

Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department
for Libraries and Archives

December 2011

In This Issue

[Video Encourages
Participation in Library
Legislative Day](#)

[Program Draws Families to
the Library](#)

[Gaming is Not Just for Kids](#)

[Trustee Connection](#)

[KDLA Congratulates New
Certification Holders](#)

[KDLA Welcomes New
Trustees](#)

[Meade County Celebrates
Grand Opening](#)

[Energy Meters Available for
Check-Out at the Graves
County Public Library](#)

[Library Visits at Historic High:
Visits Top 1.5 Billion](#)

[The Geek's Garage](#)

[Lindsey Wilson College
Library Selected to Receive
Special Collection](#)

Video Encourages Participation in Library Legislative Day

The Kentucky Public Library Association Advocacy Committee, headed by chair J.C. Morgan, has created a video to encourage participation in Library Legislative Day in Frankfort.

Library Legislative Day will be held March 7, 2012 and the committee strongly encourages all library directors to bring staff, trustees and dedicated

Meade County Celebrates Grand Opening

By Chris Bischoff
State Library Construction Consultant
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

After several years of planning, the new Meade County Public Library (MCPL) opened on November 2nd, 2011. I had the pleasure of attending the grand opening festivities along with about 120 other attendees, including the county judge-executive and State Librarian Wayne Onkst.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Meade County Public Library

At 21,000 square feet the building is twice the size of the old building. And that building was old - a former elementary school 100 years old, in fact. Like many older libraries, it was too small and it was difficult to supervise some areas. Among other problems, the collection space was inadequate, the meeting room was in a separate annex, and the basement had occasional mold concerns and was only accessible by incredibly steep stairs. The biggest problem was that MCPL has an admirable array of programs and their former facility simply could not accommodate expanding the offerings as much as they wanted to.

The new building is beautiful, easy to use, and welcoming to folks who want to settle-in and stay for awhile. Improved features include an expanded collection and computer space, expanded teen space, two community meeting rooms, a dedicated children's programming room, an enclosed genealogy room, a reading bell and a gas fireplace.

[Read more...](#)

Energy Meters Available for Check-Out at the Graves County Public Library

West Kentucky Star

library customers to the event. A video has been created to encourage participation in a year where library supporters' voices need to be heard by legislators more than ever. You can view the video [here](#).

Watch the video, mark March 7, 2012 on your calendar and see if your library can beat Union County Public Library's record of 14 in attendance at last year's Library Legislative Day!

Program Draws Families to the Library

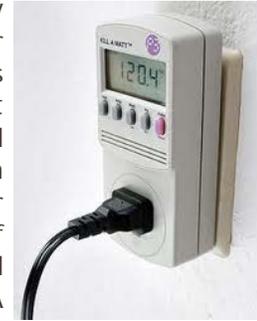
By Debbie McClanahan
Director
Union County Public Library
District



Eleven families attended the Prime Time Family Reading Time reading event held recently at the Union County Public Library in Morganfield.

Sandy Harmon, a university storyteller, and Scott Vander Ploeg, a university scholar conducted weekly storytelling and discussion

The Graves County Public Library recently added a unique item to their collection of books, magazines, DVDs and other informational media that can help people conserve energy and lower utility costs and consumption. In June, Mayfield Electric & Water Systems (MEWS) donated a set of portable energy meters to be checked out by patrons of the library. A Kill A Watt monitor is a device that measures the electrical usage of small, plug-in appliances such as toasters, microwaves, computers, televisions, etc. The monitor can be used to help consumers become aware of their energy usage, track the cause of high energy usage, calculate costs and potential savings, compare different appliance models and eliminate the use of Phantom Power. The monitor can be used to measure the electrical consumption of 120-volt household appliances, but cannot measure large appliances that require a 240-volt outlet such as ovens or clothes dryers.



Once the small appliance is plugged into the monitor, it will continuously measure the power used by the appliance until it is unplugged.

[Read more...](#)

Library Visits at Historic High: Visits Top 1.5 Billion

by Kevin O'Connell and Mamie Bittner
Institute of Museum and Library Services

The ways in which Americans use libraries changed significantly in the decade ending in 2009 as libraries adapted to meet the evolving needs of their users.

