

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

116TH EDITION

ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY



SJPL.LIB.MO.US

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Mission

The St. Joseph Public Library will enrich our community by providing diverse resources and services to support and fulfill the life-long informational and recreational needs of our patrons.

Vision

The St. Joseph Public Library's vision is to foster a united, engaged, and informed community where all generations connect, discover, and create.

Values

The St. Joseph Public Library values:

ACCOUNTABILITY. We are dedicated to delivering on our commitments and for the stewardship of our taxpayer dollars.

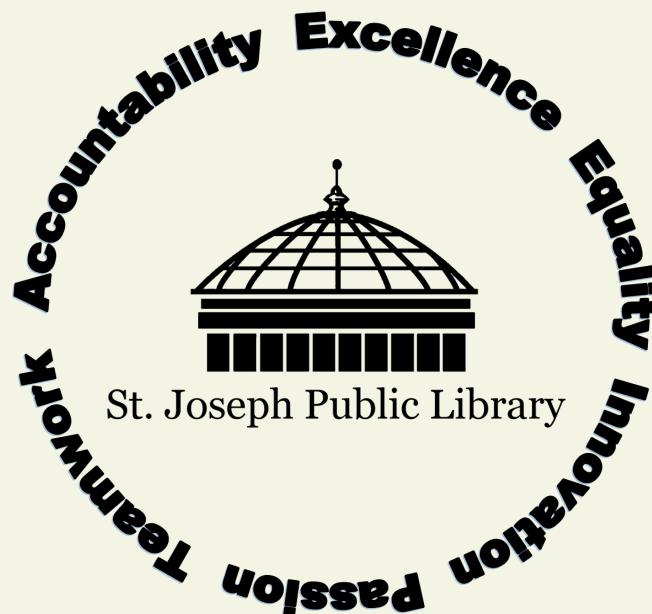
EXCELLENCE. We are courteous professionals who strive to create extraordinary experiences for our community.

EQUALITY. We are free and open to all people and ideas. We treat everyone with respect and compassion.

INNOVATION. We are always learning. We are constantly exploring new ways of doing things better and doing better things.

PASSION. We love the library, we love St. Joseph, and we love what we do.

TEAMWORK. We build connections and celebrate the diversity of our experiences.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mike Cadden - President

Sharon Wasson - Secretary

Brian Kirk

Hannah Kloepfer

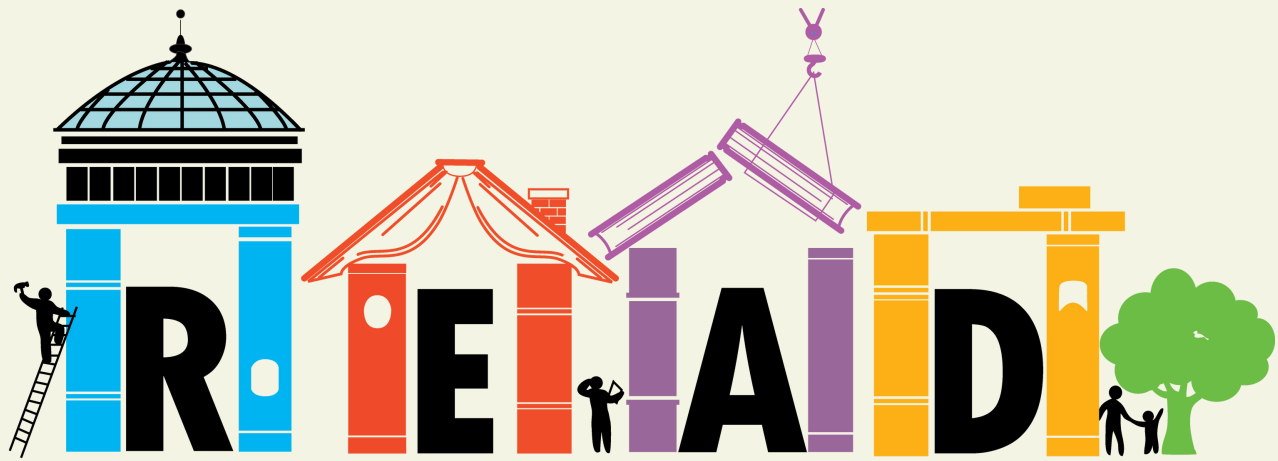
Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin

Kyla Ward - Vice President

Rosetta Ballew-Jennings - Treasurer

Alison Schieber

Ingrid Woodbury



Building a Better Community St. Joseph Public Library

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mary Beth Revels - Director

Shirley Blakeney - Branch Manager, East Hills Library

Karen Schultz - Branch Manager, Washington Park Library

Audrey Sheets - Branch Manager, Carnegie Library

Jen Wildhagen - Branch Manager, Downtown Library

Crystal Stuck - Community Services and Outreach Coordinator

Sharon Canter - Manager, Reference Services

Jess Gould - Manager, Youth Services, East Hills Library

Misty Snider - Manager, Youth Services, Downtown Library

Kim Tullis - Manager, Technical Services Department

FRIENDS OF THE ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Diane Delaney – President
Pat Sander – Secretary
Kari Benson
Lisa Logan
Hilary Newey

Barb Yarbrough – Vice President
Mary Kay Wright – Treasurer
Jacklyn Koeneman
Bob Mackey
Annie Updegraff

The Friends of the St. Joseph Public is a 501(c)(3) organization and had 98 paid members during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The Friends raise money through their annual membership drive and by hosting book sales overseen by Crystal Stuck with assistance from Olivia Wildhagen-Piercy. Crystal and Olivia got creative with book sales this year and not only were there books for sale inside the library branches, but sales were also hosted on the patio at the East Hills Library and a brand new online book store was launched: <https://friends-sjpl.square.site/>.

The biggest annual expense for the Friends continues to be funding the annual Summer Reading Program. Other expenses include purchasing books for library sponsored teen and adult book clubs, paying for *BookPage*, a monthly book review magazine that is available to pick up at all the branches, and purchasing books to give to kids attending the Juneteenth Festival. They are an Allied Arts Sculpture Walk supporter and helped sponsor the 2020-2021 Blue Heron sculpture. Over the last two years the Friends donated money to redecorate the Children's Department at the Carnegie Library and while the furniture and toys weren't able to be out because of the pandemic, the children's area is more colorful and bright because of new art on the walls and pillars.



Above: The redecorated Children's Department at the Carnegie Library.



ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Susan Campbell - President
Drew Brown - Secretary
Rosetta Ballew-Jennings
Kristina Hannon
Brian Myers

Ralph Schank - Vice President
Kathy Hill Bahner - Treasurer
Mike Cadden
Sharon Kosek
Gary Myers

The St. Joseph Public Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that promotes private donations to help ensure the library's future. The Foundation does not have members and is managed by a board of directors.

In 2018, the family of Laura Hutton requested donations to the SJPL Foundation in memory of Laura for the purpose of purchasing books about animals at the East Hills Library. Since that time, over \$16,000 has been donated and over \$8,000 has been spent so far on books. Library staff keep track of the books purchased annually and provide a list of the books to both the Foundation and the Hutton family.

The Foundation made a special contribution this year to the library to support a project where the library shared books from OverDrive with the St. Joseph School District. OverDrive is an eContent company that works with both libraries and schools and offers a program where a public library can share children and teen books with a local school. SJPL purchased eBook and eAudiobook copies of Missouri Award books for children and teens with the donated funds. SJPL patrons access the OverDrive books through the Missouri Libraries 2 Go platform while students in the St. Joseph School district use the Sora platform.



FINANCES

Income

Local Tax Income	\$ 3,454,645
State Aid	\$ 32,532
Grants	\$ 30,416
Athletes & Entertainers Funds	\$ 8,740
Donations	\$ 24,504
CVB Rent	\$ 5,592
Other	\$ 13,974

Total Income \$ 3,570,403

Expenses

Personnel	\$ 1,961,477
Collection	\$ 297,615
Programming	\$ 25,069
Buildings & Vehicle	\$ 103,580
Utilities	\$ 116,346
Operations	\$ 478,856
Capital Expenses	\$ 89,264

Total Expenses \$ 3,072,207

GRANTS

The Missouri State Library encourages libraries to apply for competitive grants. The grant funds are provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year the library received the following grants:



CARES Act: purchased 20 T-Mobile hotspots for patrons to check out and use. The grant also covered two years of monthly service for the hotspots.

