

Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department
for Libraries and Archives

December 2009

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"The Beating Heart of the Community": the New Lawrence County Public Library



By Jimmie Epling
Regional Consultant, KDLA

When Lawrence County's first library was built in the 1960s flower power and the "White Album" were all the rage. Forty years later, that white brick building had become too

A Holiday Silent Auction

By Earlene H. Arnett
Director, Scott County Public Library

It was in 1996 when the Friends of the Scott County Public Library conducted their first silent auction; thirteen years ago. I never envisioned that this fund-raising idea would survive so long.



The silent auction started with just small tabletop Christmas trees. The Friends of the Scott County Public Library provided the trees, volunteers decorated the trees, and then they were sold at silent auction. Volunteers were given two weeks to decorate and bidding took place for two weeks. The final bid time was coordinated with the timing of our annual community Christmas Parade, giving folks who came to town for the parade an opportunity to visit the library and place their final bid. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Wreath donated to the Scott County Friends of the Library Holiday Silent Auction

State Government Publications Sustained Minimal Damage

By Valerie Edgeworth
Librarian, KDLA

Recovery work continues at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, where nearly 1,000 state government publications sustained minimal damage because of a water leak on November 13.

"The damage to the collection was not as widespread or severe as we thought during two initial assessments on Friday night and early Saturday morning. Because of the quick action of our staff, following our disaster response plan, we were able to mitigate any severe damage," said Barbara Teague, State Archivist and Records Administrator, and the director of the department's Public Records Division.

Water seeped from a broken pipe in the microfilm processing area on the second floor, to the state publications collection below, saturating the carpet and

cramped and tired for a 21st century library. Through vision, determination, and the work of some dedicated people, the residents of Lawrence County now have a new state of the art public library that will be the "beating heart of the community." [Read more...](#)

Photo: Rep. Rocky Adkins greets guests at the opening of the new Lawrence County Public Library

Health Kiosk Coming to Kenton County Public Library

By Robin Klaene
Kenton County Public Library

The Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Public Library has partnered with St. Elizabeth Medical Center, the UK School of Nursing and the Northern Kentucky Health District to create an interactive kiosk that will be installed at the Erlanger Branch library for the public to learn more about four issues that the partner organizations are focusing on - Heart Health, Smoking Cessation, second-hand smoke and Radon. The kiosk, which will be unveiled in mid-December, will offer interactive quizzes, takeaway information on those issues and access to more health information via the Internet or library databases. [Read more...](#)

Trustee Tip

dampening many publications. [Read more...](#)

Perry County Public Library Celebrates Grand Opening

By Jeanna Cornett
Regional Consultant, KDLA



Local dignitaries and patrons alike joined in celebrating the grand opening of Perry County Public Library's new facility at Black Gold Boulevard on November 5th.

State Senator Brandon Smith, State Representative Fitz Steele, and State Librarian Wayne Onkst were on hand to share their thoughts about the importance of the new library to the community, while patrons new and old toured the building.

The new facility, which is LEED certified, gives Perry County one of the largest and most up-to-date facilities in the region. While the old building on Main Street was 13,000 square feet and lacked sufficient parking, the new building's 27,000 square feet includes a teen area, a reading garden, an auditorium that seats just under 200 people and an expanded genealogical section. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Ribbon cutting ceremony at the grand opening of the Perry County Public Library's new facility

KDLA Saves Historical Electronic Maps



By Glen McAninch
Public Records Branch Manager, KDLA

Google Earth and GPS applications are popularizing interactive maps and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)



By Paul M. Poland
President, Scott County Board of
Trustees
mpoland@roadrunner.com

I'd like to thank all the Public Library Board of Trustees' all across Kentucky for allowing and encouraging their directors and staff to get involved with the Kentucky Library Association (KLA), the Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) and their many boards and committees.

Without these knowledgeable, dedicated folks KLA, KPLA and various Round Tables and committees would not be as effective as they are.

