

**KY Library Suits Threaten Funding Statewide**

Courtroom setbacks handed out to two northern Kentucky library districts have placed their ability to collect tax revenue in jeopardy. The litigation stems from a legal assault launched by six members of the Northern Kentucky Tea Party against these libraries’ ability to collect tax money without voter approval. If pursued, the tax implications of these cases could imperil district funding for libraries statewide.

Two library districts—in Campbell and Kenton counties—face the frightening prospect of rolling back tax rates to levels from 34 years or more ago and perhaps even refunding large portions of their existing budgets. The library tax rate in Campbell County, for example, is currently 7.7¢ per \$100 of assessed property value. In 1978, when the district was created, the rate was 3.3¢. If the districts’ planned appeals are unsuccessful, the tax levy would revert back to that level, cutting the overall budget from \$4.9 million to \$2.2 million, a rollback of 55 percent.

A third library district has been targeted for legal action by the Northern Kentucky Tea Party itself: a suit was filed against Boone County,

also located on Kentucky’s northern tip, on April 3, according to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. A court date has yet to be scheduled.

**WHAT THE STATE SAYS**

On April 2, Campbell County Circuit Court judge Julie Reinhardt Ward ruled that because the county’s library district was created by petition in 1978, under a statute known as KRS 173.790, it cannot raise tax revenue except through a similar petition signed by 51 percent of registered voters. The library district argued that a separate state law passed in 1979, House Bill 44, made it a special taxing district, allowing for limited annual tax increases not subject to voter approval. Ward, in her decision, said HB 44 did not nullify KRS 173.790, in effect rendering invalid every library tax increase in Campbell County over the last three decades.

A little more than a week after Ward’s decision, Circuit Court judge Patricia Summe ruled that neighboring Kenton County likewise had been improperly raising taxes since its founding in 1967. Right now, the library tax rate is 11.3¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation. If Summe’s decision stands, that rate could be rolled back to its 1967 level of 6¢ per \$100. The current \$11.2 million operating budget would be cut to \$6 million.

The districts aren’t the only ones to interpret this conundrum differently from the judges. The state itself did, too. “The library district had been setting the tax rate upon the instruction and advice of the Kentucky Department of Library and Archives,” Jeff Mando, attorney for Campbell

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County’s library district, told *Hotline*. Kenton County Library director Dave Schroeder told *Hotline*, “We’ve been following the procedure the state set out. All of a sudden to be told what

**≡ INSIDE ≡**

**Simon & Schuster Debuts E-lending ...3**

**Crowdfunding the Library .....3**

**Philly Library, Rosenbach To Merge ....3**

**DPLA Portal Debuts.....4**

**Keith Curry Lance Receives Award .....6**

## Interview

### John Hunter

John Hunter has been inspiring creative and critical thinking, compassion, confidence, and pragmatic problem-solving in kids for 35 years through his innovative World Peace Game. He just started a national tour to promote a book about his experiences teaching the game, *World Peace and Other 4th-Grade Achievements* (Houghton Harcourt, 2013).



#### How did your relationship with libraries begin?

I discovered the public library the summer before I was to attend my first integrated school. I devoured the library; I tried to read every book about Native Americans and science fiction and Eastern philosophy and check out records, [from] Turkish music, to music from the bauls of India. The library became kind of a refuge. It made me feel more a part of what I was going to go into.

#### Do you bring music into the classroom?

I take the children through different modalities of thinking using Howard Gardner's multiple intelligence theory, [with] eight different pieces of music in an hour. I want them to have an expanded world, so I'm playing Indonesian gamelan or arias or glitchcore from Vladislav Delay, this Finnish DJ—something they're not going to run into on the radio.

#### What's your philosophy of teaching?

I've learned from my teachers that example is better than precept. The second step is [from] my mentor, Ethel J. Banks: think about the line of least resistance. Find out what they love, spend some time finding out who they really are, what they care about, and then respect it and build curriculum to and around it. In my classroom...before we even touch [a] subject, [students are] so heavily involved and invested thinking that it's their unit, that they're in power to control it, their learning...that they feel they can do anything, and, with your help, they can do even more than that.

you've been doing is wrong is frustrating, to say the least."

#### NEXT STEPS

The cases have the potential to spread far beyond several counties: the plaintiffs' attorney unearthed a legal trump card that could negate the way 79 of Kentucky's 106 library districts, created by petition, have been doing business for decades. Lisa Rice, president of the Kentucky Library Association, said the Tea Party's recent success in court has libraries across the state fearful they will be targeted as well. "We are absolutely worried about that and do anticipate that," Rice said.

On April 19, Judge Ward's courtroom may rule on separate motions. First, Campbell County's library district attorney Mando has asked the judge to render her April 2 decision "final and appealable," clearing a necessary legal hurdle for an appeal. "We'd be prepared to appeal immediately," Mando said. The next step for Campbell County would be the Kentucky Court of Appeals, but Rebecca Kelm, president of the Campbell County library district's Board of Trustees, said the district is girding for appeals all the way to the Kentucky Supreme Court, if necessary.

Meanwhile, the plaintiffs have filed a motion asking Ward to place more than 50 percent of the library district's tax revenue—\$2.7 million—in an escrow account. Attorney Brandon Voelker, who represents all three sets of plaintiffs (three individuals in Campbell County, one in Kenton, and two in Boone), said the intent is to make sure the money isn't spent while the courts determine whether Campbell County residents are legally owed a refund of tax revenue.

"It would shut the library down immediately," Campbell County Library director JC Morgan told *Hotline*. "How can that be?" Kelm said of escrowing her library district's assets. "Our money is in our staff, our buildings, our programs. It's not there."

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## Simon & Schuster Debuts NYC Ebook Lending Pilot

Simon & Schuster (S. & S.) announced a one-year pilot program that would make the publisher's complete catalog of ebooks available for sale and lending at the New York Public Library (NYPL), Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), and Queens Library, beginning April 30. The news means all of the Big Six publishers are at least exploring a program of licensing ebooks to libraries.

Though representatives familiar with the deal did not disclose pricing, other details most closely resemble the model that Penguin launched as a pilot with NYPL and BPL last fall and subsequently expanded to all libraries that are using the 3M Cloud Library or Baker & Taylor's Axis 360 platform. Libraries can acquire any S. & S. ebook title with a one-year license, offering unlimited checkouts under a one book, one user model, which would presumably equate to a maximum of 26 loans per year with two-week loan periods. All S. & S. frontlist and backlist titles are included, with new titles available immediately upon publication. 3M will support lending while BiblioCommons facilitates acquisition for NYPL and BPL. Axis 360 will support both lending and purchasing for Queens.

In addition, the participating libraries will offer patrons the option to purchase a copy of the S. & S. titles from within their online portals, with the libraries receiving an undisclosed share of the proceeds from each sale.

If S. & S. views the pilot as a success, the program will be expanded to other libraries, according to the publisher.

## Philly Free Library To Merge with Rosenbach

The Free Library of Philadelphia (FLP) plans to merge with the Rosen-

## Crowdfunding the Library

Cassandra Elton decided to establish the Antelope Lending Library on the southeast side of Iowa City while she was working at a local elementary school. Elton found that her students did not have access to the literary culture for which the city is known.

She sought to raise \$20,000 to lease a space for the library for a year. She initially looked at Kickstarter but found that running a library "didn't really fit with the terms of service. And so we found out about Indiegogo," Elton said.

The library, ultimately, did not reach the fundraising goal it set on Indiegogo; the campaign only raised about \$13,000. Nonetheless, the Antelope Lending Library is set to open as a bookmobile in June. The option of "flexible funding" is a key reason why alternatives like Indiegogo and Fundly ap-

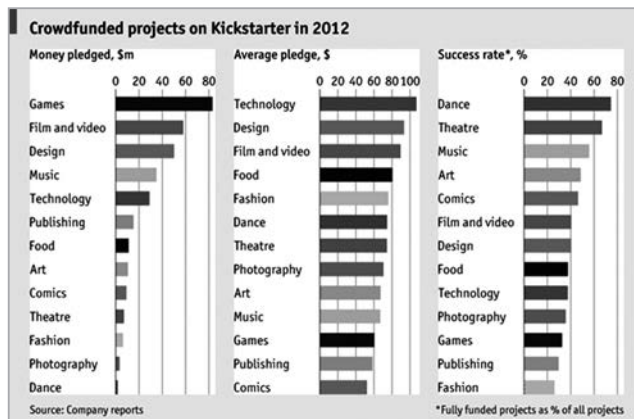
peal to libraries. Kickstarter, which has an "all-or-nothing" policy, returns money raised to donors if the full fundraising goal is not reached, whereas Indiegogo just takes a higher commission.

Last year, the Santa Cruz Public Library, CA, ran a successful Kickstarter campaign to fund its participation in a global art project called Inside Out. In addition to raising \$5,000 to print large-scale portraits of community members to adorn the facade of the downtown library branch for four months, the campaign also raised the profile of the project. "[Kickstarter] is a great publicity format," project facilitator Mariah Roberts said. But Roberts emphasized that crowdfunding still takes a lot of work. "It's not magic," she said.

The small town of Shutesbury, MA, wanted to build a new library and had to raise \$1.4 million in order to receive a \$2.1 million matching grant from the state government. After failing through more traditional funding methods (a proposed tax levy), proponents of the library changed course.

A volunteer filmed local children holding signs stating why they needed a new library, set to a ukulele tune. The two-minute video "went viral"; it was picked up by Cory Doctorow on BoingBoing, Oprah, Neil Gaiman, and the mainstream press. Hundreds of donations poured in from all over the world. Yet the new Shutesbury library remains unbuilt.

The town's fundraising endeavor brought in about \$250,000, which the library keeps in a fund until the next grant round comes up in a few years.



bach Museum & Library, which houses a rare book, fine art, and archival materials collection built around the personal library of noted dealers A.S.W. Rosenbach and his brother Philip. The institutions signed a letter of intent following board approval by each of the organizations on April 16.

"The Rosenbach of the Free Library" will remain an independent entity at its current Delancey Place location, FLP also announced. The rare book library will continue to be funded through private philanthropies.

Both sides were enthusiastic about the synergy between their collections,

but the merger offers operational advantages as well. According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the Rosenbach laid off much of its staff in June and is hoping FLP will “bulk up” its development capacity. “Part of the process is to create a nucleus fund to start building some of the positions back,” Siobhan A. Reardon, FLP president and director, told *Hotline*. However, it “will never have to build back administration because we will handle that.” Reardon said FLP hopes to offer the Rosenbach its own strengths in facilities management, technologies, and cataloging and learn from the Rosenbach’s strengths in curation and visitor education.

Reardon also confirmed that no one will lose their job as a result of

the merger. Derick Dreher, director of the Rosenbach, will report to Reardon, while the two organizations aim to maintain separate boards.

As part of the collection analysis process prior to the merger, the libraries have brought in auction houses to help evaluate their holdings, but Reardon emphasized that there are no current plans to deaccession. The special collections committee of the board is fine-tuning the collection development policy, but Reardon did not anticipate any major changes to either FLP’s very broad mandate or the Rosenbach’s more refined curatorial focus.

The merger will be made possible by a \$3 million bridge fund “com-

binning the generous support of many philanthropic partners over the next five years, including the Pew Charitable Trusts.” As of April 26, Reardon told *Hotline*, the libraries had raised \$1.65 million toward the fund.

Reardon says that though the financial due diligence, collections analysis, and “all of the top-level review” have been completed, “this is where the lawyers start earning their money.” Between now and July 31, the institutions must hash out the details of the agreement, make sure they don’t contravene any of the wills or deeds of gifts that established the two institutions, and have the arrangement vetted by the Pennsylvania Attorney General and Orphan’s Court, which reviews legacy documents. Assuming everything gets approved, Reardon anticipates that record keeping, human resource processes, and the rest of the back-end integration will be complete within a year.

Reardon told *Hotline*, “I like the idea of keeping them as two important venues [with] pretty unique materials; the goal is to put together more collaborative programming.”

First on the Rosenbach’s wish list for such collaboration: “Sendak exhibitions at the Central Library on the Parkway,” Dreher told *Hotline*. One other collaboration is also definitely in the cards: Rosenbach materials will be discoverable in FLP’s catalog and vice versa. Reardon informed the Rosenbach staff of this plan on April 17; one librarian’s response, she said, was “Yahoo!”

## DPLA Cancels Event, but Portal Still Debuts

The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) debuted its portal on April 18, although the organization postponed the planned launch event because of the Boston Marathon bombings. The portal offers

## People

**Moira Danehy** was named Lending Services Manager for Greenwich Library, CT. She was most recently Manager of the Cable News Network’s library.

**Paul Harwood** was named General Manager of EBSCO Information Service’s UK and Nordic operations, effective May 30. He was previously Deputy CEO of JISC Collections.

**Ed House** announced his retirement as Director of Beaverton Public Library, OR, effective in June. He has been in the position for 13 years.

**Robert J. Kasunic** was appointed as Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Registration Policy & Practice for the U.S. Copyright Office.

The American Library Association presented **Heather Ketron** with the Scholastic Library Publishing Award. Ketron is currently the Director of Children’s Services for the Gum

Spring Library, South Riding, VA.

**Kathy Naftaly** was promoted to Director of Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY, effective May 1. She has been with the library for 12 years and served as Acting Director.

**Phyllis Self** retired as Dean of Western Illinois University Libraries, Macomb. She had been in the position for seven years.

**Linda Tillson** was appointed Director of the Eagle Village Library District, CO. She previously held the same position at the Park City Library, UT.

Tutor.com has made two new hires: **Sharmistha Dubey**, former Chief Product Officer of Match.com, was given leadership over product and technology strategy; **Mandy Ginsberg**, former Chief Executive Officer of Match.com, was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the online learning service.

## In Memoriam

**Betty Lou Huber**, a retired Librarian from the Dickinson Public Library, ND, died on April 10. She was 81 years old.

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browsing and search access to a still-growing aggregation of records from dozens of U.S. cultural heritage institutions. At the same time, DPLA began offering programmatic access to its metadata stores, urging developers to create their own interfaces and access points.

First impressions have been almost uniformly positive, though many have suggested avenues for further enhancement and refinement. Brief reactions on Twitter were enthusiastic. Rachel Frick, director of the Digital Library Federation Program, Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), posted “#dpla experiencing half million views per hour. NICE.” Jonathan Zittrain, cofounder and director of Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet & Society, tweeted, “The @dpla has geocoded its archives—<http://dp.la/map> is wonderfully addictive. (Zooming in shows more and more.)” And the official account of NYPL Labs tweeted, “And for nerds like us, not only does @DPLA offer a SICK API, but there’s a BULK DATA DOWNLOAD, too!”

Jason Griffey, associate professor and head of library IT for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and a 2009 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker, also expressed excitement regarding the application programming interface (API), telling *Hotline* that he had been obsessively reading and trying to understand the API framework and abilities. “Having watched the development of the DPLA for the last two years and been lucky enough to participate in a couple of its development events, I think the launch is a huge success,” he wrote. “It’s not everything that everyone wants, but nothing is. I’m most excited about the public API and the degree to which the DPLA is a platform and not a destination. In my mind, the most important part of the DPLA is the platform and the things that libraries can now



The 15,800 square foot **Fairwood Branch Library** (pictured), the 14th facility in the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, LA, opened on March 20. Built on land donated in 2008 by Kodiak Equipment, LLC, the \$5.4 million library was designed by Bani, Carville & Brown Architects, Inc., and built by Stuart and Company. It includes dedicated areas for children, teens, and adults, with the children’s space making use of two Advanced Workstation in Education (AWE) early literacy workstations woven into its caterpillar and butterfly motif. The building holds 40 public computers and ten laptops for patron use, along with collections of books, periodicals, and AV materials. Free Wi-Fi and free computer classes are also part of the amenities. The library additionally features a drive-thru drop-off/pick-up window, public meeting rooms, a shaded reading porch, and collaborative study spaces for teen and adult users.

On April 20, residents got to enjoy the newly renovated **Chapel Hill Public Library** (CHPL),

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build on it.... I’m very much looking forward to seeing what the librarians of the world can do with this data.”

Programmers have already begun releasing apps and programs that use the API. Two new apps were available to [dp.la](http://dp.la) visitors: one by programmer Jesus Dominguez that allows users to search DPLA and Europeana simultaneously, and the Library Observatory created by Harvard’s metaLAB, “an interactive tool for searching

NC, after an 18-month, \$16 million refurbishment. The 63,800 square foot library in Pritchard Park, a 32-acre public park with nature and walking trails, is more than twice as large as its 1994 27,000 square foot predecessor and includes a 5,500 square foot meeting room complex, a 10,000 square foot children’s space, a 1,300 square foot teen zone, and a 1,200 square foot computer training area. Designed to achieve Leadership in Energy & Environmental (LEED) Silver certification, the library features extensive daylighting, high-efficiency ventilation systems, a solar hot water system, and louvered windows to manage solar heat gain. The current collection encompasses 187,000 books, videos, DVDs, and more, with a capacity for 350,000 titles. The CHPL Foundation provided a \$150,000 Opening Day Collection Grant for new materials; the project was funded through a library expansion bond approved in November 2003. The building was designed by Corley Redfoot Zack Inc. with project partner Robert A.M. Stem & Architects.

Ground was broken on April 26 for the new **Hanahan Library**, SC. The 6,700 square foot facility is funded through \$1.4 million in capital improvement bonds approved in 2009 and will include a public meeting room. The current library lives in 5,000 square feet of leased space in what was the former Hanahan Post Office.

and visualizing the DPLA collections, accompanied by an interactive documentary that weaves together history, visualizations, and audio about the making, use, and enduring significance of library data and the collections they describe.”

Librarian, author, and founder of [librarian.net](http://librarian.net) Jessamyn West also described the site as “lovely. It’s basically a discovery layer to collections which, we presume, have less-good discov-

ery layers.” But she added that, at this stage, the project seems geared toward librarians, rather than the public.

As a platform that is facilitating discovery of digital objects stored by other institutions, DPLA is also dependent on legacy metadata that can have its share of oddities or inaccuracies. *Library Journal* infoDOCKET editor Gary Price found some problematic examples, including images that purport to be from a game played at Chicago’s Wrigley Field by the Cubs versus the Oakland Athletics but dated July 1973, 24 years before regular season interleague play began. Meanwhile, the photos were tagged “Environmental protection,” “Natural resources,” and “Pollution,” rather than, say, “baseball,” probably because they were created by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and stored by the National Archives and Records Administration. “The underlying metadata in this situation is not DPLA’s fault,” Price said. “It’s the

EPA’s or the National Archive’s fault. Whoever cataloged this record.” Still, small metadata flaws can be magnified when presented through the lens of an aggregation portal.

In general, Price praised the DPLA interface, describing it as “very pleasing to the eye,” but noted that as a beta launch it should probably describe itself as such to temper expectations during these initial phases. By the same token, the site might consider doing more to highlight the additional capabilities of its partner institutions and indicate how those partners will be helping DPLA grow, he added.

## Keith Curry Lance Receives AASL Award

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) bestowed its 2013 Distinguished Service Award on Keith Curry Lance, a Ph.D. sociologist who works with school and public libraries and related library

organizations. Lance was nominated by Christie Koontz.

The award, established in 1978 and sponsored by Baker & Taylor, recognizes a member of the library profession “who has, over a significant period of time, made an outstanding national contribution to school librarianship and school library development,” AASL said.

Violet Harada, chair of the awards committee, said, “As a passionate and articulate advocate for libraries, Dr. Lance has validated what we inherently knew was good in our profession, and he continues to challenge all of us to strive for excellence.”

Lance has authored more than two dozen monographs, most of them studies of the educational or general social impact of libraries, and authored or coauthored more than 50 articles in major library publications, including *Library Journal (LJ)* and *School Library Journal*. He is the co-author, with Ray Lyons, of the *LJ Index of Public Library Service*.

Lance was the founding director of the Library Research Service of the Colorado State Library and has continued to work as a consultant after retirement, both independently and in association with the RSL Research Group. He has worked with library groups as a survey researcher, statistician, data analyst, and conference and workshop speaker/facilitator.

Lance has served on the AASL Research and Statistics Committee as both member and chair and on research-related committees of the American Library Association and several of its divisions. Additionally, he shared his expertise on committees devoted to library research and statistics associated with several federal agencies, including the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, and the National Center for Education Statistics.

## News in Brief

**OverDrive**, an ebook and audiobook distributor for libraries, expanded its global catalog. Within the first quarter of 2013, over 150,000 titles were added.

The **San Francisco Public Library** integrated Axis 360, **Baker & Taylor’s** 450,000-plus-title digital media library, into its system.

The **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)** and the **U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services** announced a new partnership at a naturalization ceremony at the **Library of Congress**. The goal of the partnership is to promote within public libraries education regarding citizenship. IMLS also awarded the **Association of Research Libraries** and the **Society of American Archivists** a \$487,652 grant to fund their joint Mosaic Scholarship Program for students pursuing archives and special collection specializations.

The **George H. and Ella M. Rodgers Memorial Library**, Hudson, NH, switched to the **Evergreen** open source library system, making it the second New Hampshire library system to do so. Evergreen will provide data migration, technical support, and staff training.

**Ingram Content Group Inc.** and **Ebook Library (EBL)** have partnered to allow academic libraries to browse and buy EBL ebooks through the Ingram OASIS platform. EBL will provide OASIS, and by extension OASIS users, with 325,000 titles to add to its content.

The **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s School of Information and Library Science** received a \$456,000 grant from the **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**. The money will fund the school’s BitCurator project, which works with open source forensics software for digital archives.

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