

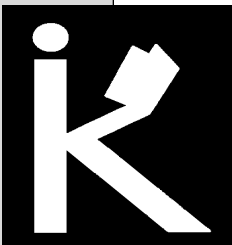
Kansas Libraries

Official Newsletter of the Kansas State Library

July 1997

This month in Kansas Libraries

Minimum wage reminder.....	1
In memoriam.....	1
1997 KPLACE held in Emporia.....	2
Summer reading program.....	2
New partnership expands online database offerings.....	3
Brown Bag Concert.....	4
What's new on Blue Skyways?.....	4
KHC again offers TALK series.....	5
An invitation.....	5
National public health week successful.....	5
New librarian at Augusta.....	6
Rose Hill offers teen books....	6
Kingman Library receives grant.....	6
Kingman receives additional grant.....	6
Magazine database at your fingertips.....	7
Used book clearance sale.....	7
Videos purchased with ILDP funds.....	7
Kansas books.....	7
Bobo and the Troggs.....	8



Minimum wage reminder

The new minimum wage signed into law by President Clinton went into effect at the beginning of the federal fiscal year, October 1, 1996. At that time, libraries were expected to pay a minimum wage of \$4.75 per hour.

Beginning with the first pay period after September 1, 1997, the minimum wage increases another \$.40 per hour. Libraries then must pay not less than \$5.15 per hour.

Libraries are not required to pay minimum wage for services provided by independent contractors, but it is not legal to label library employees contractors to evade minimum wage requirements.

Libraries may use volunteers but paid employees may not work for the library as an unpaid volunteer doing the same type of work for which she or he is employed. Paid employees must be paid for all time spent as part of their job responsibilities, including work-related training taken during regular working hours or required by the library to attend.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, all units of local government, including public libraries, are subject to the minimum wage requirements.

In memoriam

The Kansas library community lost an old friend with the passing this morning, June 18, of Gene DeGruson, long time Curator of Special Collections and University Archivist at Pittsburg State University. Gene was well known throughout the state as an expert in Kansas history and as a poet, scholar, and librarian.

Gene was born in Girard, Kansas on October 10, 1932 and spent almost his entire life in this area studying and chronicling the unique history of southeast Kansas. He taught English and drama at Highland Park High School in Topeka for four years (1954-58) and spent two years at the University of Iowa before returning to PSU in 1960.

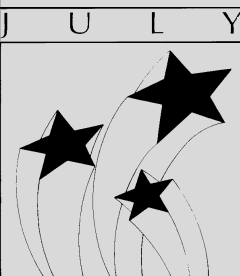
Gene suffered an aneurysm Sunday afternoon, June 15, at this home and had been in a coma since that time. Axe Library has posted a copy of the newspaper article and obituary for Gene on our homepage. The URL is as follows: <http://library.pittstate.edu/spcoll/ndxdegruson.html> [.]

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Address comments concerning *Kansas Libraries* to the editor.



1997 KPLACE held in Emporia

The 1997 KPLACE Institute was successful in spite of certain unexpected events such as the replacement of the ESU Union roof. The presentations were excellent. Many KPLACE presenters were returning to KPLACE for the third or fourth time but superb work was done by first time KPLACE presenters such as Sue Blechl of Emporia Public, Jobeth Bradbury of NEKL, John and Susan Howell of Kansas on the Net (KOTN), and Terry Woodbury of Donnelly College.

The 1997 KPLACE graduating class was a thoughtful one, more than willing to share experiences from their working lives. Of all the KPLACE classes, this was the one that had received the deepest training in community study. They had studied community analysis, community networking, community technology, community leadership and evaluation of public services. They had a positive attitude toward technology and they reported that they enjoyed their lab work immensely.

But in their group evaluation, they did enquire if it would be possible to return some emphasis to collection development and talk about library materials. It was a reasonable question and one that will be seriously considered by those who work with KPLACE program design.

At graduation, they continued to show their positive and generous spirit, as well as a sudden playfulness that lightened the festivities. KPLACE graduation is always a mixture of serious tribute and lighthearted teasing. In 1997, that was especially true.

Graduating from KPLACE in 1997 were:

Susan Adams, Weir; Rosetta Bartels, Inman; Muriel (Betty) Burrows, Baxter Springs; Susan Davis, Cottonwood Falls; Jan Epp, Tribune; Bonnie Fann, Burlington; Danna Fulkerson, Conway Springs; Pamela Gould, Hutchinson; June Haggard, Baxter Springs; Cindy Hittle, Rolla; Joyce Hopkins, New Strawn; Nancy Johnson, Hutchinson; Norma Johnson, Haysville; Claudia Leeds, Wamego; Sheron Lowry, Durham; Donna McNeil, Wellington; Carol Ann Robb, Pittsburg; NJ Schnackenberg, Junction City; Elizabeth Turner, Oswego; Shirley Twombly, Highland; Lori Zerr, Tribune

We wish them well and look forward to working with them in the future.

