

JOHNSON COUNTY  KANSAS 2019
Library Annual Report





I've had the honor of serving as the Johnson County Librarian since 2012. Each new year, as I reflect upon the year prior, I am consistently amazed at the accomplishments of our Johnson County Library staff and the support of our wonderful community.

2019 was a momentous year for us. We celebrated several milestones, from firsts—like our inaugural Genealogy Day, which drew over 500 attendees to the Central Resource branch—all the way to the 50th anniversary of our Cedar Roe Library. We continued work on our Capital Improvement Projects, welcomed many talented new staff and volunteers, and deepened our community partnerships through fundraising, outreach and programming. One such highlight was hosting a conversation with celebrated author and journalist Ta-Nehisi Coates, as part of a multi-day event examining important topics like community, race and social justice.

“IN ITS FIRST SIX MONTHS, LENEXA CITY CENTER LIBRARY WELCOMED NEARLY 140,000 VISITORS IN THE BRANCH AND 7,700 THROUGH ITS DRIVE-THRU.”

And hot on the heels of opening the Monticello Library in 2018, our first new branch in over a decade, we opened the doors to Lenexa City Center Library in June. In its first six months, Lenexa City Center Library welcomed nearly 140,000 visitors in the branch and 7,700 through its drive-thru.

At the writing of this letter in 2020, we are in the midst of great uncertainty thanks to the global pandemic. While next year's Annual Report will certainly look a bit different than this one, I am certain that the solid foundation our staff, supporters and community built in 2019 has kept us steady today. Johnson County Library is a place to learn about the past, explore the present, and innovate for the future. Looking back only makes me more optimistic about the days ahead.

– SEAN CASSERLEY
COUNTY LIBRARIAN



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Throughout this guide you will see five icons, which represent our five strategic goals. 2019 was the first implementation year of our five-year Strategic Plan, which was developed in collaboration with our Library Board, Johnson County residents, elected officials and policy makers. When you see a section with an icon, we believe it highlights the work we are doing to meet that particular goal. We want to ensure we are fulfilling our commitment to those who live and work in Johnson County within these five areas, and are always seeking to improve.

EDUCATION



OPERATIONS



COMMUNITY



COMMUNICATION



CONVENIENCE



Board of Directors



NANCY HUPP
OUTGOING CHAIR
Appointed by Ed Peterson, District 1

- **Service:** 2010-2019
- **Occupation:** Retired Senior Director of Corporate Advertising Services
- **Favorite Book:** *And Ladies of the Club* by Helen Hooven Santmyer



BETHANY GRIFFITH
INCOMING CHAIR
Appointed by Mike Brown, District 6

- **Service:** 2016 - Current
- **Occupation:** Home Educator and school choice advocate
- **Favorite Author:** Guy Gavriel Kay



DONNA MERTZ
Appointed by Ed Eilert, District 7

- **Service:** 2017 - Current
- **Occupation:** Retired Real Estate Appraiser/Community Service Volunteer
- **Favorite Book:** *The Scarlet Letter*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne



SHERYL SPALDING
OUTGOING
Appointed by Steven Klika, District 3

- **Service:** 2017-2019
- **Occupation:** Journalist/Publisher/Teacher. Former member of the Kansas House of Representatives, (29th district)
- **Favorite Book:** *Historical biographies*



BRANDY BUTCHER
Appointed by Jason Osterhaus, District 4

- **Service:** 2019 - Current
- **Occupation:** Bookkeeper for her husband's residential painting business
- **Favorite Book:** 'Staff Picks'



DAVID SIMS
INCOMING
Appointed by Becky Fast, District 1

- **Service:** 2019 - Current
- **Occupation:** Financial Planning Specialist, Ward, Fuller & Associates



AMY AMOS RUO
Appointed by James (Jim) P. Allen, District 2

- **Service:** 2017-Current
- **Occupation:** Office Manager of the family business, Amos Family Funeral Home
- **Favorite Book:** *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah



FABIAN SHEPARD
INCOMING
Appointed by Michael Ashcraft, District 5

- **Service:** 2019 - Current
- **Occupation:** Quality Management, Harte Hanks, a global marketing firm



WAYNE BURKE
INCOMING
Appointed by Steven Klika, District 3

- **Service:** 2019 - Current
- **Occupation:** Superintendent Spring Hill (KS) United School District 230



J R RILEY
OUTGOING
Appointed by Michael Ashcraft, District 5

- **Service:** 2015-2019
- **Occupation:** Chaplain, Olathe Health. US Army, 32 years



CEDAR ROE REOPENING: (Left to Right) County Librarian Sean Casserley, Councilmember Michael Rebne, Roeland Park City Councilmember Jan Faidley, County Commissioner Becky Fast, Councilmember Tom Madigan

Administrative Team



SEAN CASSERLEY
COUNTY LIBRARIAN



TRICIA SUELLENTROP
DEPUTY COUNTY LIBRARIAN



JENNIFER MAHNKEN
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, BRANCH SERVICES



ADAM WATHEN
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, SYSTEMWIDE SERVICES



BENETT SUNDS
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE



NICKI NEUFELD
FINANCE DIRECTOR



STEPHANIE STOLLSTEIMER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION



Supporting Organizations

support your library

JOHNSON COUNTY
KANSAS
Library

help

Volunteers like you help your Library with 53,000 hours each year.

join

Our Friends play an essential part in your successful Library community.

give

A gift to the Foundation empowers your Library collections & programs.



Library Volunteers come from all backgrounds and areas of Johnson County, helping with everything from shelving books, processing donations and working in our bookstores, to serving on our Library Board! They support our Library with an average of 50,000+ hours each year.

» \$1,263,286 SERVICE VALUE

- 912 active volunteers
- 79 opportunities
- Equivalent to 23+ full-time employees
- 141 volunteers gave 100+ hours of service
- 49,677 total Hours of Service in 2019



Let's be FRIENDS The purpose of Friends of the Johnson County Library is to support the Johnson County Library system by promoting community involvement and interest in the Library's functions, services, resources and needs, and by raising supplementary funds.

» 18,000+ FRIENDS VOLUNTEER HOURS

- 800 members
- 393 volunteers
- 4 staff
- 3 bookstores
- \$50,000 raised annually to support collection development



JOHNSON COUNTY
LIBRARY FOUNDATION



The Johnson County Library Foundation's purpose is to build an endowment fund for the Library's collection and to secure financial support for life-long learning programs offered at Johnson County Library.

