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The Folklore of Horror

by Kimberly Shain Parsley

H.P. Lovecraft was an early 20th century horror writer and man of letters. Naturally, any scholarship on him would be conducted by a member of the English faculty, right? Wrong.

Dr. Timothy H. Evans, associate professor of folk studies, has been researching Lovecraft and his relationship to folklore, a vast relationship encompassing the folkloric influences on Lovecraft and the subculture his writings spawned.

“I was a fan of Lovecraft when I was a teenager. I liked his stories a lot, but I read them all, then I moved on to other things. Then in the mid 90’s, a new biography was published, and I read that and it revived my interest.”

He said that after reading the biography, he realized the extent to which he shared a common interest with Lovecraft, that of folklore.

Lovecraft was born in Providence, R.I. in 1890. His father suffered a nervous breakdown and was institutionalized when Lovecraft was only three, and died when Lovecraft was eight. His neurotically overprotective mother cared for him. Other familial influences included two aunts and his grandfather, who introduced him to weird stories and strange tales. These early stories, coupled with an interest in Greek mythology, were the basis for many of Lovecraft’s stories.

“Drawing on legends and beliefs, on the architecture of old houses and the iconic power of religious
symbols, horror writers often evoke ‘tradition’ and the ‘past’ in order to explore a perceived loss of tradition in the present,” Dr. Evans wrote in an article published in the Journal of Folklore Research. “Much horror literature is predicated upon feelings of insecurity brought about by cultural change, by the idea that our families and communities, our familiar beliefs and cultural forms, are increasingly under assault by forces beyond our control.”

Lovecraft surely felt just such insecurity and cultural change after the death of his grandfather, when due to financial difficulties; he and his mother were forced to leave their family home, giving up as well a measure of their social status. Lovecraft lived with his mother until her death. He was 25 when she died, and began to flourish almost instantly, Evans said, setting out on travels along the Eastern seaboard.

“He visited many significant and historic sights along the coast. He was particularly interested in colonial times and cultures. He spent a lot of time in places like Charleston, Quebec City, and especially New England,” Evans said. “He was a very knowledgeable scholar of New England history, culture and folklore.”

Evans said much of Lovecraft’s travel writings focused on historic architecture, arts and crafts, furniture and graveyard art. In addition, he collected oral folklore from the places he visited, particularly supernatural legends and beliefs.

Evans described Lovecraft as an antiquarian, loving all things old and traditional and viewing the modern industrial era with scorn. Indeed, even in his letters, Lovecraft would write in the archaic style of an 18th century gentleman, even dating his letters hundreds of years in the past. It is estimated that he wrote between 75,000 and 100,000 letters during his life. Many of those letters are stored at the Brown University Library in Providence. Evans received a fellowship from Brown University and a faculty scholarship from Western Kentucky University, which offered him the opportunity to spend time in Providence studying the letters. Evans has published two articles on Lovecraft in academic journals and is writing a book, tentatively entitled H. P. Lovecraft’s America.

“His letters are really fascinating because some of them are very long, and they’re beautifully written for the most part,” Evans said. “He was a very well educated—though largely self educated, rather brilliant person.”
Evans said that Lovecraft’s longing for tradition and old ways is apparent in his fiction and letters.

“In his hometown of Providence, he became a very active historic preservationist, but those themes also get into his stories and become sort of the background or material out of which he creates his stories.”

Evans said that Lovecraft was not well known during his lifetime. His stories were primarily published in pulp magazines. “As time has gone by, he’s become more popular. He sells very well now, but he’s also established more of a critical reputation. A volume of his stories was recently published in the prestigious Library of America series.”

Evans began his research by studying Lovecraft, the man, but has since become interested in the popular subculture surrounding his creations. Books by other writers and movies have since been based on works by Lovecraft. “The Call of Cthulhu,” is a role playing game based on a Lovecraft story of the same name. There are also Lovecraft related board games and video games. One Lovecraft invention that is frequently mentioned in or is the basis of several recent horror movies and books is the Necronomicon.

