



Johnson County Library

County Librarian's Report November 2012



These photos were taken at the Spring Hill Neighborhood Library Pajama Party. This event had 10 adults and 12 children in attendance. Parents as Teachers, Sue Ann Harris, led children in multiple literacy activities with parent participation, too. Music and dancing were a big hit.

INFORMATION ITEM

January 10, 2013

To: Members of Johnson County Library Board of Directors
From: Sean Casserley, County Librarian
Re: County Librarian's Report for the Month of November 2012

This Month's Highlights

Dorian Assenmacher (*Youth Services Specialist*) has received a great deal of positive feedback from her storytimes:

"Your storytime was a breath of fresh air. It was wonderful."

"That was a really good storytime. Too bad we are just finding out about it and you only have one more until January."

Shawnee Neighborhood Library received patron feedback:

"I miss the Shawnee Library. The staff was always so helpful and friendly and your interlibrary loan system stellar. I love my new town, Woodbine, Iowa. The two librarians are very nice. However, I can't get the books I really want. Didn't realize when I moved that I had a fine. I wanted to pay it, so the \$1 is enclosed. Happy Holidays!"

Marsha Bennett (*Community Relations Coordinator*) reports the Big Fall Book Sale was a record-breaking event with over \$60,000 in sales. Those who attended were excited about all the books and audiovisual materials. First time for price increases at this sale, but beat the amount from last fall. This sale required 250 volunteers as well as Friends staff, Marsha Bennett and Susan Mong.

Dan Roberson (*Son of Kay Roberson – One of the Library founders*) contacted the Library and told us that he found a scrapbook that was his mother's. We have requested a copy of it. The scrapbook includes many clippings about the Library and materials documented Kay's involvement.

Oak Park Neighborhood Library reports the number of children attending the ELL children's program "Colorin Colorado" has increased and presented a few challenges for the staff. Staff has made a few changes that have improved the management of a larger number of kids.

Bradley Debrick (*Early Literacy Coordinator*) received a thank you note from Shawnee Presbyterian Preschool: "Thank you so much for letting us visit the library. When we got back to school, we made some Chicka Chicka Boom Boom trees with shapes and letters."

I. Convenient, Delightful & Rewarding Library Service

Using Library Resources

The **Vote for Books** campaign was a success! Bad Kitty and Babymouse were the winners in Johnson County, as well as all over the Metro. There were 2,485 votes cast in Johnson County and 553 of those elected to vote online. There were more than 5,000 votes metro-wide.

Oak Park Neighborhood Library reported the last poetry and music program of the Tertulias Latinoamericas series took place on Nov. 15, with a total attendance of 71 people. The series attracted attendees from various Latin American countries, who found the program exciting and informative. Many of them were moved and touched by the poetry and music made into poetry that connected to their culture, language and Latin American roots. Oak Park staff plans to offer a similar series in 2013.

Shawnee Neighborhood Library staff is seeing some really in-depth research requests from students who are working on a heroes project at a local school. They need numerous sources, both print and online, on influential people in the world. **Jenny Mendez (Information Specialist)** said, "It has been really fun showing some students our databases and explaining how these news articles online are actually print resources and how they can determine what is good content online."

Several locations report seeing a high number of checkouts from their staff picks displays. Patrons have come to expect our recommendations and they appear to go directly to these displays.

Early Literacy

Antioch Neighborhood Library reports that outreach to local childcare or early education agencies and facilities continue to be hampered by staffing levels.

Dorian Assenmacher (Youth Information Specialist) has decided to stay at Antioch after her 6-month review of its role as the incubator for JCL's 6 by 6 program. As Dorian noted in her discussion with **Ken Werne (Antioch Neighborhood Library Branch Manager)**, it is her passion to be serving the younger set.

Antioch Neighborhood Library also received word that **Amy Field (Youth Information Specialist)** will return after her time at **Blue Valley Neighborhood Library**.

Bradley Debrick (Early Literacy Coordinator) met with Blue Valley North broadcast students about doing some filming and interviewing for a 6 by 6 training video.

