

Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department
for Libraries and Archives

June 2011

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27th Annual Kentucky Archives Institute

By Tim Tingle
Public Records Branch Manager, KDLA

The 27th annual Kentucky Archives Institute is scheduled for June 24, 2011, at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, 300 Coffee Tree Road, Frankfort. The Institute, sponsored by the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., provides information for scholars, general researchers, and genealogists interested in archival research.

Featured speakers at this year's event include Nancy Ross-Stallings, Ph.D., RPA and Richard Stallings, MA, RPA; Stuart Sanders of the Kentucky Historical Society; and Valerie Edgeworth and Jerry Carlton of KDLA. Participants will also have the opportunity to tour the Kentucky

Metcalfe County Public Library Hosts Appreciation Luncheon

By Rhonda Glass
Director
Metcalfe County Public Library

The Metcalfe County Public Library hosted their annual appreciation luncheon in April. The event was attended by local elected officials and Senator David Givens, State Librarian and Commissioner Wayne Onkst and KDLA Regional Consultant Bessie Gray-Knox.

Rhonda Glass presented information on the value of library services. Senator Givens and Commissioner Onkst expressed appreciation to local officials for their support of the library and to the library board and staff for the contribution the library makes to the community.



Pictured L-R (seated) Wayne Onkst, Bessie Gray-Knox, Connie Coleman, Debbie Smith, George Cowan, Bennie Stephens, Herb Sparks, Rhonda Glass; (2nd row) Sharon Howard, Vickie Stephens, Carol Chaney, Howard Garrett; (rear) Sen. David Givens, Tommy Garrett, Rondal Shirley, Greg Wilson, Mike Welch, John Ray Ford, Krista Judd, Danny Joe Shive, Scotty Mosby and Greg White

The Geek's Garage

By Jim Peterson
Technology Coordinator
Goodnight Memorial Library

State Archives.

A registration fee of \$45 includes attendance at the Institute from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., lunch and all materials. Deadline for registration is June 17th, and seating is limited to 50. Registrations should be sent to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., Kentucky Archives Institute, P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, KY 40604.

For further information or to see a detailed schedule for the event, please visit the KDLA website at [This Link](#)

or contact Tim Tingle at KDLA at 502-564-8300 ext. 251.

Hancock County Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony

by Tina Snyder
Director
Hancock County Library District

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new main library of the Hancock County Library District was held at the Hancock County Fairgrounds pavilion located near the building site. HCPL Board President David Hobbs welcomed everyone to the ceremony and invited Bro. Mike Canada to do the invocation.

All attendees enjoyed a light lunch of sandwiches, chips and dessert. While guests enjoyed lunch, supporting remarks from State Librarian and Commissioner Wayne Onkst, USDA Rural Development State Director Thomas G. Fern, and Congressional District #2 Field Director Wendell Cave were given. Next, library representatives were presented a check from USDA for \$2.3 million for the library construction project. All 64 guests were then shuttled to the building site for the groundbreaking. The weather was beautiful and it was a wonderful day to celebrate the future of HCPL!

Hello to all you readers out there, and **welcome to the inaugural edition of The Geek's Garage!** In this column, I will outline and discuss different aspects of library technology, new devices and trends, and a few how-to's that will hopefully help you help your library.

I should probably give you a little background on how I got to be a Librarian-Geek. I played around with the old Radio Shack TRS80 and the Apple II Models in school in the

early 80's, but my real computer education started after a house fire.

My father worked for the phone company for 31 years, through the 1970's, 80's and 90's. He saw early on that computers were the future, and so after our house was remodeled after a fire in December of 1980, he bought our family's first PC; an [Atari 400](#) with two joysticks, a BASIC language cartridge, and a cassette tape drive so I could save the work I did.



RadioShack TRS80



Apple II model



Atari 400

[Read more...](#)

Migrant Services Collaboration Presented at National Conference

by Dana Belcher
Director
Fleming County Public Library

Fleming County Public Library Youth Services Librarian Mary Rushing recently traveled to new Orleans, Louisiana to present at the 2011 National Migrant Education Conference.



Mary Rushing...

