

# Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department  
for Libraries and Archives

February 2011

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## Kentucky Library Leadership Institute Accepting Applications

By Carly Gill  
Administrative Assistant, KDLA

The Kentucky Library Leadership Institute (LLI) is a series of classes developed to encourage and strengthen leadership in Kentucky public libraries. The LLI class of 2011 will be limited to 25 students. A local committee will consider the following in the selection process

## Lexington Public Library Institutes Customer Service Award

By Doug Tattershall  
Media Relations Coordinator  
Lexington Public Library

Johnna Waldon is a self-professed talker.

In fact, as assistant manager of the Lexington Public Library's Northside Branch, she has turned that trait (only her husband dares call it a flaw) into a professional asset.

A habit of getting to know customers and coworkers alike, and doing whatever she can to make sure they have what they need and leave the library with a positive impression, has earned her the Lexington Public Library's first Joseph H. Miller Customer Service Award.

The library established the award last year and will present it annually to a staff member who exhibits exemplary customer service throughout the year. [Read more...](#)

## Beloved Genealogist Retires After Over Four Decades of Service

By Dana L. Brantley  
Record-Herald

Nearly everyone who enters the Green County Public Library stops to exchange greetings with Ruth Perkins. That's because after 41 years as the library's genealogist, everyone knows her.

"She's an icon at the library," said Shelley Pruitt, library director. "When you think of the Green County Public Library you automatically think of Ms. Ruth Perkins."

Perkins started at the library in April, 1969, filling in for her daughter Judy while she was on maternity leave, and she



based on the criteria of completeness of the application, the board of trustees commitment form, demonstration of leadership in the library and community, and balance of the overall group of participants by geography and size of library.

The Institute will be conducted in four face to face sessions of two days each, for a total of eight days over the calendar year. These will be held in Frankfort at the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives. [Read more...](#)

## 2011 Kentucky Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference Coming Soon

by Polly Price  
Adult Services Consultant,  
KDLA

The 2011 Kentucky Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference will take place in Elizabethtown, March 14 and 15. The conference, which is sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives with the support of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is the premier continuing education and networking event for the state with the largest fleet of bookmobiles and their outreach staff.

The conference will be

never left. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Ms. Ruth and new genealogist Laura Johnson

## Wanted: More Friends

by Mary Lynn Collins  
Friends of Kentucky Libraries

The Friends of Kentucky Libraries believe that a Friends of the Library chapter can be one of a library's greatest assets. In addition to the very important financial support they provide and the library programs in which they host or assist, these dedicated volunteers are the foundation of an effective public library advocacy effort -- at the local, state and federal level.



There are approximately 48 Friends of Library chapters in the state and the Friends of Kentucky Libraries want to see the formation of more chapters. They have established a Friends Mentoring Committee to assist public libraries and their patrons interested in starting a Friends group. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Marion County Friends of the Library treasurer Lisa Osbourne (left) accepts a check from Papa John's general manager Shawn Wheeler for proceeds from Marion County Friends of the Library Pizza Night. Papa John's hosts the Friends fund-raiser once a month and contributes 15% of all sales from 4-8 p.m. that night. The proceeds are used by the Friends to help support initiatives of the Marion County Public Library.

## Summer Reading Program Training Set to Begin in February

By Heather Dieffenbach  
Children's and Youth Services Consultant, KDLA

Readers of all ages will travel the globe this summer as public libraries across Kentucky present "One World, Many Stories" during their summer reading program. To prepare for summer reading programs children's and youth services librarians throughout the



Commonwealth will come together at eight free regional

held at the Elizabethtown Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites. A minimum of six hours of continuing education credit will be earned by participants. [Read more...](#)

## Trustee Tip

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

This month the "Trustee Tip", see below, is provided by JC Morgan, chair of the KPLA Advocacy Committee. Please support public libraries by visiting or calling your legislators on February 9th. Our elected officials need to know how important our libraries are to our communities!

