

JOHNSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY *Foundation*

Annual Report ♦ February 2006 ♦ 6700 Merle Hay Road , PO Box 327 ♦ Johnston, Iowa 50131

From the Foundation President:



On behalf of the Johnston Public Library Foundation Board, I'd like to thank you, our donors and supporters, for making 2005 a successful year.

One of the highlights was the first annual Bluegrass Festival held in August. The Bluegrass Committee worked tirelessly to make an enjoyable and profitable event, thanks to good planning and the generous sponsorship from key donors. The proceeds of the Bluegrass Festival were donated to the Foundation to benefit the Library.

Several other milestones were noted this year. The final pledges of the original capital campaign were received, closing that chapter of the Foundation's fundraising efforts. The second annual Holidays in Johnston, sponsored in part by the Foundation, had nearly double the attendance of the previous year.

I invite you to read the articles inside featuring key activities of the Library and the Foundation. These were made possible thanks to your generous support.

Greg Judas

Summer Reading participants were thrilled by these jugglers entertaining at one of the many summer reading special events.



Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 1994 to enhance and improve the Johnston Public Library. Contributions are tax deductible pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service code. Call 515-278-5233 for further information.

Musical treat for all ages **Bluegrass Festival**

The idea for the first annual Bluegrass Festival was developed by a small group of community-minded volunteers. Led by Robert Thomas, Festival organizer, the group came to the Johnston Public Library Foundation with a plan to hold an event to benefit the Library through the foundation. It was en-

thusiastically embraced by the Foundation Board.

The event was held on August 6 in the Johnston Commons area

next to the Library. The festival attracted music lovers of all ages both from the local area and from a distance. The nationally known recording group called Special Consensus joined several regional and local bands in performing throughout the day. The event was attended by approximately 1,200 people and provided additional funds to be used for special library projects and purchases.



Summary of Foundation Support to the Library

The Johnston Public Library continues to meet the demands of an ever-growing community. More than 200,000 items were checked out in FY 04/05, and more than 94,000 library visits were made during the year. The Foundation continues to play a key role both in terms of financial and community support for the Library.

In 2005 funds from the Foundation were designated for several computer purchases, a Listening Center, and additional audio and book materials. In addition, the group provided key funding for the Holidays in Johnston event.

The Foundation helped support the visibility of the

Library by participating in the Green Days and Homecoming parades. The Board hosted a farewell party for Library Director, Francine Canfield, who left in June after nine years as head of the library. Representatives of the Foundation participated in the interviewing for the new director, and subsequently held a "Meet-and-Greet" with the entire library staff. An appreciation dinner was also held for the Bluegrass Festival Committee and their families.

The support of the Foundation helps make the

Johnston Public Library a vital part of the community. Stop by the library and see all the resources, programs, and services available!



“Season’s Readings” at Johnston Public Library

These youngsters are shown with Greg Judas modeling the Johnston Public Library “Season’s Readings” sweatshirts that were funded by the Foundation. In addition to selling them throughout December as a fundraiser, the Foundation rewarded the library staff and faithful volunteers with complimentary sweatshirts.



Second annual event a big success!

Holidays in Johnston

Hheavy snow fell, but it did not deter Santa from arriving at the Johnston Public Library on the fire truck on Saturday, December 3. Crowds of

a gingerbread house contest. Special holiday music was provided by the Johnston Summit Middle School band students and a group of a cappella Madrigal singers from Johnston High School.

lit the tree to usher in the holiday season.

A number of local businesses contributed to support the Holidays in Johnston event, as well as key sponsorship from the Johnston Chamber of Commerce and the Johnston Public Library Foundation.



excited youngsters welcomed him as he launched the second annual Holidays in Johnston event, sponsored by the Johnston Public Library, Johnston Community Education, and the Johnston Women’s Social Connection.

More than 450 people of all ages enjoyed an array of activities including crafts, stories, cookie decorating, and



Santa visited with all the children then led the crowd to the decorated outdoor Christmas tree. With the assistance of Mayor Brian Lorenzo, Santa





Johnston Public Library

*books, audio material, compact discs,
DVDs, videos, computers, internet
access, interactive web site, magazines,
cd-roms, magnifier for newspaper
and magazine reading, puppets,
cake pans, and more*

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