I love routine. Sameness. Being a home-body. The status quo. My comfort zone. Change bothers me. This may come as a surprise, since my job involves working with constant change. Studio times need adjusting. People get sick or travel. Volunteers come and go. Ice storms hit… or don’t. Flexibility is the name of the game when it comes to coordinating volunteers, and believe me, I enjoy every minute of it. But, it puts me in a constant state of pushing my personal boundaries. I share this with you because I’m about to ask you to join me in jumping outside your comfort zone. Audio-Reader listeners need access to timely information. In many cases, the most current news doesn’t come in a print newspaper mailed from halfway across the state a week ago, but from an online, E-edition of the newspaper available to us within a day of its publication. You know what I’m about to ask now, don’t you? Yep, that’s right. I’m asking you to get on board with reading online publications.

To be clear, I’m not asking you to turn on a dime here. The process starts with being open to learning something new. I’m here to teach you, along with Nick, Lisa, and I suspect, some of your fellow volunteers who work with these publications regularly. I’m not asking live readers to start reading all of their newspapers off the internet next week. I’m not asking all print readers to transition to online reading tomorrow. I am asking you to be open to learning the concept. A great way to start learning to read online publications is to do it! We can work with you 1:1 on your publications. We can give you access to the online edition of your newspaper so you can practice the navigation, get to know it, and learn its quirks (there will be quirks!) before you sit down with it in the studio. We can give you cheat sheets. You wouldn’t want to receive your newspaper a week after it was published—why would our listeners? As more of our publications go online, we need our volunteers to be ready and willing to jump outside their comfort zones, step outside of their boxes, take on a new challenge, and try online newspaper reading. You can do it. I know you can.

Continued on page 7
Donald Enos grew up in Toronto, KS, a small town in Woodson County about 80 miles east of Wichita. Donald has fond childhood memories of hot, humid summers and crisp, snowy winters spent at Toronto Lake. “We would go fishing in the mornings, swimming in the afternoons, and ice skating in the winter,” Donald chuckled.

I had never heard of Toronto, which greatly surprised Donald, so he shared some Toronto history with me. Toronto was founded in 1869. It was named after the city of Toronto, Ontario. The name is derived from the Mohawk word tkaronto, meaning "place where trees stand in the water", which lies at the meeting of several rivers. A coal baron with land in County Durham was visiting the Canadian city when he was told that coal had been discovered under his land. He therefore decided to call the mine Toronto, from which the village also took its name.

Wichita, KS, became Donald’s second and current home. These days Donald enjoys keeping informed on what is going on around him. He is always listening to news of some kind on the radio, TV, or Audio-Reader. His favorite source of information is Audio-Reader. “I listen daily to the Wichita Eagle, southeast Kansas newspapers, Sunflower Dailies, and regional newspapers. I grew up in a small town and so I really enjoy the small town news,” Donald explained.

In addition to being a news hound, Donald is a steak enthusiast and classic country music fan. “There is nothing like a juicy steak. I love pork chops and burgers too, but nothing can beat a good steak,” Donald shared. He also loves country music, and remembers the first time he heard Patsy Cline sing on the Arthur Godfrey’s Talent Scouts show in 1957. “When she started singing the crowd went crazy and the meter went clear to the top,” Donald exclaimed.

Family is what Donald is most proud of. Donald and wife Jeanne were married for 47 years. They had two sons: Dean and Larry. His biggest sorrow is that he has outlived his wife and children. His biggest regret is that he was unable to join the military and serve his country. However, Donald was able to put his love and knowledge of aircraft to good use another way: working for Beechcraft in Wichita for many years. Planes aren’t the only modes of transportation that interest Donald. He also likes automobiles. He looks forward to receiving Motor Trend magazine each month from the Audio-Reader special request library.

It was a joy getting to know Mr. Donald Enos better. Through our occasional phone conversations I had deduced that Donald was a positive, jovial guy of few words. I really enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about Donald and his life. Even though he is a man of few words, his perseverance, positive spirit, and zest for life can’t be missed. The excitement in his voice when talking about steak and country music made me want to spend the evening grilling up a ribeye and listening to Patsy Cline.

Audio Description Dates for January and February

We have several audio described performances coming up in February and March. If you know someone who could benefit, please spread the word!

**Pippin:** Thursday, February 2, 7:30 p.m., Lied Center

**Church Basement Ladies:** Saturday, March 11, 7:30 p.m., Theatre Lawrence

**Church Basement Ladies:** Sunday, March 12, 7:30 p.m., Theatre Lawrence

Additional performances are listed at www.reader.ku.edu/audio-description. Want to volunteer to hand out listening equipment, or become an audio describer? Contact Jen at jnigro@ku.edu.
**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Here is the list of our lucky volunteers who have February birthdays! Take heart! Spring isn’t far away!