Antioch Neighborhood Library reports 2,282 visitors to the 6 by 6 space in November. That is an average of 85 visitors per day! To date, the 6 by 6 space usage is up 16% from 2011!

Serving Children & Teens

Barbara Brand (Youth Services Manager) met with **Kathee Goldsich (Youth Services Librarian)** and **Terry Velasquez (Shawnee Neighborhood Library Branch Manager)** regarding storytimes for spring. They have decided to try an outreach storytime in the Monticello area for spring.

Shawnee Neighborhood Library staff report they have been receiving really in-depth research request from students who are working on a heroes project at a local school. They need numerous sources, both print and online, on influential people in the world. **Jenny Mendez (Information Specialist)** said, "It has been really fun showing some students our databases and explaining how these news articles online are actually print resources and how they can determine what is good content online."

Blue Valley Neighborhood Library Youth Services Staff decided to change up the storytime lineup and replace Mother Goose with Baby Time in hopes the Baby Time format will encourage more interaction between the adult and child. They will be offering it twice a week and use the storytime room. They hope the smaller group and smaller room will facilitate the interaction and minimize the roving children and chatting adults.

Robin Davin (Information Specialist) reports the IS area has been filled with teens each afternoon from 4:30-6:00. This area is filled with teens working on research papers. The study rooms continue to be booked during this time period, as well.

Collection Development

RFID Update: The inventory group continues its work, with a few key accomplishments this month. We officially started the MAFIA report and we purged all items that were still sitting in the Pending RFID Completion status. These are items that have not had any activity since we finished tagging the entire collection—meaning that most likely, these items aren't here. We've officially removed them from the database.

Construction is underway for the **Leawood Pioneer Neighborhood Library** sorters.

The Smart Schutes have been installed and are functioning at **Shawnee Neighborhood Library**.

Interlibrary Loan

ILL borrowed 1,767 items in November 2012 and loaned 2,111 items.

11 new libraries requested materials from Johnson County Library in October.

New Convenience Services

Johnson County Library has chosen Baker & Taylor's Axis 360 as the eBook platform and plans to launch to patrons in December 2012. There will be training for staff throughout the months of September and October. The Library will be training staff to ensure that they are ready and able to help patrons with any issues.

UPDATE: Currently, the launch of the eBook program is scheduled for Dec. 12.

UPDATE: The date of the eBook launch has been pushed back. Staff is preparing for a Dec. 18 *SOFT* launch. This means we will do little to promote the launch. We will "officially" launch this service Jan. 3, 2013. The 2 week difference will allow staff to see problems before we officially promote eBooks. This will allow us to fix any issues to ensure it works the way it should.

III. *Serving Underserved Populations*

Early Literacy - Outreach

Bradley Debrick, (*Early Literacy Coordinator*) reports that he continues working with other Kansas libraries to ensure the 6 by 6 program sees as much success across the state as it has seen at Johnson County Library.

UPDATE: **Bradley Debrick, (*Early Literacy Coordinator*)** reports the Mid-Continent Public Library is interested in adopting 6 by 6 but the new YS manager has not yet been hired. Kansas City, Missouri Public Library is also interested but they are in talks with the mayor of Kansas City and will continue to keep Bradley updated.

Hispanic and Immigrant Populations

Oak Park Neighborhood Library reports the ELL and Spanish programming continues to see a growth in interest and in participation.

Oak Park staff have been engaged with Oak Park patrons to find out what information or concerns our communities have. This information will be used to invite organization and community members who can address our patrons concerns.

UPDATE: Staff is asking patrons where they feel their community is strong, what they feel their community could do better, what they would like to know more about and what their role is in their community. Answers are being kept in Gimlet and it is a way for staff to connect with their community.

IV. Marketing & Community Engagement

In Johnson County

Kasey Riley, Director of Communication, is out on extended medical leave until December.

Marty Mothersbaugh, Marketing Assistant, and **Marsha Bennett**, Community Relations Coordinator, will be available for any questions or comments you might have.