The Necronomicon was a non-existent book of ancient occult lore, a kind of hoax that Lovecraft invented, and referred to and quoted in some of his stories. Since his death, some people have come to believe in its actual existence. There have even been spurious versions of it published.

“One thing about Lovecraft is there’s so much too him. You can interpret him in all kinds of ways. That’s part of what makes him interesting.”

“He invented this whole kind of mythology, sometimes called an anti-
mythology, a sort of alternative history of the universe.”

Evans compared this anti-mythology to the world created by J.R.R. Tolkien in the *Lord of the Rings*. Additionally, Lovecraft’s stories have inspired a “heavy metal/gothic” culture, “which I suspect Lovecraft would not have liked,” Evans said.

“Part of what I look at in my work is how Lovecraft took actual folklore—folk legends, beliefs, and material things like architecture—and brought those into his stories then manipulated and changed them around and came up with his own creations,” Evans said. “So he uses real folklore in the folklore he makes up and they all get mixed up and you can’t tell what’s real and what isn’t, and he creates his own world that way.”

For more pictures of Lovecraft’s work, go to www.nightserpent.com.

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Putting the Pieces Together

by Joy Baum

What’s the first thing that comes to mind when you see dark clouds? Most people would assume that it’s going to rain. This information is processed and taken for granted. But what if you lost the ability to put two pieces of information together to make a decision? Is that a consequence of getting older?

This is the question that Dr. Sharon Mutter, professor of psychology is trying to answer. For her research in this area, Mutter has been awarded the University Research/Creativity Award.

Mutter, who has a doctorate in experimental psychology from George Washington University, studies the type of learning called associative learning and memory. Her studies in this area began with her postdoctoral work on judgment for people with traumatic brain injuries. She became aware that no one had ever done a study on how age affects decision making in memory.

“I find it to be a really interesting study in cognition,” Mutter said. We can study these declines that occur as a way of helping us understand everyday cognition.”

She explained that when a person interacts with his or her environment, he or she is exposed to certain events, and over a period of time you learn the relationships between those events. Once these relationships are learned, then predictions and judgments can be made.

What Mutter found was that although older adults made good judgments when it came to positive relationships, their judgment
wasn’t as good for negative relationships.

“A negative relationship would be that the absence of vaccine predicts a higher incidence of disease,” she said. “One thing we want to know is if older adults avoid risks in their judgments, and are they using all the available information. Studies have shown they don’t.”

For her research purposes, she studied individuals age 60 and above, with the median age around 72-75.

Mutter asks, “What factors do they use to make biased judgments? Are older adults more or less likely to make judgments based on past events?”

She hopes that answering some of these questions can make older adults aware of their judgment in day-to-day decision making.

Mutter’s research has led her into several community and state programs that deal with the elderly. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Kentucky Association of Gerontology and was on the Advisory Board for the Bowling Green Adult Day Health Care Center.

Dr. Steven Haggbloom, head of the psychology department, wrote in a letter of support, “An important dimension of Dr. Mutter’s scholarly activities is the extent to which those activities have promoted both graduate and undergraduate student engagement in research, and even facilitated the research programs of other faculty.”

Mutter uses many students in her research, graduate and undergraduate. Eleven of the students that have worked with her have gone on to get their Ph.Ds. This is something she encourages strongly, and hopes that their experience with her inspired them to continue their education.

Jennifer Naylor, one of the many research assistants that worked with Mutter is now a research associate at Duke University Medical School. She wrote, “Dr. Mutter played a major role in my decision to pursue a career in scientific research. I came to work with her in pursuit of a master’s degree in clinical psychology, but have since earned a degree in experimental psychology, and I can honestly say that Dr. Mutter heavily influenced my change in career direction.”

