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 WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books

With two distinguished area legislators as honorary co-chairs; an extraordinary number of authors; tremendous support from underwriters; and unprecedented help from many volunteers, this year's Southern Kentucky Festival of Books will be outstanding!

Festival organizers are delighted that House Speaker Jody Richards and State Senator Brett Guthrie have agreed to serve as "Honorary Co-chairs," and we could find no better ambassadors for our event. Besides the tremendous support they have shown for education and literacy in the General Assembly, each has demonstrated personal interest in the book festival and its mission to encourage reading and love of books, and to have a positive impact on family literacy.

Author commitments are phenomenal with 151 authors confirmed to date. Headliners include Dick Schaap, Bonnie Angelo, Eleanor Clift and Tom Brazaitis, Ronnie Claire Edwards, Earl Hamner, Ralph Emery, Bobbi Ann Mason and many more. About one-fifth of the total are Kentucky authors, with the remainder coming from all across the country.

A new twist this year is the emphasis on children's activities on Friday. To make the festival interesting and exciting for schoolchildren, there will be a whole new series of "make and do" activities; presentations by Mr. Zig, who uses musical instruments to do a wonderfully entertaining and interactive program; storytelling by Mama Yaa; celebrity readers; performances by local school groups; drama; music; costumed literary charac-



continued on page 2.

R.R. Donnelley & Sons Awards Grant to WKU Glasgow Campus Library

R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company has awarded a \$50,000 corporate grant to Western Kentucky University to create the R.R. Donnelley Glasgow Campus Periodical Endowment Fund. This generous gift will provide permanent support for the periodical collection at the Glasgow Campus Library. It also includes a one-time commitment to purchase computer equipment, periodical-display turnstiles and a collection of academic and popular leisure magazines for the new facility.

The Glasgow campus of Western Kentucky University was established in 1988 and today enrolls an average of 1,200 students per semester. Students can complete a variety of associate and bachelor degree programs at the Glasgow campus, and a number of graduate courses are also offered. Construction on a new Regional Postsecondary Educational Center in Glasgow, which will house both the WKU Glasgow

continued on page 5.

WKU Libraries Educational Resources Center Receives Support from Hilliard Lyons

The Hilliard Lyons Charitable Contributions Committee recently announced a \$24,500 commitment to the Western Kentucky University Libraries to fund the purchase of computer equipment and software in the Educational Resources Center (ERC). This gift will enable the ERC to purchase 14 state-of-the-art computer workstations, a printer and educational software for use by students in the College of Education.

"This gift will transform the existing technological resources in the ERC and thus provide our future teach-

continued on page 3.

ters, plus about 20 children's authors will be on hand to talk with children and to autograph books. Many of these activities will be repeated Saturday so children and families who were unable to attend on Friday will have opportunity to enjoy the fun.

While our goal is to attract lots of children, adults have not been overlooked. On Saturday, the remaining 120+ authors will be at the festival to meet people and to sign books. Many have also agreed to do break-out sessions, taking time to do readings, panel discussions, etc., which gives festival-goers another opportunity to interact with their favorite writers.

Festival organizers are also working with Cory Lash, a WKU Journalism and Broadcasting faculty member, who teaches film-making. For the past several years, Lash has organized a contest among area high schools who are interested in film-making. This year, the students will gather at the book festival to hear presentations by several authors who have experience in film and/or TV. During the program winners of the video competition will be recognized. This is a new activity that will add a whole new dimension to the festival.

Besides all the planning for this year's festival, Jayne Pelaski, the festival assistant director, and many volunteers have been extremely busy planning "extra" activities to raise festival awareness and to aid fundraising efforts.

In mid-February, the book festival partnered with Famous-Barr to hold an area-wide used book sale. That highly successful venture realized \$4,200 which will benefit the festival.



General Manager Jerald Manning helps sort books for the Famous Barr Used BookSale held in February. Proceeds from the books sale benefit the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books.