Summer reading program

by Barbara Stransky, Director

While some people in the community may think that the Summer Reading Program only involves young children, a closer look will show that people of all ages make this program possible at the Bonner Springs City Library. One example of this multi-age, intergenerational participation is the help provided by adults at the Bonner Springs Senior Center.

A group of seniors got together to sew cloth marble bags for summer reading participants to store the marbles that they receive as prizes. These senior volunteers used their expertise and scrap material available at the Senior Center, and made bags that are a great contribution to the library's reading incentive program.

Another age group in evidence at the library is the teenage and almost teenage group participating as Summer Reading Associates. These kids, age 12 and up, assist the younger readers with their reading tally sheets and prizes, shelve books, help patrons use the computers, and prepare for and assist with children's programs such as Story Time.

Several of these volunteers are also taking charge of summer reading activities such as Mystery Theatre and Kidsnews, a library newspaper for young journalists. This group is very active, at times very vocal, and hopefully gaining a better understanding of using the library, of serving the community, and of working with people of all ages.

The library is also fortunate to have local artists from the community serving as leaders of art and craft classes, and of special Story Time sessions. Local merchants have donated prizes as well, all in an effort to show their support of the importance of reading in children's lives.

The Bonner Springs City Library Poetry Club recently joined with children for a Summer Poetry Festival. Senior citizens, young children, and every age in between enjoyed poetry together, played games, and came to appreciate each other's talents. The children and adults alike were so inspired that they planned another joint meeting for July 10.

The children from lap readers to high school-age readers who are participating in the reading program benefit from the participation of the entire community, as well

continues on page 8

Catalyst

by Michael Piper
Executive Director

New partnership expands online database offerings

State Librarian Duane Johnson and directors of the Regents libraries have negotiated a noteworthy agreement. It means you'll have access to a broader range of information than ever before — right at your desktop. This month's Catalyst reports on these developments, and outlines the benefits for you and your customers.

Cooperation yields statewide benefits

Over the past several months, Duane Johnson and the Regents library directors have explored the possibilities of cooperative database subscriptions. They wanted to build on the successful statewide FirstSearch service, which now serves 697 libraries statewide.

As a result of these discussions, the State Library and Regents libraries have agreed to buy a joint subscription to InfoTrac databases from IAC, the Information Access Company. This agreement will make several attractive IAC databases available to Kansas libraries at no charge. These IAC services, which will be available in August, will complement the FirstSearch databases.

If you like FirstSearch, you'll love the expanded range of information this new arrangement will afford your clients. In addition to the FirstSearch databases, you'll also have free access to these IAC databases: Business and Company ProFile/ASAP, Expanded Academic Index, Health Reference Center, and the National Newspaper Index.

Business and Company ProFile/ASAP

This database has full-text articles for 400 business, trade and management journals. Coverage extends back to 1982.

Expanded Academic Index gives wide coverage

IAC's Expanded Academic Index offers abstracts from 1,500 journals. It also includes full-text coverage for 650 of these titles. Subject coverage for the Expanded Academic Index includes humanities, social sciences, sciences and technology. In this database, you'll find articles on topics such as communications, computers, environmental issues, health and women's studies.

Expanded Academic Index covers all of the titles listed in the Humanities Index, Social Studies Index and the General Science Index. It also includes 360 titles indexed by the Public Affairs Information Service (PAIS). Expanded Academic Index coverage extends all the way back to 1980.

Health information at your fingertips

Your clients expect current, reliable health information. Now you can provide it to them with IAC's Health Reference Center.

This resource offers full-text and images from 40 journals on nursing and allied health, plus a wide variety of consumer health information. In addition to current year issues, the Health Reference Center includes back files for the past four years as well. It also offers health related articles from 500 pamphlets, newsletters, general interest magazines, Knight Ridder newspapers and reference books.

National newspapers in a jiffy

IAC's National Newspaper Index provides title annotations and citations for five prominent national newspapers: *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post*. Coverage begins with 1994 issues.