Mrs. Rushing, along with

Higdon Construction in Owensboro, Kentucky is in charge of construction, and the completion date for the project is April 2012. We look forward to the exciting opportunities the new building will provide to our community!



L to R: Chris Bischoff, KDLA Construction Consultant; Wayne Onkst, State Librarian and Commissioner; Lorri Oliver, HCPL Board Treasurer; David Hobbs, HCPL Board President; Tina Snyder, HCPL Director; Wendell Cave, Congressional District #2 Field Rep; Thomas G. Fern, USDA Rural Development State Director; Hawesville Mayor Rita Stephens; Henry Spalding, Field Rep. for Department for Local Government; and Joe Geffert, USDA Area Specialist.

Sculpture Unveiled at Mercer Library Dedication

By Erich L. Ruehs
eruehs@amnews.com

More than 300 people turned out last month for the dedication of the new Mercer County Public Library and unveiling of a 15-foot-tall iron sculptural screen by Lexington artists Erika Strecker and Tony Higdon.

The large crowd spilled over into the hallways and vestibule, and some people stood outside the building and watched the festivities through the windows.

The \$3.7 million facility at 109 W. Lexington Street has been open since January. It consists of 22,500 square feet of space and is almost three times the size of the previous facility.

...constantcontact.com/render?llr=5qk...

Jackie Roth, Assistant Coordinator of the Northeastern Kentucky Migrant Education Center shared details of establishing this vital collaboration through inter-agency and advisory committees that work together in our community. The agencies cooperate to provide literacy programs for all ages and assist in the needs of the local families.



...and Mary's pal Charlie!

The library's part in this is to provide programming and materials for the children and families. In collaborating with the Migrant Education program, translation is available for those programs as well as recruitment. [Read more...](#)

Ring the Bell for Literacy at the McCreary County Public Library

By Kay Morrow
Director
McCreary County Public Library

The ringing of a bell often symbolizes an important or significant event. In McCreary County, the ringing of a special bell symbolizes an effort to promote positive literacy practices.

The McCreary County Public Library has partnered with the McCreary County School System to begin the Literacy Bell Program.

The Literacy Bell Program is all about providing more literacy opportunities for emerging readers and endorsing the idea of higher education. The program highlights the importance of lifelong learning through reading and the importance of setting goals such as graduating from college.

[Read more...](#)



Library Has Three New Staff Members, Including Director

At the dedication, library director Robin Ison introduced a host of speakers, including State Librarian and Commissioner Wayne Onkst. "This is a great day to be a librarian," said Onkst. "But it's even a better day to be a citizen of Mercer County."



Sculptural screen was presented at the dedication ceremony of the Mercer County Public Library

By Aime Waltrip
awaltrip@mcleannews.com

The newly-formed McLean County Public Library has three new staff members, including a director, an assistant director and a part-time clerk.



McLean County Public Library Director Aimee Newberry

The Fiscal Court accepted recommendations from the library board in April to hire director Aimee Newberry, assistant director Jason Peak and clerk Tina Dame.

Newberry said she discovered the enjoyment she gets from being involved with the library while in college at Western Kentucky University, where she received her Master's Degree in Education. She worked in the library during that period. She said she has also had a longtime love of books and reading. [Read more...](#)

Trustee Connection

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

Attending a state conference is one of several ways Kentucky Public Library Trustees' have to gain the knowledge that allows them to be better prepared to fulfill their duties of their appointed positions. Both the Spring Kentucky Public Library Association Conference (KPLA) and the Kentucky Library Association Fall Conference (KLA) have sessions and speakers geared toward helping trustees, directors and upper management learn new and better ways to serve their communities.

The 2011 Spring KPLA Conference that was just held in Lexington had a record number of trustees in attendance.

[Read more...](#)

KDLA Congratulates New Certification Holders

Research Opportunities at the State Archives: The Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

By Tim Tingle
Public Records Branch Manager, KDLA

The economic recession of recent years is certainly not the first such financial crisis to affect the citizens of Kentucky during its long history. One of the earliest significant downturns occurred during the "Panic of 1819," when many private banks failed and the currencies they issued became drastically devalued or worthless. Thousands of Kentuckians could not pay their debts and faced bankruptcy.

