



# Emporia Public Library Newsletter

January to May 2015

## In Honor of the Retirement of Sue Blechl

How can we adequately express our appreciation for someone who has been Emporia Public Library's foremost and best advocate for the last nineteen years?

- Who has represented EPL with honesty, integrity, enthusiasm, and professionalism
- Who has promoted the library's services through countless news releases, interviews, and presentations
- Who has worked diligently with the city and county to secure funding and support
- Who has guided the staff and trustees through a difficult period of declining resources
- Who has asserted in every opportunity the importance of the library in our community

How can we adequately express our appreciation for someone who has provided leadership and encouragement to her fellow professionals?

- Who has supported and rejoiced in the efforts of the staff to provide outstanding programs
- Who has sought the means to provide essential and innovative programs and services
- Who has reached out to other libraries in Lyon County, recently guiding them through ways to enhance their funding from the County Commission
- Who has been active as a leader and an educator in numerous professional associations, earning her the Kansas Library Association Advocate Award in 2013

How can we adequately express our appreciation for someone who has contributed unselfishly and wholeheartedly to the greater Emporia community?

- Who has been a vital member of over 35 community organizations, boards, and committees, earning the award of "Public Servant of the Year" in 2005 from the Emporia Gazette
- Who has been a leader in the local and statewide Kiwanis Service club, earning the honor of "Kansas Kiwanian of the Year" in 2007
- Who has worked for the betterment of our community through leadership and advisory roles in Emporia Main Street, Leadership Emporia, Emporia Chamber of Commerce, Emporia Community Housing Organization Board, and the League of Women Voters
- Who has also worked with USD#253, Emporia State University, and the Flint Hills Technical College to promote literacy and to enhance offerings

How can we adequately express our appreciation for the many contributions of Sue Blechl as the Director of Emporia Public Library? We can't. We can merely say "thank you" with a sincere heart and wish her all the best in the future.

With our sincere thanks,

Sharon S. Stephens for the EPL Board of Trustees

## Winter-Spring

### LIBRARY HOURS

Mon.	9 am to 8 pm
Tues.	9 am to 8 pm
Wed.	9 am to 8 pm
Thur.	9 am to 8 pm
Friday	9 am to 6 pm
Sat.	11 am to 5 pm
Sun.	2 pm to 5 pm

These hours are in effect until Memorial Day.



Sunday hours are restored in 2015 thanks to additional funding from Lyon County.

## The library will be closed on:

Mon. Jan. 19	Martin Luther King
Sun. April 5	Easter
Sun. & Mon. May 24 & 25	Memorial Day weekend

## Become a Fan!

EPL is on  
Facebook!



[www.emporialibrary.org](http://www.emporialibrary.org)

Check out our  
webpage at

[www.emporialibrary.org](http://www.emporialibrary.org)



# You're Invited to 2015 Book Discussions



Read the book. Or just come to listen. Copies of the books are available for checkout from the 2nd floor Reference Desk. Support from the Friends of the Library is appreciated.

For more information, contact Lynette Olson, Coordinator of Adult Services, 340-6451

## "PAGETURNERS"

Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am

- January 13 The Girls of Atomic City  
by Denise Kiernan
- February 10 (KS Room) The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Soc.  
by Mary Ann Shaffer
- March 10 The Fall: A Memoir in 424 Steps  
by Diogo Mainardi
- April 14 (KS Room) The Goldfinch  
by Donna Tartt
- May 12 The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat by Edward Kelsey
- June 9 Let Him Go by Larry Watson

## "EVENING GROUP"

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

- January 7 Hands of My Father  
by Myron Uhlberg
- February 4 The Fall: A Memoir in 424 Steps  
by Diogo Mainardi
- March 5 The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt
- April 1 The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat by Edward Kelsey
- May 6 Let Him Go by Larry Watson
- June 3 Me Before You by Jojo Moyes
- July 1 I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai



## Meet Eric Murphy— Teen Services & Reference Assistant

Greetings! My name is Eric Murphy and I'm the new Teen Services Librarian at Emporia Public Library. As an Emporia native, I've long been familiar with the library, and have many memories attached to it. I can remember weekly excursions with my dad to the children's room, where I repeatedly checked out a book about Merlin, the magician. I remember silently and impatiently following him through the stacks upstairs. The library book sale was a highlight of the year for him. I can remember helping him haul boxes of books he no longer had use or room for, and the excitement of leaving with a pile of new used books to take their place. I

remember attending story time, although it wasn't long before I discovered that I preferred the calm view of the Kansas Room. Once old enough to go to the library unattended, I spent many rainy days in that room, lost in books that the school library was unable to offer. In high school, I can remember the look of surprise on a female friend's face, when I asked her to go on a "date" to the library, as opposed to a movie or what have you. We're still friends today, and she sounded pleasantly unsurprised to learn I now work there.

When not in the Emporia Public Library, I've spent much of my time in or around other libraries. I received a MA in English from Emporia State University, and have worked as an adjunct instructor, a substitute teacher, and briefly at a used book store. I also enjoy music, particularly playing guitar and songwriting. My younger brother, Owen, is currently finishing his coursework for a BA in English at ESU, and I'm told he's quite the fiction writer. Our parents passed on their love of reading to us at an early age, and books are still the primary gifts exchanged at birthdays and holidays. I look forward to passing on this love of reading and books to a younger generation, and enjoying my time on "the other side of the desk".



# **Technology Simplified**

## **Free Computer Classes**

**January to May 2015**

**TO REGISTER  
CALL 620-340-6462**

**All sessions are on **Tuesdays** at  
2 pm and 6 pm and are 90 minutes long.**

- Jan. 20**      **Computers for Beginners**  
*Learn the basics of the computer and Windows 7*
- Feb. 3**      **Computer Maintenance**  
*Learn steps to keep your computer running*
- Feb. 17**     **Basic Word Processing**  
*Learn how to change font, size, alignment, and more*
- Mar. 24**     **Basic Spreadsheets**  
*Learn the basics of using this tool for reports and data*
- Mar. 31**     **Basic Internet**  
*Learn how to search for information*
- Apr. 7**      **E-Books Online**  
*Learn to use the free e-book resources of the State Library of Kansas*
- Apr. 28**     **Advanced Word Processing**  
*Learn about mail merge, watermarks, and more*
- May 5**      **Introducing Windows 10**  
*Learn about the newest Windows operating system*



## **Get Comfortable with Technology!**

The Library continues to provide training and assistance in computer literacy. We want everyone to be able to do basic tasks and searches. Our formal computer classes will continue. In addition, we will do one-on-one tutoring on basic computer software and mobile devices.

Staff will be available on Monday thru Friday by appointment. Contact the Reference Desk at 620-340-6450 or by email: [reference@emporialibrary.org](mailto:reference@emporialibrary.org).

## Tax Form Information

The Emporia Public Library will have limited forms and instruction booklets available through the IRS Tax Form Outlet Program. There have been changes to both the program and the forms. Some forms are no longer available in bulk quantities. The IRS continues to encourage online filing. Limited quantities of Form 1040 and Form 1040A, along with the Instruction Booklets have been ordered, as well as limited 1040 Schedules.

To print or order IRS forms visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

Kansas Department of Revenue does not provide bulk forms to libraries. They are also encouraging online filing. To get more information or to request Kansas tax forms visit [www.ksrevenue.org](http://www.ksrevenue.org).

### HOMEBOUND SERVICE

The Library offers Homebound Service for the delivery of library materials to those living within Emporia city limits who are physically unable to visit the library. Volunteers deliver materials on the first Thursday of each month.