1. **Katy Houk** reads obituaries from the *Kansas City Star* for Telephone Reader on Wednesdays.

2. **Susan Elkins** reads books.

3. **Bob Casino** reads southeast Kansas regional news from our studio at the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.

4. **Diane Carnell** reads the *Joplin Globe* on Wednesdays.

5. **Marge Heeney** is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

6. **Betty Kline** reads the Tuesday *Wichita Eagle* and books.

7. **Jake Waters** hosts *Newspapers of Southeast Kansas* on Fridays.

8. **Ernie Angino** reads the opinion section from the *Kansas City Star* for Telephone Reader on Tuesdays.

9. **Bill Vermooten** reads books as well as Thursday’s *Topeka Capital-Journal* for Telephone Reader.

10. **Juliette Loring** reads the Dollar General ad and House and Home section from the *Kansas City Star* for Telephone Reader on Sundays.

11. **Christy Allie** reads *Consumer Reports*.

12. **Bud Jacobs** helps staff the reception desk on Monday afternoons.

13. **Steve Padget** is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

14. **Christy Allie** reads *Consumer Reports*.

15. **Bob Gent** reads books and is one of our audio describers.

16. **Paul Graves** reads books.

17. **Jonathan Haynes** hosts *Alternative Press* each week.

18. **Bob Casino** reads southeast Kansas regional news from our studio at the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.

19. **Dot Ward** is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

20. **Paula Elkins** reads books.


22. **Rozanne Stringer** reads Sunflower Dailies and *Newspapers of Western Kansas* on Wednesdays.

23. **Steve Padget** is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

24. **Dot Ward** is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

25. **Rozanne Stringer** reads Sunflower Dailies and *Newspapers of Western Kansas* on Wednesdays.

26. **Frank Ybarra** reads the *Lawrence Journal World* on Thursdays.

27. **Rozanne Stringer** reads Sunflower Dailies and *Newspapers of Western Kansas* on Wednesdays.

28. **Charles Yockey** is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

29. **Becky Janzen** hosts *Newspapers of Southeast Kansas* on Wednesdays.

There are no staff birthdays in February.

Thanks to all of you for all you do for us! You make every day Valentine’s Day at Audio-Reader!
First of all, the black bean soup that was printed last month was misprinted so it is being reprinted here. (Bet you were wondering why flour and sugar were in a soup recipe!)

Spicy Black Bean Soup
Prep time: 10 mins
Cook time: 45 mins
Total time: 55 mins
Serves: 6 servings

Ingredients
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 medium yellow onions, chopped
- 3 celery ribs, chopped fine
- 1 large carrot, peeled and sliced into thin rounds
- 6 garlic cloves, pressed or minced
- 4½ teaspoons ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes (use ¼ teaspoon if you’re sensitive to spice)
- 4 (15-ounce) cans of black beans, rinsed and drained
- 4 cups low-sodium vegetable broth
- ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro (optional)
- 1 to 2 teaspoons sherry vinegar, to taste, or 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- Optional garnishes: diced avocado, extra cilantro, thinly sliced radishes, tortilla chips...

Directions
1. Heat the olive oil in a large Dutch oven or soup pot over medium heat until shimmering. Add the onions, celery and carrot and a light sprinkle of salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the vegetable are soft, about 10 to 15 minutes.

2. Stir in the garlic, cumin and red pepper flakes and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Pour in the beans and broth and bring to a simmer over medium-high heat. Cook, reducing heat as necessary to maintain a gentle simmer, until the broth is flavorful and the beans are very tender, about 30 minutes.

3. Puree about 4 cups of the soup in a blender until smooth (beware the steam that escapes from the top of the blender, it’s very hot). Return the pureed soup to the pot, stir in the cilantro, vinegar/lime juice and salt and pepper, to taste. Serve.

Notes
Recipe adapted from The America's Test Kitchen Healthy Family Cookbook.

And now for a Valentine’s Day dessert:

Drunken Cherries
(http://www.crazyforcrust.com/2016/12/drunken-cherries/)

Ingredients
- 1 (10 ounce) jar maraschino cherries
- Alcohol of choice: amaretto, vodka (any flavor; vanilla or cake would be amazing), fireball, etc.
- 4-6 ounces white chocolate (I recommend using almond bark or Candiquik)
- sprinkles

Directions
1. Drain liquid from the jar of cherries. (Tip: reserve the liquid to use for shirley temple drinks or cocktails.)

2. Pour alcohol in the jar to fill. Replace cap and soak for at least 24 hours. The longer they soak, the stronger they’ll be.

3. Drain the alcohol from the jar. (Tip: reserve it for cocktails!) Strain the cherries, then place them on layers of paper towels and pat dry. You want them as dry as possible before dipping to avoid ruining the chocolate. (Water and chocolate don’t mix.)