In response to this crisis, the Kentucky General Assembly chartered the Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in 1820, as a relief measure. All of the stock in the Bank was owned by state government, and the Bank President was directed to report on the Bank's business and financial status to the General Assembly on an annual basis. The main bank was located in Frankfort, but 12 branches were established throughout the state.

[Read more...](#)

KDLA would like to congratulate these newly certified library employees:

- Donna Barron, Henderson County, **Library Experience**
- Susan Rasche, Kenton County, **Professional I**
- Patricia Perry, Oldham County, **Paraprofessional**

KDLA Welcomes New Trustees

KDLA would like to welcome the following new trustees:

- Mary Jane Day, Gallatin County
- Wayne Berry, Lincoln County
- Neda Alexander, Cumberland County
- Sally Ann Teegarden, Mason County
- Jama Wilson Snyder, Carroll County
- Pamela Thompson, Bell County
- Joyce Manning, Bullitt County
- Trina Kimball, Bullitt County
- Elizabeth McCormick, Montgomery County

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Archival Photo of the Month



Junior Baseball clinic, Jefferson County. 1939.

Source: Work Projects Administration (WPA) 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

The Geek's Garage

Hello to all you readers out there, and **welcome to the inaugural edition of The Geek's Garage!** In this column, I will outline and discuss different aspects of library technology, new devices and trends, and a few how-to's that will hopefully help you help your library.

I should probably give you a little background on how I got to be a Librarian-Geek. I played around with the old Radio Shack TRS80 and the Apple II models in school in the early 1980's, but my real computer education started after a house fire.

My father worked for the phone company for 31 years, through the 1970's, 80's and 90's. He saw early on that computers were the future, and so after our house was remodeled following a fire in December of 1980, he bought our family's first PC: an [Atari 400](#), with two joysticks, a BASIC language cartridge and a cassette tape drive so I could save the work I did. I used to save up my allowance and go to the bookstore in the mall and purchase books that contained the code for games. Back then, the BASIC code was pretty manufacturer-specific, so I really had to pay attention to what I was buying!

I'd come home, spend several hours inputting that code, save it to the tape drive, and then try and play them. They were simple games and they didn't always work; usually due either to a typo in the DATA statements or my fumbling fingers on that membrane keyboard.

After that first experience, I graduated at home to an Atari 800XL, the big brother to the 400. I remember saving up Green Stamps (remember those??) and "buying" the external 5 1/4" floppy drive to go with it. Now games only took 15 minutes to load instead of 30!

I then went on to college and dropped out, working mostly in retail, fast food and manufacturing, using Windows-based machines for simple tasks like word processing and surfing the Internet, such that it was in the late 1990's and early 2000's. Finally, my last manufacturing job closed the doors and shipped to Mexico, and I had to do something else with my life. So I went back to school (on their dime) and graduated with an Associates Degree in computer programming.

I had also started experimenting with the [Linux operating system](#) around this time, and my internship turned the Linux gas up to high. The company I worked for was in the process of migrating all their servers from Windows to Linux, for security and stability reasons. So I was handed an install disc, a computer, and told to install and learn Linux. My crash course went pretty well, and ended up putting me on the road to a (nearly) Windows-free experience for the last six years. I dual-boot a copy of XP Pro on my machine at home so I can continue to enjoy the games I like to play.

After my internship, I went to work at [Dell Computer](#) in Nashville as a Gold Technical Support Specialist, but the commute was a killer. I finally ended up here at the [Goodnight Memorial Library](#), where I serve as the Technology Coordinator. My title encompasses the duties of both the Technical Services Librarian and the entire IT Department. I enter the new acquisitions into the system and also take care of every aspect of technology here in the library, from the wind-up grandfather clock to the iPad we use for testing. I am currently working on a new version of our website, using only open-source tools and software. I also have made multiple presentations at various conferences nationally, written guest blog posts, and maintain my own blog about the technology we implement here at the library. Because the free and open exchange of information is the lifeblood of libraries, I am more than happy to help you with any issues you have!