Other activities underway include:

- Decorate a Bookshelf Contest: eighteen bookshelves were made available to be decorated using a reading or book-related theme. The finished shelves will be displayed at the festival, then auctioned off later, with the proceeds to benefit the festival.
- "Meet the Authors" Cocktail Party: A volunteer committee, chaired by Pam Funk, is planning this pre-festival reception sponsored by First Union Securities. This year, the party will be 7 - 9 p.m., Friday, April 6, at The Kentucky Museum. Tickets are \$40/person, with proceeds to benefit the book festival.
- "Hooks for Books": Again, a volunteer committee has planned a golf scramble that will feature an author/golfer, who will not only be among the players but will also autograph books. The golf scramble will be Saturday, April 21st at Hartland Golf Course in Bowling Green, with proceeds to benefit the book festival.

Don't miss this year's Southern Kentucky Festival of Books, scheduled for April 6 & 7 at the Bowling Green/Warren County Convention Center.

Hours are 10am - 4pm Friday; 9am - 5pm Saturday.

For more information, call the festival office (270) 745-5263 or check the Website: www.sokybookfest.org

As mentioned above, the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books is fortunate to have tremendous support from many area individuals, businesses, corporations. To date, our benefactors include:

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ers with cutting-edge technology and educational software," said Darla Bressler, Coordinator, Educational Resources Center. "We will now be able to provide WKU students who are entering Kentucky classrooms as teachers with the confidence and skills to utilize current educational software, incorporate technology into the existing curriculum and impart this knowledge of technology to their students. Moreover this knowledge will enable students in Kentucky schools to meet the Student Technology Standards mandated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act. In short, this gift will make a significant difference in the lives of many individuals..." she added.

The Hilliard Lyons Charitable Contributions Committee considers applications for assistance for capital projects that are submitted by Hilliard Lyons offices from communities around the Commonwealth. A key factor in the committee's decision to fund projects is the involvement by local Hilliard Lyons employees in the organization for which funding is requested. Both Pete Mahurin, senior vice president and branch manager of Hilliard Lyons in Bowling Green, and Bob Kirby, financial consultant/trust officer, are active at Western Kentucky University and have given significant contributions of time and resources to the "Investing in the Spirit" campaign. "Pete is a founding member and is a past chairman of the WKU Foundation Board of Trustees and serves on the "Investing in the Spirit" Campaign Cabinet. Bob is the immediate past president of the WKU Alumni Association and just completed a term on the WKU Foundation board, and he currently serves on the Campaign Cabinet as well. Both have been an integral part of Western's first major comprehensive fund raising campaign and have been true friends of Western Kentucky University for many years," said Tom Hiles, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations.

"Bob is well known in Bowling Green for his leadership and civic involvement," said Dr. Mike Binder, Dean of the University Libraries and The Kentucky Museum. "He is a tremendous asset to the Libraries Advisory Council and we are grateful that Hilliard Lyons is the kind of company that recognizes its employees' contributions to their communities by supporting their civic interests."

— Robbin Taylor

See photo, page 10.

Collections & Connections

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The web version may be accessed at

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Kentucky Women Artists 1850-1970

The Kentucky Museum on the campus of Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky, will present the exhibition "Kentucky Women Artists 1850-1970" opening September 16, 2001. The exhibition will include approximately fifty artists selected to represent different time periods, geographical locations in Kentucky, and levels of training, many of whom were recognized beyond the borders of the state. The exhibit is selected by guest curators Dr. Elizabeth Oakes and John Warren Oakes and sponsored by Firstar and the Kentucky Foundation for Women.

During the period from 1850 to 1970, women artists in Kentucky played an important role. In fact, many were educated in the major art centers of the United States and Europe. Those who returned to Kentucky or moved into the state played an important role in the training of both female and male artists during the first half of the 20th century. Kentucky women artists exhibited in regional and national exhibitions and received recognition for their work during a time when the art of many women artists was ignored and



Charcoal drawing
by Ann Trautman, 1930

their contribution to the history of art misrepresented or repressed. These women artists created a network of support for art in the state. They were instrumental in establishing both free and subscribed art classes. They started the Art Center School in Louisville and were a positive influence in encouraging women to become artists at both professional and amateur levels. This made Kentucky unique during the years before the Feminist movement of the 1970's brought national attention to the concerns of women.