IAC databases have robust capabilities

Your new IAC databases offer subject, keyword and Boolean searching (searches using the AND, OR and NOT operators). Since they are all Web-accessible, you'll use these new databases much as you access

FirstSearch. Follow the link from the "Resources for Librarians" section on the Skyways "Libraries" page (<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/library.html>).

As with FirstSearch, you'll need to enter a confidential identification number that we'll provide you. After entering your id number, you'll be able to search any of the IAC databases available through this subscription.

Subscribing to this new service is easy

At the Kansas State Library, we are committed to making it easy for you to benefit from these online database services. If your library is already a FirstSearch subscriber, you'll receive an IAC subscription automatically — there's no need to contact us to subscribe to this

service. We'll mail your IAC identification number and subscription information by early August.

If you're not a current FirstSearch subscriber and you'd like to obtain a subscription to our expanded range of database services, contact Bonnie Keim at the State Library (913/296 4996; email: KSSTL9LB@INK.ORG). Bonnie can set up your FirstSearch and IAC accounts at no charge.

Stay tuned for updates

Watch KANLIB-L, the Kansas library community's electronic mailing list, for updates on your new IAC database service, including the availability of training. To subscribe to KANLIB-L, go to <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/KLA/maillist/> on Blue Skyways.

What's new on Blue Skyways?

We're glad you asked. Here are two new Skyways features. Be sure to bookmark them on your next visit to Blue Skyways, the Web service for the people of Kansas.

* Wondering which Web search service will yield the best results for your inquiry? Check our newly-revised Internet Searching Tools page (<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/library/searches.html>). It's an annotated list of the best search tools on the Web.

* Want to know the status of pending legislation in state legislatures across the US? Check out our new Legislative Hotline Directory (<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/government/grs/legdir.html>). It lists telephone numbers to call for legislative bill status information in each of the fifty states. This Directory is excerpted from a larger publication, the State Legislative Sourcebook, published by the Government Research Service. Our thanks for GRS for allowing us to post this resource on Blue Skyways.

Blue Skyways, your one-stop source for information on Kansas communities, education, government, and libraries, is a service of the Kansas library community. We have lots of new Skyways services in the works. For the latest on Skyways developments, consult the "What's New" page (<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/kansas/whatsnew.html>). For more about Blue Skyways, contact Michael Piper at 913/296-3875 (email: KSSTL2LB@INK.ORG).

Brown Bag Concert

Alan Kinsey and Mindy Mott will be the featured entertainment at the fifth Brown Bag Concert this summer at the Emporia Public Library. They will perform a selection of marimba music. A special highlight of the Brown Bag Concert will be a performance by several WAW Grade School students. The students, under the direction of teachers Deon Hall and Sue Barham, will perform

dances and activities they learned at school for special theme days.

The program will be held on Wednesday, July 2 at noon in the Emporia Public Library courtyard. The program is sponsored by the Emporia Public Library, Emporia Main Street and Emporia Arts Council. Peterson's Pantry will be on hand to sell food items. Sidewalk games will be available for children. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring their own lawn chair. The concert is free and open to the public.

KHC again offers TALK series

During June catalogs were mailed by the Kansas Humanities Council (KHC) to public libraries across the state. These were catalogs for the 1997-99 Talk About Literature in Kansas (TALK) book discussion program series. For this new series, the Kansas Talking Book Service is cooperating with the KHC by mailing the books for each of the programs scheduled.

Each TALK series is built around an entertaining and thought-provoking topic of interest to adult readers. The books in each series are chosen for reader appeal, literary quality, and relevance to the series theme.

The new catalog presents 25 exciting TALK series available from the Kansas Humanities Council Resource Center, including five series that are new in 1997-98. The local sponsor—a library or other nonprofit group—selects the series it wants to present to the community. The Kansas Humanities Council provides multiple sets of books, discussion leaders, and special publicity materials to the sponsoring group.

A TALK reading discussion group meets at regular intervals—every two or three weeks, or once a month. A series may include as few as two meetings, or as many as four, depending on how many books from a series the local sponsor selects.

Before each meeting, the discussion group participants check out and read the book to be discussed. Each meeting opens with an informal talk by a KHC discussion leader, who provides background information about the author and the book, and raises questions for discussion. These remarks provide a point of departure for open discussion with an among the participants. Readers share their reactions to the book and how it relates to their personal experience. Total program time is one and a half to two hours—or longer when discussion is particularly lively!

Check out the new catalog you received last month and consider a TALK program for your community.

An invitation

Do you have news items of interest to other librarians? An especially successful program or grant project, for instance? Let us know so that we can tell your colleagues in *Kansas Libraries*.

