

Connection. Collaboration. Creativity.

GOOD NEWS: A letter from the WPLF



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Your Support Reaches Every Neighborhood in Wichita

As the end of the year approaches, the WPLF would like to respectfully ask that you consider a meaningful gift to help the people in our community have access to essential services designed to remove barriers they often face. The Wichita Public Library is the only place that people of all ages can turn to and find the appropriate resources (at no cost) to make their life better.

In 2020, your gifts to the WPLF provided a million people access to in-person and online life-changing services at the Wichita Public Library's seven locations. Your support of the Foundation expands the Library's reach to people in every neighborhood and school district across our community.

"The health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about our culture, and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our Libraries."

- Carl Sagan

Welcome to Wichita's new Director of Libraries



Jaime Prothro rejoined the Wichita Public Library as its new director on Oct. 4. Before relocating to Tacoma, Washington, to become the customer experience director for Tacoma Public Libraries, Jaime had held leadership positions with the Wichita Library as the Evergreen Branch manager and the customer service manager. She is committed to service excellence and ensuring the Library continues to deliver diverse programs that appeal to all ages. In each of her roles, Jaime centers decisions that affect all aspects of library business on equity, continuous improvement, innovation and impact.

Did You Know?

November is Kansas Reads to Preschoolers month, and you can celebrate with your Wichita Public Library. This year, the selected book is "Grumpy Bird" by Jeremy Tankard. Kansas Reads to Preschoolers is an annual event that promotes reading to all Kansas children from birth through age 5. Through the statewide program, parents, librarians and caregivers are encouraged to read the chosen title during the entire month of November. See the library's calendar of events for specifics.

Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/WichitaPublicLibraryFoundation

Your Library Programs

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

Indoor Gardening, Wednesday, Nov. 3, 6 p.m. on Zoom. Explore techniques provided by a Master Gardener on how to transition your outdoor plants inside, take cuttings for the next season, germinate seedlings, and transplant your green babies for spring. Registration is required. Call (316) 261-8500 or register online.

Senior Wednesday: Wichita's Architectural Gems, Wednesday, Nov. 10, 1:30 p.m. on Zoom. Join Kathy Morgan, senior planner for the Metropolitan Area Planning Department, as she discusses the history of distinctive architectural landmarks found in Wichita. Registration is required. Call (316) 261-8500 or register online.

WGS Quarterly: Texas Cattle Trails Across Kansas, 1850s to 1880s, Saturday, Nov. 20, 1-3 p.m. on Zoom. Presented by Gary and Margaret Kraisinger. Co-sponsored by the Wichita Genealogical Society. Registration begins four weeks before the program. To register, visit wchitagensoc.org.

Selling on eBay, Tuesday, Nov. 30, 1 p.m. on Zoom. We will focus on selling through the online auction site, eBay. Students will learn how to search, post, sell, and reply to posts safely. Registration is required. Call (316)261-8500, or register online.

Visit wchitalibrary.org/events for more programs and information.

Good News from the Branches



- The Library hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 18 in celebration of Wichita's new Walters Branch Library in southeast Wichita. It is named after Ronald W. Walters, who helped organize the 1958 Dockum sit-in during the Civil Rights movement that led to the desegregation of that business. His wife, Patricia Turner Walters, was pleased to be able to attend the ceremony.

- Construction at the Evergreen Branch Library is expected to be completed by the end of 2021. The building is being remodeled to include community partners who provide education and social services, collaborative work spaces, and offerings provided by City of Wichita neighborhood services. Residents participated in community feedback regarding the name of the center, and the City Council will consider recommendations in November.

- Branch enhancements are now in the City's Capital Improvement Fund to provide updates to Alford, Angelou, and Rockwell branches with a major expansion of the Westlink Library in 2023-24.

Wichita Public Library Foundation

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The Wichita Public Library Foundation's mission is to fund Library operational needs directly benefiting the public and not covered in the tax-supported budget. The mission directs the Foundation's activities through private fundraising, foundation, individual and corporate grants, and annual endowment distributions to the Library.