

FALL 2024

Connect



JOHNSON CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY



CONTACT & VISIT

100 West Millard Street
Johnson City, TN 37604
(423) 434-4450

CONNECT



jcpl.org

HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday
9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday
10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday
12-6 p.m.

FALL CLOSURES

Monday, September 1 and 2
Monday, November 11
Thursday, November 28
Friday, November 29

BOARD MEETINGS

Third Tuesday every month
Sept. 17 / Oct. 15 / Nov. 19
4:30 p.m.
Library's Jones Meeting Center

Learn about Library leadership
at jcpl.org/board-of-directors.

In This Issue

- 4** Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Financial Review
- 5** Staff Spotlight with Tyler Wilmoth
- 6-7** Family and School Age Programs
- 8** Preschool Storytimes, Author Constance Lombardo
- 9** Recurring Preschool Programs
Washington County Imagination Library
- 10-11** Teen Programs and News
- 12-14** Adult Programs
- 15** The Legend of Granny Wise, Fall Crafting and Cookbooks
- 16** Fun Surprise!
- 17** Friends of the Library Sales
- 18** Ways to Support the Library, Volunteer Highlight
- 19** Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Donors



Suzy Williams

“Suzy Williams, a beloved member of your Library’s board, passed away on June 19, 2024. She joined the board in April 2019 as our Washington County Commission representative. Suzy was passionate about literacy, service to children, and a champion for the Library in our community. She exemplified public service and was a thoughtful and steady presence on the Library’s leadership team. She was a lovely person, and I miss her very much.”

Julia Turpin, Library Director

Your Library’s Board of Directors Class of 2024



Jennifer Dixon
President
Most Likely to
End the Meeting on Time



Daryl Carter
Vice President
Snappiest Dresser



Georgita Washington
Secretary
Most Generous Laugher



Scott Jeffress
Treasurer
Gives the Most
Enthralling Financial Reports



Rob Davis
Most Likely to
Second a Motion



John Hunter
Most Electable



Thomas Kendall
Most Likely to
Ask an Insightful Question



Ashley Newton
Newest Kid on the Block

NOTE FROM THE BOARD

Welcome to the second issue of Connect magazine! In this issue, we celebrate your Library’s accomplishments in fiscal year 2023-2024, as we continued to experiment and innovate. We’re grateful for the people who helped us along the way, whether by volunteering their time, financially donating, or attending our focus groups.

In this issue, you’ll also discover what we have coming up in the next few months. From event information to guest speaker interviews, special collections to spooky stories, you’ll get a taste of what we’re excited about this September through November.

We hope you enjoy perusing highlights from this last year, and in the process discover something new about your Library. As you explore these pages, please know that everything the Library does is designed with you, our user, in mind.

Fiscal Year 2023-2024



\$2,340,723.21
PROGRAMS, COLLECTIONS, & SERVICES (83.79%)
ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS (16.21%)



\$2,587,170.79
CITY OF JOHNSON CITY (85.08%)
WASHINGTON COUNTY (3.94%)
FINES & FEES (2.29%)
DONATIONS (6.67%)
GRANTS (0.47%)
E-RATE & OTHER (1.54%)

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tyler Wilmoth | Assistant Director
of Collections & Metadata



Tyler Wilmoth is your Library's Assistant Director of Collections and Metadata. He oversees the process of how we select, acquire, organize, and label all of the Library's materials. Every item you borrow starts its journey in Wilmoth's department. We spoke with him about his job and how his team curates the Library's collection.

What draws you to collection development?

I'm motivated by the ability to make a positive impact on our community. When we select materials, we ensure that the Library meets the needs and interests of our users, and we get to help foster a love for reading and learning. I love discovering titles that can inspire, educate, and entertain others.

How do you decide what materials to add to our collection to keep it up to date?

Our Collection Management committee, which includes staff from the Children, Teen, and Adult departments, chooses materials. Together, we ensure that the Library's collection stays fresh and relevant for our community.

The committee regularly analyzes circulation statistics and uses the Library's collection development policy to make informed decisions. We rely on professional reviews, bestseller lists, book award announcements, and our staff's expertise. We consider a book's literary, artistic, historic, or scientific merit, as well as its accuracy and authoritativeness.