[Read more...](#)

Carter County Grand Opening a Success

By Jimmie Epling
Regional Consultant, KDLA

The work of a group of dedicated library supporters in Carter County came to fruition on September 26th with the grand opening ceremony of the Carter County Public Library District. Carter County was one of the last two counties without public library service. The results of decades of advocating for a public library in the county became a reality that day. The event was marked with a ribbon cutting ceremony at each location of the system officially opening them for business. [Read more...](#)

applications, but few have considered the long-term research value of government geospatial data. In November, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives completed a two year grant from the Library of Congress' National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) (www.digitalpreservation.gov), to preserve information currently stored in the Kentucky Geography Network (KY GEONET) (<http://kygeonet.ky.gov>), as well as other maps and data stored in state and local agency repositories. [Read more...](#)

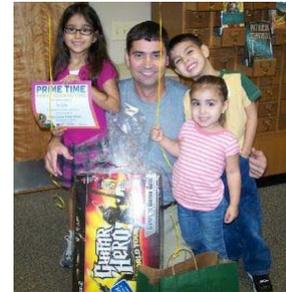
Image #1: An 1871 map of Frankfort from the KY GEONET taken from a static map image from the Library of Congress.

Image #2: The same view of Frankfort taken from an aerial photo from Google Earth.

Bilingual Stories Featured in Prime Time Family Reading Time Series

By Shelley Pruitt
Director, Green County Public Library

The Green County Public Library has completed a Prime Time Family Reading Time program, which featured books from the Bilingual Animal Tales series. The program was sponsored by the Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc. and made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.



Prime Time Family Reading Time is an intergenerational six-week program of reading and discussion held in public libraries. Developed and sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the program features award-winning children's picture books that stimulate discussion about themes and problems encountered in everyday life. Each discussion is led by a storyteller and a humanities scholar. Prime Time is designed for at-risk children aged six to ten, along with their parents. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Family wins a prize as participants in the Green County Public Library Prime Time Family Reading Time program.

Archival Photo of the Month

Land that would later become part of Lower Howard's Creek Nature and Heritage Preserve is visible in the upper



KDLA Welcomes New Trustees

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

- Jolene Beville,
Edmonson County
- Joyce Alexander,
Edmonson County
- Susan Mospens,
PhD., Kenton County
- Ralpa Harvey, Bath
County
- John May,
Crittenden County
- Brad Birge, Allen
County

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left corner of this aerial photograph of Madison and Clark Counties. Also visible is Fort Boonesborough as well as a bridge (and its shadow) on Route 627.

The photograph, created in 1965 by the U.S. Geological Survey, is part of more than 100 cubic feet of aerial photographs that came to KDLA from the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission. The collection includes images created from 1947 to 1978, thus providing a bird's eye view of Kentucky landscape as it appeared more than 60 years ago.

Nature Preserves Commission Photo Collection, Public Records Division - Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

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.

Article Continuations ONLY Beyond This Point

A Holiday Silent Auction

It was in 1996 when the Friends of the Scott County Public Library conducted their first silent auction; thirteen years ago. I never envisioned that this fund-raising idea would survive so long.

The silent auction started with just small tabletop Christmas trees. The Friends of the Scott County Public Library provided the trees, volunteers decorated the trees, and then they were sold at silent auction. Volunteers were given two weeks to decorate and bidding took place for two weeks. The final bid time was coordinated with the timing of our annual community Christmas Parade, giving folks who came to town for the parade an opportunity to visit the library and place their final bid.

Throughout these thirteen years the auction has changed. The first years were just trees. Gradually other items were added, such as wreaths, swags and baskets. Our

trees have grown! The trees went from miniature (8 inches) to tabletop (24 inches) to floor size (5 foot.) Large trees were not part of our plan but when a homemaker group said they were going to bring their own tree, of course we didn't turn them down. Boy, were we surprised when they arrived with a five foot tree decorated with handmade wooden ornaments replicating buildings in Scott County - including the library. This tree was our best selling item that year!

