

FALL 2025

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 CLOSINGS

Monday, September 1
Tuesday, November 11
Thursday, November 27
Friday, November 28

BOARD MEETINGS

Third Tuesday every month
Sept. 16 / Oct. 21 / Nov. 18
4:30 p.m.
Library's Jones Meeting Center

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

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Thank You

Our hearts are grateful for the unwavering spirit of our Hometown and the Appalachian Highlands throughout this past year. Your Library is a beacon of shared values, where every story, program, and connection strengthens the fabric of our community.

Our success is a testament to the partnerships we form with others, from nonprofits and businesses, to volunteers and donors. In the next few months we will continue to work with local champions, including Johnson City Symphony Orchestra; International Storytelling Center; Young Professionals of Johnson City; TEDxJohnsonCity; Ballad Health; and Johnson City Brewing Company, just to name a few.

These partnerships, along with our dedicated volunteers and donors, allow us to expand our impact and provide richer experiences for everyone. In this issue of Connect, you'll find opportunities for you to get involved in the Library's next chapter.

Julia Turpin, Library Director

A NOTE FROM THE BOARD

Johnson City Public Library has wrapped up another year of growth and innovation, and it is thanks to you. We are grateful for the generous contributions of our staff, volunteers, donors, and patrons.

In this issue of Connect, you will discover ways you helped make the Library a vibrant hub in Johnson City and the surrounding region during fiscal year 2024-2025. This issue is also packed with news about our events, collections, and community partnerships in the coming season. We hope you will love the notable opportunities for engagement we have in store for you.

In June 1815, Thomas Jefferson informed John Adams that he could not “live without books.” The Library provides a refuge for reading, exploration, and connection through diverse collections and programs that spark curiosity and community. We are proud to continue offering a steadfast focus on customer service, learning, and engagement.

Please enjoy all your Library has to offer this fall. We can't wait to connect with you.

Daryl A. Carter, Board President




Daryl's Recommendation:
“To Kill a Mockingbird”
by Harper Lee

Board of Directors *Reading Recommendations*



Ashley Newton
Vice President
“H Is for Hawk”
by Helen Macdonald



Georgita Washington
Secretary
“Maid”
by Stephanie Land



Scott Jeffress
Treasurer
“Atomic Habits”
by James Clear



Collin Brooks
“Grant”
by Ron Chernow



Greg Cox
“Outliers”
by Malcolm Gladwell



Rob Davis
“Valley So Low”
by Jared Sullivan



Jodi Jones
“Atmosphere: A Love Story”
by Taylor Jenkins Reid



Thomas Kendall
“Project Hail Mary”
by Andy Weir

Fiscal Year

2024-2025



\$2,345,520.02

PROGRAMS, COLLECTIONS, & SERVICES (83.59%)
ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS (16.41%)



\$2,590,178.65

CITY OF JOHNSON CITY (88.43%)
WASHINGTON COUNTY (3.94%)
FINES & FEES (2.56%)
DONATIONS (2.8%)
GRANTS (0.87%)
E-RATE & OTHER (0.33%)



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Celeste Smedley | Business Manager

Meet Celeste Smedley, your Library’s Business Manager and one of the longest serving employees at the Library. Her job may be behind the scenes, but once you start looking you’ll see Celeste’s impact everywhere. From keeping the lights on to ensuring materials are paid for, her dedication powers so much of what we do. Recently, we asked Celeste to share a bit about her own library story.

“ I’m a lifelong Jonesborough, Tennessee native who once dreamed of being Barbie: wardrobe, Dreamhouse, the whole deal. Instead, I found my groove in bookkeeping. I hold an associate degree in Business Administration and am a licensed Certified Public Bookkeeper. I’m also the first in my family to graduate from college, proving that ambition wears more than just high heels.

I’ve worked at Johnson City Public Library since 2002, starting as an Acquisitions Clerk in Collection Services. I loved ordering materials, and opening boxes of new books was my favorite part of the job. In 2008, I moved into Administration as the Office Manager, and in late 2023, I stepped into my current role as Business Manager.