So now that I've bored you to death talking about me, let me just say that I am intent on having content and discussions that YOU want to see, and I am open to talking about anything technology-related. If you have an idea or an issue you would like me to address, please feel free to send me an email (jim@gmpl.org) or call me here at the library at 270-586-8397.

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Migrant Services Collaboration Presented at National Conference

Fleming County Public Library Youth Services Librarian Mary Rushing recently traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana to present at the 2011 National Migrant Education Conference. Mrs. Rushing, along with Jackie Roth, Assistant Coordinator of the Northeastern Kentucky Migrant Education Center shared details of establishing this vital collaboration through inter-agency and advisory committees that work together in our community. The agencies cooperate to provide literacy programs for all ages and assist in the needs of the local families. The library's part in this is to provide programming and materials for the children and families. In collaborating with the Migrant Education program, translation is available for those programs as well as recruitment.

During their session, "Migrant Families and Local Library Services", the discussion of dialect and terminology was a topic, since not only the Spanish language has many dialects, but our English language has dialects and regional terms that outsiders may not know. After a fun game of Eastern Kentucky terms, such as 'pike' and 'brickle', the story "Fearless Jack", an Appalachian 'Jack Tale' by Paul Brett Johnson was read.

The various programs available to Fleming County migrant families were discussed. Examples are: PrimeTime Family Reading program offered through the Kentucky Humanities Council and Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities; El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros, Children's Day/Book Day which the Fleming County Public Library through grant funding made available through Reforma. We have provided two separate programs the latter being an Ice Cream Social with a magic show and children's activities including a pinata; and bilingual Family Fun nights as well as integrating bilingual programming into already existing programs. Currently a bilingual "Be a Book Cook" is planned for June of 2011.

In conclusion of the session, Mrs. Roth discussed the Hispanic Heritage program that the area Migrant Education Program provided in December. The Fleming County Public Library and the Fleming County Extension Services provide programming for the children while the parent attends adult programming. During this event, Mrs. Rushing provides a story and craft based around the theme of the book "Family Pictures" by Carmen Lomas Garza. A translator is available, but many of the children are able to translate as well.

It is through this collaboration that programming is continually planned. Fleming County's Migrant Education staff is wonderful to work with and have participated in planning and executing many of Fleming County Public Library's programs.

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The McCreary County Literacy Bell Program rewards kindergarten through third grade students for successfully reading their first book aloud to an adult. Students choose their favorite book from a collection and read it aloud to a teacher, instructional assistant or volunteer at school. This is an important milestone for young students because it signifies

that they are an independent reader.

After reading a book, honorees are rewarded with a trip to the public library for a Literacy Bell Celebration in their honor. They are invited to sign the Bell-Ringer Book and ring the Literacy Bell. They also receive a sticker that says, "I read my first book", a certificate and a pin stating they rang the literacy bell.

The Literacy Bell, donated by local citizens William and Peggy Kilby, is located in the small park behind the library.

The Literacy Bell Program was first established at the Pulaski County Public Library in 2008.



Signing the Bell-Ringer Book

The first Literacy Bell event in McCreary County began on March 2, 2011 and continued into May. Approximately 700 children participated in the program and rang the bell for literacy!

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Trustee Connection

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The 2011 Spring KPLA Conference that was just held in Lexington had a record number of trustees in attendance. Forty-six trustees from 26 counties braved the massive amounts of thunderstorms and flooding to attend. I applaud each and every one of them that made that special effort! Each came away with a better understanding of exactly what they do and enhanced knowledge to actually get it done.

I would certainly like to see the number of trustees in attendance at our two state conferences continue to increase...so, I would like you to tell me what would make you attend one of the conferences. I'm on the KPLA and KLA Conference Planning Committees and will relay your thoughts and concerns to each committee. Believe it or not we have already had our first planning meeting working on next year's spring conference.

Please use the email address below to let me know what would be the determining factors to register and attend a conference. Maybe it's the conference location, programs, speakers or whatever. Perhaps different days of the week would be better for some. What about more encouragement from directors? Whatever is the determining factor...please share!

