

Behind the Lines

Since 1987

From the desk of Leah Barnhard
Executive Director
Wichita Public Library Foundation
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We are pleased to announce Sharon G. Miles has joined the Foundation as Director of Development. A native of California and long-time resident of Wichita, she brings many years of fund raising experience to the Foundation. Find her on the 3rd floor of Central Library, at 261-8545 or by e-mail at smiles@wichita.lib.ks.us. *Thank you, Sharon, for making our Library a very special place!*

In the news! Tuesday, May 13, 2014 was a very special day. The Wichita City Council, with the help of the Library and Foundation Board of Directors, the Friends of the Wichita Public Library, GLMV Architecture and you, our most valued Library users, approved phase 1 of the new central library project. Their commitment to moving forward with schematics and preliminary design development was a major step forward in the process.

And on June 3, the Library hosted guests from Library Journal and Novelist/LibraryAware as the 2014 LibraryAware Community Award was presented to members of the City Council and the Community. LibraryAware representative Nancy Dowd noted “many of the nation’s largest and most highly regarded libraries were among the applicants for the award received by Wichita.” Library Journal representative Ian Singer added “Wichita Public Library’s efforts at engaging with the community are establishing best practices worthy of emulation by other libraries.” *Your continued support makes us special!*

Did you know? What a success Summer Reading has been with 12,920 children and teens participating in the program. A very special part of this year’s Summer Reading Club was the addition of *Baby Bookworms*, a program designed for very young children. As you might imagine, the Library was a very busy.

The next time you hear “no one uses a library anymore”, please share this very important fact: **12,920 children and teens can’t be wrong!**

A special thank you goes to all of the area businesses who supported the Summer Reading with coupons and gift certificates. They make our Summer Reading Club a very special part of summer vacation. Additional Foundation funding support comes from the Celia and Leonard Levand Trust and the City of Wichita Cultural Funding Grant. *Your support makes this program happen!*

Big Read Wichita is just around the corner with Gaylord Dold, crime fiction author, serving as this year's Honorary Big Read Wichita Chair and a host of characters getting ready as we read this year's title, "Maltese Falcon" by Dashiell Hammett. The kick-off begins with the pre-party, 2 – 3:30 p.m., on Saturday, September 20th at the Wichita Art Museum. For more information about all of the Big Read Wichita events, visit www.bigreadwichita.org or call the Library, 261-8500. Join us as we celebrate our 7th annual Big Read Wichita. *Get your free copy at the door, while supplies last!*

And you can help share our story! The Foundation is looking for speaking opportunities to promote the Library. Do you belong to a civic club, a book club, a church group, or an organization wanting to know more about the role of the Library in our community? Just call, 261-8523, or e-mail me at foundation@wichita.lib.ks.us and we will send a program out to your group. Our goal – to reach out to our community and share our Library story. *Help us promote the very special work our Library does in our community!*

Looking for books to keep? The Friends of the Wichita Public Library book sale is set for September 17 – 20 in the Central Library Auditorium, 223 South Main, 3rd floor meeting room. The preview sale (for members only) is Tuesday evening, September 16th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Not a member, join at the door! The Public Sale starts Wednesday and runs through Saturday. Sale hours are 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday thru Friday and 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, *Invite your family and friends to join you at this amazing sale. Looking forward to seeing you there!*

Leah Barnhard
223 South Main
Wichita, KS 67202
e-mail: foundation@wichita.lib.ks.us
Web site: <http://www.supportwichitalibraries.org>
316-261-8523