KANSAS LIBRARY eCARDS

By Linda Knupp, director

What’s better than having a library card? Having two library cards! In addition to a card from your library, every Kansas resident can have a Kansas Library Card. What we’ve always called the Kansas Library Card is really an eCard, a way to login to access the wealth of digital resources provided by the State Library of Kansas. Many of your patrons may already have a Kansas Library eCard; still, I think it bears repeating with reminders and promotion to ensure everyone is aware of the opportunity.

The Kansas Library eCard is a free service provided by the State Library of Kansas available to all Kansas residents, regardless of where they live in the state, and regardless if they have a library card at a local library. Kansas residents need only present proof of address at their local public library to receive a card. Any Kansas librarian can register patrons and provide them with a password that’s good for three years before expiration. Patrons can renew their own card online before the end of three years.

Use the eCard to access dozens of online resources on topics such as health, language learning, auto repair, testing, skills, courses, genealogy, and to register for a personal account to download eBooks or digital audiobooks.

Many of the online resources are easy to access based on the local IP address that connects from computers in your library or personal computers and devices, but Kansas Library eCard account is still required for others, including personal accounts to download eBooks and digital audiobooks.

NCKLS’ Technology Trainer LaDonna Clark just completed training sessions for NCKLS librarians to review the new state-wide databases and resources based on your responses to the annual continuing education survey. The sessions were well attended. I’m curious about how many Kansas library cards have been issued across the state and within the NCKLS region.
Never argue with a librarian; they know too much.  
—Carole Nelson Douglas

Imagine your story this summer. This is a perfect theme for a library programming season because there are so many ways you can use the theme. Children and teens can explore careers. Adults can create journals and write what fills their imagination. STEM ideas could be designing bridges for trolls and goats or towers for princesses. Young children can repeat nursery rhymes all while carrying pails or jumping candlesticks (without the fire, of course). That doesn’t even begin to include all the fairy tales, folk tales and myths that can be included in summer programming. I am very excited to see what you do with this programming season.

Workshops and other items of interest for the spring.

Summer Reading Workshop—Feb 27, featuring Micaela Sanchez, Cydney Clink and Jennifer McCulley.  
**afternoon session will focus on teens**

Craft workshops—March 31, Clay Center; April 3, Herington  
These sessions include hands-on crafting. Attendees are asked to bring plans and completed crafts to share with the group. We will brainstorm programming ideas, discuss area performers and investigate best practices for using the CSLP manual.

Cricut training and crafternoons—March 4, 25, 30 NCKLS Headquarters  
Bring your own cricut or use ours. Morning and afternoon are come and go sessions. Flannel and patterns will be provided to make one flannel story at the session. Crafters are encouraged to bring own paper and supplies to create items.

Two excellent webinars are available for you.  
Find them on the NCKLS website>Youth Services tab>Summer Reading Resources

While I don’t have a number, I’d venture a guess that the number of users may have increased with recent changes made to the number and quality of resources offered. If you haven’t seen the 10 new online resources added last year, they are highlighted at https://my.nicheacademy.com/kslib/course/8572.  
Two cards are better than one. A local card provides access to all the materials in your collection, print and media. The Kansas Library eCard is just one of several cooperative efforts statewide to extend services outside of local library collections and service hours. Cooperative efforts that provide greater access and greater efficiencies of service also include interlibrary loan through the Kansas Library Catalog and courier service to quickly transport materials to users across the region, expanding the reach of local libraries to the world of information.  
Complete information about the Kansas Library eCard is available on the State Library of Kansas website at https://kslib.info/.
UPCOMING ARSL CONFERENCE

2020 is here, and the conference will be here before we know it. ARSL 2020 will convene in Wichita, KS September 30th-October 3rd. Registration will open later this spring, but for now, make sure you know when your membership expires, and if it coming up, get it renewed, as registration opens to members first. We will have more space in Wichita, but we encourage securing your membership well ahead of registration. See you in Wichita!