Spotlight on Literacy: provided funding for early literacy programs in collaboration with United Way's Success by 6, Head Start, YWCA, Parents as Teachers, Youth Alliance, and Rolling Hills Library.

Summer Reading: helped pay for Imagine Your Story 2020 Summer Reading Program by funding for eBooks and virtual programming supplies such as cameras and tripods.

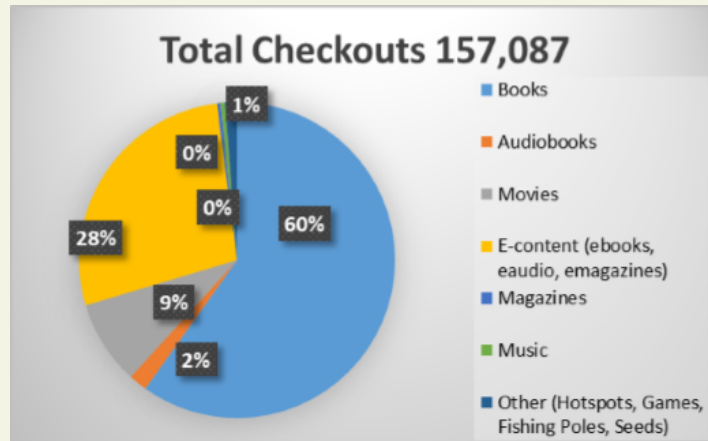
Other grants:

Buchanan County CARES funding: provided reimbursement funds to SJPL for personal protective equipment purchased in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FINRA Foundation (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority): provided funding to purchase personal finance related books and materials for all ages.

STATISTICS

Checkouts	Total	Adult	Teen	Children
Books	94,035	56,507	4,424	33,104
E-content	43,356	26,014	2,168	15,174
Movies	13,533	10,809	3	2,721
Audiobooks	2,964	2,378	32	554
Music	701	658		43
Magazines	592	591		1
Other (Hotspots, Games, Fishing Poles, Seed Packets)	1,906	1,890		16
Total Checkouts	157,087	98,847	6,627	51,613



Programs	Recorded Virtual	Live Virtual	Take & Make Kits
Preschool	64 programs 2,269 views	47 programs 876 participants	1 kit 61 handed out
Kids	32 programs 1,640 views	69 programs 1,743 participants	132 different kits 5,571 handed out
Teens	17 programs 586 views	81 programs 439 participants	34 different kits 954 handed out
Adults	52 programs 5,514 views	48 programs 302 participants	8 different kits 252 handed out
Total	165 programs 10,009 views	245 programs 3,360 participants	175 different kits 6,838 handed out

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The 2020-2021 fiscal year was another year dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. A Board approved policy directed how library services were offered using the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Buchanan County as reported by the St. Joseph Health Department. The library transitioned from in-person service to contactless service on September 2, 2020 and opened for patron visits in the branches again on February 18, 2021.

SJPL staff worked hard to continue to meet patron needs whether services were offered in person or in the contactless model. Materials checkout, faxing, scanning, and copying were offered at all branches during contactless service. Computer access and free notary service were offered by appointment at the Downtown and East Hills libraries. The Downtown Library continued offering 3D printing and Reference Services by appointment, giving genealogists and researchers the opportunity to access the microfilm and local history collections.

We made it easy for patrons to apply for library cards by putting library card applications on the library's website. Many people took us up on our offer and filled out the online applications and then picked up the card at their convenience. People living in St. Joseph were also given the opportunity to apply for and quickly receive an eCard which gave them access to the eContent, streaming content, and informational databases on our website without ever having to visit the library in person.

