

# friends of kansas LIBRARIES

Assist - Support - Educate

FoKL POINT Newsletter — September/October 2024

BOOKSALES DONATIONS ADVOCACY  
FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERING COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS SPECIAL EVENTS  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVES SUPPORT  
CELEBRATIONS RESOURCES PROMOTION  
COLLABORATION LIBRARY LOVE

**Thank the Friends.**



NATIONAL Friends OF Libraries WEEK  
OCTOBER 20-26, 2024 AN INITIATIVE OF UNITED FOR LIBRARIES

## Get Ready to Celebrate!

### *National Friends of Libraries Week*

**National Friends of the Library Week** (October 20-26, 2024) is a great opportunity to shine a spotlight on your Friends group.

At our latest *First Friday with Friends* event, FoKL members from around the state got together to share ideas for promotions and celebrations. Watch the Zoom session recording [here](#).

Some of the suggested activities include:

- Get the word out. United for Libraries (a section of the American Library Association) has provided samples of a [city council proclamation](#), [letter to the editor](#), and [press release](#) that can be edited to include your community information.
- Promote Friends memberships with a special display or table at the Library or community event (e.g. fall festival).
- Friends provide snacks/meal for Library staff as thanks for all they do.
- Thank members of Friends for their participation, thank volunteers, thank those who donate books for sales, thank book sale buyers, and thank everyone else who supports the Library!
- Host a special event. Humanities Kansas has a great list of programs.
- Host a silent auction or other fundraising event.

For more celebration ideas plus a ton of marketing and PR resources, visit the [United for Libraries](#) web page. And [click here to sign up](#) for free downloadable social media graphics, bookmarks, flyers, and much more!

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## Paul Hawkins Awarded 2024 Duane Johnson Library Leadership Award

Paul Hawkins, Director of the South Central Kansas Library System is recipient of the 2024 Friends of Kansas Libraries Duane Johnson Library Leadership Award.

In 2005, the statewide Friends of Kansas Libraries initiated the Duane Johnson Library Leadership Award to recognize outstanding contributions to Kansas libraries. It is the most prestigious award conferred by the Friends of Kansas Libraries.

The award was established in honor of Duane Johnson, who was the State Librarian of Kansas from 1982 to 2004. Johnson's dedication to the Kansas library community and his assistance with the development of the FoKL organization were highlights of his tenure as Kansas State Librarian. Johnson also served on the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library's Board of Trustees for 8 years following his retirement.

After graduating from the Masters of Library Science program at Emporia State University in 1982, Paul Hawkins worked at the Salina and Great Bend Kansas public libraries and then in 1986 became employed by the South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS).

SCKLS and its staff of 13 provide grants, training and support services to 145 member libraries in a twelve county region. During his nearly 40 year career, Hawkins has enjoyed learning from and working with member public, academic, school district and correctional facility libraries.

"Kansas libraries are successful first of all because individuals in our communities care about them," Hawkins said. "The values of Friends of Kansas Libraries (FoKL) — Assist, Support and Educate — also speak for the regional library systems, and local Friends are among the most supportive organizations for libraries. Whether an annual book sale, advocacy for a building project, a volunteer hour, or simply a paid membership, Friends of the Library make a difference and contribute to the well-being of local libraries."

In selecting a recipient for the award, the FoKL Board wanted to recognize Hawkins for his long-standing positive influence upon Kansas libraries of all types and sizes. "Whether library laws or funding, the SCKLS internship program, or a question about what do about mold from a roof leak, you can call Paul and he'll do his best to help your library," said FoKL Board member Linda Knupp.

Hawkins said, "I've always learned from the libraries and people with whom I've been privileged to work. At this point, I've accumulated enough library experience to offer some useful information and perspective. I've come to appreciate listening, observing, inquiring and thinking. You'd think that a librarian would ask all the right questions, but that's typically where I falter since there's often some missing information that is key to understanding the problem and offering advice."

Hawkins, whose first job was as a reference librarian helping patrons with information needs, recollected two unusual requests for assistance. In 2005, he provided live cell phone support to Park City Public Library Director Dawn Pilcher during law enforcement's search and seizure of evidence at the library related to the arrest of Dennis Rader, the BTK serial killer. The account was published as "A Serial Killer Visits

the Library" in *True Stories of Censorship: Battles in America's Libraries*, 2012.

In 2019, Hawkins was invited to make an online presentation to the National Library and Archives of the Islamic Republic of Iran. His paper entitled "Change in Libraries: Direction for the Future" had been published in *Public Library Quarterly*. "I developed my presentation while at the same time wondering 'Is this real?'" until the moment when I saw a group of 40 Iranian librarians seated around a conference table and heard the interpreter translate my English into Farsi."

"Libraries offer an incredible gift of entertainment and information to individuals of all ages and interests. I am grateful for being able to work with libraries and everyone who supports them," said Hawkins.



## Focus on Friends — Friends of the Hays Public Library

Everyone loves and needs a good tote bag! The Friends of the Hays Public Library are supporting updates to the history and genealogy room in the library by selling one-of-a-kind library tote bags.