Our users' recommendations are also critically important to us. These suggestions are valuable, because they help us understand our community's needs and interests.



Who We Are *Attentive*

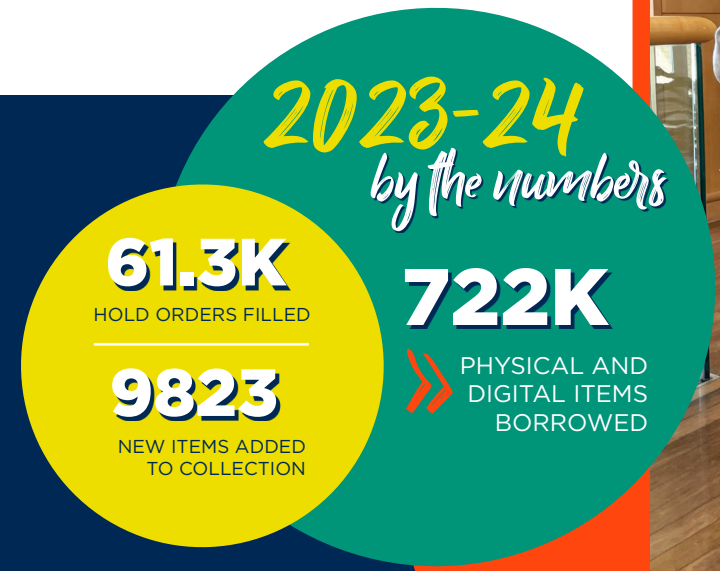
Your Library is driven by values that determine the decisions we make and the culture we create as an organization.

One of the values that guides our organization is attentiveness. This means that we are dedicated to noticing and listening to people's needs. We care about our users' concerns and respond in a thoughtful way.

In the last year, we embodied this value by holding a series of focus groups with parents about our Children's Library programming. We wanted to see if we were effectively meeting parents' and children's needs, and how we could improve moving forward. We asked questions that helped us understand their experiences of Children's Library events, and how specific factors helped or hindered their ability to, or interest in, attending.

We used what we learned in these group conversations to evaluate and adapt what we were already doing, and to design new programs. For instance, we redesigned our preschool storytimes to focus on developmental levels instead of strict age brackets, which was a topic that came up often in the focus groups.

Find the rest of our organizational values at jcpl.org/mission-and-values.



(Ask to take a photo with our GIANT card next time you visit the Library!)

NEW LIBRARY USERS ADDED **4094**

21.8K VISITORS PER MONTH

Family Events

Event Key

- R** Registration required at jcpl.org
- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program

BUILDING WITH THE LIONS

Saturdays, Sept. 14 / Oct. 12 / Nov. 9 • 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Drop in to build creations with LEGO blocks, facilitated by the Johnson City Lions Club. On Sept. 14, the Lions Club will offer free eye exams and diabetes checks for ages 12 and under from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. **D**

POKÉMON TRADING CARD DAY

**Saturdays, Sept. 28 / Oct. 26 / Nov. 30
2-3 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

Kids of all ages trade Pokémon and other cards. On Oct. 26, we'll meet in the Children's Library. **D**

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

**Monday, Oct. 28 • 6-7:30 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

Join us for game night fun! The Library provides board and video games for families to play together. **D**

iCode Tri-Cities STEM Sessions

This fall, your Library is offering two STEM classes for ages 8-12 led by iCode Tri-Cities. Instructors from iCode Tri-Cities make STEM education fun, using gamified learning to keep students engaged.

FOUNDATIONS OF CODING

Friday, Sept. 20 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 8-12 learn the foundations of coding in this hands-on class. Students put algorithms into practice by running robot mice. **R**

DIGITAL ART

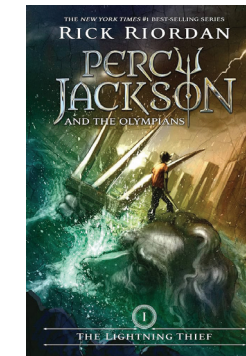
Friday, Nov. 8 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 8-12 learn the basics of digital art in this hands-on class. Students explore the why and how of programming languages, and create their own digital sketches. **R**



Hot Tip!

Ask our Children's Library staff about the Library's **STEM Backpacks** and how to borrow one!



