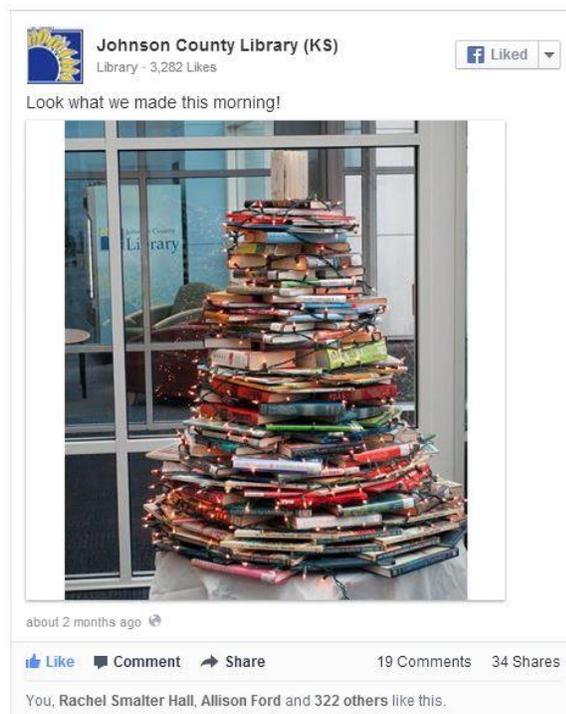
III. *Communication & Community Engagement*

Director of Communication Kasey Riley and other staff handled several **media inquiries** about the enactment of the Library policy to allow concealed carry firearms in Library buildings.

Staff at the Central Resource Library built a **holiday tree made of books** and shared a picture (see right) with the Library's Facebook community. The picture reached 4,268 people and generated more than 600 combined likes, clicks, comments and shares, a Library record.

Staff from **Lawrence Public Library** visited the Central Resource Library to learn about Johnson County Library's recent RFID conversion in advance of its own upcoming transition to the technology.

Web content developer Monica Claassen integrated the Library's JoCoHistory collection with **HistoryPIN**, a website that enables people from different generations, cultures and places to contribute pieces of local history online.



Library staff staged a **MakerSpace photoshoot**, one or multiple photographs from which will likely be used in an upcoming book about libraries and makerspaces.

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