AROUND THE SYSTEM

Marysville

Clay Center

Waterville

Mural in Peabody

New Flooring in Axtell
HIGHLIGHTING DATABASES

LaDonna Clark, Technology Trainer
The State Library of Kansas provides more than 60 online databases to all Kansans at no charge. These resources are online at http://kslib.info.

On August 1, 2019 several new databases were added.

Who should use this database? High school age students, college age students, and public libraries.

What makes it unique? Recent and relevant controversies in our daily lives, are featured in a carousel, or a quick search by topic can be done. The information on a topic, is presented in a pro/con format to include statistics, timelines, primary sources, and videos. There are also editorial cartoons and questions prepared to help students interpret those cartoons promoting critical thinking. For Educators there are curriculum tools. My favorite feature, “By the Numbers”, gives interesting statistics on each topic. Explore what this database has to offer our library patrons and share the news widely.

HOMELESSNESS WEBINARS OFFERED

By Carol Barta
After a number of NCKLS staff and system librarians attended Ryan Dowd’s session on “Homelessness in Libraries” at KLA, NCKLS decided his training program would be good for everyone to see. What it really comes down to is that the techniques and strategies Ryan teaches really supply the very best customer service for lots of populations. Whether you are dealing with teenagers whose frontal lobes have yet to develop or people whose brains have suffered from multiple traumas, to just those curmudgeonly patrons whom nothing seems to suit, Ryan’s ideas will give library staff the best way to deal with those behaviors.

The class will be available January 1 on the NCKLS Niche Academy Staff tab. The class requires individual enrollment and will provide each participant with a certificate of completion. The entire class is about 3-5 hours long but is broken into segments from 3 – 10 minutes, so staff can fit it into their schedule’s as needed.

Monthly webinars on topics of interest are also offered with the class. These are typically offered early in the month.

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY IS MARCH 2, 2020

Resources can be found here:
https://tinyurl.com/skdghc4
In 2019, 82,105 books were delivered to NCKLS libraries and 1,880 books were delivered to care homes in the NCKLS region.

BOOK VAN NEWS

Winter is upon us.

With that in mind, please be aware that if the weather is bad for driving, I might not be at your library on the day you are scheduled for your rotation. The winter weather might push your rotation back. I always do my best to make the missed delivery up within the next 1-2 days, if possible. If I’m not able to do your rotation on your scheduled day, you will get a phone call from me that morning letting you know. I try to keep phone numbers updated, but if yours has changed recently, please email me and double check that I have the best number to reach you on a winter morning. As always, if you have any questions, please let me know.

THANK YOU

A Big Thank You to those libraries who’ve sent me your 2019 statistics for the rotating books collection. If you have not sent those to me, email them to dcoom@nckls.org or expect that I will be calling you about that soon. Happy reading!
BOOK REVIEW

Golden Rule Days: History and Recollections of 109 Closed Kansas High Schools by James Kenyon

Review by Marcia Allen

Let’s be honest: many of us graduated from Kansas high schools that no longer exist. Historically, the 1960s and 1970s ushered in an era of consolidation at a time when small town populations, as well as graduating classes, were dramatically shrinking. For those of you who have fond or humorous memories of attending now-vanished Kansas schools, there’s a wonderful new compendium of stories and statistics that just might describe your school. Author James Kenyon’s Golden Rule Days is a delightful tour of the high schools that were once so important to small town Kansas life.

Americas Rural High School, for example, began as a log building built in 1858. Other school houses were erected until Americus Rural High School became official in 1916. And the school has some striking traditions. Kenyon alluded to a lively freshman initiation week and an active organization of future business leaders. And he spoke of high school students removing tires from their cars so they could daringly run the railroad rails.

Kenyon also recorded the history of Dwight Rural High School. Built in 1920, the school housed the first twenty-six students and was believed to be one of the best school buildings in Morris County. As it had a gymnasium that seated 400 and running water fountains, it was considered a thoroughly modern facility. It also boasted an incredible music department that earned high honors in competition.

For those who have fond memories of those lost high schools and for those who witnessed the contentious decisions to close a school, this book is a must. Kudos to author James Kenyon for researching our lost Kansas history!