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Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department
for Libraries and Archives

August 2009

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Educational Opportunities in Library Science in Kentucky

By Jeanna Cornett
KDLA Regional Librarian



Whether you are currently working in a library and would like to begin or complete a degree in library science, or are interested in educational opportunities in library science in anticipation of working in a library, there are college programs right here in Kentucky that can assist you in reaching your goal, often without leaving home. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Kentucky Talking Book employee Lauren Abner is working on her MSLS at UK.

Research Opportunities at the State Archives: Lincoln Records

By Tim Tingle
KDLA Public Records Branch Manager

The year 2009 is the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and celebrations are ongoing throughout the Commonwealth and the nation to commemorate this noteworthy event. Lincoln was born in Kentucky, but moved to Indiana as a child and then on to Illinois. Although he is a native son, one might expect there to be few public records documenting Lincoln's connection to Kentucky since he left at such an early age. However, one collection of judicial records containing a significant amount of material which relates to Lincoln and his family is available in the State Archives. [Read more...](#)

Judy Burdine Retires



After 33 years as the director of the Pulaski County Public Library, Judy Burdine has retired. Asked what comes next, Burdine said, "I will begin the next phase of my life by returning to the classroom. I will be learning how to digitize a recent collection given to our library which consists of 70 years worth of photographs taken in Pulaski County."

[Read more...](#)

Trustee's Tip

By Paul Poland
President, Board of Trustees
Scott County Public Library
pmpoland@roadrunner.com

Have you ever attended a National Conference as a Trustee representing your local library? I just got back to Georgetown yesterday after going to the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

The two words that best

New and Improved: Allen County Public Library

By Sheila Stovall
Director, Allen County Public Library

The Allen County Public Library recently celebrated its grand re-opening. The facility expanded from 6,848 square feet to 16,876 square feet. The project began in March 2006 with a community forum meeting. The library asked for input from residents, town officials, library staff and library trustees. The library also collected patron surveys asking for suggestions. [Read more...](#)



Photo: The New Arrivals section of the Allen County Public Library has bookstore appeal.

Art Contest at the Jessamine County Public Library

Based on the popularity of its Summer Reading Program, the Jessamine County Public Library held an art contest in July. Customers of all ages were invited to submit original artwork to help create a new design for a library card.

"The theme of the Summer Reading Program was Be Creative," said Community Relations and Programming Librarian Juliana Gaddis. "We thought that this contest was a perfect fit, and would be a great way to extend the theme of creativity." [Read more...](#)

Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement Signed

A number of public libraries in Kentucky have joined together to offer reciprocal borrowing privileges to residents of their counties. The Eastern Kentucky Public Library Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement went into effect July 1. Thirteen counties make up the Consortium; member libraries have agreed to issue a library card free of charge to any person who holds a valid library card from the public library where they live, as long as that person is in good standing at their home public library.

"Our residents commute a great deal whether they are

describe my experiences are WOW and HUGE! Over 20,000 attendees representing every type of library across the country were there.

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Annual Terrapin Race Held

By Carol Mitchell
Director, Robertson County Public Library

The Robertson County Public Library held its annual terrapin race at the Mt. Olivet July 4th celebration on July 3, 2009. This year's race was not affected by the threat of rain, as 46 terrapins and their owners arrived to compete in the "Waddle for the Roses."

Children begin collecting terrapins sometimes as much as three months in advance of the race and learn the responsibility of caring, training and providing for their pets.

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visiting family, working, commuting to college or for medical care," said Pike County Public Library director Louella Allen. "The Eastern Kentucky Public Library Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement allows the area's patrons access to the local library's resources while away from home and a friendly librarian to make their travels easier." [Read more...](#)

Summer Reading Fun

As part of the Summer Reading Program, the Perry County Public Library presented the program "World of Reptiles"; over 200 people attended.



Children enjoy a Summer Reading Program at the Gallatin County Public Library. Gallatin County News photo by Kelley Warnick.

Archives Institute Celebrates 25th Anniversary

By Valerie Edgeworth
KDLA Librarian



"*Reflections of the Past*" served as the theme for the 2009 Kentucky Archives Institute. Sponsored by the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, the institute serves as a platform of information for scholars, general researchers and genealogists interested in archival research.