These changes are keeping libraries relevant, vibrant places as evidenced by a 24.4% increase in visits per capita in the last ten years, with total visits increasing by nearly 40%. In 2009 (the most recent data available) libraries were visited a record-breaking 1.59 billion times, according to the Institute of Museum and Library Services' (IMLS) report on the [FY2009 Public Library Survey](#) (PLS), a census of public libraries in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories conducted annually by IMLS.



sessions based on award-winning children's picture books.

The event was made possible by a grant from [Kentucky Humanities Council](#) and administered by KDLA.

Gaming is Not Just for Kids

By Wynita Worley
Public Services Librarian
Grant County Public Library

In 2010 the Grant County Public Library applied for and received a programming grant from KDLA for \$4,341.67, made possible through LSTA funds, to kick-start a series of game programs in an effort to provide innovative programs for residents of all ages in this rural community and possibly develop an interest in game design in younger library patrons. As part of this series, called Get your Game On @ Your Library, programs such as Pioneer Game Day, Bridge Club, Wii Fitness, Chess Lessons, Game Design Boot Camp, geocaching and games for seniors at facility homes were organized at the library and other locations in the community.

[Read more...](#)

Trustee Connection

"People depend on libraries now more than ever," said IMLS Director Susan Hildreth. "Not only do visits and circulation continue to rise, the role of public libraries in providing Internet resources to the public continues to increase as well. Public libraries have also increased their program offerings to meet greater demand and provide more targeted services. Despite this demonstrated ability of librarians to adjust to meet the growing needs of the public, many libraries across the country face severe budget cuts. It's important to remember that this data ends with 2009, before even more severe budget crises put so many libraries and library programs at risk."

[Read more...](#)

The Geek's Garage

On Writer's Block

By Jim Peterson
Technology Coordinator
Goodnight Memorial Library

We truly live in a great country in a time when everything seems to be computerized or is becoming so. Heck, even toasters have rudimentary computer controls in them anymore, so you don't have to rely on a sticking mechanical timer that burns your toast while you're trying to get dressed or cook breakfast in your microwave.

But even with all the technology around us, it still can't compete with the human mind in terms of forgetfulness. Sure, you can pull the plug at an inopportune moment and make a computer "forget" what was in its memory at the time or corrupt a file on the hard drive to the point it's not readable, and then you have to start that project over. The human mind can process information faster, can make inferences from the data it is supplied, and can learn how to remedy a problem through trial and error.

[Read more...](#)

Lindsey Wilson College Library Selected to Receive Special Collection

By Phil Hanna
Director
Katie Murrell Library, Lindsey Wilson College

This summer the Katie Murrell Library at

By Paul M. Poland
 Chair, KLTRT
pmpoland@roadrunner.com

This year, more than ever before, many county judges in Kentucky have questioned the process of public library trustee appointments. Some want to ignore the process of the two legal names submitted to KDLA and then from KDLA on to the fiscal courts for appointment. Several have actually tried to appoint either their own choice or a magistrate currently sitting on the court.

How your library was formed determines which Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) applies to your library and board appointments.

[Read more...](#)

Lindsey Wilson College learned that it was selected by the International Society for Science & Religion to be one of 150 libraries worldwide to receive a collection of 224 books on the interrelationships between science and religion.



The International Society for Science & Religion Library Project

The International Society for Science & Religion, based in Cambridge, England, was established in 2002 for the purpose of the promotion of education through the support of inter-disciplinary learning and research in the fields of science and religion, conducted where possible in an international and multi-faith context.

Its members come from around the world and represent academic disciplines in science, psychology, theology, philosophy and religion. It came into existence after a four-day conference in Granada, Spain, which until the late 15th century was the center of peaceful discourse between scholars of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

The 224 books in the collection come from a variety of publishers, most being academic publishers, and titles cover topics ranging from world religions and evolution to environmental stewardship, physics, and the biological bases of human behavior.

[Read more...](#)

KDLA Congratulates New Certification Holders

KDLA would like to congratulate these newly certified library employees:

- Karen Kay Hughes, McCreary County, Paraprofessional
- Shawn Fry, Kenton County, Professional I
- James Jones, Jefferson County, Professional I

KDLA Welcomes New Trustees

Archival Photo of the Month



KDLA would like to welcome the following new trustees:

- Judy Kelley, Knox County
- Brenda Merrill, Bracken County
- Chris Gooden, Robertson County
- Tracy Gilbert, Logan County

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Floral Clock, located at the Kentucky State Capitol building. 1962.