My main responsibilities involve managing the Library’s financial operations, including monthly bank reconciliations and preparing financial reports for the Library’s Board of Directors. I also process staff payroll, handle onboarding for new hires, and manage Human Resources-related forms. Additionally, since Johnson City Public Library is the Washington County Imagination Library affiliate, I oversee the program’s operations and finances.

What I enjoy most about my work is that no two days are the same. I also love that numbers are numbers—they have to balance, no exceptions. There’s a real satisfaction in spotting discrepancies and figuring out how to fix them. ”



Who We Are

Hometown

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 “hometown.” We are the community crossroads. We provide safe, shared spaces where people from all walks of life can come for learning and entertainment, connection with others, and a sense of fellowship. We belong to our community and care about its health and growth, so we offer a place where exploration, mutual respect, and collaboration are nurtured.

In the days and weeks following Hurricane Helene last year, our “hometown” spirit became especially apparent and urgent. Many in our community were without vital resources, including electricity and internet service. The Library’s free technology became a way for people to communicate with loved ones, get information and news, charge their devices, and apply for assistance. Remote workers and area students spent their workdays at the Library. For weeks after the storm, we added extra seating throughout the building to accommodate the influx of people. Our free technology was, and continues to be, a vital and unique expression that we are “hometown.”

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

2024-25
by the numbers

726.8K

PHYSICAL AND
DIGITAL ITEMS
BORROWED

101.6K

HOLD ORDERS FILLED

9,892

NEW ITEMS ADDED
TO COLLECTION

NEW LIBRARY
USERS ADDED **3,892**

18.5K VISITORS
PER MONTH

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

Adult Events

(AGES 18 AND OLDER)

Event Key

R Registration required at jcpl.org

D Drop in any time during program

CANNING AND PRESERVING BASICS

Thursday, September 4 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **R**

Discover the essentials of hot water bath canning with Programming Librarian Alyssa Angel. You'll learn about canning safety and how to preserve fruits, vegetables, and meats. Plus, you'll get to take home a jar of homemade jam!

Blood Drive *with*

MARSH REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

Tuesday, Sept. 16 • 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Library Parking Lot **D**

Help save lives by donating blood. Every donation makes a difference; your single act will help those in critical need.

Mobile Mammogram

with BALLAD HEALTH

Tuesday, Nov. 4 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.*
Library Parking Lot

Women 40 years and older can receive a free, quick, and confidential breast cancer screening.

***Call (423) 434-4454 to make an appointment.**

ESTATE PLANNING ESSENTIALS

Wednesday, September 17 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **R**

Gain practical knowledge and insight for successful estate planning from Talley Financial's CEO David Talley. You'll learn what documents and essentials you need to secure your and your family's future.

TEDxJohnsonCity Workshop

Thursday, September 25 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Hear from 2025 TEDxJohnsonCity alumni in a dynamic panel discussion about what it takes to be a TEDx speaker. Bring your story and ideas for an interactive session where you'll get one-on-one feedback, ask questions, and explore how to craft a compelling pitch. Applications for 2026 open this fall. Now's the time to get inspired and get started.

Visit tedxjohnsoncity.com to learn about the 2025 speakers.

TEDxJohnsonCity

COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR

Tuesday, October 7 • 1-4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **D**

Connect with organizations offering vital community services—from health to housing, education to employment—all in one place. You will find empowering resources that are free and open to all.



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

CYBERSECURITY 101

Wednesday, October 29 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Join the Library's IT Manager Xander Murray as he explains common cybersecurity threats. You'll learn practical strategies to protect your devices and data from malware and viruses.

Booked for Lunch *about* "ATMOSPHERE: A LOVE STORY"

Tuesday, November 4 • 12 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Join Library Director Julia Turpin's quarterly book club! Bring your lunch and discuss "Atmosphere: A Love Story" by Taylor Jenkins Reid. The Library has limited copies for participants to keep; pick one up at the Circulation Desk while supplies last.

