



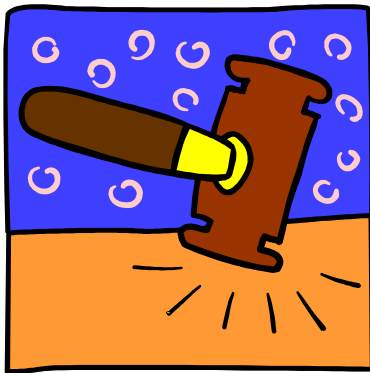
Stacks of News

Newsletter of the Southeast Kansas Library System

Southeast Kansas Library System
218 E. Madison
Topeka, KS 66749

March-April 2008

Great Ideas Come from Law Resources Workshop



“How do I file for a divorce?” “They gave me a ticket because my dog was running loose. Can they do that?” “They said at the courthouse that I could get the forms I need at the library. Do you have this legal form?” How do you help patrons with legal questions like these?

Andrew Evans, JD, MLS, Head of Reference and Government Documents Librarian at the Washburn University School of Law Library in Topeka, gave SEKLS librarians practical advice for these questions and more when he gave his workshop **Law Resources for Librarians** in Fredonia on March 6, 2008. Besides recommending books that should be in most libraries and a series of books that help laypeople understand the law, he gave a handout that listed pages of websites where small libraries can go for information not available in their buildings.

Every library should have a current copy of its state statutes, or laws and its own city and county ordinances. The Kansas Statutes Annotated is available from the Kansas Secretary of State’s office for a fee. There is a free version online at <http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/index.do> This website a

good resource to use if you know the citation for a law, but not as easy to search as the paper version. If you cannot afford the paper version, you can ask your State Senator or Representative for one. Kansas legislators are allowed 2 copies a year to give to their constituents. You might be able to be one of the two!

You can get city ordinances from City Hall. Most cities will post a copy for free in the library so their citizens have access to it when City Hall is not open. Not all counties have ordinances. If your county does have ordinances, request them from the county government office.

One other “must have” book is Legal Research: How to Find and Understand the Law from Nolo Press. This guide will help both the librarian and the patron working with law questions to determine a search strategy and to understand what is found. Nolo Press (www.nolo.com) is a very reliable source of legal information for laypeople on a wide range of topics, from do-it-yourself divorce books, books on pet laws, small claims court, landlord-tenant rights, starting your own business, books of standard legal forms to other legal topics. The books are written by lawyers and revised frequently. Just remember – laws

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

BY ROGER CARSWELL



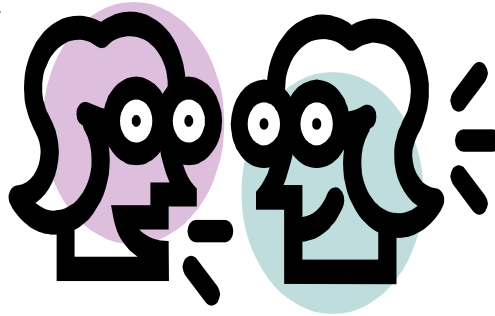
Many of you attended the “Turning the Page” conference in Wichita last month, sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The conference was about equal parts cheerleading and presentation of information. The purpose of the conference was to build skills and confidence in librarians and library supporters for the task of obtaining sustainable and adequate funding. The immediate need is to raise matching funds for the Gates grants for those libraries which are receiving those grants. However, the information and skills coming from the conference are also useful for advocating for library funding with local funding officials and potential donors whatever the need.

The one thing which I really took away from the conference was the need to tell the library’s story. While use figures and other facts will always be needed, the impact of a well-told factual story can be huge. So, instead of just saying “We have X number of people using our computers every day” or “Our circulation is X, and that’s up 10% in the last two years,” tell a few stories of people whose lives have been positively impacted. Here are some examples:

“A middle school boy without access to a computer at home was struggling in algebra class. He began coming to the library several times a week after school and using a computer to get tutoring

through HomeworkKansas. He not only passed the class, he’s been on the honor roll for the past two semesters”.

“A new grandmother used the library’s computer to go online and see a digital picture of her first granddaughter, born in California, which was posted on the hospital’s web site.”



“Two sisters who wanted to go into business for themselves came to the library to use books and online resources about starting a business. They also spent weeks combing through dozens of cookbooks for unique recipes. Now they run the very successful *Two Sisters Catering* and have just hired another full-time employee”.

“An elderly woman became homebound. She had always been an avid reader and missed being able to come to the library. She found herself watching TV for the bulk of every day, and became very tired of this. She was thrilled to find that the library had a homebound delivery service. Now she receives a dozen books every other week, and is so grateful”.

Try to identify the stories in your community, and then share them with all who will listen—especially local officials.