Source: Public Records Division Photo Collection, Public Records Division - Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives helps libraries provide equitable access to quality library and information resources and services, as well as helps public agencies ensure that legislatively mandated documentation of government programs is created, efficiently maintained and made readily accessible. For more information, visit <http://www.kdla.ky.gov> or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

Please send questions, comments and story ideas for Libraries & Archives Monthly to editor Paige Sexton at paige.sexton@ky.gov or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

Full Articles Beyond This Point

Meade County Celebrates Grand Opening

After several years of planning, the new Meade County Public Library (MCPL) opened on November 2nd, 2011. I had the pleasure of attending the grand opening festivities along with about 120 other attendees, including the county judge-executive and State Librarian Wayne Onkst.

At 21,000 square feet the building is twice the size of the old building. And that building was old - a former elementary school 100 years old, in fact. Like many older libraries, it was too small and it was difficult to supervise some areas. Among other problems, the collection space was inadequate, the meeting room was in a separate annex, and the basement had occasional mold concerns and was only accessible by incredibly steep stairs. The biggest problem was that MCPL has an admirable array of programs and their former facility simply could not accommodate expanding the offerings as much as they wanted to.

The new building is beautiful, easy to use, and welcoming to folks who want to settle in and stay for awhile. Improved features include an expanded collection and computer space, expanded teen space, two community meeting rooms, a dedicated children's programming room, an enclosed genealogy room, a reading bell and a gas fireplace. They also have a Flavia coffee brewer which uses single-use packets and works like a Keurig machine (<http://us.flavia.com>).

One unusual aspect of the project is that it is surrounded by a park. The family who sold five acres to the library at a reasonable price also donated an adjacent three acre tract to the city for use as a park. All along, the library wanted to cooperate with the city to develop a master plan, so that the library's building program would support the park function of the adjoining property. During the early design phase, the architect

determined that the best building site was centered on the dividing line between the two tracts! Fortunately, the library and city were able to quickly reconfigure the sites so that the library got a central tract with the park land surrounding. The result is quite grand. Not only does the library provide parking and restrooms for folks who want to use the park area, but it also has a paved walking path on its tract which adjoins longer walking paths using the perimeter land.

During design, the library board determined that, while not going for a LEED qualification, they did want to include as many "green" design elements as possible. The most interesting are the use of insulated concrete forms (ICFs) for all exterior walls. ICFs offer more than double the normal R-value of typical wall construction. The library workroom, which has no exterior walls, was also built using ICFs, so that the space could be used as a storm shelter. For a city which has survived several deadly tornadoes, this was a priority for the board and has been well-received by the community.

The total project cost of about \$4,000,000 was within budget and represents an excellent value per square foot. It's a lovely building that can stand proud amongst the best libraries in Kentucky and the U.S.



The grand opening ceremony was attended by approximately 120 library supporters



State Librarian Wayne
Onkst addresses the
crowd.

[Return to top of page](#)

Energy Meters Available for Check-Out at the Graves County Public Library

The Graves County Public Library recently added a unique item to their collection of books, magazines, DVDs and other informational media that can help people conserve energy and lower utility costs and consumption. In June, Mayfield Electric & Water Systems (MEWS) donated a set of portable energy meters to be checked out by patrons of the library. A Kill A Watt monitor is a device that measures the electrical usage of small, plug-in appliances such as toasters, microwaves, computers, televisions, etc. The monitor can be used to help consumers become aware of their energy usage, track the cause of high energy usage, calculate costs and potential savings, compare different appliance models and eliminate the use of Phantom Power. The monitor can be used to measure the electrical consumption of 120-volt household appliances, but cannot measure large appliances that require a 240-volt outlet such as ovens or clothes dryers.

Once the small appliance is plugged into the monitor, it will continuously measure the power used by the appliance until it is unplugged. To get a good average reading, the appliance should be plugged into the monitor for several hours or even overnight. For additional tests, the customer can reset and plug in another appliance.

"This check-out program is going so well," said library director Diane Bennett. "All of the monitors stay checked out and we maintain a hold list. They are so popular we have asked MEWS for more."

The monitors are treated as regular library media and can be checked out for two weeks at a time. Individuals have to be a member of the Graves County Public Library in order to check the monitors out.

