

Free book program coming to Jackson Co

(KNZA)--A free book program for kids up to age 5, named after country music star Dolly Parton, is coming to Jackson County.

Primary program organizer, Vern Andrews of Holton, announced in an email that they recently reached their \$12,500 local fund-raising goal to bring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to Jackson County.

Andrews, a teacher in the Jackson Heights school district, said a recent contribution of nearly \$3,800 from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation along with a \$2,500 contribution from the Jackson County United Way last September helped local organizers them meet their goal.

Starting March 1, Andrews said Jackson County parents of children birth through age 5 will be able to go online and sign up their child for the free book program. Parents can do so by going to imaginationlibrary.com and clicking Getting Started.

Children registered for the program will receive a free book every month until their fifth birthday. Andrews said a child registered in the program from birth to age 5 will have a 60-book library by the time they start school.

He estimated more than 900 children in Jackson County are currently eligible for the program, which is expected to cost about \$12,500 a year after it is fully implemented.

Donations can be made on-line at imaginationlibrary.com. Be sure to specify Jackson County, Kansas as the local affiliate.

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