

# Johnson County Community College Billington Library Spring 2005 Newsletter

## What Did We Do Over Our Spring Break?

Mark Dagaanaar, Library Director, JCCC Billington Library

Let me start by saying that on behalf of the Billington Library faculty and staff I would like to thank the JCCC students, faculty, staff as well as our community patrons for your patience and understanding during the scheduled library closure over Spring Break. The connecting of power and water lines from the library to the new construction site has been completed and we all look forward to the continued progress and eventual completion of the Regnier Center and Nerman Museum, the library's eventual new neighboring structures. We anticipate an exciting future for Billington Library in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as we continue to determine needs, goals and trends.



*Capital Bldg. Topeka, KS*

*M.Dagaanaar*

While the library was undergoing this connection process, those who were planning to work through Spring Break set up temporary offices in the OCB Jerry Vincent Hospitality Suite. As you can well imagine, this reduced face-to-face library services to a minimum and tested our resolve for effectively accommodating our patrons, faculty and staff. Library resources were limited to remote access to our electronic collections—which did include both electronic full-text journals as well as E-books. Our mail service had to be curtailed, we weren't able to check materials in or out, and we had to make frequent trips to the book drop to empty it. We had a few adventurous patrons come over to our temporary site to conduct online searches on one of our four computers. Reference questions were answered remotely from a single phone line set up at our temporary headquarters. You can well imagine the challenge this presented considering the fact that reference materials were on shelves in a locked-down building across the way. One added note: This challenge underlined the importance for and

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### Spring Semester Hours:

Mon-Thurs 7:30am-10:00pm  
Friday 7:30am-5:00pm  
Saturday 8:00am-5:00pm  
Sunday 1:00pm-5:00pm

### Contact Us:

Billington Library  
12345 College Blvd  
Box 21  
Overland Park, KS 66210

Information: 913-469-3871  
Book Renewal: 913-469-4484

<http://library.jccc.edu>

### Email a Librarian:

JCCC students, faculty, alumni, staff and Johnson County residents can send an email to the reference librarians using our Ask a Reference Question form which is located on the library's Web site, <http://library.jccc.edu/>, E-mail us if you have general reference questions or brief, fact-finding questions. We will also provide advice on research strategies and assistance with accessing the JCCC catalog or research databases. A librarian will get back to you within hours or the next working day.

## What Did We Do Over Our Spring Break, Mark Daganaar

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growing use of electronic resources. It must not be underestimated as the library continues building collections in multiple formats.

Most significantly lacking during the week, however, were the hundreds of library patron/staff interactions and communications we value so highly in supporting the teaching and learning process. With public service down to a minimum, some of our staff decided to take personal time, while others, through collaborative and creative efforts, participated in a variety of library projects and professional development activities. I enjoyed seeing creative planning in action and was quite proud of the enthusiasm and devotion faculty and staff gave to their projects. I decided to list some of the activities to show what I mean and I have even asked some of them to share them with you via this newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading about what we did over our Spring Break!

1. Wrote articles for professional journal publications
2. Viewed Organizational & Staff Development videotapes
3. Wrote book reviews
4. Reviewed campus emergency response plans
5. Conducted collection interest surveys
6. Participated in Metropolitan Reading Roundtable
7. Reviewed and revised departmental procedures
8. Researched and studied Metadata for digital cataloging
9. Worked on collection development and materials selection
10. Read professional journals
11. Read books and viewed videos on libraries and customer service
12. Created a list of reader's advisory group discussion topics
13. Visited other libraries, comparing best practices
14. Negotiated with library vendors for materials quotes
15. Attended professional workshops through KCMLIN
16. Attended JCCC new staff orientation and classes in Word Advanced-XP and Mail Merge-XP
17. Reviewed and became more familiar with the Billington Library Database holdings.



*Capital Bldg. Topeka, KS  
M. Daganaar*

**United We Read: The Fourth Year Selections –  
‘The Kite Runner’ and ‘Stiff’  
By Andrea Kempf, Professor and Librarian**

This year all of Kansas City will be reading two books: **The Kite Runner** and **Stiff**. For the past three years The Metropolitan Area Reading Roundtable (MAART) has selected a book for an All-Kansas City read. At the beginning of the year a committee of librarians and educators meets and debates the merits of the nominated books – usually ten titles - and selects the book that they believe will have the widest appeal to Metropolitan area readers. Past selections have included:

- Plainsong by Kent Haruf
- The Year the Colored Sisters Came to Town by Jacqueline Guidry
- The Speed of Dark by Elizabeth Moon

This year, in a departure, the group decided to select titles without regard to whether or not they would be appropriate for high school readers. In addition, because of the high number of non-fiction submissions, a second title was selected from the non-fiction list.