Featured speakers at this year's event included James

Northern Kentucky University Receives Grant

Northern Kentucky University (NKU) has been awarded a \$999,558 grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. NKU, in partnership with Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, will use the funds to expand online paraprofessional programs and provide scholarships and technology stipends to 50 library staff members who work in high-poverty rural areas in Kentucky.

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Welcome New Director and Trustees

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives would like to welcome the following new library director:

- Charlotte Keeney, Pulaski County Public Library

KDLA would also like to welcome the following new trustees: Cindy Greer, Barren County; Dean Meadows, Barren County; Norargentina Lacayo, Logan County; Norlene

Prichard, Kentucky author and historian; Susan Brown, Social Service Specialist, Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services; and Barbara Teague, Lisa Thompson and Mark Myers, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. [Read more...](#)

Photo: State Archivist and Records Administrator Barbara Teague presented at the 2009 Archives Institute.

Archival Photo of the Month



"A cabin by the road in Harlan [Kentucky]". Photo by Caulfield & Shook, WPA Photo Collection, Public Records Division, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

Libraries Participate in Back to School Events

Demonstrating that libraries are important to the educational process, two public libraries recently participated in back to school events in their communities.

The Marshall County Public Library partnered with the county's Family Resource Centers and other local offices at the *2009 Back to School Bash* July 18 at the Marshall County High School. [Read more...](#)

Rice, Mason County;
Sandra Bush, Owen
County; Jamey Gay, Boyle
County; Valery McMann,
Boyle County; Nadine
Ross, Todd County;
Carolyn L. Wells, Todd
County; Stuart Alexander,
Calloway County; Kimberly
King, McCreary County;
and Michelle Dean,
Breckenridge County.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives provides 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.

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Educational Opportunities in Library Science in Kentucky

Whether you are currently working in a library and would like to begin or complete a degree in library science, or are interested in educational opportunities in library science in anticipation of working in a library, there are college programs right here in Kentucky that can assist you in reaching your goal, often without leaving home.

For those who are just beginning their post-secondary education or would like to complete work toward an associate's degree, Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) offers two options - an Academic Certificate in Library Information Technology, or an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Information Management & Design with the Library Information Technology Option. All courses are offered online, allowing students to complete the program without ever visiting campus. For more information, visit <http://www.bluegrass.kctcs.edu/csis/lit>.

"Our instructors are all experienced, working librarians," says BCTC instructor Martha Birchfield. "We design our courses for working library staff members, keeping in mind that they are adult learners, are usually working full-time, and do have lives. One of my favorite student evaluations is '*I learned things that I didn't know I was supposed to know!*'"

Students interested in pursuing a bachelor's degree in the library field have a new option - the Bachelor of Science in Library Informatics offered by Northern Kentucky University. Like BCTC, NKU offers this program entirely online, making it accessible to students all over the state. Aimed at students with prior library and information science coursework (such as BCTC's library classes), this degree will also prepare students for graduate work in library science.

"The creation of this program not only furthers the Council on Post-Secondary Education's objective of increasing individuals with a Bachelor's degree; it also offers students a clearly defined education pathway for those who want a career as an information professional," said NKU instructional services librarian Leslie Hammann.

In order to make completing general education requirements for the bachelor's degree easier for distance learning students, NKU allows undergraduate courses from other accredited colleges and universities to be transferred, and also offers many general education courses online. For more information about the program, contact Leslie Hammann at hammannl1@nku.edu.

If you already have a bachelor's degree and would like to earn a graduate degree in library science, the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Kentucky offers a master's degree in library and information science (MSLS). UK's MSLS program combines online and traditional classroom experiences. One student who appreciates that blend of online and traditional classes is Kentucky Talking Book employee Lauren Abner. While she enjoys the convenience of online classes, she is looking forward to taking some traditional classes, in order to experience the academic culture of attending graduate school and to get to know her professors and fellow

students better. "I hope to take at least a couple of my classes in-person during the evenings," she said, "but for the moment the online portion of the program works well for a full-time commuter like me."