**The Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) Legislative Day is February 9.** Show up. Wear yellow. Say library. On that day, we will be staging in **Room 113** in the Capitol Annex. You can come to Room 113 to get literature to leave with your legislator(s) during your visit. You'll have to **schedule the appointments** with your legislators for February 9. Just call **502-564-8100** and ask for your legislator by name. [Read more...](#)

## KDLA Congratulates New Certification Holders

KDLA would like to congratulate these newly certified library employees:

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

workshops provided by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA).

Each workshop is a full day of training that will teach children's librarians to present programs for all ages that involve crafts and cultures from around the world. The Summer Reading Workshops will also draw upon the talents of outstanding Kentucky children's librarians as they present on topics like teen programming and increasing staff and community involvement in Summer Reading. [Read more...](#)

## National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to Celebrate 80th Anniversary

By Barbara Penegor  
Kentucky Talking Book Library Manager, KDLA

On March 3, 2011, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) - the Library of Congress' talking-book and Braille program - will celebrate 80 years of helping visually impaired and physically disabled individuals enjoy reading their favorite books and magazines.

This free library program brings reading materials in digital audio and Braille formats straight to the homes of patrons from preschoolers to centenarians. Books on digital cartridge, digital talking-book players and Braille books are sent to patrons via the U.S. Postal Service at no cost to users. People who sign up with the program also have the option of downloading books and magazines over the Internet in audio or Braille format. By law, priority is given to U.S. military veterans. [Read more...](#)



## Research Opportunities at the State Archives: Court of Appeals Case Files

By Tim Tingle  
Public Records Branch Manager, KDLA

The Court of Appeals was created in 1792, shortly after Kentucky became a state. Its functions changed several times, until in 1799 the second constitution specifically established the Court of Appeals as the one supreme court of appellate jurisdiction. The Court of Appeals remained the

highest court in Kentucky until the judicial reforms of the mid-1970's.

- Sandra Petrosius, Oldham County, **Library Experience**
- Tracy Houchens, Logan County, **Paraprofessional**
- Lisa Marie Kersey, Whitley County, **Paraprofessional**
- Mark Keith Stallins, Henderson County, **Library Experience**
- Aleina Milligan, Adair County, **Paraprofessional**
- Christina Partin, Bell County, **Library Experience**
- Anna Little, Madison County, **Library Experience**
- Whitney Muetterties, Garrard County, **Professional I**

Most actions brought before the Court of Appeals resulted in the creation of a case file. Unfortunately, a fire in 1864 destroyed all of these records up to that time. With a few exceptions, the State Archives has the Court of Appeals case files from 1864 through the mid-1970's, either in the original paper format or on microfilm. Indexes to the case files for the years 1864-1952 are available in the Archives, and indexes to later cases can be accessed directly through the Court of Appeals. [Read more...](#)

## Archival Photo of the Month



A civil rights march in Frankfort, 1964.

When a bill banning discrimination in public accommodations stalled in the Kentucky General Assembly in March 1964, representatives of the civil rights movement led a demonstration at the State Capitol. Among the participants (left to right) were Jackie Robinson, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Georgia Davis Powers. Despite this strong show of support, the measure failed to pass. A comprehensive civil rights bill was enacted in Kentucky in 1966.

Source: Public Information 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.

## KDLA Welcomes New Trustees

KDLA would like to welcome the following new trustees:

- Sarah Loughran, Muhlenberg County
- Georgina Roy, Adair County
- Donna Engle, Perry County
- Elizabeth Jones, Fulton County
- Jill Parker, Marshall County
- Tom Blair, Corbin Public Library
- Teresa Marshall, Owsley County
- Shana Turner, Owsley County
- Becky McQueen, Owsley County
- Sherry Caudill, Owsley County

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

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## Full Articles Beyond This Point

### Kentucky Library Leadership Institute Accepting Applications

The Kentucky Library Leadership Institute (LLI) is a series of classes developed to encourage and strengthen leadership in Kentucky public libraries. The LLI class of 2011 will be limited to 25 students. A local committee will consider the following in the selection process based on the criteria of completeness of the application, the board of trustees commitment form, demonstration of leadership in the library and community, and balance of the overall group of participants by geography and size of library.