This exhibition of Kentucky women artists is an opportunity to recognize the many women artists who



Dorothy Grider toured The Kentucky Museum last October and presented Riley Handy with a \$10,000 check to start the Dorothy Grider Art Exhibit Fund. Ms. Grider's generous gift will provide permanent support for the exhibition and preservation of her artwork as well as the works of other talented artists. Some of Ms. Grider's works will be on display at the upcoming Kentucky Women Artists exhibit at The Kentucky Museum.

were making art during this time. The directory accompanying the exhibition includes biographical information on as many Kentucky women artists from this period as could be identified. The compilers of this directory received biographies from all over the state as a result of a press release which was sent to all media. Letters were sent to each art department in the colleges and universities of Kentucky. Copies of the submission form and a poster asking for names of women artists were sent to each county library. Records in major libraries were researched for information on women artists.

Directors of museums and curators of collections provided much assistance. We expected to find about 75 women artists. Thus far we have discovered over 450. We are sure that many more women artists will be brought to our attention as a result of this exhibition and the publication of the directory. We welcome any additions and trust that the next edition of this directory will add many more women artists to this valuable record.

After "Kentucky Women Artists: 1850-1970" closes in Bowling Green on December 18, the exhibit will travel to the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art to hang alongside an exhibition its staff is developing of Kentucky women artists 1970 to present. That exhibit will be on display from January 19 - March 31, 2002.

— Sandy Staebell, John Warren Oakes, and Elizabeth Oakes

Campus and programs under the authority of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, is projected to be completed in August of this year.

The Glasgow Campus Library was opened at the present site of the campus in 1990 with the help of a large donation from the Business and Professional Women's Club of Glasgow and serves as a general reference library with primary emphasis on serving undergraduate needs. The current collection includes standard reference sources, current reading materials such



The new Glasgow Library under construction

as local, regional and national newspapers, and a collection of general interest magazines. The library is equipped with

state of the art electronic reference sources as well. Over the last ten years the Glasgow Campus Library has enjoyed support from local business and industry, including R.R. Donnelley, which operates a printing facility in Glasgow.

"The generosity of R.R. Donnelley will permit our Glasgow Campus Library to greatly expand access to both academic and leisure periodicals," said Brian Coufts, head of WKU Library Public Services. "The R.R.

Donnelley gift will also allow us to offer a unique opportunity for students to have flexible connections to electronic databases through laptop computers, which is a service we are not yet able to provide to students on the main campus."

Dr. Mike Binder, Dean of the WKU Libraries and Kentucky Museum, said "We are grateful that R.R. Donnelley places such a high value on the WKU Glasgow Campus Library, and we look forward to providing students with a wide variety of resources in the R.R. Donnelley Periodical Collection when the new facility opens in August."

Marlin Harker, vice president and division director of R.R. Donnelley's Glasgow facility noted, "R.R. Donnelley is pleased to enhance our long partnership with Western Kentucky University by providing funds for the Glasgow Campus Library. The Regional Postsecondary Education Center will enhance the learning and development opportunities for our employees, their families and the entire Glasgow community. We are committed to giving back to the communities where our employees live and work."

R.R. Donnelley, headquartered in Chicago, is a leading printer, communications services and logistics company. Its Glasgow plant, established in 1970, has over 1,200 employees engaged in the production of special-interest magazines.

— Robbin Taylor

Museum Features African American Folk Art

During January and February the traveling exhibit, African American Folk Art in Kentucky, provided visitors a first-ever look at the work of self-taught African-

Curtis Sullivan, President & exhibit sponsor for Omni Custom Meats, Inc., visits with a guest at the opening of the "African American Folk Art in Kentucky" exhibit

American artists in Kentucky, as seen through the work of ten artists with diverse backgrounds. Developed and produced by the Kentucky Folk Art Center in Morehead, the exhibit was sponsored by Omni Customs Meats, Inc. and Famous-Barr, a division of the May Department

Stores Company.

On Monday, January 15, several hundred visitors attended the opening reception for the exhibit, one of many events throughout the Bowling Green area that celebrated the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.. In addition to viewing the exhibit and touring the rest of the museum, the museum invited younger visitors to participate in a children's art activity led by artist Joan Dance, whose work was included in the exhibit.