The online classes work especially well for those who are not close to UK. "Students can complete all the required courses online with minimal visits to the Lexington campus," said SLIS director Jeffrey Huber. "The majority of the electives are also online, and do not require face to face meetings."

The MSLS at UK is the only accredited MSLS that is based in Kentucky. For more information about the program, visit <http://www.uk.edu/CIS/SLIS/welcome.htm>.

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Judy Burdine Retires

After 33 years as the director of the Pulaski County Public Library, Judy Burdine has retired. Asked what comes next, Burdine said "I will begin the next phase of my life by returning to the classroom. I will be learning how to digitize a recent collection given to our library which consists of 70 photographs taken in Pulaski County. I will be the volunteer project manager of this undertaking, and I am looking forward to cataloging once again."

Burdine has been a leader in the field of library science both state-wide and locally. While president of the Kentucky Library Association, she was the driving force that created the *Kentucky Public Library Standards*, a document by which public libraries measure their service to communities. She also served on the first committee that forecasted the impact of technology on the library community. This document, *Networking in Kentucky*, led to the development of the Kentucky Virtual Library which provides database service to all schools, universities and public libraries all over the Commonwealth.

Through her leadership, the Kentucky Public Library Legislative Committee was formed. This committee provides public libraries a voice in the legislative process. It has successfully lobbied for increased funding for public library construction projects, technology, state aid and bookmobiles. In addition to serving as the president of the Kentucky Library Association and the Kentucky Public Library Association, she was honored with the KPLA Outstanding Librarian of the Year Award in 1985 and the KLA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008.

Locally, Burdine served as the first female president of the Somerset-Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce and during her term of office presented the first white paper on planning and zoning to the community. She has also served as president of the Somerset Junior Women's Club, the Somerset Women's Club, Downtown Somerset Development Board, Pulaski County Interagency Council, the American Red Cross and Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Additionally, she served as the secretary of the Somerset Chautauqua Circle, the oldest federated book club in the state, and as vice chair of the Lake Cumberland Regional Cooperative of Public Libraries.

Burdine led the Pulaski County Library system through great growth and many changes, including the petition drive to build a beautiful new 45,750 square foot library and funding for the new Burnside Branch library. Reflecting on her career, Burdine said this; "I really loved my job, even the unpleasant bits such as unplugging the john, facing down the irate customer, firing the occasional staff, etc., but most of all I loved working with people."

"I especially enjoyed hearing from other directors across the state and getting to know them on a more personal level. Twenty years ago I remember how excited we all were to have round tables at PLA conference where we could discuss our library problems and interact with fellow directors on how best to solve those problems, and now we are only a 'click' away. I think this is making our jobs easier and making our friendships stronger. I look forward to seeing what the next twenty years will bring. But I will be glad to watch from the sidelines."

Burdine was a school librarian prior to her public library service. She is married to Charles "Kip" Burdine and has two children and two grandchildren.

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Research Opportunities at the State Archives: Lincoln Records

The year 2009 is the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and celebrations are ongoing throughout the Commonwealth and the nation to commemorate this noteworthy event. Lincoln was born in Kentucky, but moved to Indiana as a child and then on to Illinois. Although he is a native son, one might expect there to be few public records documenting Lincoln's connection to Kentucky since he left at such an early age. However, one collection of judicial records containing a significant amount of material which relates to Lincoln and his family is available in the State Archives.

Prior to the creation of the Kentucky State Archives, records from the Circuit Courts were generally stored in each county courthouse, often with minimal security. Case files involving prominent historical figures were sometimes removed from the courthouses over the years. At some point during the 1980's, Dr. Thomas D. Clark received a number of case files that had been taken from the Fayette County Circuit Clerk's Office. These cases were probably included in the estate papers of a collector of historic documents. Dr. Clark turned these records over to the State Archives, since the early Fayette Circuit Court records are now maintained here. Included in this collection were a number of cases involving Abraham Lincoln and his family.

Abraham Lincoln's great uncle, Thomas Lincoln, was a resident of Fayette County in the early 1800's. Thomas was involved in a number of lawsuits over a period of about fifteen years, from around 1803 to 1819. In most of these cases, Thomas was the plaintiff, meaning that he was bringing suits against other people, for a variety of causes, including non-payment of debts and broken contracts.

