The American Council of the Blind and its Audio Description Project have awarded the Audio-Reader Network and Dole Institute of Politics a 2016 Audio Description Achievement Award. The organizations, which partnered to provide audio description for visually-impaired patrons visiting the Institute’s special exhibit, “Celebrating Opportunity for People with Disabilities: 70 Years of Dole Leadership”, won in the Museums, Visual Arts and Visitor Centers category. The award is made to individuals and organizations for outstanding contributions to the establishment or continued development of significant audio description programs. It will be presented Tuesday, July 5 during the Audio Description Project Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

The Dole Institute exhibit opened on July 26, 2016 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Senator Bob Dole’s commitment to equal access. It remains on display for public viewing until July 10, 2016. Audio description created by Audio-Reader volunteer Doug Washburn and Coordinator of Volunteers Jennifer Nigro is available via QR codes attached to the exhibit, as well as on the Dole Institute of Politics’ website (www/dolearchivecollections.ku.edu/collections/ada/about).

“This exhibit is unique, because visitors who are unable to see or read standard print can still experience the visual elements,” said Jennifer Nigro, Audio-Reader Coordinator of Volunteers. “No one should have to give up attending arts and culture events because they lose their sight. We’re pleased to partner with the Dole Institute of Politics to make accessibility a priority.”

“As we prepared this exhibit, it was important to us to follow the spirit of Senator Dole’s own legacy of disability advocacy, making the content as accessible as possible for all,” said Audrey Coleman, Assistant Director and Senior Archivist at the Dole Institute. “We look forward to working with Audio-Reader in the future to make audio description a core component of our exhibits program.”

Audio-Reader listener Nancy Johnson listens to Audio Description at the Dole Institute of Politics during a visit with volunteer Evelyn Fitzpatrick.
MEET A LISTENER: BRITTANY STOVALL

By Lisa Werner
Special Requests Coordinator

Hello, my name is Brittany Stovall and I am proud to call Joplin, MO, my home for the last 10 years. Before moving to Joplin I lived in a very small town, Cuba, MO, which is located in the central part of the state. I come from a small family that is slowly growing. I am the oldest of three girls. My sister Kelsey and her husband James welcomed their third child, baby Evelyn, into our family in April. My little sister Jordan and her husband David are expecting. Baby Levi will be here near the end of August. Both of my sisters as well as my mother have very rewarding careers in the medical field.

The biggest support in my life and my biggest fan is my boyfriend, Dustin. From Omaha, NE, he moved to Missouri last year and we are currently getting ready to buy our first house.

Another important part of my family is my three Australian shepherds: Corona, Tequila and Bentley. Smart, fuzzy and full of love, they are always the center of attention and full of life.

Throughout my childhood I had my share of hospital stays and doctors’ visits. From hip surgeries at the Mayo clinic in Rochester, MN, to eye surgeries at Barns Jewish in St. Louis, finding a diagnosis was impossible. Around the age of five my parents were introduced to the Make a Wish Foundation, which played a big role throughout my childhood. In 1997 Make a Wish Foundation flew my parents, two younger sisters and me to New York City for a weekend. I was told we were going to visit the Big Apple because my mom was caller 100 on a radio gameshow and she won a spot in a trivia competition. To make a very long story short, Make a Wish Foundation sent me to meet Reba McEntire on the Sally Jessy Raphael Show. This is probably my most cherished childhood memory. After explaining my physical challenges, my mother told everyone that one way to get me through all of the vigorous days of physical therapy was to play Reba McEntire and it would keep me calm. On stage, next to me and my mother, Reba sang and dedicated her song The Greatest Man I Never Knew. Looking back I am truly thankful for the Make a Wish Foundation, and I as an adult strive to do what I can to give back.

As an individual with multiple disabilities, I am always trying to increase the awareness of people with disabilities any chance I get. I currently work at a center for independent living. I love what I do. Not only do I get to work with people who share challenges similar to my own, but I get to help. I always tell people my career goal is to help people with disabilities get the accommodations and resources I did not necessarily have access to. The first half of my grade school years I attended public schools. Unfortunately, my parents finally gave up the fight and decided I would receive a better education if I was to attend a school for the blind, because the school I attended refused to provide the necessary accommodations, like Braille, that I needed to ensure a fair education.

One of the most important life lessons I have learned and tried to live by is to never complain too much about problems or challenges...because there is always someone out there who has it a lot worse.

I have been involved in disability advocacy for many years, and I have made it my personal mission and also my professional one to spread awareness of people with disabilities. Whether you have a visual impairment, trouble hearing or are unable to walk, I feel society as a whole could benefit in learning a little more about disability.