[Return to top of page](#)

Library Visits at Historic High: Visits Top 1.5 Billion

The ways in which Americans use libraries changed significantly in the decade ending in 2009 as libraries adapted to meet the evolving needs of their users. These changes

are keeping libraries relevant, vibrant places as evidenced by a 24.4% increase in visits per capita in the last ten years, with total visits increasing by nearly 40%. In 2009 (the most recent data available) libraries were visited a record-breaking 1.59 billion times, according to the Institute of Museum and Library Services' (IMLS) report on the [FY2009 Public Library Survey](#) (PLS), a census of public libraries in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories conducted annually by IMLS.

"People depend on libraries now more than ever," said IMLS Director Susan Hildreth. "Not only do visits and circulation continue to rise, the role of public libraries in providing Internet resources to the public continues to increase as well. Public libraries have also increased their program offerings to meet greater demand and provide more targeted services. Despite this demonstrated ability of libraries to adjust to meet the growing needs of the public, many libraries across the country face severe budget cuts. It's important to remember that this data ends with 2009, before even more severe budget crises put so many libraries and library programs at risk."

The Institute's analysis of the data showed that per capita visits and circulation rose in the century's first decade. The number of public libraries increased during that period but not enough to keep pace with the rise in population. Library staffing remained stable, though the percentage of public libraries with degreed and accredited librarians increased.

The report also found that the nature and composition of collections in U.S. public libraries is changing, indicating that library collections are becoming more varied. Although the volume of print materials decreased over the 10 years studied, collections overall continued to grow because of increases in the number of audio, video and electronic book materials.

The role of public libraries in providing Internet resources to the public also continued to increase. According to the report, the availability of Internet-ready computer terminals in public libraries doubled over the course of the decade.

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit <http://www.ims.gov>.

[Return to top of page](#)

Trustee Connection

This year, more than ever before, many county judges in Kentucky have questioned the process of public library trustee appointments. Some want to ignore the process of the two legal names submitted to the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) and then from KDLA on to the fiscal courts for appointment. Several have actually tried to appoint either their own choice or a magistrate currently sitting on the court.

How your library was formed determines which Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) applies to your library and board appointments. One of the following laws will apply to your library: KRS 173.730, KRS 173.740 or KRS 173.490.

If you have a problem with board appointments (or another problem that applies to your board) I suggest you first call Commissioner Wayne Onkst at KDLA for guidance. His number is 502-564-8300 ext. 312.

We all want to work with our county leadership as much as possible. However, they must abide by the same laws that govern public libraries as we do. If an issue should arise you do have the resources to help resolve the problem.

However, I personally believe we all will be dealing with the issue of board appointments in the future with legislation on the state level. So, now is the time to be getting to know your legislators and make sure they know about your library's needs. I'll have a future article dealing with legislation on the state level if and when it happens!

Paul M. Poland
KLTRT, Chair
pmpoland@roadrunner.com
859-552-8903

[Return to top of page](#)

Lindsey Wilson College Library Selected to Receive Special Collection

This summer the Katie Murrell Library at Lindsey Wilson College learned that it was selected by the International Society for Science & Religion (ISSR) to be one of 150 libraries worldwide to receive a collection of 224 books on the interrelationships between science and religion.

The International Society for Science & Religion, based in Cambridge, England, was established in 2002 for the purpose of the promotion of education through the support of inter-disciplinary learning and research in the fields of science and religion, conducted where possible in an international and multi-faith context. Its members come from around the world and represent academic disciplines in science, psychology, theology, philosophy and religion. It came into existence after a four-day conference in Granada, Spain, which until the late 15th century was the center of peaceful discourse between scholars of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

The 224 books in the collection come from a variety of publishers, most being academic publishers, and titles cover topics ranging from world religions and evolution to environmental stewardship, physics, and the biological bases of human behavior. While they come from various publishers, the project has had them all given a common hardcover binding and the books are shelved together adjacent to the AV collection. A list by subject area can be seen at <http://www.issrlibrary.org/>. One title that has yet to be received is a collection of introductory essays, one for each title.

Those essays can be located and read from the above link at the description of each title.

The ISSR Library project is funded by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation. The John Templeton Foundation is a philanthropic organization that seeks to be a catalyst for discoveries relating to the Big Questions of human purpose and ultimate reality. It supports research on subjects ranging from complexity, evolution, and infinity to creativity, forgiveness, love and free will. It encourages civil, informed dialogue among scientists, philosophers, and theologians and between such experts and the public at large.

Among the libraries receiving the award were libraries in the United States, India, Pakistan, Australia and South Africa. Within Kentucky, the only other library known to be selected is the B.L. Fisher Library at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore.