Library programs continued to be virtual and low contact throughout the year. Recorded programs were offered regularly on YouTube and Instagram. Live programs were offered monthly for all ages using the Zoom platform and occasionally Facebook. Take & Make programs proved popular for all ages.

Two unique items to check out this year at the library were seeds and mobile hotspots. The library was able to offer the mobile hotspots thanks to a CARES grant administered by the Missouri State Library.

As of June 30, 2021 the library had 56 employees, 33 of whom were full-time, 22 were part-time, and one was a substitute who was able to step in and help when needed.

SJPL staff proudly and enthusiastically continue to provide library services to our community, just like we have since 1890 when the library was established. How we provide those services has changed over the years but our dedication has not. We continue to be here for you, our community.

Mary Beth Revels

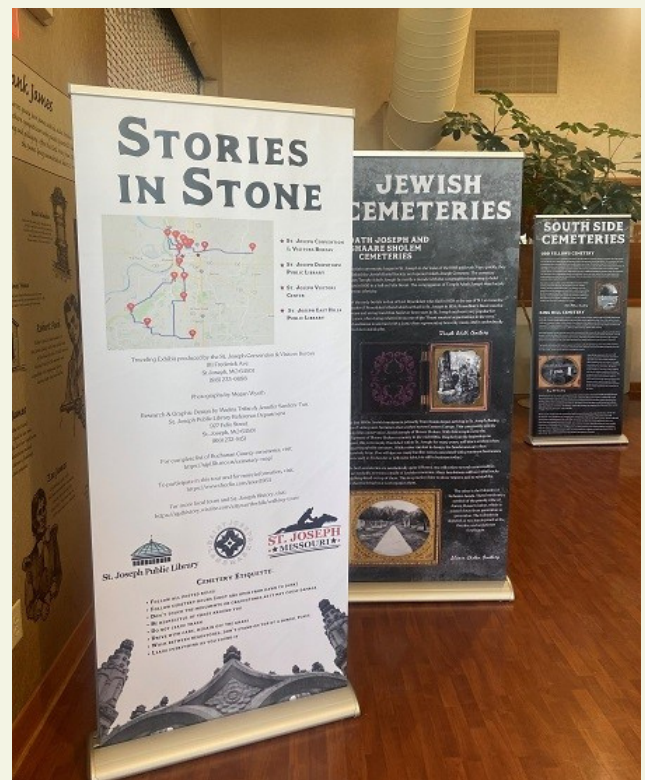
OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- SJPL offered a Winter Reading Challenge in January and three people gamely agreed to be pied, live on Facebook, if reading goals were met. A total of 1,655 books were read during the month, exceeding all set goals. Mayor Bill McMurray was the celebrity good sport along with Downtown Library branch manager Jen Wildhagen and library director Mary Beth Revels.



- The Carnegie, Downtown, and Washington Park libraries were featured in a locally produced feature film, Accidental Family.

- The Reference Department, housed in the Downtown Library, continues to be one of the best resources for local history in St. Joseph. Some of the projects the Reference Librarians worked on during the year included GIS mapping the cemeteries in Buchanan County, collaborating with the Convention & Visitors Bureau on local history exhibits, and creating a new page on the SJPL website "City Worth While" that delves more deeply into topics of local history. The department was able to accept two local history donations of note: microfilm from the Brunner & Brunner Architectural Firm and St. Joseph related vintage mugshot/wanted poster cards from the Frontier Army Museum of Fort Leavenworth, KS.