» \$313,936 SUPPORT TO THE LIBRARY

- Collection Support
- Summer Reading Program
- Black & Veatch MakerSpace
- *elementia* and Teen Programming
- Race Project KC
- Launched 1952 Society for planned giving



Supporting Organizations

» Business Partners

AdventHealth Shawnee Mission, Birth Center
 Andrews McMeel Universal
 A-Plus Career & Resume, LLC
 Athletico
 Bulk It
 CEED, Powered by SEAF
 Country Financial
 Flying Ketchup Press
 Great Harvest Bread Co.
 Kaplan Test Prep
 KC Digital Drive
 KC Voices
 Kiddi Kollege, Blue Valley and Leawood
 NCircle (formerly Cultivate, Inc.)
 St. Luke's South Hospital
 Tabletop Game and Hobby
 The Bean Coffee Shop
 The University of KS Health System
 Truman Medical Center
 We Start Now

» Education Partners

4-H Youth Development, K-State Research and Extension
 ACT School
 Alice's Little Angels
 Apache Elementary School
 Banneker Elementary School
 Barstow School
 Barton County Library
 Bishop Miege High School
 Blue Valley Middle School
 Blue Valley North High School
 Blue Valley Northwest High School
 Blue Valley Parents As Teachers
 Blue Valley School District
 Blue Valley School District Parents as Teachers
 Blue Valley Southwest High School
 Brookridge Day School
 Brookridge Elementary School
 Brookwood Elementary School
 Christ Lutheran School
 Christ Preparatory Academy
 Christa McAuliffe Elementary School
 Comanche Elementary School
 Community Covenant Preschool
 Crestview Elementary School
 De Soto Parents as Teachers
 DeSoto School District

East Antioch Elementary School
 East High School
 Edgerton Elementary School
 Gardner Edgerton High School
 Gardner Edgerton Parents As Teachers
 Gardner Edgerton School District
 Gardner Elementary School
 Goddard School
 Grand Star Elementary School
 Growing Futures Early Education Center
 Hiersteiner Child Development Center
 Highlands Elementary School
 Highlawn Montessori School
 Hocker Grove Middle School
 Holy Cross Catholic School
 Holy Spirit Catholic School
 Holy Trinity School
 Horizon High School
 Horizons Academy
 Indian Valley Elementary School
 JoCo K-State Research Extension
 John Paul II Catholic School
 Johnson County Community College
 Johnson County Genealogical Society
 Johnson County Montessori School
 Kansas City Academy
 Kansas City Christian School
 Kansas City Public Library
 Kindercare #760 and #1300
 Knox Presbyterian Church Child Development Center
 La Petite Academy
 Leawood Middle School
 Legacy Christian Church Preschool
 Lenexa Hills Elementary School
 Liberty View Elementary School
 Literacy KC
 Little Horizons Preschool
 Lyndon Library - Osage County
 Madison Elementary School
 Maranatha Christian Academy
 Merriam Park Elementary School
 Mid-Continent Public Library
 Midwest Parent Educators
 Mill Creek Middle School
 Mill Valley High School
 Mission Trail Elementary School
 Moonlight Elementary School
 Morse Elementary School

Mount Olive Lutheran School
 Nativity Parish school
 New Letters on the Air
 Nieman Elementary School
 Nieman PTA
 Nike Elementary School
 Northeast High School
 Oak Hill Elementary School
 Oak Park-Carpenter Elementary School
 Olathe North High School
 Olathe Public Library
 Olathe School District
 Operation Breakthrough
 Overland Park Elementary School
 Overland Trail Elementary School
 Overland Trail Middle School
 Oxford Middle School
 Paseo High School
 Pawnee Elementary School
 Pioneer Preschool (Grace Covenant Presbyterian)
 Pioneer Ridge Middle School
 Pleasant Ridge Middle School
 Prairie Creek Elementary School
 Prairie Star Elementary School
 Prairie Star Middle School
 Premier Learning Early Childhood Education Center
 Prince of Peace Catholic School
 Rising Star Elementary School
 Rockhurst University
 Roesland Elementary
 Rosehill Elementary School
 Rushton Elementary School
 Sacred Heart School
 Shawano Elementary School
 Shawnee Mission East High School
 Shawnee Mission North High School
 Shawnee Mission Parents As Teachers
 Shawnee Mission School District
 Shawnee Mission South High School
 Shawnee Mission West High School
 Sunshine School
 Special Beginnings Early Learning
 Spring Hill Elementary School
 Spring Hill School District
 St. Agnes Catholic School
 St. Teresa's Academy
 Sunflower Elementary
 Trailridge Elementary School
 Trailridge Middle School
 University of Kansas
 Valley Park Elementary School
 Valley View Child Care
 Westridge Middle School
 Westwood View Elementary School
 Wheatridge Middle School
 Williamsburg Community Library
 Wolf Springs Elementary School
 Wyandotte High School

» Municipal and Government Partners

City of Gardner, KS
 City of Leawood, KS
 City of Lenexa, KS
 City of Lenexa, KS
 City of Merriam, KS
 City of Olathe, KS
 City of Overland Park, KS
 City of Prairie Village, KS
 City of Shawnee, KS
 City of Shawnee, KS, Police Department
 Johnson County KS, Department of Corrections/Therapeutic Community/Juvenile Detention Center/Adult Residential Center
 Johnson County, KS Department of Aging and Human Services/ Department of Development Services/Department of Emergency Management and Communications/Department of Health and Environment/ Department of Mental Health/ Evergreen Community of Johnson County/Human Resources Department/Sherriff Department
 Kansas Department of Children and Families
 Lansing Correctional Facility – Library/Treatment Reintegration Unit
 Neighborhood Programs – City of Overland Park
 Research and Extension, Kansas State University
 The Family Conservancy
 Union Rescue Mission, Wichita
 United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth
 Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office - Adult Detention Center
 YMCA of Greater Kansas City

» Cultural Partners and Community Organizations

AARP Kansas Tax-Aide
 American Red Cross
 Amigos de las Americas
 Behavior Analysis Support Services
 BikeWalkKC
 Boy Scouts of America
 Building a Bookshelf
 Catholic Charities
 Center of Grace
 Charlotte Street Foundation
 Christmas Bureau, Nursing Homes Division
 Church of the Resurrection, Overland Park
 Convent of Christ the King
 Daughters of the American Revolution
 Daytime Stitchers
 De Soto Historical Society