— Sandy Staebell



Whimsical carvings, paintings and clothing fascinated guests young and old at the opening of the African American Folk Art in Kentucky exhibit. The display was sponsored by Omni Custom Meats, Inc and Famous Barr.



2001 BELLSOUTH COMMUNITY INTERNET WORKSHOPS

Made possible by sponsorship from BellSouth, University Libraries is in the fourth year of offering its Community Internet Workshops. Offered at the Carroll Knicely Institute for Economic Development at WKU's south campus since January 1998, the monthly Thursday night hands-on two-hour sessions are devoted to topics of popular interest and are open to the general public. Twenty-five different topics have been offered to date, with six new topics introduced each year. Popular workshops repeated year-to-year include Internet Browsing and Searching, Genealogy, Travel, and Weather. New topics to be introduced for 2001 include Sites for Families with Young Children, Folkways on the Web, Romance Novels, Antiques and Collectibles, Chatrooms, and Online Music.

BellSouth's sponsorship provides funding to cover the rental of the computer lab at the South Campus and production of brochures advertising the series and duplication of individual session handouts. To date, 338 participants have attended the workshops with a core of "regulars" who return frequently as well as newcomers every month who learn of the series from the brochures, newspaper ads, the Libraries web site and recommendations from friends. Evaluations of the workshops by attendees have been overwhelmingly positive with 61 percent considering the overall quality of the workshops "excellent" and 36 percent as "good."

The BellSouth Community Internet Workshops series has received campus, statewide and national recogni-



Dean of Libraries Michael Binder accepts a check from BellSouth Regional Manager H. B. Clark to support the Libraries' Community Internet Workshop series. Elaine Moore, the series coordinator and the Libraries' Electronic Information Coordinator, looks on.

tion. The series received a WKU 1999-2000 Academic Affairs Unit Productivity Award, has been the subject of presentations at the Kentucky Library Association and the American Library Association, and was featured in an article published in the summer 2000 issue of Kentucky Libraries.

For more information about the 2001 BellSouth Community Internet Workshops schedule, call the WKU Reference Center at 270-745-6125 or consult the workshop schedule on the Libraries' Home Page at www.wku.edu/Library and click on Workshops in the right-hand column under News and Events.

— Elaine Moore

Smith Wins 2001 Oberly Award

Charles Smith, Associate Professor and Science Bibliographer, has been awarded the 2001 Oberly Award by the Association of College and Research Libraries for his book *Biodiversity Studies: A Bibliographic Review* published by Scarecrow Press in 2000. This biennial award is given in odd-numbered



years for the best English-language bibliography in the field of agriculture or a related Science. The award was established in 1923 and includes a cash award and a plaque. Smith's book contains 5,880 bibliographic entries on biodiversity arranged alphabetically by author. Especially innovative was his use of ratings regarding the relative importance of a work based on the number of times it was cited in the literature and the number of libraries owning it. These unique features have drawn favorable attention from reviewers.

— Brian Coultts

Internet Librarian 2000

WKU Libraries at Internet Librarian 2000

Information Today, Inc. held its Internet Librarian 2000 Conference, November 5-9, 2000 in the beautiful Californian city of Monterey at Doubletree and Monterey Marriott hotels.

Dr. Michael Binder, Dean of the Western Kentucky University Libraries & Museum, and Haiwang Yuan, Web Site & Virtual Library Coordinator, attended the conference and presented their paper, "TIP - A Model for Becoming the Portal of Choice."

Internet Librarian 2000 was the fourth such annual conference, bringing together librarians and information managers from all over the United States as well as from abroad. It showcased "a mixture of leading-edge ideas and tools as well as exciting new events - all focused on information professionals and Internet-related technologies" (for more information, visit Information Today's Web site at www.infotoday.com/il2000/overview.htm). Its programs consisted of five themes:

- Web Tools and Systems
- Search Engines and Virtual Communities
- Content Management and eRoles

- Portals, Information Architecture, and Knowledge Management
- Internet@Schools

The conference featured more than 100 knowledgeable speakers, who delivered their presentations around the above themes in four simultaneous tracks from November 6 through 8. Supplemented by 20 workshops, two evening sessions, and eight cybertours, the presentations brought "case studies, fresh concepts, practical tips, concrete successful strategies, real world applications and many lessons learned" (To access the papers, visit www.infotoday.com/il2000/presentations/).