“When I was an undergraduate, I did research, and that was the thing that got me excited about psychology in general,” Mutter said. “Students get a hands-on close up experience with psychology. It’s really a central aspect of the learning process. People say it’s teaching and research. I think you teach through research. That is student engagement. When they are in the lab, they are engaged.”
New and Improved!

by Kimberly Shain Parsley

An existing master’s level program has expanded to include an emphasis in sports administration.

According to Dr. Steve Spencer, professor in the P.E. and recreation department, this alteration to the curriculum will offer students a broader range of career options.

“What we found out by doing some research is that the best way to do a sports administration program is through the master’s program rather than the undergraduate program,” he said.

Spencer said that many bachelor degrees will work with a sports administration master’s program, and cited business, marketing, recreation and physical education as a few examples.

“What we have had here traditionally is a pretty general master’s program in recreation administration,” Spencer said. “When we laid down the matrixes for the national accrediting association for sports
administration, it was very close to what we were doing anyway. And a lot of our students ended up in sports administration positions.”

Spencer said that most people equate sports administration with being an athletic director, but he said it is much more than that. It can involve facilities management, the National Park Service, health and therapy, and the military. “We’re trying to tailor make as many of these courses as we can to fit people, at the same time having a specific nucleus for a master’s program.”

The change to the program includes the addition of a law class and a practicum requirement, which had previously been an elective.

“We massaged the courses a little bit so that we were definitely emphasizing the sports administration side as opposed to the rec. side. The new program is entitled recreation and sports administration.”

Spencer assured students who prefer the recreation aspect of the degree that their curriculum needs will still be met by the program. He stressed that the sports administration emphasis has not taken away from the recreation administration master’s. “We continue to advise on an individual basis. For those students who are really interested in working on a university campus, we’ll work their practicums in that area so their experience will be in that area.”

“We wanted to continue to make our master’s program the best in the state, which we feel we are at this time. This just makes it stronger by diversifying our options,” he said.

Another strength to the program is the hiring of two new faculty members. “Our program had a 50 percent faculty increase,” Spencer said, and added that the program change would not have been possible without the addition of new faculty.

Spencer thanked the WKU Athletic Department for their help in transitioning to the recreation and sports administration program and for the hands-on assistance and experience they offer students.

Spencer said the master’s program in recreation, now recreation and sports administration, is popular among staff members who are continuing their educations as a benefit of being WKU employees. “If I pull up a list of our current graduate students, the ones who are full-time employed here at the University comprise more than a third of our students. There’s another 40 percent who are either working as graduate assistants or part-time administrators.”

Spencer said he and his fellow faculty members in the department understand the pressures of working a full-time job and being a graduate student. “We understand that, and we’re going to work with people. We don’t say that it’s class or nothing. That’s not the real
world.”

Anyone interested in learning more about the program can contact Steve Spencer, steve.spencer@wku.edu.
WKU helps with Homeland Security

by Tommy Newton

Western Kentucky University’s Applied Physics Institute will be part of two homeland security projects to monitor milk transport systems and to improve the safety of the nation’s railways.

The Kentucky Homeland Security University Consortium, a group of Kentucky colleges and universities, was awarded $9.2 million in federal funds from the Department of Homeland Security.

The Applied Physics Institute has been performing homeland security oriented research and development since its inception in 1994. It has developed and helped to commercialize explosive, chemical agent, and radiological/nuclear detection systems. For information, visit www.wku.edu/Dept/Academic/Ogden/Phys/Phyast/API.

The awards were announced in August by The National Institute for Hometown Security in Somerset. U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers made the announcement and was joined by U. S. Department of Homeland Security Under Secretary Charles McQueary, who leads the department’s Science and Technology Directorate.

Milk transport project

WKU and the University of Kentucky were awarded a three-year, $1.5 million research and development project to secure milk transport from farm to processor.

Fred Payne of UK is the principal investigator for the project. Phillip Womble, co-principal investigator of the project and director of API, will lead WKU’s research team.

