

April 1, 2014

## Watch Party

12:00–1:00 Wednesday, April 9th



### Get up & move! Why movement is part of early literacy skills development

Dr. Allison Kaplan discusses the important role play has in helping children develop early literacy skills & how to incorporate those into storytime programming.

Register at [know.nckl.info](http://know.nckl.info).

## Calendar

Directors' Meeting	4/3
Work Day Wednesday	4/9
Get up & Move Watch Party	4/9
Work Day Wednesday	4/23
Maker Programming Watch Party	4/23
Book Fair	5/8
Executive Committee Meeting	5/29

# NeCessary KnowLedge

## Library Lovers, Traditionalists, Omnivores, & Admirers

In "From Distant Admirers to Library Lovers - & Beyond," (<http://www.pewinternet.org/2014/03/13/summary-of-findings-4/>) the Pew Research Center highlights the following: "Public Library users & supporters are not a niche group." The majority of Americans, (69%) ages 16 & older are either highly or moderately engaged with public libraries. They use libraries once a week or once a month for a wide variety of services.

"America's library habits do not exist in a vacuum." People who are involved in civic life use the library as well. People who use technology & take advantage of a variety of cultural & civic resources are most likely to use & value libraries. "Library Lovers" & "Information Omnivores" seek

information & entertainment from many places. However, people who don't use technology & are less involved in their community are not library users.

"Life stage & special circumstances are linked to increased library use & higher engagement with information." Job seeking, parenting, schooling, retirement, & other life stages impact people's need & ability to seek information or find leisure time to enjoy library services. Contrary to the concept that technology reduces people's need for library services, people who use technology are also highly engaged library users. These findings are no surprise to librarians or library board members. We've been serving

traditional library users with traditional services & providing access to a wider variety of formats, delivery methods, & services than ever before. Now the research highlights what we see; contrary to the notion that technology has reduced people's needs for libraries, it has expanded.

We continue to see a strong demand for print materials & an ever increasing use of ebooks, Internet access, & community space. It's good to know that in a rapidly changing, digital world, libraries are still well used & viewed very positively by Americans & to note the need to continue to add new formats & services for astute & engaged users.

~ Linda Knupp

## The Return of Work Day Wednesdays!

NCKLS staff will be available the 2nd & 4th [Wednesdays](#) of each month from 1:00 - 4:00 for all your library questions. If you have legislative, cataloging,

WordPress, story time, router, human resources, Quick Book, or other questions, we are here to help you. Please call ahead to let us know what your

questions are, & we will facilitate staff to accommodate you.

~ LaDonna Clark

Marion City Library completed construction of a new meeting room in January.



## Getting to Know You: Janet at Marion City Library

*When did you become director of the library?*

I started work at the Marion City Library part-time as assistant in 1974. In 1990, I became library director.

*What do you love about your library?*

I love our library because of the staff, the people who visit the library, the idea that we are in an Old Depot. What I love about the job is looking at books, (especially children's books) finding books that people (especially children) will love, planning new events & programs, & giving historic



tours of the depot.

*What would you change?*

I can't think of anything that I would change.

*What projects are you working on?*

Projects we are working on have slowed down since the completion of our new addition "The Santa Fe Room." We are now focusing on landscaping the new area. I am still looking for an old caboose to put in the Library yard.

*What programs do you offer?*

Programs we offer include year-round storytimes, book clubs, poetry club, computer classes, puzzle exchange, checkout cake pans, Santa visits, Santa letters, craft days for children & tweens. Events/programs we do include Lunch 'n Learns, Kansas Humanities speakers,

quilt show, garden tour,

Christmas home tour, Wizard of Oz month-long events, movies in the afternoons, & author visits, such as Deborah Raney.

*What have you been reading that you'd recommend?*

A book that I have read that still sticks in my mind is Cracker: the best dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata. It is a junior book that my granddaughter & I read at the same time & had conversations about. It was a heartwarming book about a soldier & his dog. It showed me the bond & love they had for each other.

Marion City Library was one of twelve libraries in Kansas to receive star status in Library Journal's annual star library rating.

## Medium 6 by 6 Story Time Kits Available through ILL

The Kansas State Library & NWKLS have created medium sized 6 by 6 kits for use as story time resources. The kits contain 5-7 books, flannel boards, rhymes, songs, & suggestions for story time activities, as well

as enough theme-related play items for use with a group. The kits can be checked out by anyone: libraries, preschools, Parents as Teachers, & families. In addition to story time resources, the kits contain

ideas for expanding on the books through outside play, activities, & crafts. As the name implies, these kits are smaller than previous kits & do not contain the materials to complete the crafts.

~Melendra Sutliff Sanders

## NCKLS' Service Improvement Grant

Would a book cart make things easier in your library? Does your story time rug need replacing? Would a Keurig coffee machine make your reading area a place where patrons want to linger?

The NCKLS "Service Improvement Grant" is designed to make it possible for your library to add these kinds of enhancements to your facility. The grant provides matching funds for 75% of the total budget of a project up to \$1000.