On the other hand, for those who would like to share why they don't wish to attend a conference, I would like to hear from you as well. By knowing the reasons you choose not to attend we may be able to make some changes to make it better and perhaps you'll decide to give it a try!

Both of our state conferences are for trustees as well as library employees. The committees do a really good job of making sure everyone has programs and sessions that relate to their

respective interest. If you choose to attend I guarantee you'll come away a better trustee because of the knowledge you gained!

Paul M. Poland
KLTRT Chair
pmpoland@roadrunner.com

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Research Opportunities at the State Archives: The Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

The economic recession of recent years is certainly not the first such financial crisis to affect the citizens of Kentucky during its long history. One of the earliest significant downturns occurred during the "Panic of 1819," when many private banks failed and the currencies they issued became drastically devalued or worthless. Thousands of Kentuckians could not pay their debts and faced bankruptcy.

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The Bank of the Commonwealth could issue notes and make loans, but these powers were highly regulated by the government. The main purpose of the Bank was to help Kentuckians through the economic depression by providing a means to borrow sound currency and to pay off outstanding debts and make necessary purchases. By 1830 the financial crisis had passed and the branch banks were closed. The main bank in Frankfort remained open for a number of years to collect on loan payments and debts. The Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky had ceased to exist by 1855.

The records of the Bank of the Commonwealth were turned over to the State Auditor, and then transferred to the University of Kentucky by 1936. The records were finally accessioned into the State Archives in 1966. The collection consists of a number of different series of bound volumes, and includes records from the main bank as well as each of the branch banks.

Some of the more prominent and interesting series include the "General Ledgers" which contain information on the various accounts held by the bank, and include the date, amount and type of each transaction, and the "Tell Tales Books," which record the accounts of individuals who borrowed money from the bank, and list the name of the borrower, the names of the endorsers of the note, and the amount and due date.

The records of the Bank of the Commonwealth of Kentucky provide a unique resource for researchers interested in the economic and social history of the state in the early 19th century.

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Library Has Three New Staff Members Including Director

Library Has Three New Staff Members, Including Director

The newly-formed McLean County Public Library has three new staff members, including a director, an assistant director and a part-time clerk.

The Fiscal Court accepted recommendations from the library board in April to hire director Aimee Newberry, assistant director Jason Peak and clerk Tina Dame.

Newberry said she discovered the enjoyment she gets from being involved with the library while in college at Western Kentucky University, where she received her Master's Degree in Education. She worked in the library during that period. She said she has also had a longtime love of books and reading.

In addition, Newberry has an extensive background in employment training. She was most recently employed by the state of Kentucky as a facilitator for the state employment agency in the GRADD region, for which she promoted the services of the Office of Employment and Training and developed and produced employee training programs. Prior to that, Newberry worked as a contract trainer (through Gorman Consulting) and scheduler/planner at Alcoa-Warrick; the executive director of the Tri-County Business and Industry Training Consortium in Henderson; a production specialist and training specialist for Minco, Inc. in Midway, Tenn.; and an industrial training coordinator for Greeneville City Schools in Greeneville, Tenn.

Newberry also has a Bachelor's degree from Kentucky Wesleyan College and has been involved in numerous community organizations, including Leadership Henderson, Leadership Greeneville (Tenn.), the Henderson Rotary Club, the Breakfast Exchange Club of Greeneville, the Greene County Manufacturing Association and the Greene County Safety Council.

Peak also works in the maintenance department at Kentucky Wesleyan College. He is working towards a degree in Studio Art. Additionally, Peak worked as a mortician for eight years, first in Nashville and then Owensboro. Peak said he has always loved libraries and reading and is excited for the opportunity to be involved with the library.

Newberry said she is happy with her new position. She said she wants to continue utilizing volunteers who already work in the library, and she hopes to encourage both individuals and groups to use the building. She wants to promote the library as a community facility that can host programs and events as well as providing books and computers. Newberry is already working to plan programs and events for the future. "I want to utilize the space," she said.

Newberry, Peak and Dame officially began work on Monday, May 2, 2011.

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