DeSoto Rotary Club
 Ethiopia Reads
 Evangelistic Center Church
 First Baptist Church of Stilwell
 Gardner Edgerton Chamber of Commerce
 GFWC Athena Club of Gardner
 Girl Scouts of the USA
 Grace United Community Ministry
 Greater Kansas City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Hands to Hearts
 Housing & Credit Counseling Inc
 InterUrban ArtHouse
 Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City
 Johnson County Genealogical Society
 Johnson County Museum
 Kansas City Artists Coalition
 Kansas City Repertory Theater
 Kansas City Writers Workshop/KC Word Shop/Louder Than a Bomb
 Kansas City Writers Workshop/ Project Eagle KUMC
 Kansas City, KS Rotary Club
 Kansas Enrichment Network
 Kansas Legal Services
 KC Weavers Guild
 KC Word Shop
 KCSOURCELINK
 Lakeview Village Library
 Latino Writers Collective
 Lenexa Chamber of Commerce
 Lucky Clover 4-H Club
 Micah Ministries
 MoneySmart KC
 Monticello Chapter, Kansas Society, Sons of the American Revolution
 Nelson Atkins Museum of Art
 Overland Park Community Garden
 Pets for Life KC
 Redemptorist Social Services Center
 Russian Kids Storytime
 Sabora a Peru
 SafeHome
 Salem Lutheran Church - Food Pantry
 Seventh-Day Adventist Church
 Sew Full of Scrap
 Shawnee Chamber of Commerce
 Society of Human Resource Managers - Johnson County
 Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce
 Synergy Services
 The Arts Asylum
 The Museum at Prairiefire
 Trinity Lutheran Church
 Uke On
 Voyager Gifted Parent Support Group
 Wayside Waifs
 Whole Child Development Center
 Women's Employment Network
 Workforce Partnership
 Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.

Supporting Organizations

JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Johnson County Library Foundation's mission is to build an endowment for the Library's collection and secure support for lifelong learning programs offered at Johnson County Library. We do this by securing and managing donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations to support the Library above and beyond what public funding provides.

IN 2019, THE JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION PROVIDED \$313,936 OF SUPPORT TO THE LIBRARY

Collection Support \$80,245
 Endowment disbursement
Summer Reading Program \$60,000
 Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Grant, OP
 South Rotary, Walmart, Walter Homes, LLC,
 Flarsheim Foundation Friends of Johnson County Library, and supporting Foundation events
 » 25,000 books distributed to youth in all fourteen branches

6 By 6 Ready to Read Programming \$30,000
 Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Black & Veatch MakerSpace \$30,000
 Black & Veatch 3-year \$90,000 partnership
 » Averaging 167 users per day

» Increase of 8.9% in unique users of makerspace YTD in 2019 compared to 2018 total
 » Over 7,500 total bookings on equipment this year has already eclipsed 2018 numbers

Elementia and Teen Programs \$7,000
 United Way of Greater Kansas City, JoCo Bar Association, CPS Foundation, Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission
 » 800 submissions for the 2019 publication
 » 250 in attendance for the April reception and program
 » 13 teen volunteers recorded over 700 total hours on the project

Immigrant Family Program Outreach \$10,000
 Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and David and Jane Ross gift
Adult Incarcerated Programs \$5,000
 Village Presbyterian Church
Race Project \$43,141
 Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Freedom Frontier, Kansas Humanities
Homework Help. \$31,500
 Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, RA Long Foundation and Dollar General
Writer's Conference \$5,000
 Joan Berkley Writer's Fund
Audio CDs & Downloadable Audiobooks \$10,000
 Betty A. Paige Estate Gift
Table Top Games \$250
 Chip and Deb Buckner
Cedar Roe Capital Improvements and Expenses \$1,800
 James A. Deberry



By the Numbers

JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY

Cardholders	260,761
Visits	2,397,326
Materials	1,321,296
<i>Includes books, audio/video, eBooks, periodicals</i>	
Public computers	377
<i>Includes all branches</i>	
Computer sessions annually	322,751
Wireless sessions annually	869,970
Staff members	434
Total Square Footage	322,800
Branches	15
<i>Including our eLibrary</i>	



CIRCULATION

Physical Items	7,598,224
Electronic items	522,623
Interlibrary Loans	186,366

PROGRAMS/EVENTS

Number of Programs/Events	2,794
Attendance, all ages	91,822

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

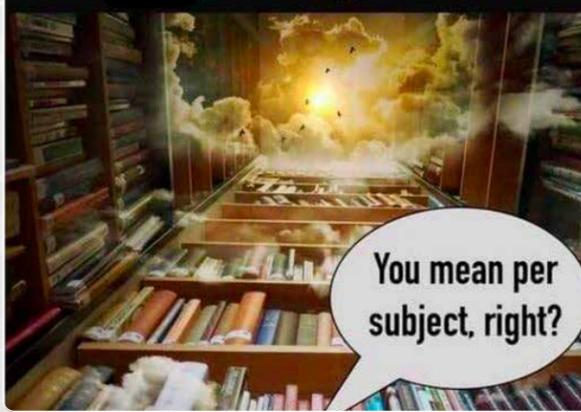
Facebook Followers:	13,450
Twitter Followers:	10,470



Marie Kondo on Books:



Ravenclaws everywhere:



Most popular Facebook post from January 2019, with over 100k engagements and 30k reactions!



Most popular tweet was from August 2019, with over 22k impressions.

EUGENIA ORTIZ

Patron Highlight

Overland Park artist Eugenia Ortiz was at a crossroads in 2018. She was facing personal challenges. Professionally, she needed to expand into a new creative phase.

She posted a Facebook query: where could she access a machine that would help her with her new ideas requiring artistic cutting and etchings she wanted to do in Plexiglass and other materials? Someone responded that she should check out the Black & Veatch MakerSpace, which provides free use of laser cutters, 3D printers, a CNC router, electronics equipment and other devices, at Central Resource Library.

“THIS OPENED UP A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES FOR ME”

“The staff are all very helpful,” Ortiz said. “They’re not there doing it for you. They are there teaching you, and then they let you take off. They really want you to become independent and know how to do this on your own.”

Ortiz, who has a home studio, needed a precision tool to help with her specialized imagery. The laser cutters worked perfectly. “This opened up a whole new world of possibilities for me,” she said.

She’s been able to do engravings in acrylic and has also incorporated these geometrical designs into her jewelry and clothing creations. She has also learned to use the 3D printer and vinyl cutter, and plans to branch out to wood and leather. She has found the laser cutter is also ideal for fashioning her



own custom-made paint brushes. “I wouldn’t have been able to do that,” without the machines, she said. “They have helped me grow my career as an artist.”

RICH COOK & FAMILY

Patron Highlight

It takes many resources and committed individuals to offer the diverse range of services available at Johnson County Library. “While tax dollars provide most of that money, the Johnson County Library Foundation helps to provide additional dollars to make that car really shine,” says former Foundation president Rich Cook, a real estate lawyer.