Several of the Fayette Circuit case files directly involve Abraham Lincoln. He had married Mary Todd, of a prominent Lexington family, in 1842. Mary's father Robert Todd died in

1849, and a number of lawsuits were filed over his estate. Since they were among Robert Todd's heirs, Abraham and Mary were parties in four of these suits, even though they were residents of Illinois at the time. One of the cases is of particular interest, since it contains a four-page document in Lincoln's own handwriting, and with his signature. Robert Todd's business partners alleged that Lincoln had collected a debt owed to Todd's firm in Illinois, but had not turned over the money. The document in Lincoln's handwriting includes his sharp rebuttal to this accusation against his honor. The court found in Lincoln's favor.

All of the original Lincoln case files have been photocopied for security and preservation purposes. These copies are available to researchers through the Archives Research Room. This recently accessioned collection of previously missing Lincoln records is an important and particularly timely addition to the holdings of the State Archives.

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New and Improved: Allen County Public Library

The Allen County Public Library recently celebrated its grand re-opening. The facility expanded from 6,848 square feet to 16,876 square feet. The project began in March 2006 with a community forum meeting. The library asked for input from residents, town officials, library staff and library trustees. The library also collected patron surveys asking for suggestions.

The patron surveys showed that most people wanted the library to remain on the public square. This resulted in a need to find a creative architect who could deal with an unusual shaped property and still protect the character of the original building. Jeff Pearson of Pearson and Peters Architects was hired to design the renovation and expansion.

Mr. Pearson designed a new main entrance which connects the old with the new. The new entrance includes an impressive lighted cupola. When you first step into the library, you see a beautiful bronze statue of children reading on a log which was purchased by the Friends of the Library from the Randolph Rose Collection. The next feature is the "New Arrivals" display where books are faced out on elegant cherry wood bookshelves.

As you walk toward the expansive crescent shaped circulation desk which houses three check-out stations, you will also see a self check station to the side. The public access computers are directly across from the circulation desk so that assistance may be provided as needed. The number of public access computers for adults increased from seven to 13.

The patron surveys also indicated a desire for coffee in the library. In response, a coffee bar was added in the teen area. The library chose the Keurig coffee system due to the self-service aspect and the excellent quality of the coffee. Patrons may choose from 16 different flavors of coffee, four different flavors of tea or hot chocolate. Each cup is brewed individually and everyone has been impressed with the taste.

Another patron request was more individual seating instead of group seating. The

library's goal was to create an atmosphere of a community living room. Tables that accommodate up to four are available as well as plenty of individual seating.

A ceiling-tall tree display draws patrons into the children's area. The inspiration for this tree was the nation's largest pignut hickory tree, which happens to be located in Allen County per the Department of Forestry. It's estimated that this tree sprouted around 1755. On the display is a pictorial history of Allen County from 1755 onward. A live bee hive and aquarium are also on display in the children's area. Young patrons love the new early literacy stations. These learning computers are designed for children ages two through 2nd grade. Six public access computers for juveniles were also added.

Downstairs, the library offers three public meeting rooms of various sizes. The largest will hold up to 100 people comfortably. The new children's programming room comes equipped with a sink for those messy craft projects. Tables for this room are just the right size for children ages four to seven.

A refreshment area with vending machines is next to the story hour room. A two-way mirrored glass window separates the rooms. Parents/guardians are welcome in story hour; however, if they would rather have peace and quiet, they can enjoy the refreshment room.

Most importantly, the library now has adequate light and space for the book collections. We no longer have to shelve books on the lowest shelf on the floor or on the top shelf, resulting in easy access to all books for patrons and staff.

Anyone who works in a public building needs to know about the rubber flooring. Check out ecosurfaces.com. The flooring is made out of recycled rubber tires and absorbs sound almost to the level of carpet. Maintenance and care is as easy as vacuuming and damp mopping as needed. All surfaces and furniture are easy to clean and disinfect if necessary. The furniture was purchased from Amanda Flynn with Only Libraries. Everything is high quality, durable and beautiful. Amanda Flynn was a joy to work with.