Tween Book Club

"THE LIGHTNING THIEF"

Monday, Oct. 7 • 5 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 8-12 will discuss "The Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan, play trivia about the novel's mythological world, and do a book-themed activity. The first 10 tweens who register will receive a free copy of the book to keep. **R**

FAMILY PROGRAMS

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

TRICK-TOUR-TREAT

**Thursday, Oct. 31 • 3-5 p.m.
The Whole Library!**

Halloween is the perfect day for trick-or-treating in the stacks! All ages can take a behind-the-scenes tour of the Library's decorated departments, meet costumed Library staff, and get treats along the way. At the end, you can vote for your favorite department's decorations. **D**



DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Saturday, Nov. 2 • 4-5:30 p.m. • Children's Library

Bring the whole family to celebrate the rich traditions of Día de los Muertos with crafts, snacks, and activities. **D**



SUPA AWESOME DOG MAN PARTY

Tuesday, Nov. 12 • 5-7 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 5-12 can embark on an exciting journey filled with challenges, crafts, and photo ops, all inspired by Dav Pilkey's beloved Dog Man series. **D**



Events may be subject to change. Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

Monthly School Age Programs

BOOK WORMS

**Thursdays, Sept. 5 / Oct. 3 / Nov. 7
4 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

Ages 5-8 hear a story and do activities that "dig in" to the text. **R**

READING PAWS

**Mondays, Sept. 9 / Oct. 7 / Nov. 4 • 4 p.m.
Saturdays, Sept. 21 / Oct. 19 / Nov. 16 • 11 a.m.
Children's Library**

Ages 5-12 read aloud to a trained listening dog for 15 minutes. **R**

ART EXPLORERS

New »

Fridays, Sept. 13 / Oct. 11 / Nov. 15 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 8-12 explore the work of a different famous artist each session, sparking creativity and discovery. Young art enthusiasts will create a take-home craft inspired by the featured art style. **R**

GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

Mondays, Sept. 23 / Oct. 21 / Nov. 18 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 8-12 discover graphic novels in a book club format. Hear about your librarians' favorite titles, do drawing exercises, and share recommendations with other graphic novel fans. **R**

2023-24
16.5K
KID EVENTS ATTENDANCE

396
KID EVENTS

Preschool Storytimes

BABIES & BOOKS

Wednesdays* • 9:30 a.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Lapsit storytime with songs, rhymes, books, and sensory activities. Recommended for ages birth-18 months. **T**

READ & ROMP

Wednesdays and Thursdays* • 10:30 a.m.
King Commons Natural Adventure Area

Outdoor storytime with books and songs for active preschoolers. Recommended for ages 19-36 months. **O**

LITTLE LISTENERS

Wednesdays and Thursdays* • 11 a.m.
Storytime Room

Storytime with longer books, songs, and crafts. Recommended for ages 3-5 years. **T**

FAMILY STORYTIME

Saturdays, Sept. 7 / Oct. 5
11 a.m.
Storytime Room

Weekend storytime for families to enjoy together. Recommended for ages 2-6 years. **T**

BILINGUAL STORYTIME

Tuesdays, Sept. 3 and 17 / Oct. 1 and 15 /
Nov. 5 and 19
6 p.m.
Storytime Room

Evening storytime for families led by native Spanish speaker Mar Carter. Stories, conversations, and activities are presented in English and Spanish to increase bilingual literacy. Recommended for ages 2-6 years.

***No storytimes on:**
Sept. 4 and 5
Oct. 2, 3, 30, and 31
Nov. 6, 7, 27, and 28

Event Key

- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program
- T** Ticket required; pick up at Children's Desk upon arrival

Recurring

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

MUSIC MORNING

Wednesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 4 and 5 / Oct. 2 and 3 /
Nov. 6 and 7 • 10 and 11 a.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Ages birth-5 years enjoy singing and dancing. Engaging in music and movement promotes early literacy and creative expression. **T**

LITTLE MUSICIANS

Fridays* • 10 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 3-5 years build musical literacy and increase gross motor skills through rhythmic activities and songs led by Johnson City Symphony Orchestra members. **T**

*No meetings on Sept. 6 / Oct. 11 / Nov. 1 and 29

PRESCHOOL PLAYLAB

Mondays, Sept. 30 / Oct. 14 / Nov. 25 • 10-11:30 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 2-5 years dive into a world of sensory exploration through hands-on discovery play. This kind of play is designed to ignite creativity and curiosity. **D**

Storytime with Constance Lombardo

Asheville-based children's author Constance Lombardo is no stranger to the dreaded school picture day. As a mom (and a former kid herself!), Lombardo used her own picture day memories to create her new children's book. "Itty Bitty Betty Blob" tells the adorable story of a little monster who just can't take a 'good' school picture.