Industrial collaborators include companies from Kentucky and
Tennessee: Alan Wilson
Trucking and Slayback Milk Transport (milk hauling); Southern Belle Dairy and Winchester Farms Dairy (milk processors); Bluegrass Tank and Equipment, Starr Stainless, Inc. (milk tank manufacturers); Dairy Farmers of America MidEast Council (dairy producer). Northwest Nuclear, LLC will collaborate in wireless asset tracking development. Balluff, Inc. will support the project with electronic sensors.

The contamination of bulk food poses a high consequence threat to our society. The goal of the proposed research is to develop a wireless security system that will assure the delivery of milk, milk samples and security information from the dairy farm to the dairy plant. A systems approach will be used to identify the critical points for obtaining multidimensional security information: security event, time of occurrence, geographic location and identity of truck driver.

The wireless system will be designed to accommodate the future likelihood that dairy herd information must be transported to the dairy plant with the milk. The system will be designed to operate automatically and require minimal or no attention by the milk truck driver. A demonstration system will be tested in collaboration with farms and dairy plants.

Project developments will include a standard data collection protocol that is cost effective, compatible with existing milk transport infrastructure, and has the support of the dairy farmers, milk haulers, and processors. The developed electronic system will be commercialized by presenting it to the collaborating dairy tank manufacturers, sensor manufacturers and other interested parties.

The milk transport security protocol may be applicable to other bulk food transport situations both nationally and internationally. Successful development of this project will add significantly to the national security infrastructure for bulk food transport.

**Railway safety project**

The Applied Physics Institute and the Institute for Scientific Research, Inc. (ISR) received a one-year, $752,423 research and development project to improve the safety of the nation’s railways.

The project “Rail Tank Car Leakage Detection System (RLEAKS)” is aimed to develop a system that can detect and locate pinhole leaks in rail car containment vessels and provide alerts to railroad operators and security personnel. Pressurized rail tank cars transport and distribute large volumes of volatile liquids and gases throughout the nation each day, much of which is hazardous and/or flammable.

RLEAKS will be a low-cost, distributed wireless network of acoustic sensors that incorporates intelligent location decision-making to
monitor leaks, while minimizing false alarms and remaining non-intrusive to railroad operation.

"We are looking forward to working with ISR on this project to protect critical infrastructure in the United States," said Phillip Womble, director of API and principal investigator of the project. "We appreciate the leadership of Congressman Hal Rogers in developing the National Institute for Hometown Security and allowing us to participate in this program."

The main topics to be addressed in the RLEAKS project include: acoustic sensor adequacy with respect to environment, sensitivity, precision, line-of-sight limitations, power, weight, and volume; high-frequency sampling hardware and software; algorithms for leak spectral analyses and isolation, first order leak detection, false alarm prevention, and leak localization; integrated wireless network capability; and ground control station for data fusion, visualization and storage, as well as wireless network management.

A complete system demonstration to exhibit the capabilities and application of the sensor network will be conducted at the project’s conclusion.

"We are honored to be selected for the award," said Alex Barzilov, associate director of API and co-principal investigator of RLEAKS project. "We are excited to develop and test cutting edge scientific approaches for critical infrastructure protection."

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Mastering the Web

by Bob Edwards

When most people need to find information, they turn to the internet first—and often exclusively. Prospective students and their parents are no exception.

Increasingly, an individual’s first impression of Western Kentucky University is formed by a visit to the WKU website. If he or she doesn’t like what they see there, they may never get to our physical location to see the results of our campus beautification efforts or experience what we call the “WKU spirit.”

WKU recently commissioned a survey of high school juniors and seniors in Louisville, Lexington and Northern Kentucky. More than 80 percent cited college Web sites as their main source of information, ranking well above high school counselors, campus visits and mailings. Such survey data proves how critical a resource the WKU website has become to WKU’s continued success and growth.

With this in mind, the office of University Relations conducted an
audit of University Web pages, finding many that contained outdated information and broken links. This can be a quick turnoff to computer-savvy students (and parents) of today.

But don’t panic—University Relations can help!