Recurring

SPANISH AT YOUR LIBRARY

Every Thursday • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Practice speaking Spanish in a welcoming, supportive environment. Led by bilingual volunteers, this group is open to Spanish speakers of all levels. Come connect, learn, and grow together through conversation.

JOHNSON CITY DEATH CAFE

Saturdays, Sept. 2 / Nov. 1 • 2 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Meet with others in our community for an open and compassionate conversation about grief and loss. You can share your experience in a caring environment and know that you are not alone.

ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES STORYTIME

Mondays, Sept. 8 / Oct. 13 / Nov. 10 • 11 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Adults with disabilities and their caregivers enjoy a captivating story and engage in a creative hands-on activity. This welcoming program inspires imagination and connection.

FIBER ARTS GROUP

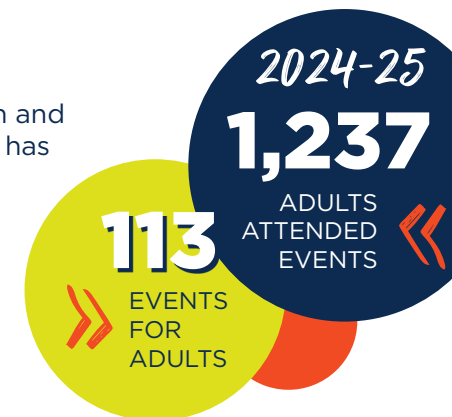
Fridays, Sept. 12, 26 / Oct. 10, 24 / Nov. 14 • 2:30-4:30 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **D**

Bring your fiber art supplies and work on current projects while connecting with fellow fiber artists. Share tips, exchange ideas, and enjoy a creative atmosphere as you craft together.

Buffalo Mountain

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHT

Our Buffalo Mountain collection comprises works by authors and poets from the Appalachian Highlands. The collection also includes nonfiction regional interest books, music and movies, books about local history, and community journals. You'll find the collection in the second-floor Buffalo Mountain Room.





More Than Books and Beer

A Library-Brewery Partnership

Your Library and Johnson City Brewing Company (JCBC) partnered in 2020 to create “The 1895,” a specialty beer honoring the Library’s 125th anniversary. This smooth, full-bodied pre-prohibition style lager was a hit, and in the last five years JCBC has done several limited edition re-releases.

Be sure to visit the brewery this September to try The 1895, which JCBC is offering again for a limited time!

Anyone who has visited the brewery knows that flavor experimentation is at the heart of what they do. JCBC founder and owner Eric Latham said, “That’s the fun of craft brewing—trying different things and seeing how they work together. If you can come up with an idea, you can brew it. Sometimes experiments come out good and sometimes not so good. But we gotta try.”

This dedication to experimentation is also clear in JCBC’s enthusiasm for pursuing community partnerships. Latham sees creative collaborations like ours as a tangible way to deepen community ties. He said,

“ **Working together we create something new, move forward, and make progress. The partnership between the Library and Johnson City Brewing is more than books and beer. It’s bringing people together and making our community stronger.** ”

This fall we’re partnering with JCBC again, this time to bring non-alcoholic brewed drinks to our Shirefest celebration. JCBC will be pouring their Sarsaparilla root beer and **BRAND NEW** butter beer at the event! They’ll also talk with folks about how to make beer and root beer. Stop by their tent to get a taste of JCBC’s inventive spirit and creative approach to brewing.

» Shirefest

All ages are invited to celebrate the charm of the Hobbits’ Shire and the heart of Appalachian culture. The free community crossover festivities will feature live Celtic musicians and a storytelling hour with the International Storytelling Center’s Teller-in-Residence. You’ll experience demonstrations by blacksmiths and fiber artisans, and discover regional critters and natural wonders. The whole family will enjoy playing festival games, sipping locally-brewed soda, and browsing vendors.

Fun Fact

Limited copies of J.R.R. Tolkien’s “The Hobbit” will be available at the Library in the weeks leading up to Shirefest.



2 p.m.

SCIENCE HILL
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



2:30 p.m.

STORYTELLER
JENNIFER ARMSTRONG



3:30 p.m.