Lombardo will read her new book at Little Listeners storytime on Wednesday, Oct. 16 and Thursday, Oct. 17 at 11 a.m.

We got to talk with her recently about this endearing story.

How did you come up with the idea for Betty and her picture day dilemma?

A writing prompt I had about unusual pairings conjured thoughts of classic school experiences like picture day. The twist: picture day for dinosaurs? Aliens? Aha! Monsters! That led me to Itty Bitty Betty, an upbeat blob

who simply cannot make herself scowl for the camera. Lots of credit for character development goes to my illustrator, Micah Player, who made Betty perfect!

What can kids take away from Itty Bitty Betty's story?

Betty really wanted me to know it's ok—no, wonderful!—to be completely and utterly yourself. Her dedication to living her truth is the heart of this story. I want all kids to know they're perfect just as they are.



Lombardo on her own picture day in first grade!

WASHINGTON COUNTY Imagination Library

Washington County Imagination Library gifts up to 60 high-quality, age-appropriate books to build a child's home library before kindergarten. Every month, the program sends a free book to enrolled Washington County kids from ages birth-5 years. Every Tennessee child is eligible for Imagination Library through their county affiliate.

Johnson City Public Library is the affiliate for Washington County. Call the Library at (423) 434-4362 to enroll your child.

"Every kid loves getting mail, and there is nothing more exciting than receiving a book that unlocks new worlds for them. Imagination Library has opened doors for my boys to explore diverse cultures, nature's wonders, and realms of endless imagination."

Christina Mushayamunda
Imagination Library parent



986K

BOOKS GIVEN IN WASHINGTON CO. SINCE 2005

WASHINGTON CO. KIDS CURRENTLY ENROLLED

82%



Events may be subject to change. Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

Teen Events

(AGES 12-18)

Event Key

- R** Registration required at jcpl.org
- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program

COMPOST CELEBRATION: DIRT AND WORMS

Wednesday, September 4 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn about composting and microbiology with Eastman's Principal Microbiologist, Dr. Sharmistha Mazumder. We'll discuss the future of microbiology and make our own dirt & worm desserts. **R**

INSTRUMENT EXPERIENCE

Wednesday, September 18 • 6-7 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Join us to chat with professional local musicians about music, gear, and life as an artist. You'll get brief one-on-one experiences with each instrument and have time to ask questions. **D**

BEEKEEPING WITH TIM ROSS

Wednesday, October 9 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn about beekeeping with local apiarist Tim Ross. He will share a wealth of knowledge about pollinators, show hive and honey-making equipment, and talk about honey production. **R**

D&D ONE-SHOT ADVENTURE

Wednesday, October 23 • 5 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Embark on a Dungeons & Dragons one-shot adventure. No experience is required. Character sheets and supplies will be provided. **R**

TABLETOP GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, November 6 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Play tabletop and card games with friends! The Library will provide a selection of games and snacks. **D**

IN THIS ECONOMY?

Wednesday, November 13 • 6-7:30 p.m. Jones Meeting Center

Get a better understanding of banking, savings, and budgeting from Anna Davis of Truist Bank. She'll share tips and tricks for young adults who are interested in their financial futures. **D**

BEAUTIFUL BREADS

Saturday, November 16 • 1 p.m. Jones Meeting Center

Enjoy a cozy baking session with your Library's resident baked-good enthusiast, Em Baker. We'll learn how to start dough, which participants can take home to bake. We'll use natural ingredients to decorate finished mini-loaves for an artistic and homey touch. **R**



Events may be subject to change. Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

Recurring Programs

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesdays, Sept. 25 / Oct. 30 / Nov. 27 • 6:30 p.m. • Teen Space

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) is open to anyone ages 12-18 who is interested in helping make the Teen Space a safe and exciting place for teens. TAB meets once a month to share ideas for the Teen Space, collections, programming, and vision for the future.