We now have patrons who look forward to this project as they want to decorate an item each year. We never know for sure how many items we are going to have, but our goal has continued to be between 24-36. I get nervous about selling all the items. And of course, I'd like to see them sell for what they are worth.

Who decorates the items? Individuals as well as groups or businesses decorate the items or fill a gift basket. Among the groups have been the art community, Homemakers, Brownies, Scouts and Chamber of Commerce. A variety of businesses have also been great contributors, including real estate agents, insurance agents, florists, hardware stores, etc. It truly becomes a community effort.

The silent auction has raised anywhere from \$665 that was raised the first year to \$1438 raised in 2001. We are averaging \$958 per year. Income from the project will depend on the popularity of the items and number of items. If we have UK theme items (including basketball tickets), or whatever is hot for the year (like beanie babies years ago) we will have a single item bring over \$150.

One of the added benefits is the wonderful spirit it brings to the library. Items are displayed on tables where the staff and patrons can enjoy. When the final bids are placed and the items go off to their new homes I have a sense of emptiness; the same feeling I have when all the decorations come down after the holidays.

When we moved to our new facility in 2000, I thought the silent auction had run its course. I guess the new building brought new energy. Our silent auction is still going strong and the children of Scott County are still benefiting from the proceeds. This fund raising project supports our Celebrate with Books project; now that's another story to be shared at a later time!

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"The damage to the collection was not as widespread or severe as we thought during two initial assessments on Friday night and early Saturday morning. Because of the quick action of our staff, following our disaster response plan, we were able to mitigate any severe damage," said Barbara Teague, State Archivist and Records Administrator, and the director of the department's Public Records Division.

Water seeped from a broken pipe in the microfilm processing area on the second floor, to the state publications collection below, saturating the carpet and dampening many publications. After discovering the leak, staff worked diligently through the weekend and early part of the week to minimize damage to the collection, while a dehumidification contractor concentrated on drying carpet and controlling humidity

levels.

As part of its statutory responsibility, KDLA houses over 45,000 publications, issued by Kentucky state government agencies. These include annual reports, statistical reports and analyses, and studies, dating from the eighteenth century to the present. Although staff relocated nearly 30,000 publications because of the leak, only a few were extremely wet. Less than ten publications were completely unrecoverable. KDLA will be able to locate duplicates of the unsalvageable publications, all issued by state agencies within the last ten years.

"The majority of our collections, including all the permanent Kentucky government records stored in the Kentucky State Archives, were not affected in any way," said Teague. "I encourage all libraries, archives, museums and other cultural heritage institutions to create or update their disaster response plans. As this incident shows, emergency preparedness works."

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State Senator Brandon Smith, State Representative Fitz Steele, and State Librarian Wayne Onkst were on hand to share their thoughts about the importance of the new library to the community, while patrons new and old toured the new building.

The new facility, which is LEED certified, gives Perry County one of the largest and most up-to-date facilities in the region. While the old building on Main Street was 13,000 square feet, and lacked sufficient parking, the new building's 27,000 square feet includes a teen area, a reading garden, an auditorium that seats just under 200 people, an expanded genealogical section, and larger collection areas in both the adult and juvenile sections to hold the library's 57,932 volumes. Two spacious parking areas assure patrons of a parking spot close to the building. Other features new to the building include an RFID anti-theft system, patron self-checkout, and a large computer lab to allow for technology-related programs.

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Health Kiosk Coming to Kenton County Public Library

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District to create an interactive kiosk that will be installed at the Erlanger Branch library for the public to learn more about four issues that the partner organizations are focusing on - Heart Health, Smoking Cessation, second-hand smoke and Radon. The kiosk, which will be unveiled in mid-December, will offer interactive quizzes, takeaway information on those issues and access to more health information via the Internet or library databases.

With its proximity to several major colleges and hospitals and work with the local health department, the Erlanger Branch library is becoming a great resource for health information in Northern Kentucky. For more information on this project, contact Erlanger Branch manager Sue Banks at (859) 962-4001.