The Institute will be conducted in four face-to-face sessions of two days each, for a total of eight days over the calendar year. These will be held in Frankfort at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. There will also be three online meetings. The first group of sessions will begin March 30, 2011 and cover the topics of Leadership and Current Library Trends. The second session begins in May and will cover Staff Development and Communication. The topics covered in the third session in August will be Partnerships and Planning, and the final session will be held in November, covering Professionalism and Future Trends in Libraries.

After each two day session, there will be a homework assignment. Each assignment will be associated with a topic that the participants learned during the session. These assignments could involve participation from other staff members and members of the community. These assignments are a requirement of the Institute. Time will be set aside on the first day of each new session to get reacquainted and discuss the homework assignment.

Each assignment will build up to the final project. The final project will be to introduce a new service that will show how the participants' libraries are becoming more responsive to community needs.

There will also be one online meeting held between sessions. The participant's attendance will be required. These online meetings are intended to provide assistance to the participant as they work on their homework assignments and final project.

This will be the second year that KDLA has presented the LLI sessions and last year was considered a great success. John Crawford, one of our past participants from Woodford County Public Library, said "The leadership Institute has been a very enriching experience for me professionally. It has provided me with some additional skills and tools that will help me better serve my library and my community. I now know some very good ways to better recognize and, in turn, meet my community's needs. In so doing, I will have helped ensure that the library continues to evolve and remain a vital part of the community that is valued by the taxpayer."

Kathy Goode with the Casey County Public Library states, "I had no idea how much practical, real-world information I would get from the Library Leadership Institute. I have been very impressed with it - its setup, its execution, the quality of its presenters...especially since it's in it's first year! I have been recommending LLI to others and I am very happy that I took part in this. It has definitely assisted me and my library in so many ways."

The deadline for applications is **February 25, 2011**. To apply go to <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/libraryleadershipinstitute.htm>.

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## 2011 Kentucky Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference Coming Soon

The 2011 Kentucky Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference will take place in Elizabethtown, March 14 and 15. The conference, which is sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives with the support of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is the premier continuing education and networking event for the state with the largest fleet of bookmobiles and their outreach staff.

The conference will be held at the Elizabethtown Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites. A minimum of six hours of continuing education credit will be earned by participants. Outreach to the Amish Community, Reinvigorating the Bookmobile, Underserved Communities, Migrant Education, Services to Minority Populations and Dealing with the Elderly are among the topics that will be discussed at the conference. Presenters and panelists will include bookmobile and outreach services staff from public libraries throughout the state, KDLA staff and community supporters.

To register go to <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged.htm> More details will be announced on the Kentucky Bookmobile and Outreach Services (KBOS) listserv as they become available. All bookmobile and outreach services librarians are encouraged to join the listserv to share ideas and concerns and make contacts throughout the state. To join the list, send an email with the subject "KBOS" to [Heather.Dieffenbach@ky.gov](mailto:Heather.Dieffenbach@ky.gov) and in the body of the message, list your name and the name of your library. You will be emailed instructions for posting to the moderated discussion list.

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## Trustee Tip

This month the "Trustee Tip", see below, is provided by JC Morgan, the Chair of the KPLA Advocacy Committee. Please support public libraries by visiting or calling your legislators on February 9. Our elected officials need to know how important our libraries are to our communities!

**The Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) Legislative Day is February 9.** Show up. Wear yellow. Say library. On that day, we will be staging in **Room 113** in the Capitol Annex. You can come to Room 113 to get literature to leave with your legislator(s) during your visit. You'll have to **schedule the appointments** with your

legislators for February 9. Just call **502-564-8100** and ask for your legislator by name.