Internet Librarian 2000 was an eye-opening learning event. While Binder and Yuan had the opportunity to introduce our Topper InfoPortal (TIP) to an international audience of librarians and information professionals, they also gained further knowledge of portals and their potential. Binder and Yuan were also exposed to a new world of electronic reference, where librarians and remote users are connected and interacting with each other in a real time scenario on the Internet via technologies already available to us. They also learned what new technologies and trends are in store for libraries in the near future.

The presentation given by Dean Binder and Haiwang Yuan was well received by the attendees and gave rise to insightful discussions. Its PowerPoint presentation may be retrieved at www.wku.edu/~yuanh/TIP_Eng/ppframe.htm.
— Mike Binder and Haiwang Yuan

WKU Libraries' Music Collection Grows!

Last summer, Cravens Library acquired an extremely large collection of LP's belonging to the Music Department. In addition, there have been at least three donations of LP's/45's/78's to our collection (from various individuals), including Steven Stines of New York City, who donated 379 books and 372 phonograph records dealing with Broadway musicals and the New York theater in general to the library's collection last February 2000. In total, we now have approximately 15,000 LP's in Cravens. In the near future, these will be cataloged for patron use. We are in the process of establishing policies that best suit the needs of our patrons (faculty,



staff, and students), keeping security measures and the nature of LP's in mind.

We are also currently in the process of acquiring various musical audio equipment for our workstations in Circulation. We now have 6 CD players, 3 audiocassette players/recorders, and 2 turntables for audio playback. Of course, we also have headphones for listening. In the near future, we will have a CD writer (for dubbing and preservation purposes).

Reserve/Circulation now houses all media available for checkout. The Student Technology Center previously provided this service, but it has been transferred to The Reserve Section (along with all the audio workstations).
— Michael Franklin

Members Matter

University Libraries and Kentucky Museum staff would like to thank the individuals and businesses that support our programs and activities. The following were members or had contributed to the Libraries and/or Museum as of February 19, 2001.

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Bob Kirby of Hilliard Lyons presents a check to Educational Resources Center Coordinator Darla Bressler. Hilliard Lyons, Charitable Contributions Committee recently awarded \$24,500 to the ERC to purchase new computer equipment and software.

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New Deal Records Accessioned at WKU

The call came in the late afternoon. "I know you're interested in this kind of stuff, and we've found some records from some kind of local food commodity distribution program. Do you want them?" That was the gist of the conversation. Since our Manuscripts and Archives area already had a collection of U.S. Food Administration records from Marshall County and since these new found records apparently related to our own Warren County, I agreed to examine them. They had been stored in the city's 1870s water intake facility which was about to be razed. Upon arrival I found seven fruit crates of records, covered in 60 years of coal dust, pigeon droppings, desiccated insects, and trash. The administrator of the water facility was glad to be relieved of the responsibility of the records, and upon closer examination I was glad she called. The

records represent the work of the Warren County Relief Committee, the local group responsible for assisting various New Deal programs during the Great Depression. After cleaning the material, we ended up with nearly 2300 items dating from 1931 to 1936. Some of the most damaged materials had to be photocopied, and a few records had to be destroyed because they were no longer readable.

The Relief Committee's work was eventually replaced by several professional social workers whose chief responsibility was to approve families for assistance and refer them to different relief agencies for help. The records are incomplete, but they do reflect the type of work being done in Warren County. Included in the collection are food distribution records, material related to medical assistance, initial interview forms used in processing families for assistance, occupational record forms, and the correspondence of social workers who

continued on page 15.

National Library Week @ your library

National Library Week, an annual springtime celebration, is quickly approaching, and organizers are already planning a variety of events. Western Kentucky University Libraries and Museum, in partnership with Bowling Green Public Library, are arranging for Bowling Green Mayor Sandy Jones and Judge Executive Mike Buchanan to sign a proclamation declaring April 1-7 as National Library Week in Bowling Green and Warren County.