Call Rosa Lee Waterman at (620) 340-6449 or email [watermanr@emporialibrary.org](mailto:watermanr@emporialibrary.org)



### A PEEK IN OUR WINDOWS

The first display of 2015 will feature the art of students from Northern Heights High School. March will feature fantastic LEGO creations from the collection of Richard Herrman. We would love to have more volunteers to do a display. If you have a collection at home you want to show off or are a non-profit wanting to show the community who you are, the glass display at the library is the perfect way. Contact Sarah to schedule your display at 620-340-6465 or [eplill@emporialibrary.org](mailto:eplill@emporialibrary.org).

## Tax Assistance

The AARP Tax-Aide Program will once again be in the Emporia area for the 2014 tax year. There will be two sites -- The Emporia Senior Center and the Emporia State Federal Credit Union, Industrial Avenue

Branch. The tax season will run from Monday, February 2 through Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

The Credit Union site will be open Mondays and Thursdays from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm and Saturdays from 9:00 am to noon. The Emporia Senior Center site will be open Monday through Friday 9:00 am until noon.

Appointments may be made beginning January 15 by calling the Emporia Senior Center at 620-343-3160.

There is no charge for this service, but only simple returns are prepared by the volunteers. People using the service must present a photo I.D. and social security CARD for all persons on the return, along with all necessary documents relating to the tax return. All returns are filed electronically.

All volunteers receive training each year and must pass a test to be certified to prepare taxes.

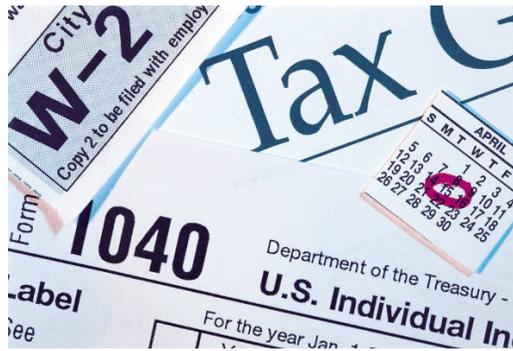
### A BIG Thank You!

I am overwhelmed by the recognitions and kindnesses presented to me as I retire from the Library. It has been a privilege to serve this community and to work with the staff, trustees, Friends, and government officials who work hard to make the library the best it can be.

Emporia will always be special to me. Please know that your many good wishes and contributions to the Sue Blechl Endowment Fund are appreciated and that my precious Emporia memories are indelibly etched in my heart and soul.

Most sincerely,

**Sue Blechl**  
Outgoing Library Director



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS! GREAT PROGRAMS THIS SPRING—FREE!

**Author & sports historian  
Phil S. Dixon  
presents**

**“The Kansas City Monarchs in Emporia”  
Thursday, February 26  
6:30 pm**

Mr. Dixon’s presentation will use historic photographs, entertaining stories that include games the Monarchs played in Emporia against local competition and colorful baseball poetry. His works will be available for sale. The event is part of his 90-city goodwill tour of “The Kansas City Monarchs in Our Home Town.” Mr. Dixon will also do a special program for



teens at 4:30 pm.

As an author, Phil S. Dixon has recorded African-American sports topics for thirty years. He won the prestigious Casey Award for the Best Baseball Book of 1992 and received a SABR MacMillan Award for his excellence in historical research. Dixon is a co-founder of the Negro League Baseball Museum in Kansas City and formerly worked in the Public Relations office of the American League Kansas City Royals.

**THE KANSAS CITY FASHION  
REVOLUTION OF  
NELL DONNELLY-REED  
Thursday, March 26  
6:30 pm  
Portrayed by Kitty Frank**

The fifth daughter in a large Irish Catholic family, Nell Quinlan of Parsons, Kansas, discovered a talent for converting dowdy hand-me-downs into pretty frocks. To her sewing skills she added a talent for business and a wise first marriage to create the Nelly Don fashion brand which revolutionized women’s ready to wear clothing. By the age of 27, Nell was the second self-made woman millionaire in the United States and



a cornerstone of the soon to be famous Kansas City Garment District. At its apex, the Nelly Don brand produced 5,000 dresses a day, employing over 1,000 seamstresses. Nell patented the Handy Dandy apron as a low cost item to replace dress sales and keep her workers employed during wartime. Throughout the company's history, Nell paid the highest wages and provided an unheard of benefit package including health care coverage and tuition assistance. In response to reporters’ questions about a woman's ability to be successful as an entrepreneur, Nell replied, “It takes no more energy than bridge. And I don’t like bridge.” We will meet Nell Donnelly-Reed in 1947 as she shares her plans for the new factory near 18th and Vine.