We will be having a rally of legislators from our Public Library Caucus on that day as well. That will be at **noon in the Capitol Rotunda**. We hope to have a crowd of folks in yellow for that. And...we will be **distributing yellow scarves to each of the legislators** on the day before our visit on February 9. The scarves have the "Support Kentucky Libraries" logo embroidered on them. You can mention them to your legislator.

**February 9. KPLA Library Legislative Day. Show up. Wear yellow. Say library.**

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## Lexington Public Library Institutes Customer Service Award

Johnna Waldon is a self-professed talker.

In fact, as assistant manager of the Lexington Public Library's Northside Branch, she has turned that trait (only her husband dares call it a flaw) into a professional asset.

A habit of getting to know customers and coworkers alike, and doing whatever she can to make sure they have what they need and leave the library with a positive impression, has earned her the Lexington Public Library's first Joseph H. Miller Customer Service Award.

The library established the award last year and will present it annually to a staff member who exhibits exemplary customer service throughout the year.

Mr. Miller served on the Lexington Public Library's Advisory Board and Board of Trustees over the course of three decades. During his tenure, he became known as a strong advocate for customer service. He stood up for the cause of the public's right to information access even when it risked controversy and pushed for expanded hours in order to make the library accessible to everyone.

When his tenure ended in 2009, the Board of Trustees established the Customer Service Award in his honor.

"We're in the customer service business, and we really want to encourage our staff to recognize that," Ann Hammond, the library's director, said. "But because we're a customer-oriented organization, everyone gives good customer service. You want to recognize everyone, so it's hard to single out one person."

The key, Ms. Hammond said, is to look for specific examples of how a nominee has excelled and to ask for testimonials. The nomination process includes a form that allows the person making a nomination to give specifics. Completed forms are reviewed by a committee that selects the winner. The emphasis is not on one outstanding example of good customer service, but examples that demonstrate consistently good service over the entire year.

The award's first winner is a good example of what the Lexington Public Library is looking for, Ms. Hammond said.

"Johnna is engaging and respectful of customers and has a good rapport with her coworkers," she said. "She really epitomizes this award."

In this sense, the award not only rewards a job well done. It also holds up an example

of customer service for others.

For Ms. Waldon, the award was a motivator and a nice pat on the back.

"It's like the gold star in kindergarten. It just validates what you've been doing," she said. "It's always good when your bosses know that you're out there and presenting the library in the best possible light."

After receiving the award, she returned to her branch a little embarrassed by the honor, but she could tell her coworkers were proud of the recognition.

"Customer service doesn't cost anything extra, but it shows the strength of an organization when the front line has such a strong impact on people," she said.

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## **Beloved Genealogist Retires After Over Four Decades of Service**

Nearly everyone who enters the Green County Public Library stops to exchange greetings with Ruth Perkins. That's because after 41 years as the library's genealogist, everyone knows her.

"She's an icon at the library," said Shelley Pruitt, library director. "When you think of the Green County Public Library you automatically think of Ms. Ruth Perkins."

Perkins started at the library in April 1969, filling in for her daughter Judy while she was on maternity leave, and she never left.

"When I started we did a little bit of everything from cleaning to cataloging," Perkins said. It was genealogy however, that was her pet project.

"I just like doing it," she said. "It is interesting to know where you came from and who your family is."

Perkins helps people from all over, including other countries, locate members of their family tree. "People come here from all over looking for their relatives because early settlers from Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and other places east came through here looking for a better way of life," Perkins said. "Many people who have roots in Green County live all over the world."

People don't just stop in the library looking for help, they call, write and even email.

"Ms. Ruth always seems to find the information they are looking for," Pruitt said. "She is an angel with a world of knowledge at her fingertips."

Pruitt said that things are organized in 'Ms. Ruth's order' and she knows where everything is. "When someone requests information she knows exactly where to look for it when the rest of us just look dumb-founded," she said.