This week of celebration will launch the national Campaign for America's Libraries and introduce the concept of "@ your library" to the public.

— Sean Kinder

Among the scheduled events are:

- A kick-off ceremony in Cravens Library
- A week-long book fair presented by Scholastic Book company in the Educational Resources center in Tate Page Hall
- An International Night, an informal forum during which international students can gather to discuss their observations or experiences at libraries around the world
- Storytelling for children on campus
- A County-wide art contest for K-6 students
- Open House at the Glasgow campus Library
- Southern Kentucky Festival of Books Activities
- Plus a few surprises

Watch upcoming announcements for additional information about these and other activities. Join in the fun and celebration as we pay tribute to all the wealth of opportunities available @ your library.

@ your library

Thursday, March 29, 2001 Western Authors' Reception

12 - 2 p.m. (Remarks at 1:00)
Kentucky Building
Includes presentation of Faculty Library Award

Monday, April 2 Kickoff Event

10 a.m.
Cravens Library: Circulation Area

Scholastic Books' Book Fair

9 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Monday-Thursday);
Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Educational Resources Center
3rd Floor, Tate Page Hall

International Students/ Librarians Roundtable Discussion

Topic: @ the Library-Experiencing Libraries Around the World
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.; Cravens Library,
Room 111 (Includes refreshments)

Schedule of Events

for National Library Week 2001

Tuesday, April 3 Storytelling

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Jones Jagger Hall, Room 113
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Bryant Way Head Start Center
949 Bryant Way

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Graham Child Development Center
305 Graham Street

Wednesday, April 4 WKU Libraries & Kentucky Museum Student Reception

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Downing University Center, 4th Floor
Lounge Area

Thursday, April 5 Open House

Glasgow Campus Library
3-5 p.m.
(Includes refreshments)

Friday, April 6 Patron Appreciation Day

Cravens Library: Morning (Staff will
distribute some free copy coupons)

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books Display of National Library Week Art Contest Winners

Bowling Green - Warren County
Convention Center

April

April 6-7

Southern Kentucky Festival of Books

at the Bowling Green/Warren County Convention center. Visit www.sokybookfest.org for information about authors.

April 6

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Children's Day at the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books.

at the Bowling Green/Warren County Convention center. Visit www.sokybookfest.org for information about authors.

April 6

7 - 9 p.m.
Meet the Authors Cocktail Party
at the Kentucky Museum. Tickets are \$40/ person. Contact Earlene chelf at (270) 745-5263 for more information.

April 7

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Major book signing event
with over 150 authors confirmed. For more information call Earlene Chelf or Jayne Pelaski at (270) 745-5263.

April 19

7:00-8:30 p.m.
Germany. A "Far Away Places... with Strange Sounding Names"
presentation, sponsored by Coca Cola, at Barnes & Noble Bookstore Cafe, 1680 Campbell Lane. Offered by WKU Libraries. Call (270) 745-6115 for more information and to ensure seating.

April 19

7:00 p.m.
Genealogy
a BellSouth Community Internet Workshop.*



Spring Calendar 2001

April 20

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Kentucky Council on Archives
At the Kentucky Building. For more information, call Jonathan Jeffrey at 270/745-5265.

April 21

8:00 a.m.
Hooks for Books Golf Scramble.
One of several activities held in conjunction with the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books. Hartland Golf Course. For more information, call Earlene Chelf or Jayne Pelaski at (270) 745-5263.

May

May 3

7:00 p.m.
Sites for Families with Young Children
a BellSouth Community Internet Workshop.*

May 11-12

Bowling Green Business University Reunion
Campus of Western Kentucky University. For more information, call Mary Beth Frith, Alumni Relations, at 270/745-4395, or email her at Mary.Frith@wku.edu.

June

June 7

7:00 p.m.
Travel Web Sites
a BellSouthCommunity Internet Workshop.*



July

July 12

7:00 p.m.
Folkways on the Web
a BellSouth Community Internet Workshop.*

* Presented by WKU Libraries in room 116, at the Knicely Institute at South Campus, 2355 Nashville Road. Call (270) 745-6115 for more details.