JENNY AND THE WEAZELS

FALL 2025

Teen Events (AGES 12-18)

Event Key

R Registration required at jcpl.org

D Drop in any time during program

AUTHOR RECEPTION: IVY HANSEN

Friday, September 5 • 5-6 p.m. • Teen Space **D**

Drop by to meet local teen author Ivy Hansen, who will talk about creativity and publishing a book. Hansen's young adult novel, "Flying Into Fire," will be available for purchase and she'll sign autographs.

Read our interview with Ivy at jcpl.org!

Young Leadership Panel *with*

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF JOHNSON CITY

Wednesday, October 8 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **R**

Discover what it means to be a leader in our city with the Young Professionals of Johnson City (YPJC). Representatives from YPJC will share their leadership experiences, offering insight into how you can get involved and make your voice heard in shaping our community's future.



YPJC'S GOAL is to help young professionals (ages 21-40) build community, develop professionally, and become philanthropically active with the intention of contributing to the region's economic development and high quality of living. The program provides networking, leadership, personal growth, and community service opportunities.

Yoga **Tuesday, Oct. 14 and 28 / Wednesday, Nov. 12 / Tuesday, Nov. 25 • 6 p.m. Jones Meeting Center **R****



Join teen-focused yoga sessions led by local instructors, exploring movement and breath in a welcoming space. Bring a yoga mat; one will be provided if you need it.

BUILDING TTRPG CHARACTERS

Wednesday, October 15 • 6 p.m. Jones Meeting Center **R**

Develop a character from scratch for TTRPG gameplay. You'll delve into storytelling, character development, and arcs for player characters that take on a life of their own.

FANTASY FOOD NIGHT

Wednesday, November 5 • 6 p.m. Jones Meeting Center **R**

Taste test plates inspired by different fantasy worlds. Book recommendations and lively conversation will accompany the sometimes luxurious, sometimes hilarious foods. Costumes are welcome!

ZINES: EMPOWERMENT AND PEACE OF MIND

Wednesday, November 19 • 6 p.m. • Teen Space **R**

Learn about the history of zines as tools of empowerment, enrichment, and expression. Chattanooga State Community College Librarian Amanda Roper will lead a talk about this medium's importance while you create your own zine. All supplies will be provided.

HOMEWORK CAFE

Every Monday from September 8 - November 24 • 3-5 p.m. • Teen Space **D**

Drop by the Library after school to do your homework. Library staff is available to help you find research materials and resources. Snacks are provided.



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

BEYOND THE CHAIR: Mental Health and Teens

Saturday, October 4 • 2 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **R**

CRAIG CHARLES, a Johnson City-based barber and founder of Crown Cutz Academy of Barber and Style, gave his first haircut at 12 years old to his mom. Little did he know at the time that cutting hair would become his lifelong profession, and that his passion would lead him to educate others.

Charles has a knack for identifying and taking action to address others' needs. His barbershop opened in 2004, and as it grew he noticed a lack of trained professionals in the region. So, in 2015 he started Crown Cutz Academy with the goal of offering a quality barber education that sets students up for successful careers in the beauty industry.

In two decades of barbering, Charles has talked with and listened to a lot of people. This experience has grown his passion for mental health awareness, and he has taken action to educate barbers and stylists to be stewards of mental health for their clients. Charles is involved with The Confess Project, a group of barber and beauty professionals who address mental health disparities in communities of color.



On Saturday, October 4, Charles will talk with teens at the Library about his involvement in The Confess Project and the importance of mental health.



Teen Book Club

Teen Book Club meets monthly for ages 12-18 to discuss young adult books, do hands-on activities, and share a love of reading. The first 10 teens who register get a free copy of the book to keep!

"MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN"

Wednesday, October 22 • 6 p.m. Jones Meeting Center **R**

Explore the magical world of Ransom Riggs' novel "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children." We'll also hear Frontier Health's Richard Rourk talk about foster care and mental health.

"AWAKEN THE DAWN"

Saturday, November 8 • 2 p.m. Jones Meeting Center **R**

Discuss the novel "Awaken the Dawn" with Badge of Honor Award-winning author Ellis K. Popa. Popa will talk about her series, "The Awaken Saga," share travel stories, and lead a creative hands-on activity. Her books will be for sale.