One of the most important life lessons I have learned and tried to live by is to never complain too much about problems or challenges I may come across, because there is always someone out there who has it a lot worse.

One of my greatest accomplishments and something that I am very proud of is obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree at Missouri Southern State University. One of the reasons I am most proud of my education is because I was the first person in my family to graduate from college despite my visual impairment and physical limitations. Achieving my educational goal also set the bar, and I was proud the day both of my sisters entered into secondary education as well. One is a respiratory therapist and the other is an LPN, currently in schooling to become a RN.

I have been an Audio-Reader listener for about two years. I love the services that Audio-Reader provides. Having the information that everyone else has access to at my fingertips makes a world of difference when trying to stay up with current events. I do not necessarily get to listen to every airing of a specific show, but I have to say I really enjoy Double Order of Freys. They are hilari-

Continued on page 4
A few quick reminders

Please remember the book table on the first floor is only for hardback and paperback books for sale. All other items (books on tape, videos, cassettes, catalogs, coupons and other free items) should go to the FREE table upstairs on the 2nd floor in the main hallway. Thanks!

Also, we know about the love affair that is going on between our red correcting pens and our volunteers. We know how pens plead with you to take them home with you so you can have a life together! We ask you, however, to be strong and to resist this invitation. Seriously, please check your cars, homes, purses, pockets, book bags and anywhere else those red pens could be hiding to see if one or more of them have inadvertently taken a ride home with you, and then please return them to us. This will help save us money! Thanks for your help!

And finally, please don’t forget about the Audio-Reader book club! We meet in the Audio-Reader living room from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, which in July will be on the 12th. We will discuss Dying for Chocolate by Diane Mott Davidson. Audio-Reader volunteer Nancy Hause will facilitate the discussion of this book for our July meeting. Come join the fun!

And for more information, contact Susan Tabor or Lisa Werner at Audio-Reader, 864-4600 or at stabor@ku.edu or llwerner@ku.edu.

Summer student intern

Gabe Mullen joined us beginning Friday, June 17, to work as part of Independence Inc.’s Youth Employment Program. He’s a 2016 graduate of Lawrence High School and plans to attend KU in the fall. His interests lie in political science, history and psychology. Gabe has some editing experience and will be doing some of that, as well as recording and possibly producing some special programming. He will be here Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-4 p.m. Welcome, Gabe, and we hope you enjoy your time with us!

Volunteer’s plays to be performed

Book reader Dean Bevan is also a playwright, and on July 8 and 9, Theatre Lawrence will present An Evening of Dean Bevan’s Plays. Audio-Reader volunteer Charles Decedue will be among the performers. There’ll be drama and comedy in six short plays which have been performed nationwide, from New York to Seattle, Palm Springs to Alaska and in between! Each show begins at 7:30; tickets are $10. Beat the heat and come enjoy an evening of entertainment in air-conditioned comfort!

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Don’t forget to reserve Thursday, October 6 for Audio-Reader’s Volunteer Appreciation Dinner! We’ll honor volunteers for year of service and celebrate Audio-Reader at Maceli’s, 1031 New Hampshire, with a social hour at 5pm and dinner and program beginning at 6. Invitations will go out later this summer!

This Month in Audio-Reader History

By Lynne Ellis, Audio-Reader Volunteer

- **July 2006**—Audio-Reader volunteer Richard Schoeck, a world-renowned literary scholar and professor emeritus of English Literature, was added to the Petey Cerf Legacy Society plaque. For more information about our legacy society, contact Beth McKenzie at bethmckenzie@ku.edu or (785) 864-5336.

- **July 2011**—The new iBlink app allowed Audio-Reader listeners to access programs using a smart phone for the first time.
RECIPE CORNER

By Susan Tabor
Assistant Coordinator of Volunteers

The following salad is one I got from Taste of Home magazine several years ago. It’s a great summer salad and is a crowd-pleaser with lots of good flavor! Enjoy this great option for picnics, family reunions, Fourth of July gatherings or any other summer gathering you have on tap!

I will tell you that I am not a great lover of garbanzo beans so I used Italian cannellini beans. They worked fine, and you could probably use a combination of your favorite beans to mix things up a little!

Homemade Antipasto Salad

TOTAL TIME: Prep: 1 hour + chilling
YIELD: 50 servings (3/4-cup) servings

Ingredients

- 2 packages (1 pound each) spiral pasta
- 4 cups chopped green peppers
- 4 cups chopped seeded tomatoes
- 3 cups chopped onions
- 2 cans (15 ounces each) garbanzo beans or chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 1 pound thinly sliced Genoa salami, julienned
- 1 pound sliced pepperoni, julienned
- 1/2 pound provolone cheese, cubed
- 1 cup pitted ripe olives, halved

Dressing:

- 1 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons dried oregano
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1-1/2 cups olive oil

Directions

1. Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain; rinse with cold water. In several large bowls, combine pasta, green peppers, tomatoes, onions, beans, salami, pepperoni, cheese and olives.