September

May 16

Kentucky Women Artists: 1850-1970
opens at the Kentucky Museum.
Sponsored by Firstar Bank.

Minix's History of Donations Benefits Educational Programs

Dr. Nancy A. Minix, Associate Professor in the Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education, has been a faculty member of the School of Teacher Education at Western Kentucky University for over twenty-five years. Throughout her tenure she has demonstrated her commitment to quality education in Kentucky through her teaching, supervision of student teachers, and many hours of public service; however, until now one of her most significant contributions to the quality of educational resources and services at Western Kentucky University has not been acknowledged.



Dr. Nancy Minix stands in front of some of the materials she has donated to the Educational Resources Center over the last seven years.

Over the past seven years, Dr. Minix has served as an instructional materials reviewer for the State Textbook Commission. As a member of the State Textbook Adoption Committee, Dr. Minix has received review copies of all of the textbook and curriculum materials that are under consideration for adoption in the State of Kentucky. What is not common knowledge is that for the past seven years Dr. Minix has donated all of these instructional materials to the Educational Resources Center after they have been reviewed and considered for adoption.

Curriculum and textbook materials are highly valued by both students and faculty of the School of Teacher Education at Western Kentucky University. These materials circulate frequently and are heavily used by those preparing to become teachers in Kentucky Public School systems. It is critical that our future teachers have access to current instructional materials such as these; however, these materials are

prohibitively expensive for Western to acquire as an institution. According to Carol Tuning, Instructional Resources Consultant for the Kentucky Department of Education, the cost of textbook and curriculum materials donated to the Educational Resources Center by Dr. Minix each year ranges between \$200,000 and \$250,000. A conservative estimate of the cost of textbook and curriculum materials donated to the Educational Resources Center by Dr. Minix over the past seven-year period is \$1,400,000.

It is due to the generosity of Dr. Minix that Western Kentucky University students who are entering Kentucky classrooms as teachers have access to a wide variety of current instructional materials. This access has enabled these students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and implement units and lesson plans in accordance to standards mandated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act, as well as the confidence to impart this knowledge to their students. The generosity of Dr. Minix is deeply appreciated by all of us at Western Kentucky University Libraries, as we have first-hand knowledge of the tremendous impact it will have on the education of our future teachers and students. In exchange for providing space for area educators to review textbooks, the ERC now becomes the future recipient of these materials. And this has also been the catalyst for the change in cataloging of these materials. However, I believe that Dr. Minix's generosity should be acknowledged and appreciated by the entire University community. After all, we all benefit from well-educated graduates who will assume positions of leadership in our schools, our communities, our state, our country, and our lives.

— Darla Bresslor

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New Kentuckians

"New Kentuckians" activities are currently underway at the Kentucky Museum. The first exhibit ran through March 18th and included a mural by the W.R.O.T.E. (We're Reaching Out To Educate) International Club, drawings by some of the club's members, and five buildings by Bowling Green artist, Nathaniel Lewis. Mr. Lewis designs his buildings by looking at pictures or photographs of buildings and constructs miniature versions in a folk art fashion of using found and recycled objects. Next, the Girls Inc. group has just completed their mural, "Girls From Around The World,"



W.R.O.T.E. International Club members work on a mural that was exhibited in the Kentucky Building.

which will be on view at the museum March 31 to June 2nd. In addition, the first Professional Development Workshop was held February 10th with Artist/Educator Sandy Novosel, and the next Professional Development workshop is scheduled for Saturday, June 23rd. Finally



WKU student and artist Jenni Li worked with participants at the International Festival to create their vision of their new Kentucky home.

WKU Folk Studies Graduate Assistant Mark Brown has created a web site www.wku.edu/Library/online/nk/ that features artwork from many of these activities. Check the site this summer for upcoming images from the sister city art swap between Meiho Elementary School in Kawanishi, Japan, and Richardsville Elementary School in Warren County.

-Lynne Ferguson

In Memory of Sara Tyler 1910-2001



Sara Elizabeth Tyler died January 25, 2001 at age 90, having lived all her life in Bowling Green. She began working in Western's library in 1933 and rose to the position of Director of Libraries before her retirement in 1975. She was prominent in both the Kentucky Library Association and the Southeastern Library Association where she served as director for the state of Kentucky. She was also active in Western's chapter of American Association of University Women.

