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Antioch Branch Reopens, Rededication Ceremony on Jan. 4

Library Completes Branch Renovations, Marks New Chapter with “Book Opening”

Gladstone, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library is pleased to announce the completion of renovations at its Antioch Branch (6060 N. Chestnut Ave., Gladstone, MO 64119), which reopened to the public on November 26, resuming its regular hours (Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.). An official Rededication Ceremony will be held at the branch on Friday, January 4, at 9:00 a.m. and will include remarks from Library leadership as well as local elected officials, followed by a “book opening” ceremony—marking a new chapter for the branch—and reception.

“We are so excited to welcome back our customers and can’t wait to show them all of the new and improved features of their Library,” said Rosalyn Spring, Antioch Branch Manager. “The goal with this project was to transform our branch into a modern space that customers could use to learn, grow, and connect with one another, and with the development of more purposeful spaces and added technology, I think we’ve accomplished that!”

In addition to the Rededication Ceremony, the Antioch Branch will host an Open House on Saturday, January 5, which will kick off at 2:00 p.m. with live entertainment from magician Eric Vaughn, followed by refreshments and a selfie station. During both the Rededication Ceremony on Friday and throughout the day on Saturday, the Library will give away special commemorative tokens (one per person) that can be used one time to clear all Library fines and fees up to $10.

In addition, the Library will offer a mobile scavenger hunt through the free GooseChase app, which customers can participate in to qualify for a $50 gift certificate to Cascone’s Italian Restaurant. The Antioch Branch Scavenger Hunt will kick off at the rededication ceremony on January 4 and run through January 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Since the Antioch Branch closed on June 18, it has received a variety of interior and exterior upgrades, including a new community room with A/V equipment (seats 140), new collaboration rooms, new teen and children’s areas, an updated storytime program room, a reading lounge, new furniture, and upgraded technology including new computers and printers as well as improved Wi-Fi coverage and access.

Scheduled near the start of Phase I of MCPL’s Capital Improvement Plan, the Antioch Branch is one of many Library branches to receive upgrades, which have been made possible by increased funding from the passage of Proposition L by voters in 2016. While the upgrades at each branch vary based on individual community needs and the building’s current condition, the Library’s goal has been to create more intentional spaces and improve essential technology. Design work for the five-year Capital Plan is being completed by Sapp Design Architects and Helix Architecture + Design with JE Dunn assuming responsibility for construction contractor management.
In addition to all the physical upgrades, the increased funding approved by voters in 2016 has allowed MCPL to expand branch hours, enhance special services, augment early literacy efforts, and buy more materials.

More information about the Antioch Branch’s reopening can be found at mymcpl.org/Community.

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Mid-Continent Public Library is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 31 branches and three Library-To-Go locations and serving more than 800,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. The Library strives to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. MCPL is a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service winner. Connect with the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.