The fiction selection is *The Kite Runner* by **Khaled Hosseini**. This best-selling novel follows the life of Amir who is born into a life of privilege in prewar Afghanistan. Amir’s betrayal of his best friend Hassan haunts him long after Amir and his father have fled their ravaged country for the safety of life in the United States. How Amir, as an adult, finally earns forgiveness in a manner never anticipated by either boy is the crux of the story. Not only a story of one man’s struggle for atonement for an unforgivable act, the novel also teaches the reader about Afghanistan and illuminates the universal relations and misunderstandings between fathers and sons.

The Scholar-In-Residence program at the college will be sponsoring some lectures- as yet to be determined- next academic year concerning Afghani issues. It is even possible that the author will deliver a lecture at the college in the fall. Copies of *The Kite Runner* are available in Billington Library and will be available in the bookstore in the fall.

The non-fiction selection is *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers* by **Mary Roach**. This book examines the variety of uses to which cadavers are put, particularly after they are willed to science. The author visited medical schools, forensics laboratories, automotive crash test sites, crematoria, and more. Each chapter describes another use of cadavers. The author, who has an exceptionally strong stomach, almost gleefully reports on her observations. While the book will have a certain ghoulish appeal to students, the issues Roach discusses are serious.

The Scholar-In-Residence program will also be providing speakers to support *Stiff*. It is possible that we will have speakers from local funeral homes and the Department of Mortuary Science at Kansas City Kansas Community College. Billington Library owns a copy of the book and the title will be available in quantity this fall in the Bookstore. Maureen Fitzpatrick from the English Department and Andrea Kempf from the Library have represented the college on the committee. They are available to answer any questions about the program.

During the fall semester KCMLIN (Kansas City Metropolitan Library and Information Network), the umbrella organization for MARRT, will sponsor a fundraiser at which a war rug, woven in Pakistan featuring themes of tanks, helicopters, AK 47’s and bullets-themes that demonstrate the changes twenty five years of strife have made to traditional Afghan life- will be raffled off to raise money to support further programming to support reading. The rug was donated to KCMLIN by New York artist Kevin Sudeith who has been collecting and marketing these rugs and supporting the women weavers of Afghanistan.

**Renee Stuart has done it again!**



*Renee Stuart, Library Aide  
Recipient of Outstanding Student Award*

Renee Stuart, Library Aide in Periodicals (pictured here), attended a celebration reception on April 18<sup>th</sup> recognizing the fact that she was one of 17 nominees for Student Employee of the Year. We know that she is well deserving of this recognition!

In addition to this nomination, Renee was named winner and recipient of Outstanding Student Award. As winner of this award, Renee will receive a scholarship of \$400.

Renee is an officer on the Student Senate, participant in the Honors Program and an enhanced member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Congratulations, Renee!

**Campus Ledger, Morales win awards from KACP**

Miguel Morales, managing editor for *The Campus Ledger*, the student newspaper of JCCC, was named College Journalist of the Year by the Kansas Associated Collegiate Press (KACP) at its spring convention in Wichita April 10-11. In addition to Journalist of the Year for two-year schools in Kansas, Morales won five individual awards in the categories of editorial writing, feature writing, and headline writing.

As one of the few writing coaches at the college level, KACP recognized Morales' efforts and the vision of their newsroom to create this position. It reflects the forward thinking of *The Ledger* staff and the journalism department.

Morales, who has worked at the Billington Library information desk since 2001, said he is proud to have helped emphasize research while working at *The Campus Ledger* as a reporter, section editor, managing editor, editor in chief and writing coach.



## Where is Belize?

By Sharon Yohn, Library Aide

Have you been to Belize? I haven't, but by attending the once-a-month noon-time gatherings in our library conference room I have learned a lot about this country—even sensed the flavor of it. In addition to Belize, we have armchair-traveled to Alaska and Canada and hope to “take off” to many other destinations in the near future. Would you like to come along?



Some curious folk bring pictures and special mementos of their travels, sharing them with others as we eat our lunch. In fact, this event has proven to be so interesting and fun we've expanded it to include collections of “things.” We've seen antique license plates, coins, tea cups, dolls and much more at our gatherings. If you'd like to join us, call me at ext.4648 for the time and date.

By the way, did you know that the Billington Library has many print-form booklets on various countries? Look for titles such as the *Lonely Planet* series, *Eyewitness Guides* or *Fodor's*. Maybe this will give you the incentive to become an armchair (or regular) traveler as well!

## Celebrating National Library Week

Imagine if you went to the library and there was nobody there to help. How would you begin your research? What if you had questions? What if the Internet returned thousands of websites and you had no idea where to start? National Library Week was celebrated the week of April 10-16, 2005. The next time you are in the Library you might want to stop by and thank the Librarian for making your research easier. Stand up and speak out for libraries today so there will always be someone there for you tomorrow. Remember: there is something for everyone at your library!

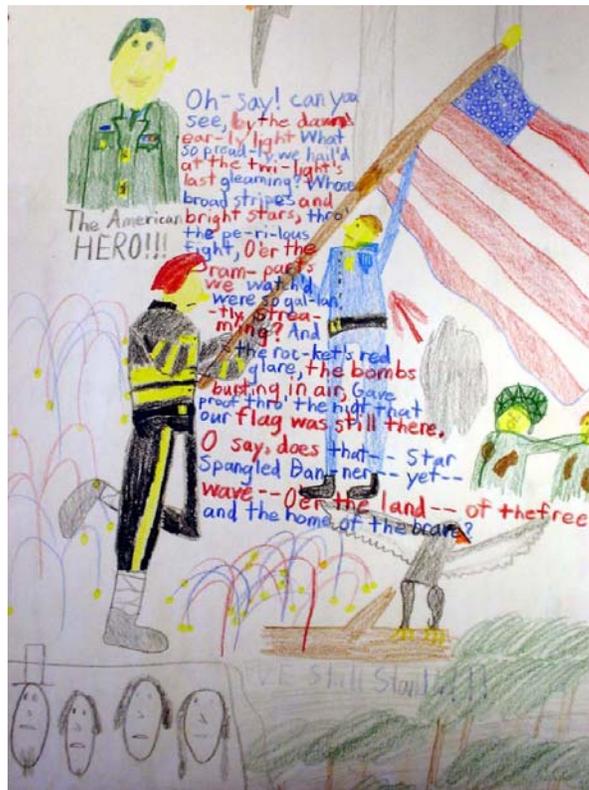


*Cake celebrating National Library Week, decorated by JCCC Dining Service, Catering*

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Grayson (11) and Galen (9) Gist are grandsons of Kathryn LaBelle, Administrative Assistant to the Director.

Grayson (11) and Bridget (6) Daganaar are the son and daughter of Mark Daganaar, Director of Library Services.



I like this piece a lot. When I heard about 9-11-01, I wanted to draw about it. I hope you enjoy it. I was eight years old when I drew the picture.

*Our National Anthem and what it means to me.  
Grayson Daganaar*

### Bridget's List of Recommended Reading

1. Ten Little Monkeys
2. Dalmatians 2
3. The Fox and the Hound
4. Eloise
5. I Spy
6. Barbie
7. No David!
8. Prince & the Pauper
9. Cinderella
10. Alice in Wonderland
11. Green Eggs & Ham
12. The Cat in the Hat
13. Barbie Popup
14. Two Princesses

She is currently reading Florence Nightingale, by Anne Colver

### Why I Like to Use the Library Galen Gist

- It feeds your brain
- It increases your vocabulary
- It helps you gain knowledge
- It provides an answer to your curiosity
- It has interesting books
- It has places to sit down, read and relax
- It lets you check them out so you can continue to read from home
- It gives you knowledge
- Knowledge itself is power
- ...and from older brother Grayson Gist
- It gives you an opportunity to get out of class.

## National Take Your Child to Work Day Thursday, April 28, 2005

Thursday, April 28, 2005 marked the annual Take Your Child to Work Day. Our Director, Mark Daganaar, spent the morning showing his daughter what a typical day might be like in the library, before she headed off to afternoon Kindergarten at her elementary school. As part of her work experience, Bridget learned how to photocopy, print, shred and look through papers. She even checked out a DVD from our library and was able to view it from the conference room while Dad was taking care of business.



*Bridget Daganaar shares workload with her Dad, Director Mark Daganaar on Bring Your Child to Work Day.*

### Book Review:

If you like excitement, you'll like *The Series of Unfortunate Events* books. Each book is about some intelligent kids going through misery and finding the Count who causes the misery. Count Olaf always wears a disguise so the kids have to find out which one he is wearing in order to find him and get him arrested, because he is trying to steal their fortune. He always finds a way to get away. That's why it continues being a series.

Galen Gist.

What did the carrot say to the wheat?  
Why don't we rest, I'm feeling beat.  
What did the runner say to the chalk?  
I'm tired I'm going to walk.  
What did the teapot say to the pot?  
Nothing silly  
Teapots can't talk.

(S. Silverstein)

### NEWS FLASH.....

Just now a report about a pen used as a doorstep at the library was reported to block the door after hours. Kathy LaBelle (my Grandma) was informed about this just minutes ago. So far nothing has been reported stolen but they are not sure fully. They aren't completely worried that anything has been stolen because who would steal a book if you can just check it out and keep renewing it if you don't finish it.

Well, that's the latest from Grayson Gist. If anything new happens, come to us.



## Looking for Your Family?

By Susan Gandy, Library Aide Periodicals

Whether you are just curious about family members a few generations back or you are an experienced genealogist, the JCCC Library now offers a new database that will be of value to your research.

We've recently added a new online database *HeritageQuest Online* that is easily accessible from your home or office, as well as in the Library. You simply need to log on when requested, using the same information that you would use to enter Pipeline on the main JCCC website.

*HeritageQuest* is actually several different databases of information on a single site. It is a wonderful way to research family history and American culture. Thoroughly indexed, it has original images for all documents. It is designed to be used exclusively by libraries. And it is free...not always the case for other online genealogy sites.

The information offered includes:

Genealogy & Local History Collection – 25,000 family and local history books. Every word in each book is searchable, it contains the original images of each page, which can be downloaded or printed. These books have been gleaned from libraries in all 50 states and Canada. They are from large and small collections and are being added to continually.

U.S. Federal Census – all US Census records that are publicly available and indexed. This includes those from 1790 thru 1930. The index allows you to search by name, ethnicity, place of birth, county or state place of residence. Not all census records are complete because of loss over the years (in one case, a warehouse fire destroyed census records for an entire year) but most are. You can learn not only where one family member was born, but also his parents, when he may have immigrated, whether he could read or write, what his occupation was, how much his property was worth, as well as a list of people residing in the household at the time. With each census, the amount of information increased.

PERSI – is a periodicals database that includes 6,500 genealogical and local history periodicals written in English and French since 1800. They can be searched by surnames and locations.

Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty Land Warrant Application Files – Revolutionary War veterans or their widows could apply for pensions and apply for land as a result of their service to the new nation. This database contains 80,000 records which contain information about the veterans and sometimes family members.

Freedman's Bank Records - considered one of the most important sources for African-American genealogy research, the Freedman's Savings & Trust was the premier

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## Looking for Your Family?

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bank for freed slaves at the end of the Civil War. With 90,000 depositors and 480,000 dependents and heirs, this will be a significant addition to *HeritageQuest*. Not yet available, it will be added in the near future.

Like all genealogy research, everything you read needs to be taken with a grain of salt. My last name ends in “Y” and I located a family member who had been indexed under “IE” in the Census database. Even professionals miss occasionally. Sometimes the copies of the census records are so faint as to be unreadable, sometimes the census takers handwriting nearly illegible. The searches in the history books base can be frustrating and takes some practice to use.

But for sheer quantity of material, available on line, in the comfort of your own home, it is a wonderful way to get started researching your family – or to use as another resource if you are experienced.

Give it a try!

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## Life Expectancy

by Dean Koontz

Review by Rhea Reitmeyer

Here it is a year later and another Dean Koontz book! His latest book, called *Lixpectancy*, hit our shelves late fall and in my opinion this is once again the work of a literary genius. Although Dean Koontz delivers some uplifting messages in this book about hope, fear, and the unseen connectedness of the spiritual world to ours, don't be fooled by them. I know you will be on the edge of your seat as this well-known suspense writer keeps you turning the pages just as fast as you can read!



In this book, a man named Josef Tock is in the hospital dying, at the same time his grandson is about to be born in the same hospital. Right as Jimmy is born, and Josef dies, he reveals that his grandson will have to face five horrible days in his future. Jimmy's father in disbelief writes those revelations down. The first horrible day is to be on Jimmy's twentieth birthday, and then every decade thereafter. In the first horrible day at age twenty, Jimmy finds himself caught in a library with a mad man who is on a rampage to destroy their town, and has planted bombs in a tunnel that connects the library to the court house. Even though he is a bit frightened by the situation, he handles it well only because of the realization that he has four more terrible days to come. While suspenseful, this book also contains humorous dialogue that will keep you smiling while scared out of your wits in a way that only true Dean Koontz fans can appreciate.

## Where's Jack???

Representing JCCC Foundation's Dollars for Scholars, Jack the Gorilla spent the weekend doing research in the Billington Library before moving on to other campus sites, spreading the word about the fund-raising auction, April 15. As Jack moved about campus, the first person who spotted him and reported the time and place received a gift certificate good at Java Jazz,



*Jack spends time in the Library doing research on fellow primates.*



*Candy Finch, Administrative Assistant, Instruction, is the Winner on April 11, as she locates Jack in the Library*

or a free ticket to Dollars for Scholars. The Foundation's Dollars for Scholars is held annually for the purpose of raising money for scholarships.

### **International Fiction & Film Go Live at Billington Library**

The library's bibliographies of international fiction and films have recently been updated and titles are now attached to their records in Billington Library's catalog. By clicking on the Research Guides button (third from the top on the left of the Library home page), you will arrive at a list of bibliographies and pathfinders to help find materials on different subjects. Filmographies provide annotated lists of films from various countries or in various language groups.

Take a look at the website:  
<http://library.jccc.edu/reference/guides/>.

**COMING SOON!**

**Submersed:  
Contemporary Altered Books**

Exhibition Curated by Teresa Paschke



Hosted by JCCC Billington Library  
June 3-27, 2005

Featuring the artwork of:

Linda Ekstrom, Amy Harris,  
Haron McCartney, Paula Streeter,  
Margaret Whiting.

This exhibition is being funded through the generous support of the Center for Excellence in Arts and Humanities at Iowa State University.



### **Capital Improvements Progress Report**

The following information was presented to the Board of Trustees on April 26:

Dr. Baird shared that, as part of a discussion at the strategic planning workshop, a cross-functional committee will be formed to look in depth at the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library. Discussions will begin this year.

Dr. Baird envisions a recommendation to employ an architect to begin design in FY 2006-2007. The actual project would possibly begin in FY 2007-2008. The committee was reminded of the estimated cost of this project and the importance of the mil levy in support of this project.

**EXCELLENCE**

## So, Why Did You Become a Librarian?

by Kathy LaBelle

I've always loved libraries. I think it has something to do with the quiet atmosphere or the feeling I get that something really important is taking place within its walls. It has a certain smell to it—maybe it's the combination of the musty smell of old and the scent of new? Yet however much I like visiting I never once thought, "Hey, maybe I'll become a librarian."

So, what does motivate someone to follow that career path? Having just celebrated National Library Week, I decided it might be a good time to ask the Librarians of JCCC and this is what I found out:

Judi Guzzy said that she started off as a paraprofessional and decided that she really liked the technical services portion of the library. She believed that by pursuing a career in this field it would give her the opportunity to have more of an impact on policy making. She was energized by the business functions of the technical service area and enjoyed the process of ordering and cataloging, as well as the challenges presented in establishing vendor relations and coordinating team-building.

Judi Vaughn on the other hand, said that it was her love of education that led her to become a librarian. She too started off by working in a library as a staff person and treasured the memories of helping people find information that they couldn't find themselves. She enjoyed seeing the companionship community members received when they had access to books whether from the library itself or from a bookmobile. Judi said that she herself has an insatiable curiosity and finds satisfaction in teaching what she learns to others. Since she didn't care for the administrative part of teaching, being a librarian held a lot more appeal than teaching high school English.

Marsha Cousino said that she actually had wanted to become a journalist. Believing that getting her Masters in Library Science would help her with in-depth research, she decided to go for that degree. While working on her Masters she worked at various positions within the library and found her niche beginning to form. As a result, she never worked a day as a journalist.

Michael Frisbie, our newest graduate of Library school said that he sort of fell into the field through natural progression. While working on his undergraduate degree, he took a part time job working in the library at KU. When he graduated he decided he needed a job and one opened up at JCCC, and he was hired because of his experience. His Masters in Library Science now completed (December 2004) he finds his expertise and interest is in the field of running Library systems.

John Russell became a librarian to avoid the draft. Okay, so that isn't exactly the way he stated it. He said that it was generally believed at the time that anyone who was in the field of public service or education was protected from the draft. He did his undergraduate work at a state college and was heading toward the field of education, but decided after he graduated that he much preferred teaching one-on-one than being in charge of an entire class so he went on to get his Masters in Library Science.

We have several other librarians each with different stories, but this is probably enough for now. I'll save the others for our summer issue.

