



# Kentucky Talking Book Library Newsletter June 2019

## KTBL 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The Kentucky Talking Book Library celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 1—50 years to the day after opening its doors! The library played host to 100 guests during a reception here in the main lobby of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. The Kentucky Council for the Blind volunteered to sponsor the event, providing food, drinks, and a cake. A large TV showed a presentation of Talking Book history, statistics, photos, and patron quotes while visitors could also view a display of braille and various talking book players used throughout the history of the program. KTBL staff gave tours of the library to all those who were interested.

Notable guest speakers included National Library Service Senior Advisor Michael Martys, Lt. Governor Janean Hampton, Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary Derrick Ramsey, and State Librarian Terry Manual. Other speakers were Kentucky author Virginia Smith, longtime KTBL narrator Jean Anne Webb, and patron Bill Wright.

On behalf of the Kentucky Council of the Blind, Bill announced that KCB would sponsor three issues of the 2019 KTBL newsletter. KCB also provided Amazon gift cards for each KTBL volunteer in recognition of their contributions. Cathy Jackson, President of the National Federation of the Blind of Kentucky, presented KTBL staff with an inscribed clock, while Lt. Governor Hampton presented Manager Barbara Penegor with a proclamation signed by Governor Matt Bevin declaring April 1-6, 2019 to be Talking Book Library Week in Kentucky.

Those of you who were unable to join the celebration may view the program online at: <https://tinyurl.com/y3z9fx8k>. The program is divided into 11 parts, one for each speaker, so be sure to see them all. Some photos of the event are included here.



Lt. Governor Jenean Hampton and KTBL Branch Manager Barbara Penegor hold the framed proclamation declaring April 1-6 as Talking Book Library Week in Kentucky.



Left: Mike Martys of NLS speaks from the podium during the anniversary program. Right: KY Author Virginia Smith gestures with her hands while speaking from the podium.

## 2019 Kentucky Talking Book Library Patron Survey

Please take a few moments to complete the survey below. Your feedback helps us make decisions about reading materials, services, and procedures to help us better serve you. When finished, fold the survey so our address shows, and tape it closed. No postage is necessary.

If you prefer to take the survey over the telephone, call us at 1-800-372-2968 or 1-502-564-5791. This survey is anonymous, so do not give your name. Please contact our library if you have specific issues regarding your account.

1. Approximately how long have you received service from the Kentucky Talking Book Library? Choose one.
  - a. One year or less
  - b. 2-5 years
  - c. 6-10 years
  - d. 11-20 years
  - e. More than 20 years
  
2. How did you learn about the Kentucky Talking Book Library? Choose one.
  - a. Friend or family member
  - b. Doctor's office
  - c. Government agency, such as Blind Services or Veterans Administration
  - d. Social worker or therapist
  - e. Public library
  - f. School
  - g. Internet, TV, or radio ad
  - h. Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. On average, how much time do you spend reading braille or talking books? Choose one.
  - a. Less than 1 hour per week
  - b. Between 1 and 2 hours per week
  - c. Between 3-6 hours per week
  - d. Between 1 and 2 hours per day
  - e. Between 3-6 hours per day
  - f. More than 6 hours per day
  
4. If KTBL were to provide them, would you be interested in using large print books in addition to Talking Books? Choose one.
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. I am not sure

5. Has your librarian, or any of the KTBL staff, ever helped you with any of the following? Choose all that apply.
- a. Recommended one or more titles or new authors you enjoyed
  - b. Downloaded a list of books that you selected onto your own personal cartridge or flash drive that you bought
  - c. Provided you with information about another organization or company
  - d. Created a braille document for you

6. Has your librarian, or another KTBL employee, ever provided any special assistance that you considered to be going beyond routine service?
- a. No
  - b. Yes (please describe)

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7. Do you use any of the following sources for reading materials in addition to the Kentucky Talking Book Library? Choose all that apply.

- a. Learning Ally
- b. Bookshare
- c. NFB Newsline®
- d. Radio Eye
- e. Local public library
- f. Online book store, like Amazon, Audible, Barnes and Noble, etc...
- g. Local book or department store
- h. I do not use any other source of reading materials
- i. Other (Please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

8. Would you have access to braille or audio books if you did not get them from the Kentucky Talking Book Library?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. I'm not sure

9. In what areas do you benefit from using Talking Book Library service? Choose all that apply.

- a. Pleasure reading or entertainment
- b. Companionship
- c. Education
- d. Work
- e. Religion
- f. Health
- g. Staying connected to the world
- h. Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you feel that braille and talking books are important to your mental health?  
Choose one.

- a. Yes, very important
- b. Yes, somewhat important
- c. No, not important
- d. I don't know

11. In what areas has using braille and talking books benefitted your mental health?  
Choose all that apply.

- a. Provides mental stimulation
- b. Improves concentration or memory
- c. Eases loneliness or boredom
- d. Lessens depression
- e. Lessens anxiety
- f. Distracts from problems or pain
- g. Increases confidence
- h. Helps me come to terms with vision loss or physical disability
- i. Other \_\_\_\_\_

12. Please rate the overall quality of service you have received from the Kentucky Talking Book Library. Choose one.

- a. Excellent
- b. Very good
- c. Fair
- d. Poor

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey. Please share any comments about your Talking Book Library experience, or suggestions for improving our service. Call KTBL at 1-800-372-2968 or 1-502-564-5791, or email us at [KTBL.Mail@ky.gov](mailto:KTBL.Mail@ky.gov) to make requests or to update your account. Remember—this survey is anonymous. We cannot fulfill your requests without your name.

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Free Matter for the Blind/  
Physically Handicapped  
DMM 703.5

**KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY**  
**PO BOX 537**  
**FRANKFORT, KY 40602**

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Upper left: KTBL volunteer Jean Anne Webb speaks into the microphone during her presentation. Upper right: Education & Workforce Development Secretary Derrick Ramsey holds the microphone while he speaks from the podium. Lower left: patron Bill Wright stands at the podium during his talk during the program. Note: the background in all photos is a large wooden sculpture of the state of Kentucky.

This newsletter was made possible by the generous support of the Kentucky Council of the Blind. Check out their website at <https://www.kentucky-acb.org/>. Call 502-895-4598 for more information or email at [kcb@kentucky-acb.org](mailto:kcb@kentucky-acb.org).



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**Kentucky Talking Book Library**  
**PO Box 537**  
**Frankfort KY 40602**

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