Of course, that’s only part of Nell’s story. She became a mother under mysterious circumstances, was kidnapped, held for ransom and then rescued by Johnny Liazo, the organized mob boss of Kansas City. Her second husband was the controversial mayor, attorney and retired U.S. Senator James A. Reed.

Nell Donnelly-Reed is portrayed by Kitty Frank. Kitty is a member of the Kansas Alliance of Professional Historical Performers. Like Nell Donnelly, Kitty is a seamstress and designer with an interest in business, having owned her own sportswear company. Kitty has a bachelors degree in economics from ESU and also portrays Kittie Hays of Council Grove, Seth Hays’ adopted daughter. After her performance Kitty will take questions as Mrs. Donnelly-Reed, and then as the scholar behind the historical performance.

**“Chasing Weather: Tornadoes, Tempests,  
and Thunderous Skies in Word & Image”  
Tuesday, May 19 at 6:30 pm**



Come to the library for a reading of poetry by Kansas poet laureate emeritus Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, accompanied by photographs and videos of wild weather by weather chaser and photographer Stephen Locke, from their new book, (September 2014, Ice Cube Press). Weather subtly shapes our days, infuses our moods and interactions, and at times, completely re-orientes our lives. Catching moments of stunning beauty and surprising shifts in the sky helps make the vibrant and variable world more visible to us, and shows us how to truly see where and who we are.

A question and answer period will follow the program. Copies of Chasing Weather will be available for sale. See some of the images that will be shared at <http://tempestgallery.com>.

# Teen Services

## Emporia Public Library

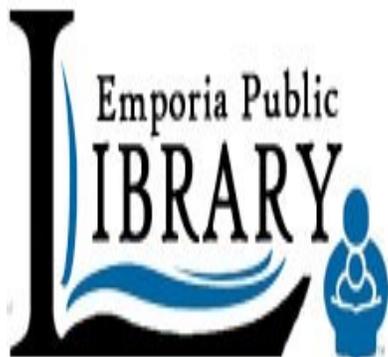
**Teens Assemble!**

### **SNACKS, BEVERAGES, AND PRIZES FOR PARTICIPANTS**

Teen Services Librarian: Eric Murphy

Phone: (620) 340 - 6454

Email: [murphye@emporialibrary.org](mailto:murphye@emporialibrary.org)



110 E. 6th Ave  
Emporia, KS 66801  
Phone: (620) 340-6462  
Fax: (620) 340-6444

*JANUARY 27th (Tues) 5pm - Join us for our Teen Programming KICK-OFF PARTY. We will be discussing and voting on which movies and games will be presented at the library this semester in the Large Meeting Room. DON'T MISS OUT!!*

*FEBRUARY 5th (Thurs) 4-7pm - We will hold our first GAME NIGHT of the semester in the Large Meeting Room. The featured game is to be voted on at our kick-off meeting.*

*FEBRUARY 26th (Thurs) 4:30pm- We are proud to have a SPECIAL TEEN PRESENTATION from guest speaker PHIL S. DIXON. The presentation focuses on Negro League Baseball team the KANSAS CITY MONARCHS and the games they played throughout the region.*

*MARCH 10th (Tues) 4-7pm - We will hold our SECOND GAME NIGHT in the Large Meeting Room.*

*APRIL 2nd (Thurs) 5-7pm - We will have our first MOVIE NIGHT in the Large Meeting Room. Once again, this movie will be selected at our kick-off party, so be sure to vote Jan. 27th.*