Perkins has helped many people trace their family, Pruitt said, and for Perkins it really doesn't seem like work.

"I like to do it," she said. "When I'm doing genealogy, I get just as interested in their

family as I do my own."

Pruitt said Perkins' faith and dedication to the library has made her a beloved member of the library staff. "Genealogy is her favorite, but she also loves the children," Pruitt said. "She is just such a special person who is always offering encouragement. I'm going to miss her."

After 41 years of service under five different directors, Perkins has decided to retire.

"I love what I do, but I'm 88 and a half years old -- I think it's time to quit," Perkins said.

Perkins said she will continue to research and help people trace their roots on her own time.



Photo: Ms. Ruth, center, with former director Evelyn Givens (left) and current director Shelly Pruitt

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## Wanted: More Friends

The Friends of Kentucky Libraries believe that a Friends of the Library chapter can be one of a library's greatest assets. In addition to the very important financial support they provide and the library programs in which they host or assist, these dedicated volunteers are the foundation of an effective public library advocacy effort -- at the local, state and federal level.

There are approximately 48 Friends of Library chapters in the state and the Friends of Kentucky Libraries want to see the formation of more chapters. They have established a Friends Mentoring Committee to assist public libraries and their patrons interested in starting a Friends group. The State Friends recently held a training session for libraries in the counties of Perry, Pike, and Letcher and hope to see soon the establishment of local Friends chapters in all three counties. If your library does not have a Friends chapter, the State Friends Mentoring Committee is eager to help. Contact Mary Lynn Collins, Mentoring Committee Chair by email: [marylynn41@hotmail.com](mailto:marylynn41@hotmail.com).

A major hurdle for a new Friends chapter is obtaining federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit status and the State Friends will help fledgling local Friends groups who have joined the Friends of Kentucky Libraries with the cost associated with that effort. The State Friends will reimburse local Friends chapters their 501(c)(3) filing costs - up to \$400. The Friends of Muhlenberg County Public Library recently submitted its 501(c)(3) papers and will be the first recipient of the State Friends grant program.

The Board of the Friends of Kentucky Libraries includes members of some of the most

effective Friends organizations in the state - Friends of Public Libraries in Louisville, Franklin County, Scott County, Monroe County, Kenton County and Laurel County and one of the newest Friends groups in the state, Muhlenberg County Public Library. If you have any doubts that a Friends of the Library chapter can be an asset to your public library, contact the library director in any of these locations and hear from them the good things Friends are doing for our public libraries!

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## Summer Reading Program Training Set to Begin in February

Readers of all ages will travel the globe this summer as public libraries across Kentucky present "One World, Many Stories" during their Summer Reading Program. To prepare for summer reading programs children's and youth services librarians throughout the Commonwealth will come together at eight free regional workshops provided by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA).

Each workshop is a full day of training that will teach children's librarians to present programs for all ages that involve crafts and cultures from around the world. The Summer Reading Workshops will also draw upon the talents of outstanding Kentucky children's librarians as they present on topics like teen programming and increasing staff and community involvement in Summer Reading.

This year's workshops will also include the involvement of representatives from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and school libraries to help share information about the new partnership between KDE and KDLA. The partnership will emphasize sharing information with public library professionals on helping children and families select appropriate reading materials utilizing Lexile measurements.

The workshops will be held on the following dates:

- Region 1 -- March 16, 2011 at the McCracken County Public Library
- Region 2 -- February 2, 2011 at the Edmonson County Public Library
- Region 3 -- February 1, 2011 at the Pulaski County Public Library
- Region 4 -- February 18, 2011 at the Marion County Public Library
- Region 5 -- February 10, 2011 at the Boone County Public Library
- Region 6 -- February 24, 2011 at the Woodford County Public Library
- Region 7 -- March 4, 2011 at the Corbin Public Library
- Region 8 -- March 8, 2011 at the Morgan County Public Library

KDLA would like to thank all of the libraries who have agreed to be a host site for a workshop. Librarians can register for the workshops at <http://www.kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/children.htm>.

