

# CITY OF NEWTON WEEKLY REPORT

Week of February 16, 2018

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR...



On March 12, 2018 the City of Newton will host a town hall meeting on the subject of fireworks. The meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, is meant to provide information to the public on the current fireworks ordinance, potential changes to that ordinance that City staff might recommend, legislative updates, and allow residents and business owners to provide feedback to elected officials on their policy preferences. More details will be provided in the coming weeks.

Newton Development Corporation (NDC), Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC), Iowa State University Extension & Outreach, and the Goodwill Career Connection Center would like to invite area businesses

to the 2018 FREE Job/Career Fair scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2018 from 4:30pm–6:30pm. This FREE Job/Career Fair is an excellent opportunity for businesses to meet and recruit potential employees seeking new employment opportunities. For more information contact the Newton Development Corporation at 641-787-8210.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 16 - Relics Fourth Anniversary Celebration from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- February 16 - Chamber Ribbon Cutting at Centre for Arts and Artists' Geisler Gift Shop at 12 p.m.
- February 16 - Centre for Arts & Artists Geisler Gift Shop Grand Opening from 1 - 7 p.m.
- February 16 - Newton Arboretum and Botanical Gardens Friday After Five at 5 p.m.
- February 16 - Berg Middle School Lip Sync Contest at 6:30 p.m.
- February 17 - Relics Fourth Anniversary Celebration from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- February 17 - Centre for Arts & Artists Geisler Gift Shop Grand Opening from 1 - 4 p.m.
- February 17 - American Legion Post 111 Second Annual Chili Cook-off at 4 p.m.
- February 19 - Hometown Pride Meeting at the Greater Newton Chamber of Commerce
- February 19 - Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall starts at 5 p.m.
- February 19 - Blues Under the Blue Roof featuring The Blue Two at the Newton Public Library at 6:30 p.m.
- February 20 - Flash Book Sale at the Newton Public Library from 12 - 6 p.m.
- February 21 - Flash Book Sale at the Newton Public Library from 10 a.m - 6 p.m.
- February 21 - Park Board Meeting at City Hall starts at 6:15 p.m.
- February 22 - Library Board of Trustees Meeting at the Newton Public Library at 4 p.m.

**CONTINUE READING THE CITY OF  
NEWTON WEEKLY REPORT TO LEARN  
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NEWTON  
PUBLIC LIBRARY.**

# LIBRARY

## JANUARY OVERVIEW

- 10,504 check-outs
  - Up 7.9% from January 2017 and up 12.9% from December 2017
- 7,139 visitors to the Library
- 25 programs
  - 396 children attended
  - 163 adults attended

## LIBRARY ANNUAL SURVEY

The Library Board is working on creating a Strategic Plan that will direct the efforts of the Library through the next 5 years. We are asking the community (and city staff) to take a moment and anonymously answer 2 questions about the Library. You can take the survey here: <http://bit.ly/2nJbmuP>  
Thank you for the feedback!

## NEWTON 7TH & 8TH GRADERS VISIT THE LIBRARY

On February 1st, 7th and 8th graders from Mrs. McBride's class at Newton Christian School visited early in the morning, before the library was open to the public. Students were working on writing a research paper, and Youth Services Librarian Phyllis Peter gave them instruction on using the library catalog to search for materials and an overview of databases available at the library for them to use. The students then had time to use library computers to search databases and the catalog to find books to check out on their chosen research topics.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library approved the purchase and installation of a new drinking fountain in the Library Lobby. The new fountain is stainless steel, refrigerates the water, and has a water bottle filler that counts how many bottles you have saved from the landfill by refilling at the station. It is both water and energy efficient and patrons LOVE it. The Friends have also purchased two Starling's that are a wearable word counter for parents and babies. These Starling's will count the words your child hears a day and track how much they are moving. Starlings were inspired by decades of research showing the importance of verbal engagement on a child's language development. Our Youth Services Librarian, will be wearing the Starling in story times to show parents their usability and the Library will start with one to circulate to parents.



## LIBRARY FLASH BOOK SALE – NEXT WEEK!

The Library's Book Flash Sale is February 20th (Noon-6pm) and 21st (10am-6pm). Friends bags will be sold for \$5 with all the books you can fit inside. This sale they will also offer the special of \$7.50 for a bag, Jubilee mug and all the books you can fit inside. For every bag of books sold, \$1.50 goes back to the Library and into the General Fund for Library Book Sales.

## LIBRARY TOUR FOR GTKN LEADERSHIP CLASS

The Library welcomed the Get to Know Newton Leadership Class on Tuesday, Feb. 6th with a tour. Participants enjoyed a guided tour throughout the Library learning about the various collections, touring the back office where books are processed in, and the Circulation Office, and all had an opportunity to ask questions. Fifteen participants showed up for the optional tour, with a few obtaining library cards after. If any departments or outside groups are interested in a tour or presentation, call the Library at 792-4108.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Slime Make & Take program for kids March 13th at 6 pm for kids. Kids under age 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Please call the library at 792-4108 to register.

Blues Under the Blue Roof every Monday in February at 6:30pm! :  
MONDAY, February 19, 6:30-7:30pm: The Blue Two (Bob Dorr and Jeff Peterson)  
MONDAY, February 26, 6:30-7:30pm: Jodi Bodley & Dewey Cantrell