National public health week successful

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment thanks all library directors and staff who helped make National Public Health Week, April 7—13, 1997, a success. The results of a follow-up survey will be very helpful in planning for next year's event, which is already beginning.

“We were especially pleased that Kansas libraries took this opportunity to collaborate with their local health department in raising awareness of public health,” said Secretary of Health and Environment Gary R. Mitchell. “Libraries have always taken the lead in educational efforts like these, and we feel very fortunate to have received their assistance.”

The Stanton County Public Library, for example, coordinated with the Stanton County Health Department in arranging a special theme for each day of National Public Health Week. Immunizations, car safety seats and seat belts, tobacco control, and cardiovascular health were some of the topics highlighted.

In Harper County, library patrons can now check out the video, “A Day In the Life of Public Health,” provided by the Harper County Health Department.

Two-thirds of those responding to the survey, which included public libraries as well as local health departments, stated that they created a display in recognition of National Public Health Week. Another two-thirds said they featured “A Day In the Life of Public Health.” Reaction to the video was overwhelmingly favorable.

Survey responses were received by KDHE from areas distributed fairly evenly across Kansas. Estimates of the number of people reached by local National Public Health Week promotions ranged from 30 people to 20,000 people. Other ways of promoting National Public Health Week included proclamations, presentations to county commissioners and advisory boards, and local media involvement.

“Thank you to all of the library directors and staff who rearranged their busy schedules and worked hard to make this promotion a success,” said Mitchell. “We sincerely appreciate all you have done.”

For more information on obtaining a copy of the video, “A Day In the Life of Public Health” on loan, please contact your local health department.

New librarian at Augusta

Please welcome the new library director at Augusta Public Library, Amy Stahl, who began her new job on June 30. Amy will be taking the reins from Sharon Barnes who has been running the Augusta Public Library as interim director since Angela Case resigned to be a full-time mom after the birth of her baby in March. Sharon guided the library during a vital time of getting its LSCA Title II grant approved by Washington, and she will continue to work at her old job.

Welcome to the Kansas public library community, Amy!

Rose Hill offers teen books

Nearly 300 books on teen issues are now available to Kansas library patrons through Rose Hill libraries.

Topics include peer pressure, bigotry, school anxiety, health, time management, single-parent homes, decision-making and cliques. The books, written for students in grades six through 12 and for adults, were purchased with a \$5,085 grant from the Kansas Library Network Board.

People in other towns can check out books in the collection through their libraries' interlibrary loan services. A list of books is available by calling the Rose Hill Community Library at 316/776-3351 or by calling the Rose Hill High School Library at 316/776-3391.

Most of the books are at the high school, 506 S. Rose Hill Road. The community library is in Stoll Media Center, in the Rose Hill elementary and middle schools complex in the 300 block of S. Rose Hill Road.

Kingman Library receives grant

Word was received May 19, 1997 that the Kingman Carnegie Library would be receiving grant money in the amount of \$24,000. The Library will be benefited from a Heritage Trust Fund Grant from the Kansas State Historical Society.

The Heritage Trust Fund grants are awarded annually to aid preservation efforts. All registered properties, except those owned by the state or federal government, are eligible. Forty-eight state registered owners

requested \$2.5 million with only 13 properties selected. The total amount funded was \$485,000.

The criteria for selection included the following: condition of property, historic significance, potential benefit to the community and the state, urgency of work proposed, level of endangerment, community support for the project and financial need.

"The library was built in 1914 and due to weather conditions and overall deteriorating elements, a decision to apply for the Heritage Trust Fund was an important step in preserving the building. The Library Board of Trustees, with the city commissioners approval, began this application in late 1996. They recognized the urgency of restoring our historic library building. That pleased me very much," says Linda Slack, librarian. "To preserve this property to a greater appreciation of historic buildings in Kingman translates what a fine community we live in. We received many letters of support from a wide range of community patrons and that too, we appreciated."

The project will begin November of this year with the proposed completion in May 1998.

Kingman receives additional grant

The Kingman Carnegie Library recently received a grant in the amount of \$4,000 from the Kingman Exxon Chemical Company. The purpose of the grant was to purchase two ECS Pentium 133 MHZ System computers using Windows 95. Due to the high demand of Internet participants of school children and adults and because of a large gift of educational CD's, the library found it necessary to seek funding to upgrade their computer systems.

"We are a public library with an eye on the world," says Linda Slack, librarian. "Our community fully supports our library as Exxon has just shown. If you want to get a glimpse of the library working toward the future, take a closer look at your library of the present. With a sharp eye you'll see our future unfolding right now, right here."