TEEN HOMEWORK CAFE

New »

Every Monday from September 23 - November 25 • 3-5 p.m. Teen Space

Ages 12-18 can come by the Library after school to do their homework. Library staff is available to help find research materials and resources. Snacks are provided. **D**

Teen Book Club

Teen Book Club meets once a month for ages 12-18 to discuss young adult books, do hands-on activities, and share a love of reading. Book club picks highlight diverse stories and authors in a variety of genres. Whether we're playing trivia, throwing a steampunk ball, or crafting, Teen Book Club is always fun and compelling. (Plus, the first 10 teens who register get a free copy of the book to keep!)

Fun Fact
 Teen Book Club is sponsored this fall by **Questers Book Club**, one of Johnson City's longest running book clubs. Questers has been meeting for nearly 60 years!

September

"THE HOBBIT"
 by J.R.R. Tolkien

Saturday, September 21 1 p.m. Jones Meeting Center

Come dressed in your hobbit best and enjoy Shire food and fun! **R**

October

"LOCKWOOD & CO."
 by Jonathan Stroud

Tuesday, October 15 6 p.m. Jones Meeting Center

Wear a ghostly costume and get into the Halloween spirit with spooky activities. **R**

November

"A SNAKE FALLS TO EARTH"

by Darcie Little Badger
Wednesday, November 20 6 p.m. Jones Meeting Center

Explore tropes in indigenous myths and stories with a hands-on activity. **R**

2023-24
by the numbers

43
 UNIQUE TEEN EVENTS

418
 TEENS ATTENDED PROGRAMS

26.2K
 YOUNG ADULT BOOKS BORROWED

Investing in Our Teens

"In the last year, the Teen Space has grown and changed immensely. We not only added and moved furniture to create more social and study spaces, we nearly doubled the footprint of our young adult collection. **Circulation numbers and event attendance are higher than ever.** Our community is fortunate to have so many talented, intelligent, compassionate, and creative teens. We're even luckier to have them participating in our organization. I'm excited to see what the next year holds for the Library's teen programs, services, and collection."

Kip Polmanteer, Young Adult Librarian



« Local artist Jason Flack donated one of his paintings for our Teen Space!

Adult Events

(AGES 18 AND OLDER)

Event Key

- R** Registration required at jcpl.org
- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program

Front Porch Concerts

Enjoy free music on Sunday afternoons in September! Our “front porch” concerts are held outdoors on the Library’s front steps, which provides a beautiful view of King Commons Park and Buffalo Mountain in the distance.



SHAWN LANE

Sunday, September 8 • 3-4 p.m.

Shawn Lane is a dynamic musician and songwriter. As a founding member of the bluegrass band Blue Highway, he was nominated for three Grammy Awards and won the International Bluegrass Music Association Award 28 times. Lane has toured and recorded with the likes of Willie Nelson, Ricky Skaggs, Kenny Chesney, and Alison Krauss. Learn more about him at shawnlanemusic.com.



DANIEL COUPER

Sunday, September 15 • 3-4 p.m.

daniel couper is a Johnson City-based singer-songwriter who intertwines literature and song. His music is known for its honest and introspective lyrics and genre-defying melodies. Find more about couper at danielcoupermusic.com.



COREY SNOWDEN

Sunday, September 29 • 3-4 p.m.

Corey Snowden is a guitarist and singer from the birthplace of country music. The Bristol native’s songs seamlessly weave together country, folk, and southern rock. Discover more at coreysnowdenmusic.com.



FOREST BATHING

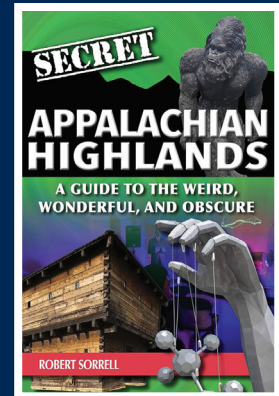
Saturday, September 7 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn about the history of forest bathing from Certified Forest Therapy Guide Amanda Chapman. This Japanese health and wellness practice immerses people into their natural environment.