The application included letters from faculty members expressing an interest in the collection for their students and for their personal research interests. Several students also submitted letters of interest. Library Director Phil Hanna hopes this special collection will become a resource for students wanting to do research in spirituality, science, world religions, and evolution, perhaps even a catalyst for a class focusing on science and faith.

[Return to top of page](#)

Gaming is Not Just for Kids

In 2010 the Grant County Public Library applied for and received a programming grant from KDLA for \$4,341.67, made possible through LSTA funds, to kick-start a series of game programs in an effort to provide innovative programs for residents of all ages in this rural community and possibly develop an interest in game design in younger library patrons. As part of this series, called Get your Game On @ Your Library, programs such as Pioneer Game Day, Bridge Club, Wii Fitness, Chess Lessons, Game Design Boot Camp, geocaching and games for seniors at facility homes were organized at the library and other locations in the community.

A total of 142 participants attended 15 gaming events over five months. Some crowds were as small as three people for chess events and as large as 38 adults and children for Pioneer Game Day. Overall, 85% of participants said they had played a game for the first time; 65% said they would play the game again on their own; 76% of those participating in Game Design Boot Camp said it was their first time creating an electronic game and 81% said they had a professional interest in game design.

While the purpose of the programming grant was to provide events for all ages, the best attendance and feedback was received from two programs designed for children and teenagers: Pioneer Game Day and Game Design Boot Camp. Several parents and adult volunteers actively played with games they recognized from their or even their parents' childhoods and seemed to have as much fun as the children. As parents dropped off or picked up their teenage children for the Game Design Boot Camp, several parents thanked the library for organizing an event where their teenagers had an opportunity to interact with a University of Kentucky computer science professor and successful college students. Several months later, one student who attended the boot camp said that he used his participation as proof of his career initiative on a

college application to get into the computer science department.

Applying for the grant and complying with strict guidelines was tough over such a short time-frame, but it was rewarding to see so many faces at library events and to hear comments such as "I remember" or "I never knew". While interest in chess and bridge waned, the library still uses the Wii consoles provided by the grant to provide weekly gaming events for all ages during the summer months and the library has received requests to host another geocaching event. Gaming will always have a place in our library.

[Return to top of page](#)

The Geek's Garage

We truly live in a great country in a time when everything seems to be computerized or is becoming so. Heck, even toasters have rudimentary computer controls in them anymore, so you don't have to rely on a sticking mechanical timer that burns your toast while you're trying to get dressed or cook breakfast in your microwave.

But even with all the technology around us, it still can't compete with the human mind in terms of forgetfulness. Sure, you can pull the plug at an inopportune moment and make a computer "forget" what was in its memory at the time or corrupt a file on the hard drive to the point it's not readable, and then you have to start that project over. The human mind can process information faster, can make inferences from the data it is supplied, and can learn how to remedy a problem through trial and error.

One can argue that the supercomputers of the world can do much the same, but that would not be an easily defensible position. You see, as humans we do everything we do as a matter of need or impulse. Computers do everything they do because they are told how to do it through programs, and as a result give very predictable results.

Unfortunately, the human mind is also imperfect. Depending on how many knocks to the head you took as a kid playing sports, how many beers you drank last night or for other reasons, you forget. I'll admit I've had a concussion or two in my college years and probably had a few too many beers at different times. When I was playing tee ball at the age of six or seven, I was hit in the head by my team's home run hitter when he was in the on-deck circle. I still remember that one!

In today's world (or at least my life these days), it seems data flows in from so many different places and so many different directions that it is hard to focus on some tasks. I've found that since I've hit the big 4-0 things are getting faster and faster. Sometimes I don't remember what I had for breakfast unless I think about it really hard. But what really gets me is the phenomenon known as writer's block.

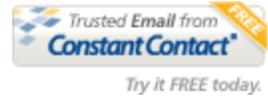
It happens to everyone who writes from time to time to be sure, but this time around seemed epic. With everything I know in regards to technology, with all the gadgets to which I have access, it seems unlikely that I could not come up with a suitable topic on which to write. But here I am, writing about writer's block.

I guess I flipped this writer's block on itself by writing about it. Take that, brain!

'Til next time...

[Return to top of page](#)

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to kdla.allexchange@ky.gov by paige.sexton@ky.gov | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Kentucky Dept. for Libraries | PO Box 537 | 300 Coffee Tree Road | Frankfort | KY | 40602