On Sept. 23, members of the University Relations staff held the first of several meetings designed to open regular communication with those across campus assigned the task of maintaining college and departmental Web sites. In addition, the University Relations Web manager, Bruce Davis, has designed a template that can be used to bring a consistent look to the opening pages across campus departments. This template, which can be tailored to individual departments, can be easily updated—and Bruce can help you get started.

Enhancing the effectiveness, appearance, and usability of the WKU website is truly a campus-wide effort. This support group of campus Webmasters will help ensure that WKU will make a good impression on those visiting via the Web. If you are responsible for a departmental website and haven’t been contacted by University Relations, please e-mail Media Relations Director Bob Skipper at bob.skipper@wku.edu.

Bob Edwards is the assistant vice president for University Relations.

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Submissions for entry in the Professional Activities section should be sent to Joy Baum, joy.baum@wklu.edu All submissions must be sent electronically. Please include name, department, title, current position, name of presented or published work and name of publication or conference. No acronyms or abbreviations please.

WKU’s Office of Media Relations has relaunched its Experts Guide. The Experts Guide is an excellent public relations tool for the university as media look for experts to interview and civic organizations look for speakers.

The Experts Guide is a work in progress and will be updated as new information is received. We’ve compiled the list using previous experts guides, news releases, magazine stories and departmental webpages.

The Experts Guide is available online at http://www.wku.edu/ur/experts.html.

To WKU faculty and staff: If you’d like to be included, send an email with your name, contact information and areas of expertise to wkunews@wklu.edu. If your name is on our list and you’d rather not be listed or if you need to update your information, send an email to wkunews@wklu.edu.

**Accounting**

Jan Colbert has been appointed to the Content Committee for the Computer-Based CPA Exam of the American Institute of CPAs. The Committee oversees all sections of the intensive, four-part CPA exam. Also, she has been named Chair of the Audit Committee for the same organization.

Harold Little was elected President of the American Accounting Association Diversity Initiative Section during the August 2005 annual meeting in San Francisco, Calif.

**Biology**

Chemistry

Kevin Williams published “Interaction of N-acetylmethionine with a non-/C/2-symmetrical platinum diamine complex” in the Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry. Donald J. Chapman, Sondra R. Massey (Chem, 2005) and C. Haare were undergraduate student co-authors.

English

Sandra Hughes presented her paper “I Am Obnoxious to Each Carping Tongue”: Anne Bradstreet and New World Femininity” at the Spanish Association for American Studies Conference: Masculinities, Femininities, and Hybridities in U.S. Culture in Jaén, Spain.

She also chaired a panel and presented “How Students Perceive Difference in the Classroom—A Roundtable Discussion” at the June Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching Summer Conference: Ideas for Student Engagement Across the Curriculum in Bowling Green, Ky.

Mary Ellen Miller had her poem, “Things in the Shape of Other Things” appear in an article “The Kentucky Writers Series” by Jane Olmsted and Elizabeth Oakes in the Fall 2005 issue of Arts Across Kentucky.

Engineering

Robert Choate and Kevin Schmaltz presented “Senior ME Capstone Laboratory Course,” “Design, Build and Test in a Thermal Fluids Laboratory Course,” and “Engaging Students in Multidisciplinary Engineering Problem Solving: An Investigation of an Airflow Imbalance and Humidification Problem at an Absorbent Hygiene Production Facility” at the 2005 American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference in Portland, Ore.

Shane M. Palmquist, was elected secretary of the Civil Engineering Division of American Society of Engineering Education, Southeast Section (ASEE-SE) at the 2005 Annual Conference at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.


Kevin Schmaltz presented “Teaching Engineering Ethics within an
Integrated Professional Component” at the 2005 Ethics and Social Responsibility in Engineering and Technology Conference hosted by Loyola Marymount University.

**Folk Studies and Anthropology**


**History**

Anthony Harkins recently had his book *Hillbilly: a Cultural History of an American Icon*, released in paperback. Awards received include the seventh annual Susanne M. Glasscock Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Humanities Scholarship from the Melbern G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research at Texas A&M University, and John G. Cawelti Award honorable mention for Outstanding Book in American Culture Studies given by the American Culture Association.