4. Work in batches: melt 2 ounces of chocolate in a small bowl. (I like using paper bowls for easy cleanup.) Melt according to package directions. Dip each cherry in the white chocolate, then dip in sprinkles and place on a wax paper lined cookie sheet. Chill to set. Working in batches of chocolate allows you not to waste any, plus allows for the chocolate to seize from the liquid without ruining the whole batch. Use a new bowl for each batch of chocolate you melt.

5. Store in the refrigerator for up to 2 days. Enjoy!

2017 Rice Foundation Grant Received

By Beth McKenzie,
Development Director

Audio-Reader received a $14,100 grant from the Ethel and Raymond Rice Foundation for partial funding of the Braille Program Guide, development of volunteer training videos, internet radios, amplifiers, cell phone microphone headsets, and two servers. “We are very grateful to the Ethel and Raymond Rice Foundation for its continued support and for ensuring that Audio-Reader programs will be accessible to our listeners,” said Dan Skinner, Audio-Reader Executive Director.
**News and Notes**

Compiled by Susan Tabor, Editor

**Deaths**

We at Audio-Reader offer our most sincere condolences to the following volunteers and their families who are grieving the recent loss of a loved one:

To our People Magazine reader Kelly Loeb, who lost her grandmother, Grace C. Moore on December 19, 2016.

To volunteer Lori Shattuck, whose father, Ronald Wray, died on December 13, 2016.

To the family of volunteer emeritus Paul Ferlo from Pittsburg, who died on December 13, 2016. Paul read Pittsburg-area news from our satellite location at KRPS for nearly 10 years.

To the family of emeritus volunteer Charlyn Orel, who died January 1. Charlyn hosted the Audio-Reader Short Stories hour from 1979 until she retired from reading in 2008.

To Audio-Reader volunteer Judy Taylor and her family at the death of Judy’s uncle in Maryland in January 2017. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Please accept our sincere condolences.

**Audio-Reader to audio describe upcoming Dole Institute of Politics exhibit**

In May of 2017, the Dole Institute of Politics will launch a new exhibit featuring those who have been active in the Vietnam War POW and MIA’s movement. This exhibit, titled The League of Wives: Vietnam’s POW/MIA Allies and Advocates, will also travel to other museums in the country over the next few years. Audio-Reader will provide audio description for both the Lawrence exhibit and its traveling version. We’ll publish more specific information as the opening of the exhibit approaches.

**Five Questions:**

**Name:** Juliette Loring  
**Current reading assignment:** Dollar General ad, Kansas City Star house and home section, audio description trainee  
**Years of service:** 2 years

Q: Where did you grow up?  
A: I grew up in Newburyport, MA.

Q: What is your favorite book?  
A: Persuasion by Jane Austen

Q: How or why did you get involved with Audio-Reader?  
A: A friend volunteers, and one of my mentors was blind and I used to read to her all the time.

Q: What is your favorite or most unusual reading assignment?  
A: I really like reading Dollar General ads because I can imagine my friend listening and telling someone to write it down.

Q: What is your favorite thing about volunteering for Audio-Reader?  
A: Imagining that people are enjoying listening.

**2017 Audio-Reader Golf Classic Date is Set!**

By Meredith Johanning, Development Assistant

Save the Date! Audio-Reader’s 8th Annual golf tournament will be Monday, June 5th at Eagle Bend Golf Course. Information for individuals and teams will be coming later this spring. If you (or a friend) are interested in being a sponsor for this year’s tournament, please contact Beth (bethmckenzie@ku.edu) or Meredith (mjohanning@ku.edu) in the Development Department.
Please give a warm welcome to the following new volunteers!

**Jason Kingman** is a special education facilitator with Lawrence Public Schools. He enjoys reading both fiction and non-fiction, and looks forward to giving back to the community in a way that aligns with his personal and professional values. Jason begins by reading *Dairy Goat Journal* for special request.

**Carrie Leontis** is a trained psychologist who teaches mindfulness and meditation in schools. She has done the same in Palo Alto, CA, as well as volunteered at Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco, and as a reader for disabled student services at UMKC. In her spare time, she enjoys walking, dancing, being outside, playing Scrabble, and listening to music. She begins by reading part of Saturday’s *Springfield News-Leader* for Telephone Reader.

**Brett Leopold** is the president of ITC Great Plains. In addition to volunteering for Audio-Reader, he serves on several boards and has volunteered as a Big Brother with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kansas City. He begins as a substitute reader.

**Penny Riley** is a retired middle school language arts teacher. She has taught in the UK, Egypt, and the US. She is passionate about travel and enjoys photography in her spare time. Penny begins by reading the *Lawrence Journal World* on Sunday mornings.