The most rewarding part of the project has been giving tours to the elementary school students. When a seven year old stands and looks around in awe and says "It's beautiful!" - what could possibly be added to that statement? We listened to our patrons and did our best with limited resources. What more could anyone ask?

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Trustee's Tip

Have you ever attended a National Conference as a Trustee representing your local library? I just got back to Georgetown yesterday after going to the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

Two words that best describe my experiences are WOW and HUGE! Over 20,000 attendees representing every type of library across the country were there. They had many, many Greyhound buses shuttling everyone all over the city to and from meetings

at lots of different locations. Believe it or not, I didn't get lost the entire trip and that's saying a lot from this small town country boy!

I attended an advocacy workshop to help me communicate in a more effective way with our elected officials. After all, one of our main responsibilities as a Trustee is to be an advocate for our respective libraries.

I also went to a session about customer service. The speaker trains the service staff at the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, New Jersey. If you've ever been to a casino you know how welcome they make you feel. They want you to come into their business and stay as long as you want and be comfortable doing it. However, they do have that "never close thing" that I don't think libraries will ever be into!

Then, I went to a session about outreach and bookmobile services. I found out how important it is to have that special rubber chicken to relate to a child about a special book they may be reading or one they need to read. Then there's tongue twisters...well, that's another article. Both outreach services and the bookmobile are very important services and must be promoted as such.

In between the main sessions and workshops I attended the exhibitor fair. They had thousands of vendors that specialize in library merchandise in one HUGE room. We spoke to vendors about new bookmobiles, publishers about their latest releases and even someone who had a vending type machine for books and tapes. You scan your library card, choose your selection and out pops what you want. Just like your favorite candy bar.

If you've not had the opportunity to experience a National Conference, put it on your agenda. It's well worth the trip and you may find something or learn something that will allow your library to do a better job for your patrons in your community.

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Art Contest at the Jessamine County Public Library

Based on the popularity of its Summer Reading Program, the Jessamine County Public Library held an art contest in July. Customers of all ages were invited to submit original artwork to help create a new design for a library card.

"The theme of the Summer Reading Program was Be Creative," said Community Relations and Programming Librarian Juliana Gaddis. "We thought that this contest was a perfect fit, and would be a great way to extend the theme of creativity."

The library's Summer Reading Program focused on the Fine Arts through such programs as the six-week series Art Through the Ages and the Arts Alive program, as well as an end-of-summer Picture Mosaic project.

Only original artwork was accepted for the contest. There were three age divisions with one winner being chosen from each division (children, teens and adults).

"We will be printing 1,000 of these special edition cards," Gaddis said. "The winner in

each of the three divisions will be chosen in August, and the cards will be unveiled September 1 for National Library Card Sign-Up Month." The cards will be free to new card sign-ups and available for a nominal fee for current card holders.

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Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement Signed

A number of public libraries in Kentucky have joined together to offer reciprocal borrowing privileges to residents of their counties. The Eastern Kentucky Public Library Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement went into effect July 1. Thirteen counties make up the Consortium; member libraries have agreed to issue a library card free of charge to any person who holds a valid library card from the public library where they live, as long as that person is in good standing at their home public library.

"Our residents commute a great deal whether they are visiting family, working, commuting to college or for medical care," said Pike County Public Library Director Louella Allen. "The Eastern Kentucky Public Library Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement allows the area's patrons access to the local library's resources while away from home, and a friendly librarian to make their travels easier."

The following counties make up the Consortium: Boyd, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Johnson, Lawrence, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, Perry, Pike, Rowan and Wolfe.

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Annual Terrapin Race Held

The Robertson County Public Library held its annual terrapin race at the Mt. Olivet July 4th celebration on July 3, 2009. This year's race was not affected by the threat of rain, as 46 terrapins and their owners arrived to compete in the "Waddle for the Roses."

Children begin collecting terrapins sometimes as much as three months in advance of the race and learn the responsibility of caring, training, and providing for their pets. Many of the children have trial races at home in practice for the big event. Participants ranged in age from one year to 12 years old; terrapins would not divulge their ages.