26.7K

TEEN BOOKS BORROWED

2024-25

89

TEEN EVENTS

649

TEENS ATTENDED PROGRAMS



Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meets monthly to discuss the Library's teen collection and programs with the Teen Librarian. Learn about TAB at jcpl.org!

Family Events

Eight-Legged Encounters *with* ETSU SPIDER LAB

Tuesday, October 14 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Discover the fascinating world of spiders with Dr. Thomas Jones from the ETSU Spider Lab. His presentation will feature hands-on activities and eight-legged arachnid encounters.

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Saturday, November 1 • 4-5 p.m. • Children's Library 

Drop in to celebrate the rich traditions of Día de los Muertos with crafts, snacks, and a community ofrenda in the amphitheater.

Holiday Sing-Along *with*

JOHNSON CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Monday, November 24 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Enjoy a holiday sing-along for the whole family! Johnson City Symphony Orchestra members will lead an interactive performance accompanied by seasonal musical selections, including a special Johnson City version of Jingle Bells.

“The Symphony-Library partnership has been a meaningful way to introduce young children to the joy of music. Through engaging, accessible programs, children develop a love for music that their caregivers quickly recognize and enthusiastically support. These experiences empower caregivers to continue fostering musical growth at home.”

Abby Boone
JCSO violinist

Event Key

R Registration required at jcpl.org

D Drop in any time during program

2024-25

18.5K

KIDS
ATTENDED
EVENTS

380

CHILDREN'S
PROGRAMS



School Age Events

BOOK WORMS

**Thursdays, Sept. 4 / Oct. 2 / Nov. 6
4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center** 

Ages 5-8 hear a story and do activities that “dig in” to the text.

READING PAWS

**Mondays, Sept. 8 / Oct. 6 / Nov. 3 • 4 p.m.
Saturdays, Sept. 20 / Oct. 18 / Nov. 15 • 11 a.m.
Children's Library** 

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

GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

**Mondays, Sept. 15 / Oct. 20 / Nov. 17
6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center** 

Ages 8-12 explore graphic novels in a book club format. Hear about new titles, share favorites, and do drawing exercises.

ART EXPLORERS

**Fridays, Sept. 12 / Oct. 10 / Nov. 14
4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center** 

Ages 8-12 explore the work of a famous artist at each session, sparking discovery of art history and creativity. Kids will create their own art piece in the featured style.

Tween Book Club

Monday, October 13 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center 

Ages 8-12 discuss “Impossible Creatures” by Katherine Rundell and participate in an activity inspired by the story. The first 15 tweens who register get a free copy of the book to keep.

WILDABOUT WALKABOUT SCAVENGER HUNT

Pick up a clue card at the Library's Circulation Desk or Children's Desk, then wander through downtown Johnson City to find the 28 animal and insect sculptures hiding in plain sight!

The sculptures were created by ETSU's Department of Art & Design in coordination with the City of Johnson City and the Johnson City Public Art Committee. Library staff helped develop the scavenger hunt clues.



Find all 28 sculptures in downtown Johnson City. (You may even find one at the Library!)

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Mondays, Sept. 8 / Oct. 27 / Nov. 10 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Children's Library 

Bring your family to play board and video games provided by the Library. You can try out the Library's new Infinity Game Table, a giant touch-screen packed with classics like Clue, Operation, and Candy Land.

BUILDING WITH THE LIONS

**Saturdays, Sept. 13 / Oct. 11 / Nov. 8
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.

POKÉMON TRADING CARD DAY

**Saturdays, Sept. 27 / Oct. 25 / Nov. 29
2-3 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center** 

Kids of all ages trade Pokémon and other cards.



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

BABIES & BOOKS

Tuesdays* • 10:30 a.m.
Jones Meeting Center **T**

Lapsit storytime with songs, rhymes, books, and sensory activities. Recommended for ages birth-2 years.