Convention & Visitor's Bureau Cemetery Exhibit.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR CONTINUED

- There were no in-person programs at the library this year though a variety of virtual programs were offered and well attended. Book Clubs included Forever Young Adult, Murder She Read, Downtown Book Club, Antiracist Book Club, and Teen Book Club. Preschool Storytimes continued on Zoom and librarians read picture books for SJPL Reads! that were posted weekly on YouTube. Other programs during the year were: History Speaks, True Crime Time, DIY Why Don't You, Bookish Time with Jenny, a multitude of Take & Makes, Minecraft Meetup, Ukulele Strum & Sing Along, Dungeons and Dragons, Mark Twain Club, Community Voices, Mythology Club, Tricky Tuesday to-Go, Wacky Wednesday, Mark's Movie Madness, Book-A-Librarian, First Chapter Friday, Creative Commons Meetup, SJPL Sprouts, Teen Book Drop, STEAM Craft, Maker Monday, Code Breaker Scavenger Hunt, Gardening programs with a Master Gardener, Fairy Tale Fridays, Photo Safari Scavenger Hunt, and a virtual author program where Libby Copeland discussed her book *The Lost Family: How DNA Testing is Upending Who We Are*.



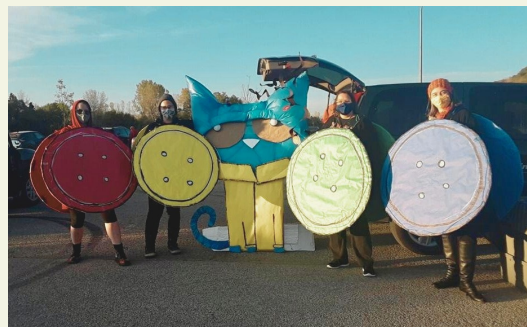
Above: Mark Zvolanek, in character for Mark's Movie Madness.

- SJPL staff regularly work with schools and other organizations to promote library services and support the community. SJPL worked with and/or provided programming for: Children First School, Pickett Elementary School, Coleman Elementary School, Hosea Elementary School, Lindbergh Elementary School, Truman Middle School, Lafayette High School, Bartlett Center, Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Buchanan County Jail, United Way, the St. Joseph Health Department, InterServ, YWCA, and Nestle Purina.
- Library staff participated in community events including Tiny Tot Town, Annual Reading of Challenged & Banned Books, Juneteenth, community wide trunk or treat, Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration, and Lloyd Warner Memorial Soil Collection Ceremony.

Below: Staff work on creating Dr. Seuss Birthday Play Packs.



Right: Staff dressed up as groovy buttons along with Pete the Cat at a community trunk-or-treat event.



COLLECTIONS

Library staff at all branches continually work with the collections of materials such as books, audiobooks, and movies. The collections are checked for order on the shelves, items are cleaned as needed, and the collections are weeded for various reasons such as age and condition. This year collection inventories were completed at the Downtown and East Hills libraries.

Expert staff at each library branch select new materials to add to their branch and items that are donated to the library are also reviewed for potential addition to the library's collections.

The Technical Services Department cataloged 9,625 items that were added to the collections at the library branches.

BUILDINGS

The construction project started in 2020 to rebuild a retaining wall and improve water drainage at the East Hills Library, was completed.

A project to improve water drainage at the Carnegie Library was completed by Anthony Prawitz, with assistance from Mike Wayman.

Anthony and Mike reconstructed a wall at the Washington Park Library to repair damage caused by moisture over the years.



Before and after pictures of a wall repair project at the Washington Park Library.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Staff Development Day was transformed into Staff Appreciation Day due to the pandemic with lunch provided at each branch.

Library staff attended virtual conferences, continuing education workshops, and classes provided by many organizations including Mid-America Library Alliance, Missouri State Library, American Library Association, Public Library Association, Missouri Library Association, AMIGOS, Leadership St. Joseph, Homeless Institute, SirsiDynix, Niche Academy, Customers of SirsiDynix Users Group, Inc., and Web Junction.

ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY

CARNEGIE LIBRARY

316 Massachusetts St.
St. Joseph, MO 64504
816-238-0526

DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

927 Felix St.
St. Joseph, MO 64501
Admin: 816-232-4038
Main: 816-232-7729
Children's: 816-232-3812
Reference: 816-232-8151

EAST HILLS LIBRARY

502 N. Woodbine Road
St. Joseph, MO 64506
Main: 816-236-2107
Children's: 816-236-1424
Outreach: 816-236-2107

WASHINGTON PARK LIBRARY

1821 N. 3rd St.
St. Joseph, MO 64505
816-232-2052



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