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## National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to Celebrate 80th Anniversary

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(NLS) - the Library of Congress' talking-book and Braille program - will celebrate 80 years of helping visually impaired and physically disabled individuals enjoy reading their favorite books and magazines.

This free library program brings reading materials in digital audio and Braille formats straight to the homes of patrons from preschoolers to centenarians. Books on digital cartridge, digital talking-book players and Braille books are sent to patrons via the U.S. Postal Service at no cost to users. People who sign up with the program also have the option of downloading books and magazines over the Internet in audio or Braille format. By law, priority is given to U.S. military veterans.

The Kentucky Talking Book Library, located in Frankfort at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, has been providing service in Kentucky since 1969. Congress appropriates funds annually to the Library of Congress for the NLS program, while regional and sub-regional libraries receive financial support from federal, state and local sources.

"Talking books offer a wonderful opportunity for anyone who cannot use regular print materials because of blindness or a physical disability," says NLS Director Kurt Cylke. "For 80 years this service has been a priceless gift."

The NLS collection of more than 400,000 titles of bestsellers, classics, biographies, romance and other genres delights even the most selective readers. Magazine lovers enjoy free subscriptions to more than 40 periodicals in audio format, including *Consumer Reports*, *National Geographic*, and *Sports Illustrated for Kids*, and 30 periodicals in Braille, such as *Ladies Home Journal*, *ESPN: The Magazine* and the *New York Times Large-Print Weekly*.

The NLS program also keeps pace with the latest book titles, adding 2,500 annually. Patrons learn of new releases through two bimonthly magazines, *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review*.

Those interested in learning more or signing up may call the Kentucky Talking Book Library at 1-800-372-2968 or 1-502-564-8300 ext. 276. Visit the Kentucky Talking Book Library website at <http://kdla.ky.gov/collectionsktbl.htm> or the NLS website at <http://www.loc.gov/nls>.

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## Research Opportunities at the State Archives: Court of Appeals Case Files

The Court of Appeals was created in 1792, shortly after Kentucky became a state. Its functions changed several times, until in 1799 the second constitution specifically established the Court of Appeals as the one supreme court of appellate jurisdiction. The Court of Appeals remained the highest court in Kentucky until the judicial reforms of the mid-1970's.

Most actions brought before the Court of Appeals resulted in the creation of a case file. Unfortunately, a fire in 1864 destroyed all of these records up to that time. With a few exceptions, the State Archives has the Court of Appeals case files from 1864 through the mid-1970's, either in the original paper format or on microfilm. Indexes to the case files for the years 1864-1952 are available in the Archives, and indexes to later cases can be accessed directly through the Court of Appeals.

The Court heard appeals of both civil and criminal actions from lower courts. The resulting case files can contain a wide range of documentation, including trial transcripts or other records of the lower court case, briefs from both appellants and appellees containing their respective legal arguments, and the final decision of the Court of Appeals.

In addition to providing detailed information on specific actions brought before the Court, the case files can reflect the historical context of the times. For example, there are a number of case files from the late 19th century involving railroads, and the L&N in particular, during a period of extensive anti-trust activity. Other cases have a political background, as with an 1893 libel suit against the Louisville Courier-Journal, which generally supported Democratic candidates, by Burton Vance, a prominent Louisville Republican who was running for local office. As the highest court in the state, the Court of Appeals also heard cases that set legal precedent. In 1897, three Jefferson County seminaries of different denominations banded together to argue that they were tax exempt under the recently passed Constitution. All of these cases had been tried in the local Circuit Courts, and then appealed for the final decision of the high court.

The Court of Appeals case files are an excellent resource for legal research, and can be very helpful in documenting the social and political history of Kentucky since the Civil War.

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