The Dorothy D. Richards Kansas Room is a local reference collection with books, online resources, maps, microfilm, photographs, and genealogical resources covering topics including the rich history of Kansas, the Great Plains, the American West, its people and environment.

The Friends of HPL tote bag sale is a part of a larger fundraising effort by the Hays Public Library Foundation to raise \$150,000 for the Kansas Room portion of the ongoing lower-level remodel. The Foundation recently surpassed the \$140,000 mark! The tote bag sales will help close the gap as they approach their goal and create more awareness for this exciting project.

The tote bags are a stylish way to promote the library and help reduce dependency on one-use plastic bags.

Pictured at right: Hays Public Library Kansas Room Coordinator, Jeremy Gill, showing the canvas tote bags being sold by the Friends of Hays Public Library.



## Girard Public Library Wins Grant

FoKL board member Marilyn Von Soosten shared that the Girard Public Library has received a 2024 Heritage Trust Fund Grant for \$40,000.

These grants are provided through a state program that helps with the preservation of buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places or the Register of Historic Kansas Places. The Girard Library will use the funds for the roof of their Carnegie building.

Marilyn, a member of the Girard Friends, said the grant was prepared by director Barb Bailey. "Our Friends of the Library are very supportive of all that Barb accomplishes," she reports.



### FoKL Presents

**RECRUITING NEW  
FRIENDS BOARD MEMBERS  
AND VOLUNTEERS:**  
*An Exchange of Ideas*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4  
9 AM CENTRAL**



Join FoKL and Friends from across the state on October 4 at 9 am for an exchange of ideas for recruiting new board members and volunteers. Zoom meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88484969231>

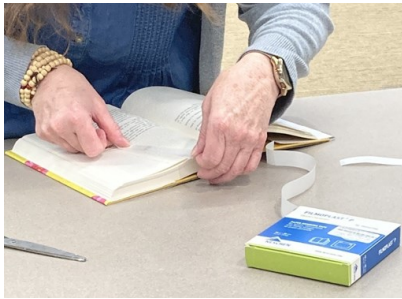
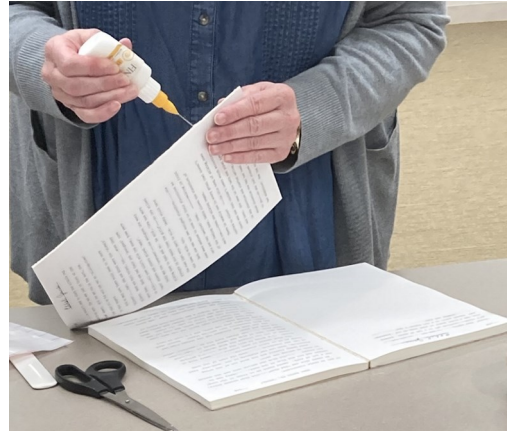


## Focus on Friends - Winfield Public Library

The Friends of the Winfield Public Library had an interesting and useful program on Basic Book Repair presented by librarian Carla Donley at their regular August Friends meeting.

"Everyone has occasionally had a book with a torn page, pages torn out, or the binding coming apart," said Sheryl Erickson.

"Carla opened the program sharing that it depends on the book type and your interest in retaining it for use whether it would be worth the time and effort to repair. She suggested that paperback books are probably not worth the effort."



The program included information about supplies for basic book repairs (Carla suggested not using "Scotch" type tape), followed by step-by-step demonstrations for mending a torn page, replacing a page, and gluing loose bindings.

[Click here to view photos \(with instructions\)](#) taken during Carla's demonstration, and [here for the program handout](#).

## Cardinal Friends of the Wetmore Library



The Cardinal Friends of the Wetmore Library hosted the Cardinal Classic Golf Tournament on August 24th at the Village Green Golf Course outside of Ozawkie. With around 60 golfers participating, it was a successful fundraising event, netting around \$2,400.

The day included 18 holes of golf, a sack lunch, and prizes for everyone.

Friend member Janet Suther said that one of the keys to the event's profitability was finding "hole" sponsors. In the surrounding area, 36 businesses donated \$30.00 each to help support the event — the \$1000.00 raised helped with food purchases, prizes, trophies and t-shirts.

Participants were able to buy mulligans @ 2/\$5.00 and a \$10.00 option to purchase a Gary Woodland Drive, which gave each team the advantage of being only 150 yards away on their 2nd shot on a par 5 hole. The group reports that the extra buy-ins and the entry fee made for a successful event.



## Focus on Friends - Friends of the Andover Library

The Friends of the Andover Library celebrated National Read a Book Day at their September First Friday event by making bookmarks for the library to distribute during checkout.

Various supplies were available including decorative paper, old books, baseball cards, shaped hole punches and printed phrases about reading. Those attending put their creative talents to work and made approximately 100 bookmarks.

"It was a fun activity and we plan to do it again," reports Angela Davis, Adult Event Coordinator for Friends of the Andover Library.



# See you at KLA!

## Stop by the FoKL table and say HELLO!

### Contact us!

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