Several libraries have already



received "Service Improvement Grants" this year in order to purchase projectors, screens, & sound systems to show videos in the library. Another library bought a bench for the front of the library where patrons can perch to use the Wi-Fi when the library is closed. Whatever project the board has been wishing for, now is a good time to implement it. To read the guidelines & apply for the grant, go to the NCKLS website and select the *Services* tab. On the dropdown menu, select *Grants*. Then select *Service Improvement Grant*, or go directly to: [http://](http://nckls.mykansalibrary.org/services/nckl-system-grant/service-improvement-grant/)



[nckls.mykansalibrary.org/services/nckl-system-grant/service-improvement-grant/](http://nckls.mykansalibrary.org/services/nckl-system-grant/service-improvement-grant/)

While you are on the NCKLS website, check out the many grants available from other organizations listed under our *Resources* tab. We are adding grants as we hear about them, so check back frequently for new opportunities.

~ Carol Barta

## Technology Spotlight: Tech Plans for Budget Planning

Among the many services public libraries provide, access to technology in the form of computers & Internet connectivity is now expected by many library patrons. For today's libraries to maintain such service requires planning to make the best use of the library's resources. Creating a Technology Plan & updating that plan on a yearly basis will provide essential information

for the library's use when planning the budget. A good plan should include an inventory of current technology with estimates of future replacement cost projections for three to four years into the future. Of course, these projections may be educated guesses, but they will serve as an effective planning tool for the library. NCKLS has developed two different templates that can

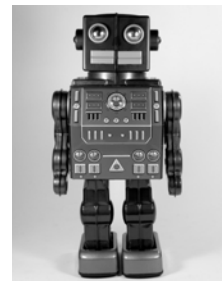
be used to create your library's tech plan. These templates can be found on the NCKLS website: [www.nckls.org](http://www.nckls.org). To find the templates on the site, search for "Help with Tech Plans." Templates can then be downloaded. If you have difficulty finding the templates, please contact Richard, Duane, or LaDonna.

~ Richard Miller

## Watch Party

1:00–2:00 Thurs.,

April 24th



### Maker Programming for Kids: No Makerspace Required

Cindy Wall & Lynn Pawloski introduce maker-based programming for librarians of all experience levels & tech-savviness. In addition to a multitude of programming ideas, attendees will share a step-by-step, hands-on experience.

**Register at**  
**[know.nckl.info](http://know.nckl.info)**



North Central Kansas Libraries System

## NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS LIBRARIES SYSTEM

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E-mail: [cbarta@nckls.org](mailto:cbarta@nckls.org)

[www.nckls.org](http://www.nckls.org)

## Weeding Assistance

If your library is in need of more shelf space, & you feel it's time to get rid of some clutter, we can help you. Weeding is an essential part of any collection's life, & it needs to be done routinely. NCKLS staff will be glad to visit with you & make suggestions about the process. We routinely look at the age & condition of materials, & we also assess relevance & accuracy. We would welcome the chance to suggest newer purchases or alternative sources for content. We could also help you set up standards that you could put into place & tweak as your needs arise. Questions? Give us a call at the NCKLS offices. Carol, Marcy, & Melendra are happy to help you!

~ Marcy Allen



## Let's Talk Gardening!

Enough with the snow & the cold we've all experienced the past few months. Let's do a little planning & get our gardens back into shape. Here are some really nice new selections that can help make quick work of those outdoor plantings & projects you are anxious to begin.

### The Know Maintenance Perennial Garden by Roy Diblik.

Diblik is a nursery owner & respected garden designer who lives in Wisconsin. His book includes all the descriptive

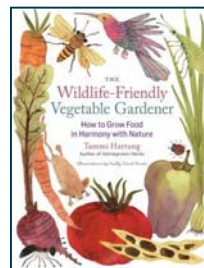


plant information we've come to expect from gardening books, but he also includes some great hints on site preparation, fertilizer, moisture, etc., & the real treat is his inclusion of planned

layouts for both sunny & shady areas. In fact, he has simplified specific layouts to resemble some exquisite works of art, like the paintings of Monet & van Gogh.

### The Wildlife-Friendly Vegetable Gardener by Tammi Hartung.

Hartung is an organic grower, & she & her husband operate a farm in Colorado on which they grow rare, medicinal & native plants. This beautifully illustrated book has a whole chapter on pollinators & predators that benefit the garden. She also includes advice on how to attract garden friends, like toads & wild birds that thrive on insects that decimate a garden. Too, she writes that aromatic plants like lavender are repugnant to



deer. Lots of good advice without the aid of strong chemicals.

### Handmade for the Garden by Susan Guagliumi.

This lovely book is a guide for garden & patio projects that are both inexpensive & personal. Guagliumi is a crafter & a recognized restorer who loves ornamentation in older homes & gardens. Her chapter on creating cement ornaments & pots is a winner, & her directions for assembling unusual support structures for tall plants are incredible. A fun read with lots of innovative ideas.



~ Marcy Allen