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Trustee Tip

I'd like to thank all the Public Library Board of Trustees' all across Kentucky for allowing and encouraging their directors and staff to get involved with the Kentucky Library Association, the Kentucky Public Library Association and their many boards and committees.

Without these knowledgeable, dedicated folks KLA, KPLA and various Round Tables and committees would not be as effective as they are.

Almost every position within these organizations is filled with employees of YOUR library. They each go above and beyond their "regular jobs" to give of their time and expertise to help make libraries all over Kentucky the best they can be.

If your library director or their employees have kept our state associations clicking like a well-oiled machine over the years I say 'Thank you.' However, if those same people in your library are not involved I ask 'Why not?'

Everyone working together is what will continue to make our Kentucky public libraries as great as they can possibly be. Trustees, directors, and staff...we're all in this together.

Paul M. Poland
Chair, KY Library Trustees Round Table (KLTRT)
Board President, Scott County Public Library
pmpoland@roadrunner.com

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Bilingual Stories Featured in Prime Time Family Reading Series

The Green County Public Library has just completed a Prime Time Family Reading Time Program, which featured books from the Bilingual Animal Tales series. The program was sponsored by the Kentucky Humanities Council Inc., and made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

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and discussion held in public libraries. Developed and sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the program features award-winning children's picture books that stimulate discussion about themes and problems encountered in everyday life. Each discussion is led by a storyteller and a humanities scholar. Prime Time is designated for at-risk children aged six to ten, along with their parents.

The scholar was Mr. Joe DeSpain from Campbellsville and the storyteller was Mrs. Kathy Milby from Hodgenville. Books included *Chato's Kitchen*, *Little Half Chick*, *The Lizard and the Sun*, *Jumanji*, *Julius*, *the Baby of the World*, *The Sweetest Fig*, *Gorreguita and the Coyote*, *The Twenty Five Mixtec Cats*, *The Guardian of the Swamp*, and various *Aesop's Fables*.

Eleven families participated with an average attendance of 40. Dairy Queen, Green County Family Resource Center, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, and Snappy's Pizza provided meals each week.

This was the third year for Green County Public Library to host a Prime Time Family Reading Time program. It's a wonderful program to sponsor, and I would highly recommend it to any library.

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KDLA Saves Historical Electronic Maps

Google Earth and GPS applications are popularizing interactive maps and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications, but few have considered the long-term research value of government geospatial data. In November, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) completed a two year grant from the Library of Congress' National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIP) (www.digitalpreservation.gov), to preserve information currently stored in the Kentucky Geography Network (KY GEONET) (<http://kygeonet.ky.gov>), as well as other maps and data stored in state and local agency repositories. During the two year grant period KDLA worked with the Kentucky Department of Geographic Information (DGI), Kentucky State University and counterpart institutions in two other states to promote preservation of and access to geospatial content through a research project named GeoMAPP (<http://www.geomapp.net>).

Under the leadership of the North Carolina Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, partners from the archives, library, and geospatial communities in Kentucky, Utah, and North Carolina have explored ways to inventory and identify "at-risk" content and developed best practices to preserve that data. KDLA used its portion of the grant to create a technical infrastructure for accessioning data with historical value. During the project, staff revised records retention schedules for both state and local agencies. Additionally the archives accessioned two years of quarterly data snapshots of the state system, numerous static maps, several project files, as well as completing memorandums of agreement with two local consortiums to protect their GIS records.

KDLA plans to continue to participate in an extension of this project in 2010. During this period, additional partners will be brought into the project and improving access through various web tools will be a key objective.

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"The Beating Heart of the Community": the New Lawrence County Public Library

When Lawrence County's first library was built in the 1960s flower power and the "White Album" were all the rage. Forty years later, that white brick building had become too cramped and tired for a 21st century library. Through the vision, determination, and work of some dedicated people, the residents of Lawrence County now have a new state of the art public library that will be the "beating heart of the community."