ECO-PRINTING

Tuesday, October 8 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn how to make eco-prints on fabric using powdered metals, water, heat, and foraged plant materials. All the materials are provided, and you’ll get to take home your eco-printed fabric. **R**



Secret Appalachia with Robert Sorrell

Wednesday, October 16 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Hear from Robert Sorrell, an Elizabethton author and journalist who specializes in local folklore. He’ll talk about his new book, “Secret Appalachian Highlands: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful, and Obscure.”

Sorrell’s guidebook features hidden places, mysterious stories, and quirky oddities scattered throughout Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. From a dinosaur park and hidden beaches, to a ghost choir and the “eighth wonder of the world,” the book has new discoveries for visitors and locals alike.

SPOOKY CYBER THREATS

**Tuesday, October 22 • 3 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

Digital crime and cyber threats are scary subjects, but there are steps anyone can take for protection. Eric Job, your Library’s Information Technology Manager, will talk about cybersecurity awareness and how to keep yourself and your digital assets safe.

NANOWRIMO WRITING WORKSHOP

**Wednesday, November 6 • 6:30 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

Celebrate National Novel Writing Month, an annual challenge for writers to produce 50 thousand words of a novel in 30 days. Dr. Michael Cody, ETSU literature professor and author, joins us to discuss the creative writing process. **R**

BOOKED FOR LUNCH: “THE MIGHTY RED”

**Wednesday, November 13 • 12 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

Bring your own lunch and join Library Director Julia Turpin to discuss “The Mighty Red” by Louise Erdrich. The Library has limited copies of the novel for participants to keep; pick one up at the second-floor Information Desk while supplies last. **R**



137
EVENTS FOR ADULTS



Events may be subject to change. Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

1778
ADULTS ATTENDED EVENTS

ADULT PROGRAMS

ADULT PROGRAMS

Ghost Stories *with Megan Wells*

Tuesday, October 29 • 6:30 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center



Eminent storyteller and actress Megan Wells will perform enthralling ghost stories from literary greats like Ray Bradbury and Edgar Allan Poe, as well as folktales and original material.

Wells is a soulful story weaver who breathes life into her characters and creates an intimate space in which her audience is captivated as the story plays out.

She first fell in love with storytelling at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, and now performs there every few years. Wells will be at this year's festival, then return to the area for our free event.

Wells, who is based in northwest Illinois, said this region holds a special place in her heart. "I love coming to East Tennessee. It is not only the American heart of storytelling, but it is also one of the most beautiful places in our country."

With over 40 years of experience as a professional storyteller, Wells has collaborated with orchestras, theaters, museums, and schools. She's also deeply devoted to libraries, and delights in sharing stories in the very spaces that hold stories sacred.

This event is presented by the Friends of the Johnson City Public Library.

Recurring Programs >>

SPANISH AT YOUR LIBRARY

Every Thursday • 6 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Practice your Spanish speaking skills with bilingual volunteer-led conversations. All language levels are welcome; whether you're a beginner or a fluent speaker, join the conversation to hone your skills!

FIBER ARTS GROUP

Fridays, Sept. 13 and 27 / Oct. 11 and 25 /
Nov. 8 and 22 • 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Drop in with your fiber art supplies to work on a personal project. You can socialize with and learn from fellow fiber art enthusiasts while you work. **D**

ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES STORYTIME

Thursdays, Sept. 12 / Oct. 10 / Nov. 14 • 11 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Adults with disabilities and their caregivers listen to a story and participate in a hands-on activity. This inclusive event creates a supportive and enjoyable environment for individuals with disabilities while encouraging creativity and interaction. **R**

JOHNSON CITY DEATH CAFE

Saturday, Sept. 14 / Nov. 9 • 2 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Join a group conversation about death and grief in an open and compassionate space. Death cafes create a place to honor people's grief and empower them to know they're not alone.



Events may be subject to change. Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

THE LEGEND OF A WISE GRANNY

Library Assistant and history enthusiast Zachary Harris is the curator of the Tennessee Room, your Library's local history collection. Below, Harris shares the East Tennessee folktale of "Granny Wise."

As the Halloween season approaches, I've been revisiting the Tennessee Room's collection of strange and supernatural tales that abound in our region. I've found myself re-entranced by the age-old mythos of the witch and its manifestation in East Tennessee folklore and history.