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

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Law Resources

(Continued from page 1)

change regularly. Chances are you will need to replace your law books when a newer edition is available.

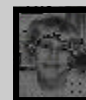
Several websites were discussed at the workshop. One website to bookmark in your browser is the Washburn Law Library's webpage <http://www.washlaw.edu>. It is regularly updated by the librarians and staff at the Law Library and gives one-stop shopping to law related websites. There could be something new every time you visit. Another website to bookmark is Wilson County's website (<http://www.31stjudicialdistrict.org/Forms.html>). They have links to many frequently requested law forms. Be sure to check the forms for county specific information (county name, county seat name) and change it if you are not going to file in Wilson County.

The workshop was a rousing success. The librarians who attended went home with lots of information and ideas for helping their patrons. The entire workshop handout is posted on Iris' Idea Blog at <http://irisideafile.blogspot.com/>. It is a resource you will want to print and keep at the reference desk.



At LARGE

with Jaime Prideaux,
Talking Books/
Special Needs Consultant



As you already know, March 3 – 8 was the first ever Talking Books week in Kansas. In my opinion, the week was a great success here in Southeast Kansas.

Thanks to all of you who helped get the word out about Talking Books week! We had lots of great promotional press releases and articles in newspapers throughout Southeast Kansas. So, in light of the successful conclusion of Talking Books week, I thought it would be the perfect time to share a great "Talking Books" resource with you all. It's called the Talking Books Librarian blog. Check it out at <http://talkingbookslibrarian.blogspot.com/>

I started the blog several months ago, to help make people more aware of resources available for older adults and those with disabilities, as well as to promote the free Talking Books program by the Library of Congress. The blog also includes everything from library "stuff," to books, to general public resources I come across. So, be sure to add the blog to your RSS reader.... and if you're not big into RSS readers and blogs in general, I have made it easy on you, as you can subscribe to blog updates via email. Simply go to <http://talkingbookslibrarian.blogspot.com/> and enter your email address in the "subscribe via email" box on the right-hand side of the page. It couldn't be easier! Thanks again to all of you for a great Talking Books week – we'll plan to do it again next year!

How Do You Document Conference Sessions for Certification?

You attended the State Library Conference in April and went to some great sessions. There are no more LEEP forms. How do you get credit for Trustee Certification or Librarian Recertification?

Photocopies are the key. Photocopy your name badge or your registration form to document that you were there. If you created a personalized session list on the KLA Conference website, you can print it to show what sessions you attended. The pre-conferences took three hours, so they give you three hours of CE credit. The other ses-

sions were one hour sessions, so they count for 1 CE credit. Entertainment sessions, such as the keynote speakers, the State Librarian's luncheon and the Talent Show, generally don't count as training, but the other sessions do.

Librarians will want to staple all the documents together and store them in the folder where they are keeping their Certificates of Completion until they have the 45 CE credits needed for recertification. Trustees can send their documents to Shannon Roy at the State Library with their application.

SEKLS 2008 Continuing Education Schedule

January 2008

- 15 Oswego PL How to File the Online Statistical Report (Roger Carswell, presenter)
- 18 Eureka PL How to File the Online Statistical Report (Roger Carswell, presenter)

February 2008

- 5 Axe Lib, Pittstate Copy Cataloging (Morgan McCune, Axe Library, Iris Jones, SEKLS, presenters)
- 7 Allen Comm. college Computer Lab, Iola Copy Cataloging (Morgan McCune, Axe Library, Iris Jones, SEKLS, presenters)
- 20 North Community Bldg, Iola Summer Reading Workshop

March 2008

- 6 Fredonia PL. Law Resources for Librarians (Andrew Evans, Washburn School of Law Library, presenter).

- 13 Coffeyville PL Cyberseries: Design a Form with MS Access (Iris Jones, presenter)
- 21 SEKLS, Iola Cyberseries: Design a Form with MS Access (Iris Jones, presenter)

April 2008

- 16 SEKLS, Iola **Beginning Book Repair** (Kim Burns, Marylou Chard, Sue Tucker presenters)
- 24 SEKLS, Iola **Buggy for Crafts**

May 2008

- 1 Parsons PL **T'n'T: Trends & Toys Day**
- 8 Independence PL Cyberseries: **Address it with Mail Merge!** (Iris Jones, presenter)
- 13 Community Nat'l Bank, Iola Cyberseries:

Address it with Mail Merge! (Iris Jones, presenter)

June 2008

5 Cedar Crest Lodge, Pleasanton **Academic In-Service: Teacher-Librarian Collaboration, Academic Level** (Mirah Dow, presenter)

- 11 Oswego Cyberseries: **Tips and Tricks for Microsoft Word** (Iris Jones, presenter)
 - 17 Community Nat'l Bank, Iola Cyberseries: **Tips and Tricks for Microsoft Word** (Iris Jones, presenter)
 - 25 **Budgeting for Public Libraries** (Roger Carswell, presenter)
- Individual Trustee Training Workshops (June-July-August) to be scheduled with Iris Jones. She will come to your Board meeting.)