On November 10th, the ribbon was cut to officially open the new \$3.2 million brick and stone library. The new facility has over 12,000 square feet, double the space of the previous building. The library was fortunate in being able to purchase property adjoining the building, allowing it to easily expand in the same location. With the discovery of some hidden shortcuts taken in the construction of the 1960s building, what originally was planned as an addition and renovation turned into an entirely new library. The only remaining part of the old building is a 30 foot long mural chronicling the history of library service in the county. It was painted by Rebecca Wallace, a native of Lawrence County. The architectural firm Murphy + Graves was able to incorporate it into the new building, virtually designing the building around it. The construction management company, Codell Construction Co., was able to encase the mural in place to protect it through the entire building demolition process and construction period that stretched over the winter months. This community showpiece has something for everyone.

The additional space allowed the library to add public access computers and create a computer lab. It has more than double the Internet access computers available to the public with 26 terminals. In the short time it has been open, the lab has proven so popular that the library had to acquire a high speed T-1 line to accommodate the increased use by customers.

The library has larger areas for adults, teens and children. New to the library is a teen area with video monitors and the possibility for gaming in addition to offering the latest materials. A separate children's room has much more to offer both children and their parents. The small genealogy and local history room in the old library was more than quadrupled in the new building to meet the demand. The library has an expanded meeting room and a special study room.

The Grand Opening Ceremony was attended by nearly 100 library supporters. Among the speakers were State Representative Rocky Adkins (99th District) and State Librarian Wayne Onkst. The ceremonial ribbon was cut by Rep. Adkins, Library Directory Mary McGuire, and the five members of the Board of Trustees.

The new Lawrence County Public Library has seen an increase in visitors, computer use and circulation in the short time it has been open. The Board and staff of the library look forward to making the library, as Rep. Adkins put it, the "beating heart of the community."

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Carter County Public Library Grand Opening a Success

The work of a group of dedicated library supporters in Carter County came to fruition on September 26th with the grand opening ceremony of the Carter County Public Library District. Carter County was one of the last two counties without public library service. The results of decades of advocating for a public library in the county became a reality that day. The event was marked with a ribbon cutting ceremony at each location of the system officially opening them for business.

The celebration began that morning at the newly refurbished Olive Hill location of the library. For twenty-five years, a community supported library had existed in Olive Hill. When the library district was formed earlier this year, it was incorporated as part of the countywide library. In cooperation with the Adult Learning Center housed in the same building, the library was able to nearly double its space by leasing more of the building in which the two are housed. The expansion allowed volunteers and staff to create more spacious areas for children's services and public computers. In addition to the expansion, the facility was completely repainted, carpet freshened, and new furniture added.

The celebration moved at noon to the new Grayson location, just outside the city limits. Those attending were pleasantly surprised by what they found. Within five months, a throng of volunteers, board members, and the tiny staff had transformed what was once a fabric shop into a fully functioning public library. Starting with only empty rooms they worked hard to get it open quickly. The facility was completely repainted. A jungle themed mural was painted on the walls of the children's room by a local artist. Shelving, circulation desk, and furniture donated by generous libraries in the state were placed to make the best use of all the available space. A new public restroom was added by the building's owners. Thousands of books and other materials were sorted, cataloged, and placed on the shelves. Public computers were networked and linked to the Internet. When the dozens of those attending the grand opening entered the building, like Grayson Mayor George Steele, they discovered a library with so much more than they had expected to find.

The ribbon cutting ceremony officially opening each location was attended by County Judge Executive Charles Wallace, county and library officials, State Librarian and KDLA Commissioner Wayne Onkst, Region 8 Consultant Jimmie Epling, and many library supporters. The Board President Larry Prichard conducted the ceremony at each location. The speakers included Judge Wallace, Commissioner Onkst and Mayor Steele.

Since the grand opening, the library has seen a terrific increase in use by the public. There is much work left to be done at both locations. With the dedication shown by those who made their vision a reality, it will continue to grow and be successful.

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