READ & ROMP

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

Outdoor storytime with books and songs for active little ones. Recommended for ages 2-3 years.

LITTLE LISTENERS

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

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

***No storytimes the week of Thanksgiving.**

Preschool

MUSIC MORNING

Wednesdays and Thursdays,
Sept. 3 and 4 / Oct. 1 and 2 / Nov. 5 and 6
10:30 and 11:15 a.m.
Jones Meeting Center **T**

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

BILINGUAL STORYTIME

Saturdays, Sept. 6 / Oct. 4 / Nov. 1 • 11 a.m.
Storytime Room

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.

Event Key

- T** Ticket required; pick up at Children's Desk upon arrival
- D** Drop in any time during program

LITTLE MUSICIANS

Select Fridays* • 10:30 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center **T**

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

*Scan the QR code below for exact dates.

FALL PRESCHOOL PLAY LAB

Monday, September 29 • 10:30-11:30 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center **D**

Ages 3-5 years dive into a world of fall sensory exploration through hands-on discovery play.

Storybook Trail

Your Library's Storybook Trail is located in the Natural Adventure Area across the street from the Library. Families 'walk' through a children's book page by page as they move through the park. The pages include interactive questions, activities, and fun facts to help bring the story to life. Our Storybook Trail is funded through a grant from the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation.

Theo learns about hot air balloons at the Storybook Trail with his mom, Andrea, and grandma, Cynthia.

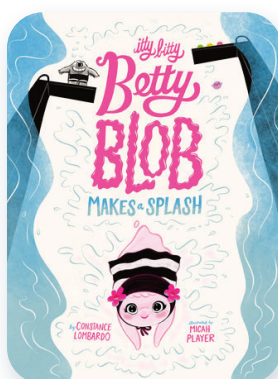
“ Theo gets so excited when his Imagination Library books come in the mail. When I was younger, my mom had to work with me to get me motivated to read on my own. I think that having these books has helped spark Theo's desire to read independently, while also giving us fun, new stories to read together as a family. ”

Andrea Brady-Verzi
 Imagination Library parent



Storytime WITH Constance Lombardo

Asheville-based children's author Constance Lombardo is no stranger to afterschool activities. She used her memories of childhood to create her new children's book, "Itty Bitty Betty Blob Makes a Splash." It tells the adorable story of a little monster who has to pick an afterschool activity.



Lombardo will read her new book at Little Listeners storytime on Wednesday, Sept. 17 and Thursday, Sept. 18 at 11 a.m.

We talked with her recently about this endearing story.

What do you hope kids learn from the story of Betty's afterschool activities?

Helping instill a love of reading is always my first goal. But more specific to "Itty Bitty Betty Blob Makes a Splash": if you feel like you're 'different,' I see you and celebrate you! The true kernel of the "Betty" series

is that being yourself is absolutely the best thing you can be.

What were your afterschool activities growing up? Did you use your childhood experience while writing Betty's story?

I wrote and illustrated for my high school newspaper with the other nerds and painted sets for Drama Club. Crafting Betty's story, I used my memories of feeling different, always a dreamer, and the awkwardness of being a kid. Artistic gold!



Lombardo's favorite afterschool activity: making art!

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.



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

1.05M

BOOKS GIVEN IN
 WASHINGTON CO.
 SINCE 2005

BOOKS GIVEN TO
 WASHINGTON CO.
 KIDS IN 2024-2025

62.9K



HEIDI THE DOG'S Pumpkin Almond Cookies

From the kitchen of Library Director Julia Turpin

These dog treats make great snacks for pups out trick-or-treating on Halloween, and they can be a fun addition to your holiday baking routine. They come together in minutes, are easy to roll, and can be adapted to suit your pup's taste. Heidi loves this classic cinnamon and almond butter recipe, but you can substitute oat flour or peanut butter.

You can even adapt the recipe to create savory treats. Use low sodium broth in place of water, and try herbs like oregano, parsley, and rosemary. (Be sure to speak with your veterinarian about your dog's specific needs before raiding the spice cabinet!)

Heidi waits patiently for the photos to end.

