



FALL 2025 | SUPPORTING THE JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

# FRIENDS NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE  
JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Friends Sponsor 3rd Annual Scholastic Book Fair!

The 3rd Annual Scholastic Book Fair was a fitting celebration to the end of a record breaking JCPL Summer Reading Program. The number of participants registered for Summer Reading this year exceeded last year by 500. The opportunity for children to “cash-in” their reading minutes for Book Bucks to spend at the Scholastic Book Fair incentivizes the discovery of books and the love of reading. Our JCPL Librarians did their magic to fill the Jones Meeting Rooms with colorful, inviting displays of brand new books, journals and other educational items for all youth ages. The excited faces of the children were mirrored in the gratitude expressed by parents. The sponsorship of this annual event has become a favorite project for the Friends of the Library. This year Friends of the Library contributed \$6,806 to fund the Book Bucks earned by the children and provided volunteers to assist the children and parents as they made their book selections. In addition to the Scholastic Book Bucks, parents invested additional funds for a total of over \$12,000 in sales in the four days of the book fair. The Scholastic company provides for JCPL to apply half of this revenue toward purchases from Scholastic to expand the children’s library book collection. Sponsoring the Scholastic Book Fair is a WIN-WIN for children, families and JCPL!

# Why be a Friend of the Library?

## Catherine Phillips

The Johnson City Public Library has always been important to me. As a kid, the children's programming was so valuable to our family, and I have many treasured memories of the children's library. When I was growing up, my parents did a lot to instill in us the importance of literacy and storytelling, and the library was a significant part of that for me and my younger brother. Summer reading also played a huge role in my love for reading (and, as it turns out, my love for tracking my reading!). In high school, the library was my study spot and safe space when I felt overwhelmed and anxious and needed a break from daily life.



Having a place to just go exist for a while, without the pressure of school or work, was and continues to be wonderful for my mental health. These days, I do a lot of my best work in the Tennessee Room, and since I currently work next door at The Philosopher's House, I can always stop by for a book or two. My mom and I love attending the Friends of the Library book sale every April and October. We almost always come away with 10+ books apiece and it is a great way to take a chance on new books while also supporting the library. What could be better? Plus, we always run into friends there, because all the coolest people are Friends of the Library!

JCPL gave a lot to me growing up and that is why it is important to me to return the favor by being a Friend of the Library. Libraries are important third spaces in communities across the United States and the Johnson City Public Library is no exception. It's been such a pleasure to see the library staff rise to the challenge of meeting the various needs of the community and keeping the library relevant, safe, and welcoming. Today I am working toward a master's degree in library science, with the goal of public librarianship, so helping to support the public library system is a personal priority for me. As far as I can tell, there's no downside to being a Friend of the Library! No matter how you contribute, you're helping the library do all kinds of amazing work for the community.



# Fall Book Sale October 24th, 25th & 26th

Autumn is in the air and that means it is time for the Friends' FALL BOOKSALE! In the interest of improving the experience of perusing the book sale collection, adjustments have been made to reduce congestion and expand the book sale hours. The primary location for the sale will continue to be in the Library's Jones Meeting Center, with the Children's Books, Puzzles and Games located in the Polly Peterson Room.



The Friends "Members Only" Appreciation event on **Friday, October 24th** will open a half hour earlier at **5:00PM** and continue to **7:00PM**. There will be music and refreshments, a chance to meet and mingle with fellow Friends, as well as the opportunity to preview and purchase books prior to the opening of the public sale. Not sure if your membership is still active? No problem! We will have a list at the door and if needed you can renew or initiate a new membership on the spot. The book sale will open to the public on **Saturday, October 25th 10:00AM – 3:00PM** and on **Sunday, October 26th 12 Noon – 3:00PM**. The famous Sunday SACK SALE is opening an hour earlier this year to give you more time to fill ANY SIZE bag with books for only \$5! Please bring a bag with you to fill. Join us for the upcoming Fall Book Sale! You will find great bargains on high quality, gently used books and media and your purchases will enable the Friends to support JCPL events such as the recent Scholastic Book Fair and other important library services and programs!

## Where is the Ongoing Book Sale?

Follow us to the Book Nook for the ongoing book sale and look for the free book coupon in this fall's Connect magazine!!



## Book Donation Drop-offs

The Friends are conducting a Book Donation Drop-off event the first Saturday of every month, and EACH October Saturday leading up to the Book Sale weekend. (October 4th, 11th and 18th). Bring items you wish to donate to the library's parking lot near the curbside pickup spots between 11:00AM and 1:00PM. You will see a Friends Volunteer there who will unload your donations. Please place items in bags or boxes that one person will be able to carry. Acceptable items include books, puzzles, audio CDs, and LPs, Audiobooks, DVDs and Blue Rays. (Please, no textbooks, Reader's Digest books, magazines or any item that is not in good condition or moldy).

## FOL Officers 2024-25

President: Julia Swanson  
Vice-President: Deby Dalrymple  
Secretary: Nina Marchioni  
Treasurer: Linda Gallagher

### Connect with the Friends of the Library

Facebook:

[facebook.com/JCPLFOL](https://facebook.com/JCPLFOL)

Email: [friends@jcpl.org](mailto:friends@jcpl.org)

Web: [jcpl.org/friends](https://jcpl.org/friends)

JOIN THE FRIENDS ONLINE AT [JCPL.ORG/FRIENDS/](https://jcpl.org/friends/)



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