**Modern Languages**

Linda S. Pickle, was selected as the 2005 recipient of the Kentucky World Language Association Lifetime Achievement Award in Louisville, Ky. on Sept. 24, 2005.


**Music**

Michele Fiala gave a lecture recital on 19th-century Italian oboe music with Donald Speer at the 2005 International Double Reed Society Conference, held this year in June in Austin, Texas. In July, she participated in a masterclass with Richard Killmer at the Banff Centre in Banff, Alberta, Canada, and performed on a recital as part of the Banff Summer Festival. Additionally, she taught at the Governor’s School for the Arts and performed a recital with Donald Speer on the campus of Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky.

Michael Kallstrom performed his fifth Electric Opera, *Tell Me Your Name*, for bass voice, electronic music, video projections and shadow...
puppets, at the University of Florida and the University of Alabama in September. He also presented a master class for undergraduate and graduate composition majors at the University of Florida.

Robyn Swanson offered a one day Music and Movement workshop in June, presented by the internationally renown, Dr. John Feiereabend from the Hartt School of Music. 180 music, physical education, early childhood, and elementary classroom educators from Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee attended. Swanson has also been recently appointed by the Kentucky Department of Education Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment to serve on the 2005-2010 Arts and Humanities Core Content for Assessment Committee.

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University Libraries Activities

ArtitudE

The Wednesday, after-school art classes for ages 12-16 will be held on Oct. 5, 12, 19, and 26, from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. at the Kentucky Building. Cost to attend each session, which introduces students to a variety of drawing and painting mediums, is $15, which includes all materials. Pre-registration is necessary.

For more information or to pre-register, contact Lynne Ferguson (270) 745-6082 or lynne.Ferguson@wku.edu or Alice Gatewood Waddell (270) 745-2594 or Alice.GatewoodWaddell@wku.edu or check the Website: www.wku.edu/Library/kylm.

Kentucky Live

October’s KENTUCKY LIVE presentation, which is scheduled for 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 13, at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, will be given by Bill Jackson, proprietor of Jackson’s Orchard and Nursery, Warren County, Ky.

Trace Die Cast sponsors this series, and all presentations are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Brian Coutts (270) 745-6121 or brian.coutts@wku.edu or check the Website: www.wku.edu/Library/kylm/events.

On the Same Page

Following the success of the first On the Same Page project, the Southern Kentucky Book Fest partners will sponsor On the Same Page featuring popular children’s author Suzy Kline.

Beginning Oct. 17, and ending during Children’s Book Week in November, children will be asked to read a book and discuss it among their friends, classmates, and family.

The book chosen is Horrible Harry and the Locked Closet. Free books donated by WNKY-TV – NBC and Quebecor will be distributed
during the kick off at the Bowling Green Public Library main branch on Thursday, Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Other kick-offs at area schools are planned starting Oct. 17.

“The On the Same Page project promotes a sense of unity not only throughout individual schools, but in the community as a whole,” said Renee Hale, Warren Elementary librarian. “With every student in the area reading the same book, students from all over have something in common, the enjoyment of reading a great book.”

Suzy Kline will be in Bowling Green Nov. 16-18 to meet the children who participate in the project. She will be at Barnes and Noble on Thurs., Nov. 17 at 5:30 p.m. and at the Capitol Arts Center on Friday, Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. She will also visit various elementary schools during this time including: Cumberland Trace, Natcher, Potter Gray, and Warren Elementary. These events are free and open to the public.

On the Same Page is a partnership project of Western Kentucky University Libraries, Bowling Green Public Library, and Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

FAR AWAY PLACES

Dr. David Keeling, department head, WKU’s Geography and Geology, will present October’s FAR AWAY PLACES program on “Tanzania.” Keeling’s presentation will be 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 20, at Barnes & Noble Booksellers. It is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Brian Coutts (270) 745-6121 or brian.coutts@wklu.edu or check the Website: www.wku.edu/Library/kylm/events.