*MAY 19th (Tues) 3pm - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL GAMING PARTY in Teen Area Upstairs after school.*

*MAY 20th (Wed) 2 -3:30pm - SUMMER READING SIGNUP!!! GAMES AND PRIZES!*

# Friends of the Library

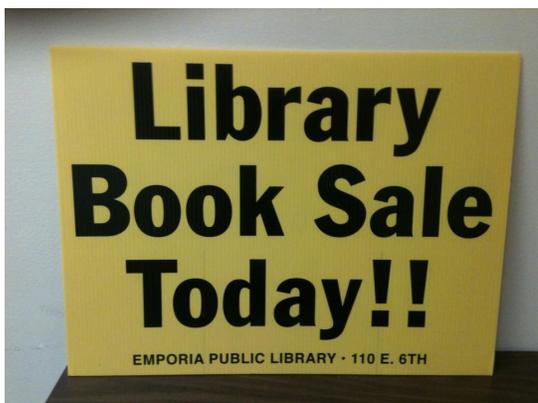
Congratulations  
to our  
**SUPER  
FRIENDS!**

Mar Jean Anderson (left) &  
Deb Burns-Heinitz (center) are  
recognized by FOL President  
Sherry Backhus.



We have two Super Friend Awards for 2014! This year's Super Friends were selected at the October Board meeting of Friends of the Library and were given the awards at the December board meeting. The Super Friend Award is our highest honor and is presented annually to a person or group that has supported the Library through exceptional leadership, volunteerism, advocacy, or other efforts that go beyond the usual.

Our 2014 honorees are Mar Jean Anderson and Deb Burns-Heinitz. These two individuals are responsible for the placement and retrieval of more than 100 yellow yard signs that appear around town during Spring and Fall Book Sales. They also regularly drive to homebound community members delivering books and they have served on the Friends Board in the past. These are longtime, hard-working and committed volunteers and certainly deserve our admiration and this award!



In their spare time, both Deb and Mar Jean are zoo docents. They were at the library for Breakfast with Santa with their "critters." Mar Jean was also a big help a few years ago, portraying Mrs. Frizzle with our week-long Magic School Bus tour of Lyon County.

Besides the actual award, Mar Jean and Deb will be given full Life Memberships in the Friends of the Library organization, allowing them special advanced admission to book sales and one free book at each sale.

The Friends and the Library are proud to have such wonderful support.

**Thank you, Mar Jean and Deb!**

# Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

Monday Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm  
Large meeting room

The Board encourages ALL members of Friends to attend and promises that the meeting will be short and friendly!

We will discuss and approve a 2015 budget, along with the slate of officers and new board members at this meeting. Those nominated for office in 2015 are:

- ◇ Joan Sheridan, President
- ◇ Jan Laurent, President Elect
- ◇ Glenda Bair, Secretary
- ◇ Nancy Hargett, Treasurer

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the meeting before voting.

Please consider becoming a Board Member of Friends of the Library. Just call any of current board members or the library and let us know! The Board raises funds and underwrites enhanced community programming, provides people-power for library events, and purchases added-value items such as book drops, canopy tents, lecterns, and library materials in many, many formats. Come see what your Friends do for you and your community!

### Sue Blechl Endowment Fund

The Friends of the Library has provided the first \$2,000 in this new fund to honor our retiring library director. Other contributors have added another \$1,500+. The principal will be invested and the interest used to support library needs. Donations of any size are welcome. Make checks payable to Emporia Public Library with "Sue Blechl Endowment Fund" on the memo line.



## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SPRING 2015 BOOK SALE SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday, April 11</b> 9 am to 11 am	<b>FOL Members Sale</b> (purchase your membership at the door)
<b>11 am to 5 pm</b>	<b>Sale opens to the public</b> <b>Full price</b>
<b>Sunday, April 12</b> 2 pm to 5 pm	<b>Full price</b>
<b>Monday, April 13</b> 9 am to 8 pm	<b>\$20 / bag or Full price</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 14</b> 9 am to 8 pm	<b>\$10 Bag Sale</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 15</b> 9 am to 8 pm	<b>\$5 Bag Sale</b>
<b>Thursday, April 16</b> 9 am to 8 pm	<b>\$2 Bag Sale</b>

Want to work the book sale?  
Contact Joan Sheridan at 620-412-1480.

### Special Thanks to Nancy Hargett

Since 2011, Nancy has been one of our book sorting volunteers, and since Feb. 2012, she has served as the coordinator of the work. Putting in two or three mornings a week, Nancy has made the preparation work for the two book sales go smoothly. Because of physical limitations, she will give up this labor of love, and instead put her generous spirit to work as the Friends treasurer, a position she has held in the past. We appreciate all the time, energy and thought that Nancy has put into the book sorting work!

# Gingerbread Contest Results

The Fourth Annual Gingerbread Contest saw 19 entries in three categories. The creations were viewed by 279 patrons over three days—December 11-13, 2014. On Friday children enjoyed a children’s story time with a book, craft and refreshments. The Friends thank you for your participation and look forward to next year. We congratulate our winning entry creators!



Danica Hoffman won both the People’s Choice award and the Friends Award for her Hansel and Gretel house.



Group award to the Hoffman family for the “3 Little Pigs”



Youth award to Christopher Hoffman for his church



Adult award to Suzanne Klamm for log cabin

## Yes, I want to join Emporia Friends of the Library!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Categories

- \_\_\_\_\_ Youth (17 and under) \$5
- \_\_\_\_\_ Individual \$15
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$30
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing/Corporate \$50

### Return to:

**Friends of the Library  
c/o Emporia Public Library  
110 E. 6th Ave.  
Emporia, KS 66801**

**Friends of the  
Emporia Public Library**  
110 E. 6th Ave.  
Emporia, KS 66801  
620-340-6462  
[www.emporialibrary.org](http://www.emporialibrary.org)

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Emporia, KS  
PERMIT #260

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## EMPORIA AREA LIBRARIES

### Emporia Public Library

- Circulation desk & renewals 340-6462
- Children's Services 340-6466
- Adult services/Reference 340-6450
- Homebound Services 340-6449
- Meeting room reservations 340-6460
- Interlibrary Loan 340-6465

### Fall-Winter-Spring Hours

Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. 9 am to 8 pm  
Friday 9 am to 6 pm  
Saturday 11 am to 5 pm  
Sunday 2 pm to 5 pm

### Summer Hours

Mon. Tues. Thurs. & Fri. 9 am to 6 pm  
Wednesday 9 am to 8 pm  
Saturday 11 am to 5 pm  
Sunday 2 pm to 5 pm

### North Lyon County Library (Allen)

Nikki Plankinton, Director  
[lyoncolibrary@gmail.com](mailto:lyoncolibrary@gmail.com)  
[lyoncounty.mykansalibrary.org](http://lyoncounty.mykansalibrary.org)  
620-528-3451

### Elmendaro Township Library (Hartford)

Marcia Sell, Director  
[elmlibhartford@gmail.com](mailto:elmlibhartford@gmail.com)  
[hartford.mykansalibrary.org](http://hartford.mykansalibrary.org)  
620-392-5518

### Americus Township Library

Anita Westcott, Director  
[americuslibrary@fairpoint.net](mailto:americuslibrary@fairpoint.net)  
[americus.mykansalibrary.org/](http://americus.mykansalibrary.org/)  
620-443-5503

### W. A. White Library (Emporia State University)

[www.emporia.edu/libsv/index.htm](http://www.emporia.edu/libsv/index.htm)  
620-341-5207

### Flint Hills Technical College Library

[www.fhtc.edu/fhtc/library](http://www.fhtc.edu/fhtc/library)  
620-341-1323