Old stories of the "magic women" of the mountains in Northeast Tennessee were widely shared and believed. Author Christopher Coleman recounts one such tale in his book "Ghosts and Haunts of Tennessee," which you can find in the Library's Tennessee Room. Coleman tells the story of "Granny Wise," a legend that was still being widely circulated in the 1930s.

Coleman contends that Granny Wise's actual name was Weiss, but that her name changed as her notoriety grew. Along with her dependability in the healing arts—particularly in healing newborns' thrush—Granny Weiss was infamous for her ability to predict calamitous events.

For instance, in the years prior to the Civil War, Granny Weiss had a vision of a northern star colliding with a star far to the south. People came to believe that this vision portended the coming of the war. Granny Weiss remains the epitome of legendary Appalachian wise women because of stories like this.

While the soothsaying abilities of Granny Weiss and women like her certainly make for fascinating stories, often these archetypal characters filled mundane roles and performed non-glamorous tasks in their superstitious communities. Folktales abound about the mundanity of wise women's work in East Tennessee, from curing "the gravel" (kidney stones) to finding matches for unmarried young women.

If this historical tidbit piqued your interest, spend some time in the Library's Tennessee Room. This Halloween season, join me in poring over the strange and wonderful tales to be found in our local history collection.



Let us help with your fall cooking and crafting!

Fall calls for delicious cooking and DIY crafting! From Halloween and Thanksgiving, to cool weather food and clothing, your Library has an extensive selection of cookbooks and craft books to get you in the fall spirit. Check out some of our favorites; you can place holds and find more at jcpl.org!



Your Library's staff loves to cook AND eat! One of our favorite traditions is the staff Thanksgiving potluck.



Friends of the Library

Fall Book Sale



Friends of the Johnson City Public Library is a group of supporters dedicated to the welfare of the Library. The Friends hold spring and fall book sales every year to raise funds to support the Library. These sales feature thousands of gently used books and media at unbeatable prices.

Learn more at jcpl.org/book-sales.

*Friends >>
Preview Sale*

FRIDAY, OCT. 25

5:30-7 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Friends members enjoy early access at this preview sale. You can sign up to be a Friend at the sale or jcpl.org/friends.



SATURDAY, OCT. 26

10 a.m.-3 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

The Saturday sale is open to the public. You'll find every genre of books and media for all ages and interests.

SUNDAY, OCT. 27

**1-3 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center**

The Sunday sale is open to the public and includes a \$5 sack sale. Bring any size bag or pick one up at the door, then fill it for only \$5!

Did you know?

The Friends hold an ongoing sale year-round at the Library!

The Friends' ongoing sale is located in the Library's Holston Mountain Room (the first-floor alcove behind the fiction section). The sale is open all the time and is replenished often with donated books. All proceeds support the Library's work. You can pay for your picks at the Circulation Desk; cash and cards are accepted. (Please use the coupon below for one **FREE** book from the ongoing sale!)

✓ Cut out and present at the Circulation Desk with your book choice!

**CHOOSE ONE
FREE BOOK**

FROM THE
Friends OF THE LIBRARY



Ongoing Book Sale

The ongoing sale is located in the Library's first-floor alcove behind the fiction section.



100 West Millard Street
Johnson City, TN 37604
423.434.4450 | jcpl.org

CONNECTING PEOPLE, IDEAS, AND COMMUNITY

Coupon valid Aug. 19—Nov. 30, 2024

Single use coupon. Not redeemable for cash. Not transferable. Not for resale. This coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Cannot be copied.

Hot Tip!

Donate gently used books and media at the Friends' donation drop-off events.

**First Saturday every month
Every Saturday in October
11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

More info:
jcpl.org/donate-items

How to SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY



jcpl.org/donate

Giving

DIRECT SUPPORT

To give directly, scan the QR code above or mail your financial gift to the Library. Call (423) 434-4463 with questions.

JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND

The Johnson City Public Library (JCPL) Fund is an organization endowment fund with the East Tennessee Foundation. It is a permanent fund established by private donors for its benefit; annual grants from the fund are made only to Johnson City Public Library. Contributions of any asset of value can be made to the JCPL Fund now or in the future, including: cash, unencumbered real estate, stock, publicly traded securities, retirement accounts, life insurance, bequests under wills or trusts, and tangible personal property. These gifts ensure that your Library can provide collections and services in perpetuity.