**Cynthia van Roden** is a jazz vocalist, actor, and voiceover artist. She volunteers for Folk Alliance International, KC Jazz Alive, the Palm Beach Photo- graphic Centre, and does event planning for Heartland Men’s Chorus. She enjoys event planning, singing, tennis, swimming, and many other activities in her spare time. Cynthia has previous experience recording for Lighthouse for the Blind in New York City, as well as Alphapointe many years ago. She returns to Alphapointe to read Kansas City-area newspapers.

**Grace Waltz** is currently self-employed. She has a degree in film and a background in teaching. She enjoys creative writing, reading, and is learning to upholster furniture. She begins by reading portions of Thursday’s *Springfield News-Leader* for Telephone Reader.

### Audio-Reader Embarks on a New Partnership

By Susan Tabor, Editor

By early February, Audio-Reader will be regularly recording *The Leaven*, the Roman Catholic archdiocesan newspaper for northeast Kansas. It will be accessible from Telephone Reader and from the Audio-Reader and archdiocesan websites.

Efforts to make *The Leaven* accessible had been undertaken before but were very short-lived. But when **Tom Racunas** moved to the Kansas City area to retire, the pieces began to fall into place.

Tom was hired as the disabilities consultant for the archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas shortly after arriving here. He had held a similar position in the Wichita area and had worked with staff from the telephone-based reading service there to make Wichita’s Catholic diocesan publication accessible.

The Leaven is a weekly publication throughout the school year, then is published every two weeks during the summertime. The newspaper files will be sent to Audio-Reader on Wednesday evenings, recorded on Thursdays and posted on Fridays; the printed newspaper usually arrives in people’s mailboxes on Fridays.

At this writing in mid-January, web addresses and Telephone Reader category numbers are not available. We will publish that information in next month’s *Closed Circuit*.

If you know someone who lives with a print-related disability, please let them know about this development. If they have not yet applied to Audio-Reader for services, we would like them to do so by calling us at 785-864-4600 or 1-800-772-8898 for more information. The service application can also be found online at [http://reader.ku.edu/application-service](http://reader.ku.edu/application-service).
with navigation instructions. Who knows, maybe you will find a better, easier, more efficient way to navigate than we have—it’s happened before.

We can give you opportunities to practice in the studio. Many of our special request publications use online subscriptions. Fill in for practice! Our Wichita Eagle, Missouri News Hour, and Newspapers of Southeast Kansas broadcasts all rely heavily on E-editions. These are also great places to fill in for practice. Many of our Telephone Reader publications are read online by home readers every day. Will your broadcast be perfect? Not the first time. Probably not the second time. Maybe never. But you will get more adept at using online editions, and they’ll become part of your comfort zone faster than you could have imagined.

For those of you who read live, we can take steps to make your adaptation more comfortable too, like printed papers as backup while you make the transition and links to look at your papers at home before you come to read. We even have a couple of volunteers who download their paper to a tablet before they come to Audio-Reader, and read it that way. And, you’ll be part of the process—by participating as an online reader, you can provide valuable feedback that will help us improve the experience for everyone.

Many of you remember the transition from reel-to-reel tape to digital recording. I wasn’t here for that, but I’ve heard there was a lot of trepidation. But the transition happened, and it saved Audio-Reader time, money, and energy. This transition will have the same impact, and at a time when we really need to make those savings.

Life is all about learning new things, pushing boundaries, and getting out of your comfort zone. Won’t you join us on this adventure?

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**This Month in Audio-Reader History**

*By Lynne Ellis, Audio-Reader Volunteer*

**February 1992:** Staff members Janet Campbell (then-director), Steve Kincaid (chief engineer), and Mona Gerstmann (then-coordinator of volunteers) traveled to Pittsburg, KS, to tour new reading studios and assist with auditioning potential volunteers. KRPS, the public radio station at Pittsburg State University, had been carrying the Audio-Reader signal since 1988.

**February 1997:** KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway asked then-director Janet Campbell to be the interim general manager of KANU-FM, while maintaining her position as director at Audio-Reader.

**February 2007:** Audio-Reader hosted David Parks, son of Kansas native and author Gordon Parks, in conjunction with “2007 Kansas Reads”. A-R broadcast Parks' book The Learning Tree, read by Bill Binningfield, over a period of three months.

**February 2007:** Audio-Reader’s coordinator of volunteers Jen Nigro broke her leg in January and thanked all for their help in her recovery, much of which she had to do from home due to the nature and severity of the break!
Audio-Reader volunteer **Charles Higginson** and his wife, **Laurie**, are first-time grandparents. **Julian Samuel Frederick Mahlmeister** was born in Berlin, Germany, on Monday, January 16 to **Margaret Higginson** and **Dirk Mahlmeister**. Congratulations, Charles & Laurie! We hope you get to visit him soon!