“THE PUBLIC SHOULD KNOW HOW ITS GOVERNMENT WORKS”

“The Foundation provides funding for crucial Library programming and services and has built an endowment to help support the Library collection. We do that with private dollars donated by corporations, foundations, individual Library lovers and patrons.” With those dollars, the Foundation supports collection enrichment, homework assistance for youth, art programs, early literacy initiatives, youth-at-risk programs, technology enhancements at the Library and more.

“The public should know how its government works and have an informed view of history,” says Cook. “Without that



knowledge, it’s hard to preserve democracy. Knowledge requires access to information, and public libraries provide access to people from all walks of life.”

Cook, his wife, Morgan, and their children enjoy the great outdoors and have camped in national parks across the U.S. All are also avid sports fans. “KU basketball and football, Sporting KC, Royals, Chiefs, whatever it is, we’re into it,” he says. Henry, 10, Charlotte, 8, and George, 5, are active in scouting, soccer, basketball and baseball.

Our Branches

LENEXA CITY CENTER LIBRARY

8778 Penrose Lane
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

The new Lenexa City Center Library opened Sunday, June 2, 2019. A ribbon cutting replete with Girl and Boy Scouts, and the Emerita Poet Laureate of Kansas, Wyatt Townley, celebrated the event. Activities included tours conducted by Library staff of the new building and an opportunity to see award-winning children's book illustrator Stephen T. Johnson's new work of public art at the site.

"THIS IS A REALLY STRIKING AND BEAUTIFUL FACILITY"

The new 40,000 square foot building occupies two floors at the Lenexa City Center campus. In addition to high-quality library services, the new space features public meeting rooms, public computers and a robust children's programming area. "This is a really striking and beautiful facility," said Library Board chair Bethany Griffith, "and we are eager to invite our patrons in so people can start using their new Library right away."

FAST FACTS ABOUT LENEXA CITY CENTER LIBRARY

When Completed: . . . Sunday, June 2, 2019

Construction Cost: . . . \$21.1 million

Total Size: 40,000+ sq. ft.

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Kids area with dedicated storytime room
- Exterior Drive-Thru
- Holds Lobby
- Balcony with seating and device power
- 6 Meeting / study rooms with A/V and conversational seating
- Technology features
- Wi-Fi access
- 20 PC workstations
- Power access at seats and work stations
- Wireless AV in study rooms
- Collaboration tables

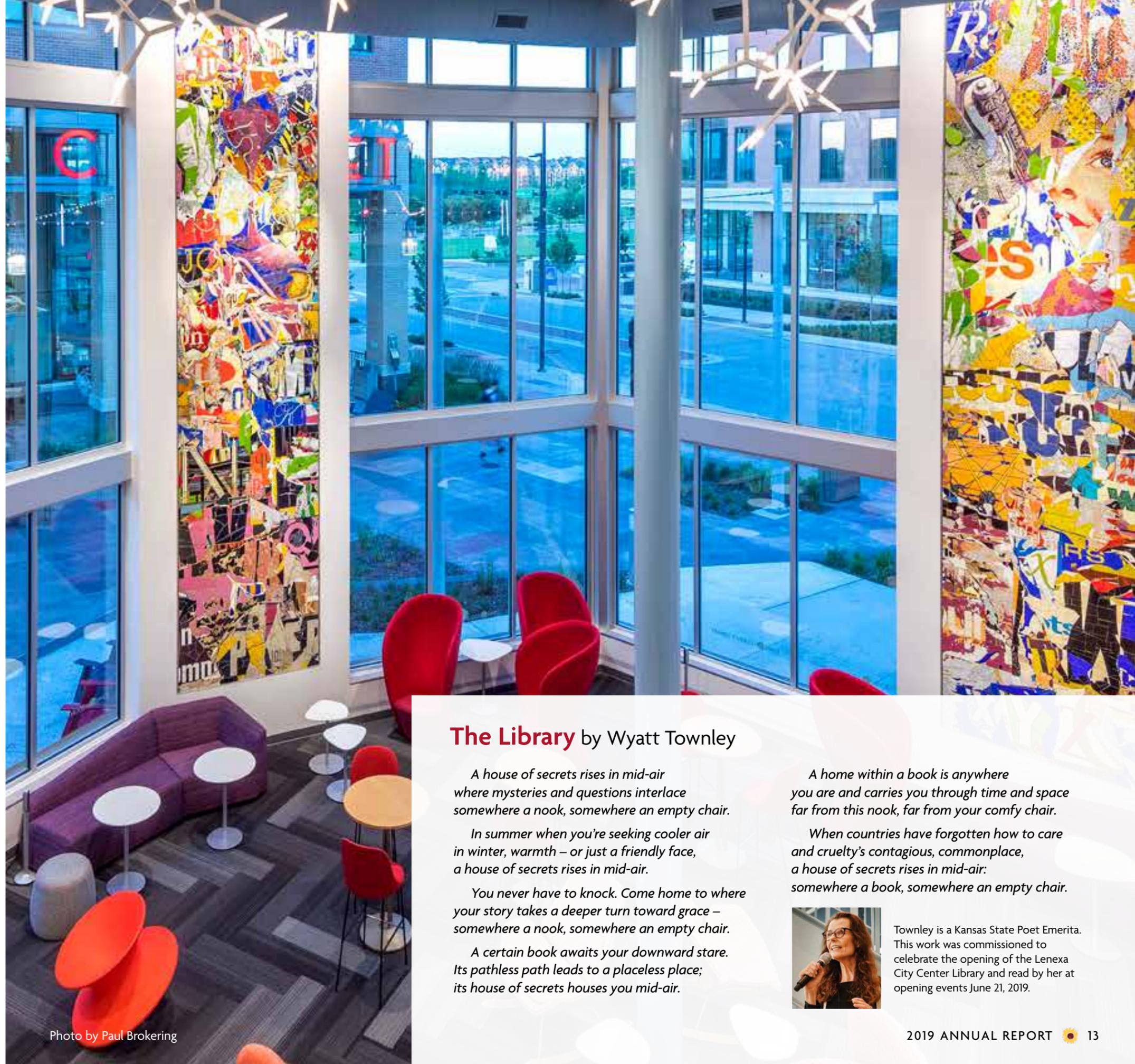


Photo by Paul Brokering

The Library by Wyatt Townley

*A house of secrets rises in mid-air
where mysteries and questions interlace
somewhere a nook, somewhere an empty chair.*

*In summer when you're seeking cooler air
in winter, warmth – or just a friendly face,
a house of secrets rises in mid-air.*

*You never have to knock. Come home to where
your story takes a deeper turn toward grace –
somewhere a nook, somewhere an empty chair.*

*A certain book awaits your downward stare.
Its pathless path leads to a placeless place;
its house of secrets houses you mid-air.*

*A home within a book is anywhere
you are and carries you through time and space
far from this nook, far from your comfy chair.*

*When countries have forgotten how to care
and cruelty's contagious, commonplace,
a house of secrets rises in mid-air:
somewhere a book, somewhere an empty chair.*



Townley is a Kansas State Poet Emerita. This work was commissioned to celebrate the opening of the Lenexa City Center Library and read by her at opening events June 21, 2019.