July 2008

TBA Kansas Health
Online

10 Garnett Cyberser-
ies: Creating your
library's website
with KLOW (Joe
Tholen, presenter)1

24 Oswego Cyberser-
ies: Creating your
library's website
with KLOW (Joe
Tholen, presenter)

August 2008

6 independence PL
Workplace health/
ergonomics (Pat
Flynn, presenter)

12 Girard Cyberseries:
Track Spending
with MS Excel
Dave Blakesley,
presenter

19 humboldt Cyberser-
ies: Track Spend-
ing with MS Excel
Dave Blakesley,
presenter

September 2008

11 Fredonia
Cyberseries:
Troubleshooting ba-
sics (Joe Tholen and
Dave Blakesley, present-
ers)

17 Garnett
Cyberseries:
Troubleshooting
basics (Joe Tholen and
Dave Blakesley, present-
ers)

24 Greenbush Selecting
Young Adult
materials (Tricia Suel-
lertrop, presenter)

30 Pittsburg Public
Cyberseries:
Troubleshooting
basics (Joe Tholen and
Dave Blakesley, present-
ers)

October 2008

7 Eureka
Cyberseries:
A new (MS) Vista
(Joe Tholen and Dave
Blakesley, presenters)

9 parsons
Cyberseries:
A new (MS) Vista
(Joe Tholen and Dave
Blakesley, presenters)

16 Westminster Woods
12th Annual
In-Service.

21 Greenbush Handy 5
& Teacher-
Librarian Coopera-
tion (Shelia Blume, pre-
senter.)

28 North Community Bldg,
Iola Storytime
Applications of

**Every Child Ready
to Read**

(Julie Tomlianovich, pre-
senter)

November 2008

4 Erie Editing photos
with Kodak Easy-
share (Iris Jones, presenter)

20 Pittsburg PL Black
Belt Librarianship
with Warren
Graham

13 Fredonia PL.
Cyberseries: Edit-
ing photos with
Kodak Easy-share
(Iris Jones, presenter)

December 2008

1 Savonburg
Cyberseries:
Graphs for your
Annual Report (Joe
Tholen, presenter)

9 Humboldt Social
Networking (David
Lee King, presenter)

16 independence
Cyberseries:
Graphs for your
Annual Report (Joe
Tholen, presenter)



AROUND THE SYSTEM

📖 Parsons Public Library liked so much what they learned at the KLOW workshop last fall that they have changed their library website to a KLOW site. The new address is <http://parsonslibrary.org>. Jean says this site is a lot easier to add data and keep current than their old site.

📖 We have new baby girls in the System! Amanda Szambecki of the Waverly Branch of Coffey County Library had a baby girl on Feb. 17. Mindy Westerman, Hamilton High School Library, went one better. She had twin girls, Addison and Alaina, on Feb. 29!

📖 Marcel LaFlamme of the Independence Community College Library will be contributing a regular column to a Web-based publication about rural issues called The Daily Yonder. His column is called “The Backroad Librarian.” They will address library and other interesting features. You can find the Daily Yonder at <http://www.dailyyonder.com>, then search Marcel’s name to find his columns.

📖 Speaking of rural libraries — Helen Rigdon, Coffeyville Public Library, has been asked to give her presentation about the Coffeyville Flood

and Disaster Preparedness at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference, September 19-21, 2008 in Sacramento, California. She will be talking on the same subject at our In-Service at Westminster Woods in October.

📖 Coffey County said farewell to their director Mary Markwalter last Friday. Mary’s husband is retiring from Wolf Creek and they are moving to Mason City, Iowa. Mary has taken a position as the director of the Mason City Library. She’s starting off supervising the construction of their new building.

Steve Geiger is new Rotation Driver



Steve Geiger, our new Rotation Driver, started in January.

He has lived in the Uniontown area all his life. When Pat Jones, our former driver, took Steve on his first training drive, Pat was impressed how Steve knew where he was going without a map! It’s nice to be local.

Steve and his wife Barb own and operate a 400 acre cattle farm. They raise Angus cattle and put up hay in the summer months. He enjoys working on the farm and helping others. Steve and Barb have two grown sons and two grandsons.

New York Study Shows Importance of School Librarians

WASHINGTON — Language test scores in New York State schools with certified librarians are higher than in those schools without librarians, according to preliminary research findings from Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies.