2. Place vinegar, sugar, oregano, salt and pepper in a blender. While processing, gradually add oil in a steady stream. Pour over pasta salad; toss to coat. Refrigerate, covered, 4 hours or overnight.

Yield: 50 (3/4-cup) servings.

LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO IS BLIND PARTICIPATES IN BRAILLE CHALLENGE

By Susan Tabor
Assistant Coordinator of Volunteers

Luther Fuller, a soon-to-be junior at Lawrence High School, participated in the 16th annual Braille Challenge, a Braille reading, writing and proofreading competition held annually. This year it was held in Los Angeles on Saturday, June 18.

Fuller was one of five Kansas students who participated in the Braille Challenge, which is sponsored by the National Braille Institute. Kansas had the most students participating in the challenge for the second year in a row. Fuller has competed in the regional competition yearly since 2010, when he placed second. This is the fifth time he has qualified for nationals.

As part of the national contest, students took part in an all-day academic competition spanning five Braille-related categories: reading comprehension, spelling, proofreading, chart and graph reading and speed and accuracy.

Though Luther did not place this year, another Kansas student did. That student is Brooke Petro of Leawood, who placed first in her category as a fourth-grader.

Over 1,000 students tried out for the competition and only 50 are chosen each year, so the competition is stiff! Congratulations to all of our Kansas students who competed this year! We are very proud of all of you!

Meet a Listener

Continued from page 2

ous, and it would be an honor to meet with them someday. But I also like listening to the Joplin Globe readings, and I love reading the New York Times and USA Today. I visited Audio-Reader last month and got to experience the Sensory Garden. Words cannot explain how grateful I am to have experienced something like that. I usually do not get to see stuff like that not only because I am blind, but because being in a wheelchair, I am not able to reach the ground. Having the flower beds up higher so someone who is in a wheelchair could still take part in the experience was simply amazing.

I appreciate all volunteers because they do not have to do what they do; they do it for free and out of the goodness of their hearts, a real altruistic group of individuals.
Name: David Kent

Current assignments: Wednesday afternoon regionals, substitute reader

Years of service: 11 years, 3 months

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I grew up all over the East and Southeast. My father was a career Army officer, so our family moved frequently until I went to junior high and high school in Louisville, KY, then off to the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: My favorite book has to be the Bible (how else could a clergyperson answer?). It’s never the same, however often I read a passage. Other than that, I’m a big fan of novels about international intrigue by authors like Daniel Silva and Nelson DeMille.

Q: How or why did you get involved with Audio-Reader?
A: I became involved in Audio-Reader at the suggestion of Donna Conway, and I saw it as a good way to use my years of public speaking, preaching and leading worship.

Q: What is your favorite or most unusual reading assignment?
A: As to favorite reading assignment, I really do enjoy reading the afternoon papers with a partner. The local stories hold a lot of human interest and are a welcome balance to all the political blather in the national and state coverage.

Q: What is your favorite thing about volunteering for Audio-Reader?
A: I feel good about doing something to help someone out there in the listening audience, and I get to hang out with some talented, dedicated and fun people (the staff).
Audio-Reader staff attend IAAIS conference, comes home with two awards

By Jennifer Nigro
Coordinator of Volunteers

Audio-Reader staff members Dan Skinner, Nick Carswell, Lori Kesinger and I attended the International Association of Audio Information Services (IAAIS) conference in Princeton, NJ, June 1-4. We had the opportunity to network with other audio information service professionals, share our knowledge and learn from others. Workshop topics included podcasting, marketing, reaching alternative audiences, fundraising, leadership and voice training for readers. We also got to tour the New Jersey State Library Talking Book and Braille Center (TBBC), this year’s host station. TBBC houses New Jersey’s Talking Books distribution center, the Regional Technology Assistance Center of the New Jersey CBVI services, and an audio information service called Audiovision. We were pleased to see some programming produced here at Audio-Reader on their program schedule!

One of the biggest highlights of the trip was the IAAIS Program Awards. The IAAIS honors stations for excellence in program production, as determined by judging stations nationwide. This year, Audio-Reader received awards in two categories:

In Drama and Dramatic Reading:

In On Location:

Awards were also given to Accessible Media, Inc. in Toronto, Canada, VoiceCORPS in Columbus, OH, Valley Voice Reading Service in Springfield, MA, Sight into Sound in Houston, TX, MindsEye in Belleville, IL, WXXI Reachout Radio in Rochester, NY, Recording Library of West Texas in Midland, TX, and Triangle Radio Reading in Raleigh, NC.