Historic architecture walking tour
A walking tour of Western Kentucky University’s historic buildings is planned for Saturday, Oct. 22, 2005. The tour will begin at 10am at The Kentucky Building and last about an hour and a half, and everyone is encouraged to wear comfortable shoes.

WKU’s campus boasts an unusual collection of architectural jewels. Jonathan Jeffrey, professor, Library Special Collections, will lead the tour and discuss the various architectural styles, ornaments, and settings of significant campus landmarks.

He will also highlight the important relationship between WKU’s first president,

Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry, and Louisville architect, Brinton B. Davis, who designed most of the campus buildings from 1907 to 1937.

The walking tour is co-sponsored by the Kentucky Library and Museum and the Landmark Association. Fee is $5 per person

For more information, contact Jonathan Jeffrey (270) 745-5265 or jonathan.jeffrey@wku.edu or check the Website: www.wku.edu/Library/kylm.

Civil War publication book signing

Lovers of Civil War literature won’t want to miss the book signing scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-4 p.m. at the Kentucky Library and Museum. The book, a new release this Fall by the publishers of Back Home in Kentucky, is titled Kentucky’s Civil War: 1861-1865, and is a compilation of articles written by about 30 distinguished scholars and writers that originally appeared in the magazine.

Among the authors expected for the book signing are Lowell Harrison, Michael Trapasso, Bryan Bush, Bill Matthews, and perhaps Charles Bogart and Joe Reinhart. Books can be purchased at the book signing; prices (which include sales tax) are $27.95 for soft cover, $37.95 for hard bound. Twenty percent of the proceeds from this book signing will benefit the Kentucky Library and Museum.

The publication has a wealth of information and is, according to the publisher, “a comprehensive representation of Kentucky’s role in that tragic conflict, as interpreted by Kentucky’s finest Civil War scholars and writers.” In addition to the articles, there are many seldom-seen photos and drawings and an original four-color pull-out map which
provides information about battles, skirmishes, historic sites, forts, cemeteries, railroads and Confederate defensive lines.

For more information about the Civil War book signing, contact Earlene Chelf at (270) 745-5263 or earlene.chelf@wku.edu or check the Website: www.wku.edu/Library/kylm.

**Pat Conroy to Headline 2006 Book Fest**

The partners of the Southern Kentucky Book Fest are pleased to announce that New York Times best-selling author, Pat Conroy, will headline the 2006 Book Fest. Conroy is the author of eight books, including *The Prince of Tides*, *Beach Music*, *The Water is Wide*, and, most recently, *The Pat Conroy Cookbook*. Many of his titles have been made into feature films and are international bestsellers.

“We are pleased Pat Conroy, one of the most revered literary figures of our time, will be joining us in 2006,” said Jayne Pelaski, chair of the Book Fest management committee.

Another feature author for the 2006 Book Fest will be Pulitzer Prize winner, Rick Bragg. His books *All Over but the Shoutin’* and *Ava’s Man* are both critically acclaimed bestsellers. Formerly a reporter with the *New York Times*, Mr. Bragg is now a book author and roving correspondent based in Alabama.

“Hosting such respected authors as Pat Conroy and Rick Bragg makes us very proud of our growth over the past eight years,” said Pelaski.

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**Archives Week**

Guest speakers Hugh and Carolyn Ridenour will be presenting “The Greens of Falls of Rough: A Kentucky Family Saga” at the Kentucky Building on Oct. 29 at 10:00 a.m. A collection of Green family memorabilia, including Tiffany silver, monogrammed table linens, maid uniform accessories, and 1830s general store daybook, 1884 Kentucky Military Institute uniform, and other sundry items will be on display. For more information, contact Earlene Chelf (270) 745-5263 or earlene.chelf@wku.edu or check the website: www.wku.edu/library/kylm.