

# friends of kansas LIBRARIES

Assist - Support - Educate

FoKL POINT Newsletter — July/August 2024



**JOIN US ON ZOOM**

**First Friday with Friends**

**FALL & WINTER FUN(d) RAISING IDEAS**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 2  
9 AM CENTRAL**

It's not too early to start planning your fall/winter holiday fundraisers. Join our *First Friday with Friends* event on **Friday, August 2 at 9 AM Central** for successful ideas from Friends groups around the state. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88484969231>.

## FoKL Survey 2024

Local Friends groups help libraries stay on the cutting edge of technology, services, and programs that promote lifelong learning.

With the goal of providing helpful resources and support to these groups, FoKL is asking you or a local Friends member to answer these few questions which will take **less than five minutes to complete**.

Your answers will guide FoKL as we move forward.

Many thanks for your input, and thank you to those who have already responded!



Survey link:

[www.fokl.net/fokl-survey-2024](http://www.fokl.net/fokl-survey-2024)

## Linwood Friends of the Library

The Linwood Friends group was on the spot at “Main Street in Linwood” on July 12 with a bake sale. This Main Street event brings community members together on summer evenings, with the closed-off street transformed into a lively venue with food, live music, and more.

The Friends group also kicked off an innovative membership drive in July that is aimed at attracting new members. The membership drive publicity says, “Join this week and the first year membership is free.” That’s an idea good enough to share!



## Focus on Friends

# Friends of Johnson County Library

Artists of all ages are busy putting pencil (or paintbrush) to paper for the annual Friends of the Johnson County Library Bookmark Design Contest. The group is accepting submissions throughout June and July, with winners honored at an award ceremony in October during National Friends of the Library Week.



The contest has categories for artists from preschool to adult, with two winners in each age group. The prize package includes a \$20 gift card to the Friends book sale and photo files from photoshoots the Friends schedule with each winner.

Jurors for the contest include Friends of Johnson County Library staff and board, and Library staff, with submissions judged on originality, theme and creativity.

Once the winners are selected, the 2-sided bookmarks are printed and made available at the library branches throughout the year. The winning art is on the front, and the back includes the artist's name, school (or if homeschooled, stated as such) and age, along with a quote they



provide at the time of entry about what they love most about the library. Library and Friends logos are included, plus a QR code that directs folks to the Friends website.

When we asked about the benefits the Friends group has seen from hosting this contest in the past, Shanta Dickerson, Johnson County Friends Executive Director said, "This is a beloved community event, and it raises awareness/visibility of our organization. Board members and County Commissioners alike look forward to it – it's pure joy, and it lifts spirits in a way that our appointed and elected officials deeply appreciate. Year after year, they tell us how much they look forward to this."

FoKL appreciates this as a project that could be scaled for any size library or Friends group, and is a successful pairing of community outreach with a celebration of National Friends week. Thank you Johnson County Friends for sharing.

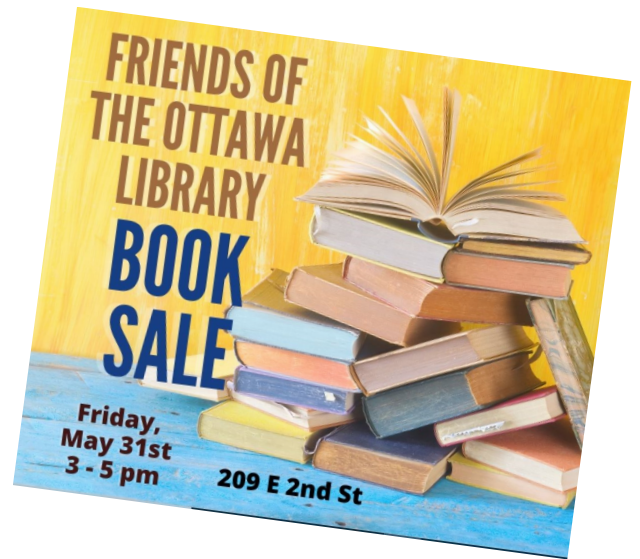
*(Photos are 2023 Contest winners Louisa, Lucy, and Ben, courtesy JoCo Friends)*



## Focus on Friends

# Summer with Friends of the Ottawa Library

The Ottawa Public Library and their Friends Group teamed up for a great Summer Reading Kick-off Party promotion. The announcement said, "The Book Store will be open tomorrow for our Summer Reading Kick-off Party. Stop by the library first and sign up for Summer Reading or show us you are already registered and receive a coupon for a free book."



At left:

The Ottawa Friends Book Store also was host to an outing for the Ottawa Recreation summer camp in June.

Clearly, these kids love books!

*(Summer Camp photos used by permission from the Ottawa Recreation Commission)*

## Lemonade Stand Fundraiser in Kiowa



Young friends Addison and BrayLynn hosted a lemonade and cookie stand that raised over \$500 in support of the Kiowa Public Library. They sold out in two hours, with the community showing its support with large and small donations.

The funds were used to purchase a Lego table, legos, magnetic blocks, and books for the library. A plaque was placed on the table to highlight the girls' contribution.

Judy Burgess noted, "Kiowa has a population of 880! It's a rural community that extends beyond the city limits, and I have to say they support their library."

Great job Addison and BrayLynn!



# Burlingame Friends

The Burlingame Friends hosted a lively fundraiser with an evening of Bingo, food, and fun on July 22.

For the event, the Friends assembled an amazing array of prizes including the items shown in the photos below. Prizes also included car wash tokens, gift certificates to local merchants and restaurants, and museum tickets.



# Park City Friends

FoKL extends warm congratulations to the newly formed Friends of the Park City Library.

Organizing President Karen Haughwout reports that 40 members have paid dues, their 501(c)(3) has been approved, and the bylaws have been written. "We are off to a great start!" Karen says.

The group will hold a launch Meet and Greet at the library in September. FoKL looks forward to watching you grow.

*Pictured: Friends provided ice cream cups at the library's Water War event with the Fire Department.*



## Contact us!

Friends of Kansas Libraries  
c/o Bonner Springs City Library  
201 N Nettleton Ave, Bonner Springs, KS 66012

[friendsofkansaslibraries@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofkansaslibraries@gmail.com)

Copyright © 2024 Friends of Kansas Libraries. All rights reserved.