

*Connection. Collaboration. Creativity.*

## GOOD NEWS: A letter from the WPLF



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### **The Magic of Collaboration**

Sharon Miles, a prolific fundraising leader in our community, became my mentor in 2002 and remained so until her death in July 2015. Sharon taught me that collaboration is about compassion, hard work, love, support, kindness, and the power we gain when we share and lean on each other. Sharon also believed there were enough philanthropic dollars for anyone representing a worthwhile cause. As leaders, we could share our knowledge and passion with others to serve our community better.

The Wichita Public Library does this well. The Library works with hundreds of community partners to serve our great city's diverse demographics and populations.

On June 23, the Library opened the first Story Walk in Wichita. To ensure community needs were met, the Library worked with six organizations with the United Way of the Plains funding the project. We are grateful for every funder, organization, and person who has made Wichita a better place for all of us to live.

### **Welcome New Board Member Dr. Lewis**



John M. Lewis, DDS, is a successful Wichita dentist whose passion for service is rooted in being reared in a family of public educators and spending summers reading books.

He has taught, lectured, and mentored at Wichita State University, Friends University, and the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry (alma mater). He has served with the Wichita District Dental Society, Friends University Trustees, the Kansas Mission of Mercy/Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation, Good Samaritan Clinic of World Impact Ministries, and Boy Scouts of America.

"I've chosen to contribute time to others in the four areas of education, faith, dental health care, and community improvement — the Foundation satisfies two of these venues," says Dr. Lewis. He and his wife, Wanda, live in Andover; they have three adult children and an active German shepherd.

### **Take a Walk with 'Dreamers'**

Wichita's first bilingual Story Walk will take you on a journey beginning north of the tennis courts, near the Evergreen Public Library and Community Center. The project features the children's picture book "Dreamers" by Yuri Morales, integrating literacy and exercise in the North End neighborhoods surrounding Evergreen Park. "Dreamers" tells

the story of the author and her son's trek immigrating from Mexico to the United States.

### **Library Programs**

*The Library continues to adapt to keep customers engaged. Your financial support of the WPLF makes these programs possible.*

**Upcycled Planters**, 2:30 p.m. July 7, at Angelou Northeast. Ages 12-18. Reduce global impact on the planet by reusing and turning a plastic bottle into a self-watering planter. Limited space — registration required. Social distancing protocols observed.

**Senior Wednesday: Native Art**, 1:30 p.m. July 13, Advanced Learning Library. Explore the art and lives of two influential Native artists, Blackbear Bosin, Kiowa/Comanche, and Woody Crumbo, Potawatomi/Muskogee Creek, led by Mid-America All-Indian Museum curator Erin Raux.

**Mental Health First Aid**, 6 p.m. July 26, Advanced Learning Library. One in five Americans has a mental illness or substance use disorder, yet many are reluctant to seek help or don't know where to turn. Presented by Comcare, learn how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

**Teen Advisory Board Information Session 1**, 6-7 p.m. Aug. 2, Advanced Learning Library. Teens grades 6-12. Library staff will discuss the Teen Advisory Board, including the application, selection process, and participant expectations. Pizza and sodas will be served; register for a headcount at [wichitalibrary.org/events](http://wichitalibrary.org/events) or call 261-8516.

**Pollinator Gardens Inspired By The Kansas Prairie**, 6-7:30 p.m. Aug. 2, Advanced Learning Library or 6-7:30 p.m. Aug. 4, Zoom. Learn how to use perennials, ornamental grasses, roses, and more to create year-round habitat for pollinators. Join Extension Master Gardener Cindy Vadakin as she takes pollinator plant inspiration from the Kanza and Tallgrass prairies to create a space for pollinators in your backyard. Co-sponsored by K-State Research & Extension-Sedgwick County Master Gardeners.

**3D Printing I: The Basics**, 10:30 a.m.-noon Aug. 6, Advanced Learning Library. Learn the processes of 3D printing. Watch a quick print completed and learn about software to model and print on your own. This is course 1 of 2 required to become certified to use the 3D printers. Users must be 14 to be certified to print. Children with adult supervision are welcome to observe. Registration is required; call 261-8500, or register online.

**Local Author Day: Writer's Panel**, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Aug 20, Advanced Learning Library. Local Author Day is back! Festivities include a panel of authors sharing their experience in writing, publishing, and marketing.

### **Did You Know?**

The Library of Things has new coding robots, anatomical models, early literacy backpacks and more. The Finch Robots have checked out 44 times in their first month of circulation.

Visit [wichitalibrary.org/events](http://wichitalibrary.org/events) for more programs and information.

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