Volunteer

Linda Lanoue has volunteered at your Library for three years. Her consistency and genuine desire to help have made her a valued and beloved member of the Library's team.

When we asked Lanoue why she chooses to volunteer at the Library, she said: **"The Library is so important to me. I can't afford to make large financial donations, so volunteering is a way I can help. I was impressed and grateful that the Library gave me a free card even though I don't live in Johnson City or Washington County. Volunteering is a way I can show my gratitude."**

Lanoue's responsibilities range from big, special projects like digitizing family history files in the Tennessee Room, to everyday tasks like pulling holds and shelving returned materials.

Her heart for community service, eagerness to learn, and flexibility shine through every time Lanoue walks through our doors. We are so thankful for her, and for every volunteer who freely gives their time to make the Library better.

Visit jcpl.org/volunteer to learn more!



VOLUNTEER HOURS WORKED **2,239**

74 ADULT AND TEEN VOLUNTEERS

Join Friends of the Library

Friends of the Johnson City Public Library is a group of supporters dedicated to the welfare of the Library. They raise funds to support the Library through membership and book sales. Their contributions help fund Library programs, staff professional development, our VOX Books collection, and the Wowbrary email service.

Learn more and join the group at jcpl.org/friends.

Fun Fact

In fiscal year 2023-2024, the Friends donated **over \$25,000** to the Library!

2023-2024 Donors

LEGACY

\$25,000 and up

Dr. Robert Jay Gubler

LAUREATE

\$10,000-24,999

Friends of the Johnson City Public Library

PHILANTHROPIST

\$5,000-9,999

Mrs. Gollakota S. Rekah

BENEFACTOR

\$2,500-4,999

Mrs. Harriet Cone
The Monday Club
of Johnson City

INNOVATOR

\$1,000-2,499

Kathleen Cary
Ms. Patte J. Earley
Michael and Linda
Gallagher
Bill Hamil
Dr. Arthur S. and
Mrs. Hannah Harris
Pete and Jodi Headley,
in honor of Cathy
Griffith
Dale and Karen Schmitt
Dr. David and Deborah
Soike

ENTHUSIAST

\$500-999

Tom and Diane Arneson
Elisabeth Dubberly
Dr. Roberta T. Herrin
Collier and Emily Jordan
Gwynn Mettetal and
Dave Vollrath
Polly Peterson
Mark and Jeanie Pollock
Randolph Prince
Stephen and Joan Scheu

READER

\$250-499

Linda and Hugh Blanton
John and Gail Campbell
Brett and Debra Dalrymple
Eastman Credit Union
JC Monday Club Auxiliary
Lawrence and Joddy Kroggel
Questers Book Club
Mr. and Mrs. Paul K. Scherrer
Rusty and Melanie Sluder
Bonny and Brooke Stanley
Sarah Anne Woods

BOOKWORM

\$100-249

Ms. Jennifer Atkinson
Dr. and Mrs. W.R. Beaver
Darla Beverage and Kent Gardner
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Duck Duck Go Inc.
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Ms. Angela Johnson
Dr. Brittany and Jeramie Jordan
D.R.B. and Florence W. Liddell
Charles F. Moore
Eric and Lottie Ryans
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Mark and Kay Sirois
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Julia and Robert Turpin
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Craig Tober and
Brunhilde K. Tober-Meyer
Tri Cities Behavioral Therapy
Dr. May L. Votaw
Ms. Rachel Walden
Lynda Wexler
Lauri Zembower

Thank You



Thank you for supporting the Library! Your financial gifts, volunteer time, and faithful use of our services are critical to the Library's work.

JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

100 West Millard Street
Johnson City, TN 37604
(423) 434-4450 | jcpl.org

  @johnsoncitypubliclibrary

Johnson City Parks and Recreation naturalist
Connie Deegan taught kiddos all about
snakes this summer!



Share your Library story!

Do you have a story about your
Library that you'd like to tell us? Do
you want to share what the Library
means to you or has done for you?

Scan the QR code to share your
story with us.



Feedback

This is the second issue of
our Connect magazine!

Let us know what you think.
What would you like to see in
upcoming editions?

jcpl.org/connect-feedback



JOHNSON CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONNECTING
People, Ideas, and Community