We submit awards in many categories every year. If you have a radio program you feel was particularly good, please alert a staff member so we can save it for the next round of program awards!

The Sensory Garden in Summer

Editor’s Note: One of our garden volunteers waxes poetic about the garden and pays a tribute to Frank Male, our chief master gardener. Thank you, Craig, for once again sharing your poetry with us!

The hot season is already here,
The torrid time of year.
Toiling in the early summer sun;
There’s plenty of work to be done.
I am only an amateur;
Often don’t know a weed from a flower.
The iris, lilac, and peony,
I know these by color and smell –
I know these, when they begin to swell.
But what I know in bloom,
I do not know in bud.

Creatures from a long-ago flood –
The slow slug, the sluggish snail –
Make their way along a cool mud trail.
Frank is nearly eighty-three now –
Working by the sweat of his brow.
As an apprentice, seven years under Frank,
I have learned much, have him to thank
For what to water, trim, and leave alone.
It takes gardeners years to hone
Their skill. Poets, too, need to learn
What to add, and what to leave alone.

—Craig Sweets
JULY BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to the following volunteers with birthdays in July:

1 Cindy Baker reads books.
   *Mary Jo Hobs* reads the *Joplin Globe* on Tuesdays.
   *Feloniz Lovato-Winston* works with our For Your EARS Only fundraiser, which takes place in September of each year.

2 Sara Orel is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

3 Bill Hamilton is one of our substitute readers.

5 Charles Decedue reads books and serves as one of our audio describers.

7 Susan Cunningham reads books.
   *Randy Dyck* volunteers for our For Your EARS Only fundraiser.
   *Geri Fordice* is an Emeritus volunteer.
   *Bill Zimmerman* reads *VFW Magazine*.

10 Kristi Kaylo reads the *Holton Recorder* on Mondays.

11 Cheryl Kirby-Stokes is one of our Emeritus volunteers.
   *Abby Olcese* is a substitute reader.

14 Patrick Baker reads Tuesday obituaries and Friday local news from the *Kansas City Star* for Telephone Reader. He is also an audio describer.
   *Cari Vukelich* reads regional news from Southeast Kansas on Fridays.

16 Dorothy Curnes is one of our Emeritus volunteers.
   *Helen Martin* co-hosts eastern Kansas regional news on Tuesdays.

17 Ruby Ducate co-hosts western Kansas regional news on Tuesdays.
   *Goodwin Garfield* reads the Jewish Forward for Telephone Reader.
   *Keri Lauxman* is one of our substitute readers.

18 Eleanor Wenger reads *The Journal* for Telephone Reader.

20 Annette Tucker reads news from southeast Kansas from our studio at the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.

21 Karen Branan reads obituaries from the *Kansas City Star* for Telephone Reader on Sundays.
   *Steve Sears* reads the *Wichita Eagle* for broadcast on Mondays.

22 Betty Baron reads books.
   *Paul Murphy* is one of our substitute readers.

23 William Hawkins serves on the Audio-Reader Development Committee.
   *Tim Orel* is one of our Emeritus volunteers.
   *Bob Shadburn* reads *Newspapers of Southeast Kansas* on Mondays.

26 Barbara Cooper reads regional news from southeast Kansas from our satellite studio at the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.
   *Betsy Parker* reads from the FYI section of the *Kansas City Star* for Telephone Reader on Tuesdays.

27 Catherine Browder-Morris reads Kansas City-area news from our satellite studio at Alphapointe in Kansas City.
   *Kelli Fischer* assists us with data entry and other office tasks.
   *Lenita Richardson* co-hosts the eastern Kansas regional news on Fridays.

31 Dainty Wiedeman is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

At the writing of this column, it is hotter than blazes outside! It is our hope that each of our July birthday celebrants can find some refreshing cool spot in the heat for their birthday celebrations! Make it a great one!

Continue having a great summer, everyone! And thanks for making Audio-Reader a part of your summertime fun!

New Faces

By Jennifer Nigro,
Coordinator of Volunteers

Please give a warm welcome to the following new volunteer!

*Aileen Ball* is an executive associate in the Office of the Provost at the University of Kansas. In her spare time she also volunteers for First United Methodist Church. Aileen begins by reading *Soap Opera Digest*. 
Audio-Reader exhibited at the Kansas City Vision Walk on June 18, and ran into some famous faces! Darth Vader, his Storm Troopers, a Jedi and a Royal Guard were members of one team. This was the 9th year for the walk, which raises money for the Foundation Fighting Blindness and its research into finding treatments for eye diseases like macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa and Usher Syndrome.