Our Branches

ANTIOCH LIBRARY

34,000 sq ft

8700 Shawnee Mission Pkwy
Merriam, KS 66202

Johnson County Library has had a presence in Merriam since 1953. Established by volunteers, it was initially housed in the basement of a residence in the 8500 block of West 55th Terrace. This library was open just five hours a week, from 4 to 7 pm on Wednesday and from 10 am to noon on Saturday. The library moved to its present site, renamed “Headquarters”, in November 1956 – then a rented space. Besides offering public service, Headquarters also housed library administration, business office, and technical services.

This building and its site were purchased in 1961, with 8,000 square feet added in 1970. Antioch was remodeled to expand the public space, and in 1983 the building was again expanded by 8,400 square feet to support new service functions. By 1988 space at Antioch was at a premium, so the administrative offices were moved into off-site rented office space. The Central Resource Library moved to its current location in 1995, and the Antioch building converted to a branch library in 1996.



BLUE VALLEY LIBRARY

24,000 sq ft

9000 W 151st St
Overland Park, KS 66221

The first library in the Stanley area opened in mid-1953. It was a self-service library of 200 books at Boehm's Grocery. Bookmobile service began in June 1956 and the Stanley area was thus served until shortly before the Blue Valley Library opened its doors.

The growing population needed a new library, and planning began in 1979 for “community libraries” in Stanley, DeSoto, Spring Hill and Gardner. The new Blue Valley Library opened with approximately 13,000 books in 1982. Its first full year of operation saw circulation of 23,360! From its first year to the end of 1999, the branch's holdings increased 39,368, and its circulation grew to 240,633. The city of Overland Park donated property for the current library in 1997 and the new library opened in 2000.



Our Branches

CEDAR ROE LIBRARY

16,000 sq ft

5120 Cedar St.
Roeland Park, KS 66205

Cedar Roe Library is a well-loved neighborhood branch in Roeland Park. This branch closed briefly to allow replacement of the flat portion of the Library roof. Crews cleaned carpets, replaced stained ceiling tiles, improved lighting and painted doors where the paint has chipped away.

Cedar Roe also got a new manager. Anna Gordon had been an assistant branch manager at Monticello for about 18 months. She previously was an assistant branch manager with Mid-Continent Public Library.

In June 2019 friends, patrons and former staff of Cedar Roe Library gathered to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The compact building – 17,157 square feet – was dedicated in 1969. The name “Cedar Roe” was the winner in a naming contest, a combination that incorporated its Cedar Street address and its Roeland Park neighborhood.



OLI RAY

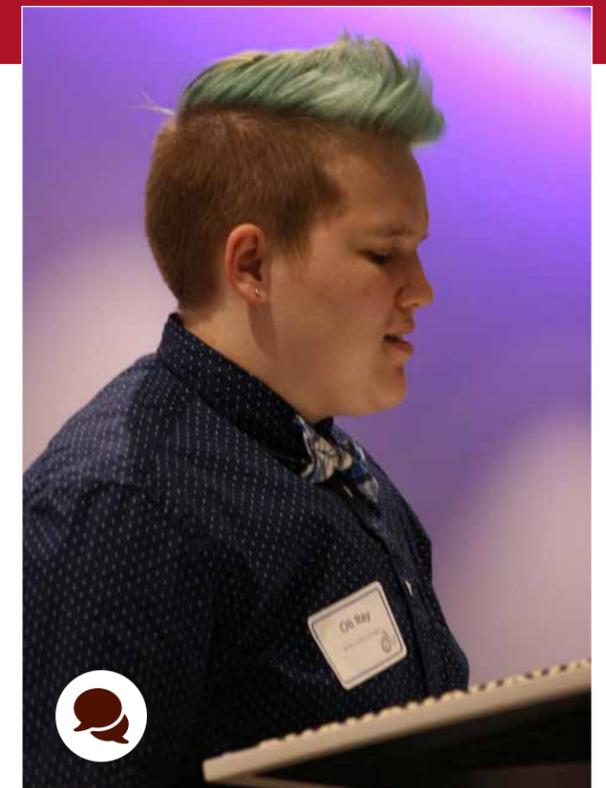
Patron Highlight

Oli Ray, a junior at Olathe High School, interned at Central Resource Library as an editor and designer for issue 15 of *elementia*, the library's teen literary magazine. He discovered a wide array of resources the library offers. He especially appreciated the Maker Space, where patrons can use digital design software, a recording studio, video hardware and software, 3D printers, laser cutters and more. That's where Oli created *elementia* videos that he posted on the library's YouTube channel. “The Maker Space enabled me to create higher-quality film projects,” says Oli. “The library is an undervalued resource I'd encourage everyone to learn about and appreciate.”

“HE JUMPED AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ELEMENTIA BIGGER AND BETTER”

Teen Coordinating Librarian Kate McNair says, “Oli's energy, enthusiasm and respect for the work of others was contagious and has left a lasting impact on our editorial committee and the *elementia* community.” She adds, “Oli brought his experience in spoken word poetry and videography to the table to help us best represent our performances online. He jumped at every opportunity to make *elementia* bigger and better, contributing his time and talents to select writing for publication and design the issue.”

Now, Oli is majoring in writing and minoring in film at the Pratt Institute in New York. “I was fortunate to intern at the library and meet the *elementia* staff and the library personnel,” Oli says. “I learned a lot and made a lot of friends. It opened a lot of opportunities for me.”



Our Branches

CENTRAL RESOURCE LIBRARY

90,000 sq ft
9875 W 87th St
Overland Park, KS 66212

Central is one of Johnson County's busiest branches, with several hundred thousand user visits per year. It's diversity of customers includes teens and children who love its welcoming spaces, plus small business owners who rely on its computers and meeting rooms.

"It's so fast and there's always so much to deal with. But I enjoy that," said branch manager Laura Hunt. "I kind of thrive off of that." Central is a vital community resource that residents greatly appreciate, but staff also encounters a broadly various patron population. Hunt has worked hard to provide the equipment, training and management support that employees need. "That's really the thing I love the most about the job," she said, "being able to help guide the staff through some of those challenges, help them grow and make sure they know I'm there to back them up."