Ingredients

- 2 and 1/2 cups whole wheat flour (or vet-recommended grain)
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup pumpkin
- 2 Tbsp. almond or peanut butter (without xylitol)
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 cup water (or just enough for dough to form)

Baking Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350° F.
- Combine all ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Dough will be crumbly.
- Add water until the dough comes together.
- On lightly floured surface, roll dough to 1/4-inch thickness.
- Cut into desired shapes and place on ungreased cookie sheet.
- Bake for 35 minutes or until golden brown.
- Let cool and serve to your patient pup.
- Snap a photo of your pup with their treats and tag [@johnsoncitypubliclibrary](#) on Instagram!



Heidi does a taste test before baking.

Fall Recipes >>

(FOR HUMANS)

Dogs aren't the only ones who get treats! If you're cooking for the humans in your life this fall, get ideas from seasonal cookbooks in our collection. You can place holds and find more at [jcpl.org](#).



Fall Book Sale

Friends of the Library



Friends of the Johnson City Public Library book sales feature thousands of gently used books and media at unbeatable prices. The sales are held in the Library's Jones Meeting Center and Polly Peterson Room.

Friends Preview

FRIDAY, OCT. 24 • 5-7 P.M.

Friends members enjoy early access at this preview sale. You can sign up to become a Friend at the sale.

SATURDAY, OCT. 25 • 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

The Saturday sale is open to the public.

SUNDAY, OCT. 26 • 12-3 P.M.

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 in the the first-floor alcove behind the fiction section, which is replenished often with donated books. All proceeds support the Library's work. Pay for your items at the Circulation Desk; cash and cards are accepted. (Please use the coupon below for one **FREE** book!)

Friends 2024-25 Fast Facts

- >> 221 members
- >> 1,322 volunteer hours
- >> \$34,538 donated to Library

**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. 18—Nov. 30, 2025

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

2024-25

95

ADULT
AND TEEN
VOLUNTEERS

2,439

VOLUNTEER
HOURS WORKED

SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY

Volunteer

Your Library offers volunteer opportunities for teens and adults. Volunteers are given tasks like shelving books, helping at special events, delivering library materials to homebound residents, repairing and preserving books, and reading to children at childcare centers.

Visit jcpl.org/volunteer to find a full list of opportunities.

Donate

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.

DIRECT SUPPORT

ART AND HANNAH HARRIS have enjoyed the Library's collection, programs, and services since they moved to the area 50 years ago. They've also been faithful financial contributors to the Library for many years.

Recently, the Harrises reminisced with us about how their children spent many happy hours at the Library during childhood. They recall them particularly enjoying the Library's gerbil collection. (Yes, you read that correctly: in the 1970s-90s, the Library had real-life gerbils that could be borrowed for two weeks!)

Dr. and Mrs. Harris said, "We remember, years ago, a gerbil in a cage that we checked out that was unfortunately returned two weeks later with a shorter tail. The Library wouldn't accept compensation for that one inch of tail!"



When we asked the Harrises why they continue to support the Library, they said, "It is an important part of our local community. While there are government sources of revenue, those of us who can give a little extra help can make a difference. Our city, the board, and the staff all do a great job with this service, and we, as community members, should support them."

Visit jcpl.org/donate or scan the QR code to financially support your 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, the Wowbrary email service, and more.

Join the group at jcpl.org/friends.



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2024-2025

Donors

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Friends of the
Johnson City Public Library

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Thank you!

Thank you for generously supporting the Library. Your financial gifts, volunteer time, and faithful use of our services are critical to the work we do.

Friends »
Donations

JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

  @johnsoncitypubliclibrary

Summer Reading 2025 Recap



5,617

PEOPLE
ATTENDED
EVENTS

25K

BOOKS READ

489K

MINUTES
SPENT
READING

2,115

SUMMER READING
PARTICIPANTS



Community members helped paint our road mural at the Summer Reading Kick-off! The mural was designed by Johnson City artist Jason Flack.

CONNECTING PEOPLE, IDEAS, AND COMMUNITY



JOHNSON CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY