There is a lot of conflict in the newspapers these days. Political conflict. Social conflict. Physical conflict. As volunteer readers, you likely feel conflicted in how to deal with this onslaught. Do you read it? Do you shelter our listeners from the worst of the world? Do you talk about how it makes you feel? The answer to these questions is yes—BUT.

Let’s start with reading it. Please do. It’s not up to us to censor content for our listeners. Just like us, they can turn it off when it gets to be too much. We all have a choice in how we consume news and information, as well as how much we consume at any given time. We need to let our listeners decide when they’ve had enough, or when they are uncomfortable reading about a certain topic. Remember, everyone is different. We can’t let our own biases come into play when we select articles to read.

BUT—follow this rule within reason. Our listeners don’t need to hear the same content hour after hour. Look for local tie-in stories, creative angles, and other content our listeners may not have heard elsewhere. Also, keep in mind, if you are reading a local story that has gone national, you don’t need to cover it outside of the local paper’s news broadcast. Example: the Baton Rouge shooter from Kansas City. This is an important regional story, and it will show up not only in the Kansas City Star but USA Today and other national publications. So when you see it in the Lawrence Journal World, Wichita Eagle or elsewhere, you can read something else.

Question two—should you shelter our listeners from the worst of the world? No. We don’t need to hide the fact that there are serial killers, rapists, and bad people. Our listeners have lived through wars, drought, depression, and worse. They know what the world is like, and we are discounting them if we think they can’t handle the news we are reading. They need to know what’s happening in the world around them so they can be informed citizens equipped to participate in their communities.

BUT—um... well... I guess there’s no but to this one.

Finally, do you talk about how the news makes you feel? Yes. BUT NOT ON THE AIR! We as human beings have an innate need to share our joys, fears, excitement, and every other emotion and thought attached to the information we consume. But the place for that sharing is not on the air. WE ARE THE EYES OF THE LISTENER, NOT THE BRAIN. Our readings are a conduit for information. We should not comment or draw conclusions about what we read on the air. If you feel the need to connect with someone about an article you read, do so with your reading partner, the staff, or a friend, once you are off the air.
Name: Don Bilke


Fond Childhood Memory: I enjoyed spending time with my grandmother listening to Art Linkletter, and her other favorite shows, on the radio.

Family: I have a lovely wife Annie, three children, and three grandchildren.

Favorite Food: Hamburgers. There is nothing better than a good hamburger.

Favorite Song/Music: Bluegrass is my favorite type of music.

Career: I have had several occupations throughout my life but I worked 28 years at King Press in Joplin, MO. I started there thinking it would be a “temporary” situation. 28 years later when I retired I was given the honor of the longest “temporary” worker award.

Hobbies: I use to raise horses but had to give it up and move to town after I started losing my vision. I love horses but now have found a love of dogs. I now spend my spare time taking care of my three dogs: Gypsy, Sassy, and Bella. All three are rescue dogs. Gypsy is a German Shepherd mix, Sassy is a hound dog of sorts, and Bella is a pointer/terrier mix.

Audio Reader History: I have been a listener for around 10 years. I enjoy the news and the history show. I listen to the Wichita Eagle, Kansas City Star, USA Today, and Joplin Globe newspapers. My new favorite find is the History Book Hour.

SAVE THE DATE! FOR YOUR EARS ONLY 2016

The 14th annual “For Your EARS Only” benefit sale of all things audio will take place on Friday and Saturday, September 9 & 10 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Make plans to attend this fun, two-day event and help raise crucial funds for Audio-Reader! Audio-Reader is still accepting donations for the sale until September 1st. Please bring your gently-used vintage and modern stereo equipment, LPs, DVDs, CDs, and musical instruments to the following locations:

Lawrence: Audio-Reader, 1120 W 11th St, Lawrence, KS 66044
Kansas City: KCUR, 4825 Troost, Suite 202, Kansas City, MO 64110
Topeka: Sunflower School Supplies in Fairlawn Plaza, 4019 SW Gage Center Drive, Topeka, KS 66604

For Your EARS Only
A Special Benefit Sale Featuring
- LPs • CDs • Reel-to-Reel • DVDs
- 8-Track • Vintage Audio Equipment
- Modern Audio Equipment • Rare gadgets • Collectibles
Friday and Saturday, September 9-10, 2016
Opening Night: Friday 6-9 p.m. (Door: $10, Advance: $7) Featuring free food and cool prizes!
Douglas County Fairgrounds Building #21 Lawrence KS • Free admission Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Special Thanks to our sponsors:

Details online at http://audio-reader.org or call (785) 843-4060
2 Ron Bonesteel reads the obituaries from the Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader on Wednesdays.
3 Hannes Combest hosts Disability Digest each week.
   Michael Hauber reads sports from the Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader on Sundays.
   Luke Rounda is one of our substitute readers.
4 Carol Munchoff co-hosts regional news on Wednesdays and the Missouri News Hour on Fridays, and reads books.
5 Elaine Kautsch reads the New York Times Arts and Leisure section each week and co-hosts Breakfast Table Times on Fridays.
   Frank Male, Sr. is our lead Sensory Garden volunteer.
   Mark Praeger serves on the Audio-Reader development committee and on the golf tournament committee.
6 Vivian Davidson reads news of southeast Kansas from our satellite location at the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.
   Kurt Falkenstien is one of our substitute readers.
7 Marian Wilbur reads local news from the Kansas City Star and Dillon’s grocery ad for Telephone Reader on Thursdays.
8 John Comeau helps with mailings and other administrative tasks.
   Heather Eldridge reads special requests.
   Tracy Harrison reads special requests.
   Sarah Peters reads books.
9 Ann Chapman reads the food section from the Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader on Wednesdays.
10 Mary Ackerly hosts Home and Family Magazines each week and reads books.
11 Scott Weatherwax is a member of our golf tournament committee.
   Deb Yager reads books.
12 Arnetta Johnston is a Telephone Reader sub.
13 Judi Gitel reads books and special requests.
14 Brenda Berg-Dyck helps with For Your EARS Only and with the golf tournament.
15 Jim Carnell reads Car Craft for special requests and reads from the Topeka Capital-Journal on Tuesdays for Telephone Reader.
16 David Miller is an Emeritus volunteer.
   Beverley Wilson co-hosts regional news on Mondays and reads The Week, Business and Economy News, and books. She also serves on the Audio-Reader development committee and helps with some administrative tasks.
17 Mona Bell is an Emeritus volunteer.
   Lori Tesdahl reads Taste of Home and the KU Alumni Magazine for special requests. She is also our chief album sorter for our For Your EARS Only fundraiser.
20 Patrick Dowling is an Emeritus volunteer.
   David Snell is an Emeritus volunteer.
23 Sallie Downing reads Kansas City-area news from our satellite location at Alphapointe in Kansas City, MO.
   Bonny Fugett reads books.
   Jan Shumway co-hosts the Breakfast Table Times on Tuesdays.
   Lorrie Windholz reads Soap Opera Digest for special request and hosts the Missouri News Hour on Wednesdays.
24 Ann Cobb reads books.
25 Ruthie Hatfield helps with our For Your EARS Only sale.
   Gayle Matchetti is a substitute reader.
26 Jane Blocher reads the University Daily Kansan on Mondays for Telephone Reader.
   Marilyn Epp reads books.
   Chuck Fisher reads the Lawrence Journal World on Mondays as well as books.
   Eric Johnson is a clean-up reader for Telephone Reader on Wednesdays.
28 Chad Johanning helps with For Your EARS Only.
   Don Miller reads the Wichita Eagle on Fridays.
30 Brandon Barnett reads front page, world and national news from Monday’s Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader.
   Brittany Beck helps with outreach.
   Jay Hester volunteers with For Your EARS Only.

Continued on page 4
From my friend Donna, this recipe is her go-to for family events, winter or summer. She says everyone loves it! Hopefully, you will too! Enjoy!

**Slow Cooker Barbecued Beef**

**Ingredients**
- One 2 1/2 to 3-pound chuck roast
- One cup barbecue sauce
- 1/2 cup apricot preserves
- 1/2 green bell pepper chopped
- 1 tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 1/2 teaspoon brown sugar
- One medium red onion, thinly sliced
- 3/4 cup prepared salsa

**Directions**
Trim fat from beef and cut into chunks. Put into slow-cooker. Mix the rest of the ingredients together and put them in the slow cooker over the beef. Cook on high for 4 1/2 hours or on low for 9 hours. When done, use two forks to shred the beef. Serve on buns or garlicky buttered bread.

For this bread, buy a large loaf of Italian bread and slice. Melt two sticks of butter. Pulverize/mince two garlic cloves and add to the butter, with a pinch of sugar and some salt and pepper. Butter both sides of the bread and warm at 350° for about ten minutes until crispy. Yum!

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**By Susan Tabor
Assistant Coordinator of Volunteers**

**Lawrence Public Library Seeks Help With Needs Assessment Survey**

The Lawrence Public Library is growing, and they want the community to grow along with the library! They are asking for our help in getting their survey to people who will fill it out and give them the information.

**There are two ways to help:**

1. Participate in a survey about your use of the library, technology, and community resources by filling out the survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/lplsurvey](http://lawrencepubliclibrary.us8.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=c0ee14e1f9f82c94148731feb&id=2cecd7c9f1&e=110f0e65a)]. All Douglas County residents who take this survey are eligible to receive a coupon for 50% off of their accumulated library late fees (terms and conditions apply).

2. Participate in an in-person focus group. If you’d like to have a more in-depth discussion with Lawrence Public Library’s CINA team about the library and its role in the community, you can sign up for a focus group at [http://lawrencepubliclibrary.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c0ee14e1f9f82c94148731feb&id=77ac90a750&e=110f0e665a>].

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**August Birthdays**

*Eleanor Symons* reads books.

*Mary Wolfington* volunteers in the Sensory Garden.

**30 Devin Byrne** reads sports from Friday’s Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader.

*Eileen Rogers* co-hosts Newspapers of Central and Western Kansas on Thursdays.

**Staff Birthdays:**

*August 16*

**Lori Kesinger** is our outreach coordinator and listener liaison.

*August 31*

**Billie Archer** is our weekend reading coordinator.

Happy birthday to all of you!

Enjoy summer as we begin to move into autumn in September, everyone! And thanks to every one of you for all you do for Audio-Reader!
Share the Gift of Nature

The Audio-Reader Sensory Garden is filled with flowers, herbs, and textures to delight the senses. Plants with interesting colors and textures intermingle with fragrant leaves of herbs and various sounds of nature. Everyone can enjoy the restorative benefits of being in nature, including individuals with vision and other sensory impairments.

We are currently looking to add a few more regular volunteers to help in the Sensory Garden. Our garden volunteers typically meet for about one hour per week.

Volunteering in the garden is also a great opportunity for your service projects, church groups, teach children about nature, team building events, and other give back projects.

Please call 785-864-4600 or email mjohanning@ku.edu for more information.

Five Questions:

Name: Charles Decedue
Current assignments: Marie Curie by Susan Quinn and Audio Description
Years of service: 9 years, 4 months

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana. To be clear, it was the suburbs in a neighborhood known as Gentilly Terrace. I left the city to attend graduate school and never returned except to visit family, sometimes in conjunction with meetings of various professional societies.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: I can’t really say that I have a favorite book. I do however have two favorite authors who are in a total dead-heat for my affection and admiration. I simply cannot choose between P.G. Woodhouse and his cast of “swells” from the early part of 20th Century London and enivrons and Damon Runyon and his amazing cast of characters who inhabited Broadway in New York between the World Wars. I have read and re-read the stories many times and still return to them when I want some real “comfort reading”.

Q: How or why did you get involved with Audio-Reader?
A: Early on in my career at KU, Jake Kleinberg, a professor of chemistry when I arrived at KU, mentioned in passing his reading for Audio-Reader. I didn’t know what that was, but filed it away for future reference for when I had more time. As I approached retirement from KU I was cast in a play at Lawrence Community Theatre with Peggy Sampson, then outreach coordinator for Audio-Reader. It was, thanks to Jake’s priming, an easy task for her to convince me to audition to be a reader.

Q: What is your favorite or most unusual reading assignment?
A: I had begun at Audio-Reader reading the program called Disability Digest. While doing that, a special travelling exhibit appeared at Union Station in Kansas City. The exhibit was entitled Dialogue in the Dark and consisted of a “blind” experience for those of us who are sighted. Jen asked me if I would conduct a radio interview of the people behind the exhibit to give our listeners a perspective of what the exhibit was all about. I conducted the interview of the originator of the exhibit as well as the local host. It figuratively, and literally, opened my eyes in a way I had not anticipated.

Q: What is your favorite thing about volunteering for Audio-Reader?
A: I love the opportunity to provide a service that is one I would want to receive if I were to lose my vision. The Audio-Reader staff not only makes volunteering easy, they make sure that volunteers are appreciated for what they do. Volunteering at Audio-Reader greatly expands and stretches my reading choices, sometimes causing me to read things I normally would not consider and even taking me out of my comfort zone. Lastly, I am also an Audio Describer, which matches nicely my lifelong interest in performing arts, and this affords me the opportunity to add a level of enjoyment to those patrons who enjoy theater but have lost their sight.
Please give a warm welcome to the following new volunteers!

**Rachel Gadd-Nelson** is the director of the educational program at the Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center, where she volunteered before joining the staff three years ago. She also volunteers for Lawrence Queer Youth Voice, and has an interest in facilitating conversation on topics that society has a hard time addressing, including sexual assault, disability rights, and LGBTQ individuals. She also likes to spend time outdoors, cook, cross-stitch, and hang out with friends and her cats. Rachel begins by hosting our *Shoppers Showcase* program.

**Amy Henderson** is a freelance editor. In her spare time, she enjoys creating art in a variety of mediums, especially mixing sculptural elements into her paintings. Before moving to Kansas City, she volunteered at the information desk at a Topeka hospital, as well as in their community garden. Amy joins our crew of Alphapointe readers.

**Arnetta Johnston** is a retiree of Honeywell and works part-time at St. Luke’s East in Lee’s Summit. She also volunteers in her church’s office. In her spare time, Arnetta enjoys reading, computers and her dogs. Her grandmother was legally blind and struggled to get information, so Audio-Reader is close to her heart! She begins as a substitute reader for Telephone Reader.

**Sara Kirpes** is the marketing supervisor for Readiness Rounds in Eudora. She enjoys permaculture, horticulture, homesteading, gardening, animals and animal fostering, as well as photography, travel, biking, and yoga. Sara is excited to begin work volunteering in Audio-Reader’s Sensory Garden!

**Nova Maack** is an ESL teacher at Johnson County Community College. In her spare time, she likes to teach, cook, and spend time with her grandkids. She also spent two years in Moldova as a member of the Peace Corps! Nova joins our team of volunteers at Alphapointe in Kansas City, MO.

**Bill Pearce** is a sales engineer and training developer at Sprint. He volunteers for his church and Kansas City Hospice and Palliative Care. He’s also a trained voiceover artist who enjoys reading. Bill joins our Alphapointe team.

**Kay Rute** is a retired professor of legal studies at Washburn University. She enjoys reading, gardening, and photography in her spare time. She is looking forward to sharing her love of reading with others. Kay begins by reading from the *Topeka Capital-Journal* for Telephone Reader on Fridays.

**Yvonne Saenz** is a bartender at Conroy’s Pub. She enjoys photography and design, record collecting, reading, and film and sound editing. Yvonne joins us as a volunteer in our Sensory Garden! She will also take over reading the CVS and Hy-Vee ads for Telephone Reader.

**Mary Lee Warner** is retired, working most recently as the music director for Radio Kansas. She has also taught English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). In her spare time, she enjoys babysitting her grandson, playing in a bell choir, and reading. Mary Lee begins as a substitute reader, filling in on *Senior Concerns*.

**Wendy Woods** is a security operations software consultant. She volunteers at her church as the drama lead and is a Girl Scout cookie mom and camp activities coordinator. In her spare time, she enjoys theatre and aerial trapeze, silks, and lyra, which is an aerial hoop. Wendy joins our team of volunteers reading from Alphapointe.
Congratulations!

**Frank and Edna Day**, Lawrence, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on August 4, 2016. They were married on August 4, 1965 in Napa, CA. Frank has been an Audio-Reader volunteer for 32 years. He currently reads the *Missouri News Hour* on Tuesdays.

Congratulations to volunteer **Al Kaine**, whose son **Tim** received the democratic vice-presidential nomination! Al reads the opinion section from the *Kansas City Star* on Saturdays for Telephone Reader.

Volunteer **Dave Corley** will appear in the August 20 performance of the Topeka Civic Theater Radio Players. Tickets are available through the Topeka Civic Theatre box office.

**Condolences**

Our condolences go out to staffer **Susan Tabor** upon the death of her mother, **Maxine Haller** on July 17 in Wichita.

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**This Month in Audio-Reader History**

*By Lynne Ellis, Audio-Reader Volunteer*

- **August 1981**: The first edition of the *Closed Circuit* newsletter for Audio-Reader volunteers was published. **Rosie Hurwitz**, the director at the time, wrote, “...we hope you enjoy it.”

- **August 1991**: Audio-Reader suffered budget cuts like all departments at the University. The loss, about 2.5% of the total budget, did not affect listener and programming services, but the Program Guide and volunteer newsletter became bi-monthly and some staff positions were changed to offset the loss of funding.

- **August 1996**: Director **Janet Campbell** was elected secretary of the International Association of Audio Information Services (IAAIS).

- **August 2001**: Volunteers braved the sultry weather and kept the Sensory Garden from getting too dry during the recent heat wave. Thanks for the donation of plants and a bird bath were also noted.

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**Date For Tactile Art Show Set**

*By Susan Tabor, Assistant Coordinator of Volunteers*

The Jayhawk Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Kansas will host its first annual tactile art show on Thursday, October 13, at the Cider Gallery at 810 Pennsylvania here in Lawrence. The show will last from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Drinks and appetizers will be available.

The Jayhawk chapter is seeking artists in any tactile media, e.g., sculpture, jewelry, textiles, acrylic paints, or anything else tactile.

After the Cider Gallery showing, the art will be moved to Aimee’s coffeehouse downtown to be displayed for thirty additional days.

If you are an artist and are interested in participating or have questions, you may contact **Susan Tabor** at: souljourner@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 785-865-9949.

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**Additional Ways to Help Audio-Reader**

We have a lot of people ask us about different ways to support Audio-Reader without breaking the bank. Did you know that there are several employers who will support your volunteer work? Several employers in the area will contribute a company donation for volunteer hours worked, match a monetary gift, or pay employees a portion of their time spent volunteering for a nonprofit. It’s usually very easy to sign up, just talk to your human resources representative about possible volunteer support. For additional information, you can also contact the Audio-Reader Development Department at (785) 864-4600 or bethmckenzie@ku.edu.
Congratulations! Audio-Reader volunteer Jessica Jackson-Kubick gave birth to Samantha Mary Kubick on June 20! Congratulations to Jessica and her family on this new bundle of joy! Jessica reads special requests.