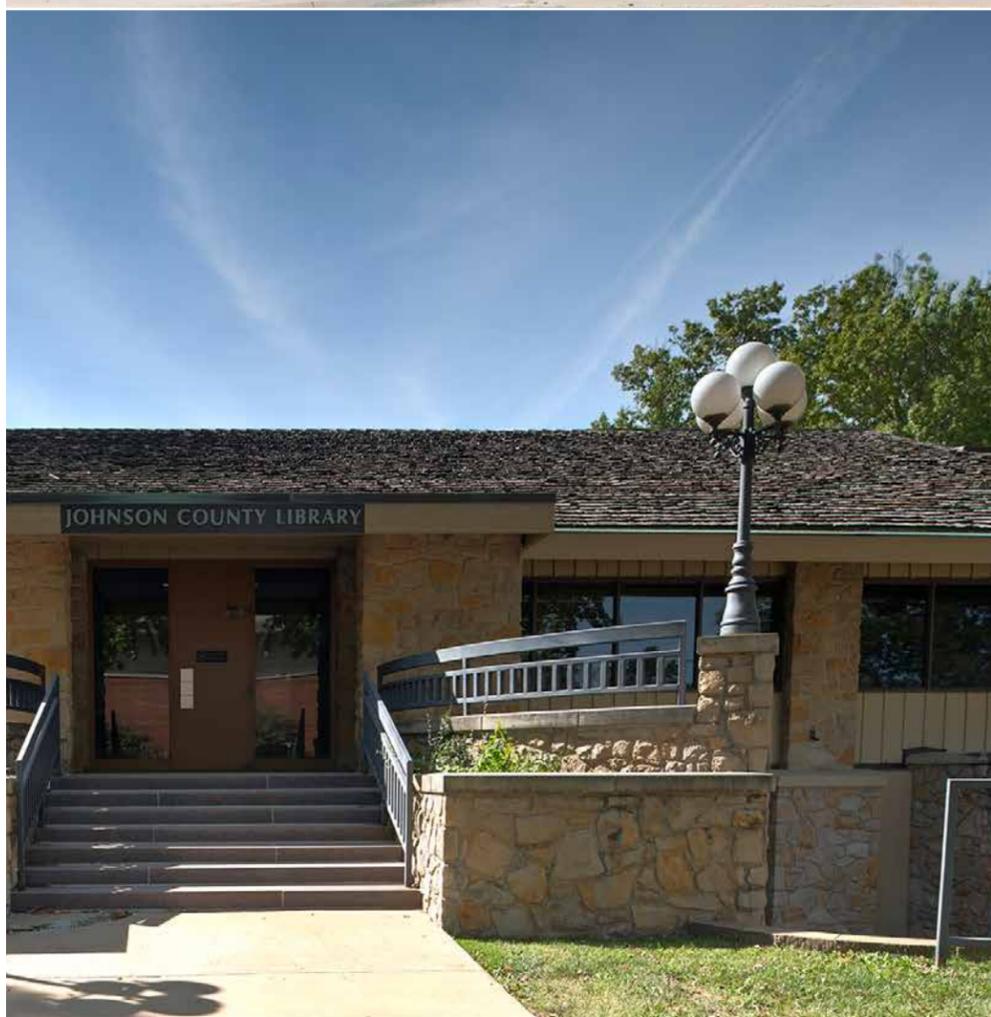
CORINTH LIBRARY

20,400 sq ft
8100 Mission Rd
Prairie Village, KS 66208

With its emphasis on serving all types of patrons, the Corinth branch is a vital part of the Prairie Village community – and it's clear that the community loves and appreciates all the ways it touches their lives.

The Corinth branch provides services and activities for patrons of all ages. The library's lower level is a large children's space where there are books, DVDs, computers and well-lit study areas. For adults, the Corinth Branch hosts many programs. Among them are Legislative Coffees, where patrons can get to know their local elected officials, and An Edible Discussion, where attendees share a potluck meal while they learn from community chefs and experts.

Modern technology is making the library more efficient. When you feed a book into the sleek new Corinth returns slot, it lands on a conveyor belt inside, where its RFID tag is scanned. The book is checked in and removed from the patron's account then deposited in a bin, depending on its destination. The sorter swiftly processes a volume of books that would take employees hours to sort by hand.



Our Branches

DE SOTO LIBRARY

3,800 sq ft
33145 W 83rd St
De Soto, KS 66018

De Soto Library got a nice refresh. The little 3,600-square-foot Library had changed little over the past several years and was crowded with books and furniture and was not as patron-friendly as it could be.

"Big-picture, we needed to neaten things up and make it more accessible for the patrons coming in – not for the patrons we imagined we were coming in," Assistant Branch Manager Lisa Jordan says. "I worked there so I could see for myself who was coming in and what they were looking at, and I talked to the patrons."

By looking carefully at the layout of the Library from a patron's viewpoint, Jordan saw possibilities for better service. The rearranged and decluttered environment now allows patrons to enjoy more room to walk around, neat shelves and improved convenience at their Library. And most importantly, the patrons approve.



MAHMOOD HASSAN

Patron Highlight

Monticello Library had 20 talented teen volunteers in summer 2019, but one in particular stood out to the Library's youth information specialist, Julia Belcher. Mahmood Hassan was "exemplary," according to Belcher, because of his work ethic and his joy on the job. "He's great with the patrons. He's always very friendly, very personable. He's so happy to help."

Belcher especially appreciated Hassan's interaction with young children in the Library. For Hassan, a precocious 14-year-old who has skipped two grades and is a junior at Olathe North High School, the Library was a great opportunity to give back to the community. "It's just exciting to work at such a professional and interesting environment," he said.

"I wanted to start volunteering because it helps build character. It helps make new experiences," Hassan recalled. "I thought 13 years old would be a good age to start. You want to get as much volunteering as possible, especially because colleges look at that as well." He volunteered at Lackman Library, then joined other volunteer teens at Monticello for the summer 2019 season.

"HE'S ALWAYS VERY FRIENDLY, VERY PERSONABLE. HE'S SO HAPPY TO HELP."

"It sharpens general skills like sorting and other cognitive skills," he said, adding that sorting and shelving require accuracy and precision. "Many practical skills can be honed through volunteering at the Library. It really makes you feel a sense of community," he said, "and it helps you feel like you are doing something useful, and improving."