Miss Tyler graduated from Western in 1932 and from George Peabody College in 1945. She became head librarian in 1956, which position she held until becoming University Archivist three years before her retirement.

Miss Tyler was very active in the First Christian Church and in the local Landmark Association, Southern Kentucky Historical society and other groups. She had been retired from Western for twenty-five years. She was known for her gracious manner and her dedication to Western.

- Riley Handy

Dr. Crawford Crowe



University Archives also notes the recent death of Sara Tyler's successor, Dr. Crawford Crowe, University Archivist from 1975-80.

were trying to verify residence for those seeking assistance. The records will be a treasure trove for genealogists, particularly the family interview forms that contain names of all family members in a household, their age, employment history, wages, information about home ownership, marital status, debt, value of real and personal property, monthly budget information, agencies to which referred, and occasionally additional reports from other agencies. If a home visit was required, even more details about the family's home, financial condition and health were noted.

Another record created by the social workers, and found in this collection, are occupational classification forms used for those seeking employment with one of the New Deal programs. The collection contains 601 of these forms, which include information about the applicant such as: weight, height, marital status, address, general health, employment history, educational background, and a listing of referrals made to different agencies. A treasure from this series, is the form for Pauline Tabor, who shortly thereafter became a madam in a bordello that operated in Bowling Green for over thirty years. Her work eventually led to an international reputation, with a published biography and appearances on the Dick Cavett show. At this time (1935) she was thirty-eight years old, divorced, had one dependent and listed her usual occupation as waitress and her alternate occupation as saleslady. Discrimination was strictly forbidden, and there seems to have been a corresponding representation of African Americans and women in the applications.

The medical records contain some correspondence related to specific cases, but the majority of this material consists of reports generated for the state office. An interesting series of letters relates to the distribution of Brewer's yeast to pellagra victims in Warren and surrounding counties. Pellagra is a disease caused by lack of niacin and other B-complex vitamins in the diet. In filling out one report for the state medical relief office in Louisville, the local worker sorrowfully admitted that she had inspected the yeast on hand and found that "mice had invaded the storeroom and feasted on our yeast, and to our regret, we have healthy mice instead of healthy children." The state office did ask them to examine the yeast and use any packages that had not been molested by the mice. The health nurse from the County Health Department "examined the yeast carefully" and deemed it contaminated. The weekly reports generated by the medical staff list the type of illnesses and conditions that were treated along with the doctor's



Interview room at the Warren County office of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

fee and drug cost for each case. Some of the maladies treated and corresponding fees included: malaria (\$1), abscessed tooth (\$2.50), flux (.75), spider bite (\$1.25), and a number of malaria cases (\$1 each).

From a social work viewpoint, the most interesting material in this collection is the correspondence generated by social workers who investigated the residency of clients and found relatives for displaced residents. One series of letters revolved around a twenty-year-old man who was stranded in Indianapolis. His family was from Warren County, although his mother and father had left in the late-1920s to search for work in Detroit. Since that time his father had died and the young man had lost contact with his mother. The Indiana Transient Service Bureau was attempting to locate uncles of the young man in hopes that one of them would provide a home for him. This led to several home visits with the uncles; all of the family members refused to accept the man into their homes. Two of the uncles were not financially capable of supporting another person. Another uncle refused because his wife "had a lot of trouble with him aggravating her boy who is younger" when the young man had made previous visits. The social worker also added his personal comment: "In my opinion this boy will not stay at his Uncle's should he return. He is a City boy and the family lives very poor and away out in the Country in a very lonesome backward place and too, it would be a very meager living."

Now that Depression Era materials are a full generation old, archives will begin to accession more and more of these types of records. Three years ago, WKU's Manuscripts and Archives accepted a similar set of records related to Civilian Conservation Corps applications from adjoining Edmonson County. These collections will assist our researchers in interpreting the economic and social conditions of southcentral Kentuckians during the Great Depression and how the federal government assisted them.

— Jonathan Jeffrey

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