The Library extends their appreciation and thanks to the Exxon Employee Voluntary Involvement Fund of the Kingman Twine Plant.

Magazine database at your fingertips

Vista, a new magazine database, is now available from the Wichita Public Library on Dial DOC. Just by dialing into Dial DOC, 316/262-8899 or 316/262-8915, with your personal computer and modem you have access to nearly 600 different magazines from your home or office.

The Vista Reference Service allows use of the *Periodical Abstracts Library*, an extensive magazine index, with titles ranging from *American Health* to *Vogue*. Much of the indexing begins in 1988 and the magazine articles are indexed by subject and keyword.

Over half the magazines are available in full text, although some magazines only have abstracts of the articles. "Fortunately, Vista will let you do a limited search to find only full text articles on your topic," explained Ken Warner, General Reference Librarian. "You can then print the entire article or send it to an email address." If the article you are looking for is not available in full text from Vista, the Wichita Public Library (Central Library, 223 S. Main) has the back issues of hundreds of magazine titles and subscribes to most popular magazines.

The Vista Reference Service is also available as an option on the DOC menu at every Wichita Public Library location. Printing an article at the Library is just \$.10 a page. "The payment message actually appears on your screen when you dial in," say Warner, "but of course we don't charge you to print in your home or office."

Used book clearance sale

The Friends of the Wichita Public Library will sponsor their Used Book Clearance Sale Saturday, July 26 from 10:00 am—5:00 pm and Sunday, July 27 from 1:00 pm—4:30 pm in the lobby of the Wichita Public Library, 223 S. Main.

The Friends of the Library ask ridiculously low prices during their clearance sales. Most books go for only \$.25 each, romance novels sell for just \$.10 each, and magazines are priced at \$.05 each.

The Friends Bookstore is open year round at the Central Library, 223 S. Main, offering low prices on used books and magazines. Donations are appreciated and accepted at all Wichita Public Library locations. All proceeds from the sale benefit the Wichita Public Library.

Videos purchased with ILDP funds

An ILDP grant funded 31 videos in the *Disappearing World* series for Ablah Library, Wichita State University. Filmed in close cooperation with anthropologists, the videos provide a wealth of information about several world cultures and address a wide range of issues affecting these cultures such as drought, civil war, and rainforest destruction. Cultures from many parts of the world are represented. These videos are particularly suited for classroom use at the middle school, high school, and college/university levels.

A brochure listing the videos is available from Cathy Moore-Jansen, Social Sciences Librarian, Ablah Library, WSU, Wichita, KS 67260-0068; 316/978-5080; moorej@twsuvm.uc.twsu.edu[.] The videos are also listed at <http://www.twsu.edu/library/luis.html>; at <http://www.twsu.edu/library/socsci/world.html>; and in the Kansas Library Catalog.

Kansas books

by Roy Bird

The Oregon Trail is Still Alive: The 1995 Photographic Retracing of the 1853 Trail, by Ken and Laura Jones. Order from: Ken and Laura Jones, 235 Terrace Street, Ashland, OR 97520. Paper, 200 pp., 5½ x 8½, ISBN 0-965614-0-7.

This book is the narration of the recent Oregon Trail R.V. Caravan Route that Ken and Laura Jones joined in 1995, following the trail of her ancestors from Independence, Missouri to Oregon.

Laura's great-great grandfather, Nathaniel Myer, kept a diary of his family's Oregon and Applegate trail migration to Ashland in 1853. His diary is interspersed with theirs, as they travel along the trail, comparing their experiences with his. The last portion of the book is a story expanding on what may have happened along the trail, reading between the lines of his diary.

Libraries are offered a 20% discount from the retail price of the book, with a 30% discount for orders of five or more books. Higher discounts are available for larger orders. Large print version available from: Systems Co., Inc., Box 339, Carlsborg, WA 98382 or call 360/683-6860.

Recommended for adult nonfiction collections.

continued from page 3

as from their own reading experiences, which hopefully will open the door to lifelong learning and inquiry. The staff and board of the Bonner Springs City Library anticipate that these joint efforts can make a positive impact in the community, and will help make reading a valued part of the everyday lives of community members of all ages.

Bobo and the Troggs

On Friday, July 11, at 1:00 pm, the Community Theatre of Emporia and the Emporia Public Library will present a children's play, *Bobo and the Troggs*. The play will be held in the library's large meeting room. Children of all ages are invited to come see a live theatrical performance. The performance is free and no registration is required.

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