The top six winners in the race were awarded trophies donated by Allmark Sales. Winners were as follows: 1st - "Big Blue" owner: Anthony Green, 2nd - "Old Yeller" owner: Kendal Whalen, 3rd - "Hammer" owner: Nathan Turner, 4th - "Tiger" owner: Ian Simpson, 5th - "Rocky" owner: Cole Whalen, 6th - "Little Bit" owner: Brienna Hesler.

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Northern Kentucky University Receives Grant

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Institute for Museum and Library Services Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. NKU, in partnership with Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, will use the funds to expand online paraprofessional programs and provide scholarships and technology stipends to 50 library staff members who work in high-poverty rural areas. NKU is one of just 33 universities across the U.S. that received the grant out of 111 schools who submitted proposals.

Online programs to be enhanced and further developed include the state's compulsory public library certification program, the online associates degree in library technology at BCTC, and a new "completer's program" in library informatics at NKU which is designed to provide a bachelor's degree to those who already have an associates degree.

"Funds from this grant will enable training for public library staff members across Kentucky and better prepare them for assisting library users," said Wayne Onkst, Kentucky's state librarian and commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. "The result of this grant will be stronger libraries that improve the quality of life in Kentucky's communities."

The Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program supports efforts to recruit and educate the next generation of libraries and the faculty who will prepare them for careers in library science. The program also supports grants for research related to library education and library staffing needs, curriculum development and continuing education and training.

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Archives Institute Celebrates 25th Anniversary

"*Reflections of the Past*" served as the theme for the 2009 Archives Institute. Sponsored by the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, the institute serves as a platform of information for scholars, general researchers and genealogists interested in archival research.

Featured speakers at this year's event included James Prichard, Kentucky author and historian; Susan Brown, Social Service Specialist, Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services; and Barbara Teague, Lisa Thompson and Mark Myers, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

"This year the institute celebrated its 25th anniversary," said Tim Tingle, Archival Services Branch Manager at KDLA. "The goal of the Kentucky Archives Institute is to introduce a wide variety of topics related to archival research."

"We are pleased that this year's program was a complete success. Plans for next year's program are already underway."

For additional information about the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., please visit the KDLA website at <http://kdla.ky.gov/organizations/friends/friends.htm> or contact Tim Tingle at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives at 502-564-8300 ext. 251.

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Libraries Participate in Back to School Events

Demonstrating that libraries are important to the educational process, two public libraries recently participated in back to school events in their communities.

The Marshall County Public Library partnered with the county's Family Resource Centers and other local offices at the *2009 Back to School Bash* July 18 at the Marshall County High School. More than 800 students attended and were provided with material to help them prepare for the upcoming school year. The library signed up 41 new library patrons and handed out more than 1,600 library brochures, bookmarks, pencils and folders.

The event served to remind students and parents about the library, its services and collections. The library also promoted its After-School programs scheduled at all libraries in the county. Many regular library patrons and program participants attended and the library gained the interest of many new patrons.

The Graves County Public Library and the Friends of the Library co-sponsored the *Back to School Literacy Fair* July 30th at the Thursday morning Story Hour. The *Literacy Fair* was promoted to encourage young children to read, and to help adults understand the importance of developing a love of reading at an early age. The Friends of the Library invited Mayfield School's Face Program for at-risk children, and the Headstart Group to be the *Literacy Fair's* special guests.

The Friends provided free books to each child who attended the *Literacy Fair*. Books were purchased with funding from the Friends' Fall Used Book Sale and from membership dues. All of the books were written by Kentucky children's author and special guest performer Leigh Anne Florence. The *Literacy Fair* was especially for children ages six and younger, but all children were welcomed, as Leigh Anne is a popular performer at the Graves County Public Library.

Leigh Anne Florence, along with Woody the Kentucky Wiener Dog and his pal Chloe, presented an hour-long program involving the children in the audience. Leigh Anne used her talents with these two little wiener dogs to encourage children to develop a love of reading. She asked for lots of audience participation making it an exciting time for the children, and she rewarded children with a paw print stamped on their hands.

Forty-three books were provided for the children who were present, along with an invitation to come back to the Library every Thursday for Story Hour. The Graves County Public Library's *Back to School Literacy Fair* was attended by about 80 children and adults.

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