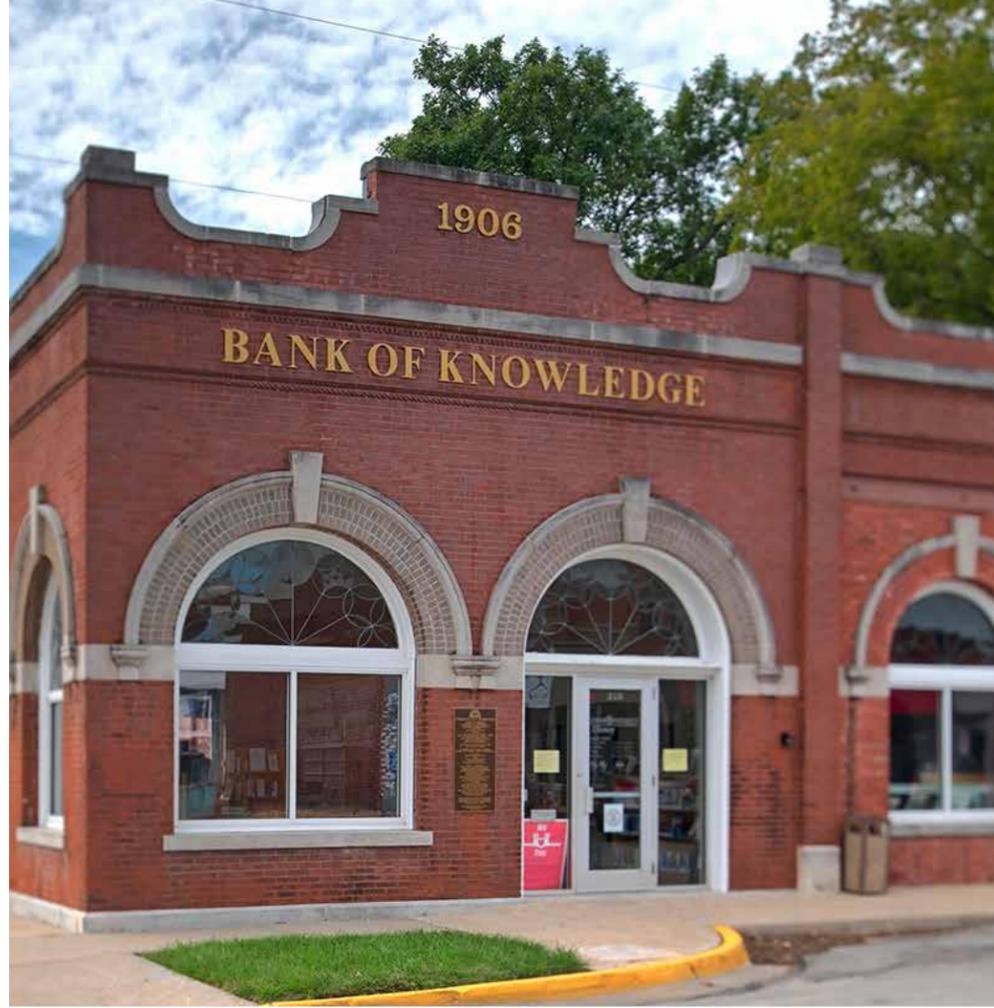
Our Branches

EDGERTON LIBRARY

2,100 sq ft
319 E Nelson
Edgerton, KS 66021

The Johnson County Library bookmobile ceased operation in the early 1980s. More convenient library service was needed in the city of Edgerton. For many years two carts of books for self-checkout stood in the Edgerton City Hall.

In 1999, a former bank building in the downtown area was acquired by the city. The Edgerton Library Task Force set about raising funds for providing a setting for modern library services. In 2000 the Edgerton Library was opened, offering circulating library materials, public-use PCs, a meeting room, and youth and adult programming. The library is open 36 hours a week including two evenings and Saturdays. It is always busy after school.



GARDNER LIBRARY

12,300 sq ft
137 E Shawnee St
Gardner, KS 66030

Gardner Library serves a community that's experiencing rapid growth. New residents are drawn here by affordable housing and employment opportunities at the 1,700-acre distribution and warehouse facility in nearby Edgerton. Branch Manager John Keogh knows he can rely on his staff to keep up with the needs of Gardner's growing population.

The town of Gardner reminds Keogh of home – Fargo, North Dakota. "Gardner has a small-town feel" he says, "and this library has the feel of a local library." But he notes that, unlike a small-town library, Gardner Library shares the resources and overall strategy only a large system like Johnson County Library can provide. The Library's Storytimes are hugely popular with Gardner's many young families. But the staff works to make the library services relevant to all interests and all ages, from babies to mature adults – including patrons who grew up in the area when it was rural.



Our Branches

LEAWOOD PIONEER LIBRARY

19,000 sq ft
4700 Town Center Dr
Leawood, KS 66211

Johnson County Library's newest branch manager, Sarah Aanestad, joined Leawood Pioneer Library in early June. She appreciates the quality of the Library staff members she interacts with. "They're really smart people, and people who have a lot of different interests and talents and skills," she says. "It's been really refreshing." Aanestad is keeping busy – the branch is one of the most frequented in the system, and recirculates an average of sixty thousand items a month.

She comes from meaningful experiences in various library and not-for-profit roles across the metro. At the same time, she also worked at a non-profit, where she helped people access information and resources to improve their lives. Her Master of Arts in Library Science joined her degrees in Spanish, Anthropology and Museum Studies.



SHEILA KELLY

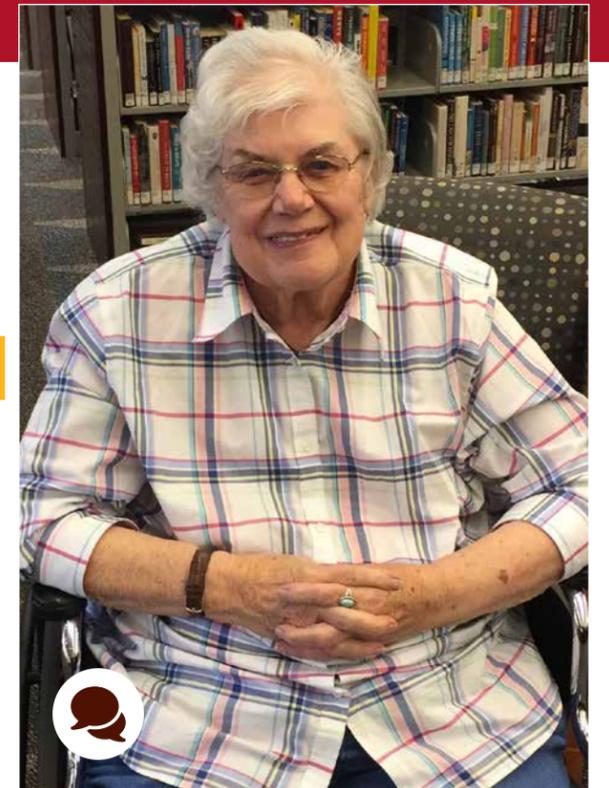
Patron Highlight

Sheila and Roger Kelly's story is rather romantic: Roger, an American Air Force officer stationed in Banbury, England, went to a local church. There he met a sweet 18 year-old English girl named Sheila. In a short time, they began talking about getting married. "Eventually, my parents decided they liked him," says Sheila. They were married in 1965, and the couple moved to Denver, Colorado. They had two children and later adopted three more.