The research was conducted on schools giving the English Language Arts test, which is administered by New York State to fourth graders and tests several language skills, including reading, writing, and listening. These preliminary findings indicated a 10-point increase of test scores in schools with library media specialists.

“Syracuse’s results prove yet again how important school libraries and certified school library media specialists are in the education process,” said ALA President Dr. Loriene Roy.

“Many people don’t realize it,” Dr. Roy continued, “but there are many, many schools in America without school librarians, which is so tragic because ...studies... have affirmed the link between school libraries, certified school library media specialists, and student academic achievement.”

For more information go to: <http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=376>. or http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=1509.

Bongo Barry Coming Soon!

Schedules have been set for **Bongo Barry's** visit to SEKLSland June 23-30. Please contact Sandy Wilkerson if you are interested in watching Bongo Barry. He will be criss-crossing the system. Hopefully one of his shows will be near you. A special thanks goes to all the libraries that have participated in the tour and who have made it possible to offer this service to you year after year.

Buggy? Check this website out for summer! The Terminix website at <http://www.terminix.com> has some cool games and bug masks. These can be found under the learning center button, look for Teacher's pest or Just for fun.

5 Hot Picks

Amy Morris at the Altoona-Midway Middle and High Schools gives us this issue's top 5 titles in her schools.

1. *Watching Alice Series* by Daniel Parker
2. *Artemis Fowl Series* by Eoin Colfer
3. *First Part Last* by Angela Johnson
4. *Tears of a Tiger* by Sharon M. Draper
5. *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult

Sandy's Corner

by Sandy Wilkerson



The bigger the better. That phrase is perfect when you are referring to a slice of cake but not really what comes to mind when you are thinking of books. Large print books can be helpful and useful for our juvenile readers but they are also very necessary for some of our young patrons. Large print books are typically used for low vision patrons and older readers that need the larger type to ease the reading, but young patrons can use large type for a variety of reasons.

Low vision is one reason. An undiagnosed vision problem is very common in elementary age children. Large print is much easier on a child's eyes. Large print books have more white space which allows the eyes to focus on the words.

Psychological factors can play into the large print argument. When children learn to read they use larger type. As reading skills improve, the type size shrinks. Many students perceive smaller type as harder to read. Using large print will bring back times when reading was easier and more enjoyable. This means that large print books are easier to read, more fun to read, which means that kids are more likely to finish the book. This sounds like a win/win situation for both library and patron.

SEKLS has about 50 large print juvenile titles and a few YA titles. Collection development in this area has just started with inquiry and interest from a few librarians in our region. I want you to be aware of this resource and encourage you to use interlibrary loan or call SEKLS for a bibliography of the books available from the Iola Public Library. Remember, when you think about large print juvenile books, bigger IS better.

STORYTIME SPARKS

Spring has sprung and we are seeing more and more critters on the side of the road. That might be the only way your youngest patrons will know the armadillo and opossum.

SEKLS has two puppet kits that include these animals. The Eppossumondas stories are a

hilarious look at an old folk tale and Don't ever cross that road!, Armadillo is very informative about armadillos and a lesson about looking both ways is tossed in also. I bet that checking out one or both of these kits will bring your storytimes some interesting discussion topics. Try one today!

**Southeast Kansas
Library System**

218 E. Madison
Iola, KS 66749



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STACKS OF NEWS



SEKLS Calendar

May 2008

- 8 Parsons PL 1:00 *Verso ILS Demonstration*
- 8 Independence PL 2:00-4:00 *Cyberseries: Address it with Mail Merge!*
- 9 sekls, iola 10:00 *Verso ILS Demonstration*
- 13 Community Nat'l Bank, Iola 10:00-12:00 *Cyberseries: Address it with Mail Merge!*
- 15 Parsons PL 10:00 *Liblime/Koha ILS Demonstration*
- 16 sekls, Iola 10:00 *Liblime/Koha ILS Demonstration*
- 19 sekls, Iola 10:00 *Executive Board Meeting*

June 2008

- 5 Cedar Crest Lodge, Pleasanton 9:30-3:30 *Academic In-Service:
Teacher-Librarian Collaboration, Academic Level*
- 11 Oswego PL 10:00-12:00 *Cyberseries: Tips and Tricks for Microsoft Word*
- 17 Community Nat'l Bank, Iola 10:00-12:00 *Cyberseries: Tips and Tricks for Microsoft Word*
- 25 ERIE PL 9:00-12:00 *Budgeting for Public Libraries*
- 27 SEKLS, iola 10:30 *SEKLS Director's Meeting
individual Trustee Training Workshops*

(June-July-August) to be scheduled with Iris Jones. She will come to your Board meeting.)