"SHEILA DOES A WONDERFUL JOB PROMOTING THE GOINGS-ON IN GARDNER LIBRARY"

The Kellys eventually settled in Gardner, KS. She likes the small-town feel – similar to the small English town where she grew up. Between church with Roger and spending time at the library, she knows a lot of people in town. You can find Roger and Sheila at Gardner Library nearly every morning. Sheila reads Amish historical fiction while Roger works on the computers. Sheila often strikes up conversations with other patrons. She asks what they like to read and suggests books they might like. And when moms bring their kids, she lets them know that they can get free children's books as part of the summer reading program.

"Sheila does a wonderful job promoting the goings-on in Gardner Library," says John Keogh, Gardner Library's branch manager, "talking to other patrons and encouraging folks to come to our events." Sheila has gotten acquainted with many regular patrons of the Gardner branch, as well as Library staff. Keogh says, "Sheila and Roger are a delight! They come in every day, they know all our staff, and we're a central part of their lives."



Our Branches

MONTICELLO LIBRARY

30,000 sq ft

22435 W. 66th St
Shawnee, KS 66226

The Monticello Library stands elegantly at 22435 W. 66th Street in Shawnee, KS and when it launched services in 2018 was the first new library location in the County since 1994. Design for Monticello Library benefitted from extensive public input and deep analysis of evolving needs for Library services in the 21st century. The two-story, 33,000+ square foot building features floor-to-ceiling glass along three sides designed to let in lots of natural light and to be stylishly visible to those driving by on Shawnee Mission Parkway.

The 2-level library features a dramatic central stair, self-checkout stations and a large area for children's materials and programming. A large meeting room seats up to 100 people. Public computers include Mac workstations. The interior incorporates flexible spaces and design strategies so it can adapt to future uses and public needs in the coming decades without needing to physically expand. An ecologically sensitive green roof adjoins a terrace with ample seating.



Our Branches

SHAWNEE LIBRARY

10,900 sq ft

13811 Johnson Dr
Shawnee, KS 66216

The first Johnson County Library branch opened in 1953 in the old Dunbar School in Shawnee at 57th and Reeder. The Shawnee Library moved into rented space a block west of Nieman Road on Johnson Drive in 1955. Unfortunately, a 1958 budget cut required closing the Shawnee location for 34 years.

Taking into account their western expansion, the city of Shawnee offered the present site for the library on Johnson Drive and the Shawnee Library opened in 1992. A lower floor was left unfinished to allow for future expansion. The new facility was featured in Library Journal's Annual Architecture Issue in 1992.

OAK PARK LIBRARY

17,600 sq ft

9500 Bluejacket St
Overland Park, KS 66214

In the heart of Johnson County, Oak Park Library serves a diverse community that includes speakers of Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and other languages from around the world. Oak Park offers many popular programs including ELL (English Language Learning), storytimes for babies, toddlers and preschool-aged children. The branch also hosts other activities to spark children's interest in learning while having fun.

For example, Branch Manager Roxanne Belcher says, "We hosted a Canine Courage program -- a young police officer brought his German shepherd to visit with the kids. They looked very engaged -- anything with a dog is popular with the kids." What's new? In May, the Kansas City Arts Coalition will install original art at Oak Park and Blue Valley Libraries, transforming walls into creative visual landscapes.



SPRING HILL LIBRARY

2,700 sq ft

109 S Webster St
Spring Hill, KS 66083

Book mobile service was available at Spring Hill in the early days of JCL, and a branch was established there in 1971. Open just a few hours a week, it was a joint effort of the Library and Spring Hill School District. By 1980 the Spring Hill Library was included in a multi-service center, and Johnson County Library proposed new permanent libraries in Spring Hill, De Soto and Gardner. A new 2,681 sq. ft. Spring Hill Library opened in 1982 and serves the community today. The interior has been remodeled to accommodate new media, and public PC workstations have been added.

Financials

Revenues FY2019	Actuals	
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$32,887,766	« The ad valorem is a mil levy, a tax rate that is applied to the assessed value of property in Johnson County excluding Olathe. The Olathe Library is supported by Olathe tax payers only.
Other Taxes	\$3,721,973	
Other Library Revenue	\$1,166,837	
Grants	\$126,997	« The Johnson County Library Foundation regularly seeks grants to support Library services and programs
Investment Interest	\$393,032	
Donations to Gift Fund 1380	\$82,197	
Total Revenues	\$38,378,802	

Revenues FY2019	Actuals	
Payroll Expenses	\$20,756,908	« By definition, libraries are service-rich agencies that require a broad variety of specially skilled staff.
Contractual Services	\$4,550,433	
Commodities	\$4,124,100	
Transfers to Capital Projects	\$3,487,289	« In 2016 the Library launched a multi-year expansion campaign to build new libraries and to remodel some existing branches.
Lease Payments to Public Building Commission (PBC)	\$2,742,833	
Interfund Transfers to Debt Service Fund	\$817,916	
Interfund Transfer	\$500,621	« Most grant funds are required to be expended during a defined period. We carefully track these funded projects.
Grant Expenses	\$126,722	
Risk Management Charges	\$125,402	
Capital	\$66,225	« All figures are rounded to the nearest dollar
Expenditures out of Gift Fund 1380	\$45,812	
Total Expenses	\$37,344,261	



2019 Johnson County Citizen Survey

Johnson County Library is a **top-rated public service** in Johnson County.

In 2019, 87% of respondents said that **Libraries are important to the quality of life in our County** over the next 20 years.

Johnson County Library is one of the County agencies with the **highest satisfaction ratings** from County Residents.

We know we are important to Johnson County. And we continue to work hard to earn this trust. **Thank You.**



The County's annual Citizen Survey assesses community needs and priorities on behalf of the Johnson County Board of Commissioners. This survey helps the County understand effective use of resources providing services that residents want from their county government. Surveys were completed in each of the county's six commission districts.





JOHNSON COUNTY
KANSAS

Library

