

Douglas County Law Library

E-Mail Newsletter



Vol. 3, No. 9; September 2006

Contents

- Reels of Justice Film Series Premiers
- "Caine" You Help With the Film Series?
- September Project Events in Lawrence Include Judge Pierron
- Living on Comfort Court
- Firefox Added to Workstations
- Current Art Gallery Exhibition
- Art Gallery Exhibitions
- New Acquisitions
- Did You Know?
- Current Law Library Volunteer Opportunities
- Library Volunteer Program
- Feedback
- Submitting Articles for Newsletter
- To Subscribe
- Classified Ads

Reels of Justice Film Series Premiers

The Reels of Justice Film Series had its premier on August 25, when *Inherit the Wind* was screened before a small but appreciative audience in the Lawrence Public Library Auditorium.

Michael Davis, Centennial Teaching Professor of Law at the University of Kansas, was there and shared his extensive knowledge of the Scope's case, on which the film was based, and provided commentary on the film. The Law Library would like to thank Professor Davis for his help.

The film series continues with a screening of *The Caine Mutiny* on Friday, November 17, at 6:00 PM in the public library auditorium.

"Caine" You Help With the Film Series?

The Library is looking for an attorney who has a special affection for *The Caine Mutiny* to give commentary at the screening of the second entry in the Library's "Reels of Justice Film Series," scheduled for Friday, November 17.

If you have worked for a JAG, or are just well versed in military law, please consider helping us out.

We are always looking for interested attorneys to help out with future films in the series. If you can volunteer to do just one or two favorite films, or help out long-term with the ongoing series, please contact the Law Library.

September Project Events in Lawrence Include Judge Pierron

The Honorable G. Joseph Pierron Jr., Judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals, will be one of the presenters during this year's September Project events in Lawrence.

The September Project is a grassroots effort to get people together on September 11th to talk about issues that matter. September Project events take place in libraries, where all people are welcomed, and where the exchange of information and ideas flourish. The September Project encourages individual communities - neighbors - to make sense of the world together."

The local September Project events will be held in the Lawrence Public Library Auditorium. The calendar of local events includes:

Surveillance and Society Post 9/11, with Professor Mike Hoeflich, University of Kansas School of Law - 7:00 PM, Monday, September 11, 2006.

Religious Cooperation in an Uncooperative World, panel discussion sponsored by Womenspirit Connection - 7:00 PM, Tuesday, September 12, 2006.

International Perspectives on the Post 9/11 United States, panel discussion with members of the University of Kansas International Students Association - 7:00 PM, Wednesday, September 13, 2006.

You be the Judge: the United States Supreme Court in Review, with the Honorable G. Joseph Pierron Jr., Judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals; sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Council in cooperation with the Kansas Judiciary and the Kansas Bar Association - 2:30 PM, Sunday, September 17, 2006.

The events are Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Douglas County and 100 Good Women. They are free and open to the public.

The website for the September Project is at <http://www.theseptemberproject.org>. More detailed information on the local September Project events can be found on the Lawrence Public Library Events Calendar page at <http://www.lawrence.lib.ks.us/eventscalendar/index.html>.

Living on Comfort Court

by Ginger Ratzlaff
Chair of Fund Development
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity

All over the United States, judges and attorneys are contributing "buildable hours" to their local Habitat for Humanity. In partnership with Habitat, attorneys from the community sponsor a "Bench & Bar" built Habitat house. A "buildable hour" refers to donating time and money to build a house.

Take a moment to put sponsoring a habitat house sponsorship into perspective. Imagine living on Comfort Court. A picture comes to mind of the American dream: a nice house, a lawn, compatible neighbors. That sounds pretty nice.

But, imagine living in inadequate, poverty housing:

- Maybe the floor is so structurally unsound that it is about to collapse under the bathtub and so you lock the door for safety.
- Maybe the insulation is so poor ice forms in the toilet in the winter.
- Maybe your children are sleeping on the floor in the living room...but this is the largest apartment you can afford.

- Maybe your entire family has asthma, yet the apartment you can afford has mould in the carpets and walls.

(These are examples from applications for homeownership that detail actual situations in Lawrence.)

Now, imagine moving from that housing to live in a simple, decent house on Comfort Court. That sounds too good to be true. Lawrence Habitat for Humanity helps families living in inadequate, poverty housing do just that.

Comfort Court in the Comfort Neighborhood in north Lawrence will be the home address for eight Douglas County families. Comfort Lane will be the address for eight more.

(see: www.LawrenceHabitat.org/construction/ComfortNeighborhood/default.asp)

The Comfort Neighborhood was developed due to the inspiration of Major General Clayton L. Comfort, USMC, who retired to Lawrence. He spent many hours of his retirement working with Lawrence Habitat for Humanity and the community of Lawrence. He was passionate about the Habitat mission: eliminating poverty housing.

The Comfort Neighborhood land and its development have been paid for with donations and grants. One of the grant requirements is that seven houses be built on the property by June 30, 2007. The penalty for not completing these houses is repayment of a percentage of the grant for each uncompleted house. To date, there are sponsorships for three houses.

Consider these habitat facts:

- Lawrence Habitat for Humanity serves a different population than that served by Tenants to Homeowners. We serve

families whose income is 30 to 60% of the median income in Douglas County. Efforts of other Douglas County service agencies are not duplicated.

- Families spend 225 volunteer hours per adult family member working on their own and other Habitat houses, pay a \$1,000 down payment, and purchase the house with a 0% interest mortgage. Habitat houses are a *hand up* not a *hand out*.
- Homeowner mortgage payments are recycled into building more houses. But, these payments will not sustain a building program. The federal and state government and Habitat for Humanity International do not give funds for building houses.
- The sum of mortgage payment, home insurance premium, and property tax is kept at 25% of homeowners' monthly income to ensure that a habitat house will not deplete family resources needed to meet other family necessities. This sum is almost always less than the family pays for rent.
- A habitat house is built following a simple, decent basic plan of 1100 square feet. Energy efficiency is built into every house. A "strong room" is built into every house that will protect a family from Kansas severe weather. A habitat house does not have luxury features.

There are Douglas County families that need help. Lawrence Habitat for Humanity needs your help so that help can be given. For the families that we serve there is no other way to achieve a simple, decent home. Please consider helping to build a "Bench & Bar" Habitat house in Lawrence.

For more information, please contact:

Ginger Ratzlaff
Chair of Fund Development
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity

840B Connecticut Street
Lawrence, KS 66044
Business: 832-0777; Personal: 766-1450
Ginger@LawrenceHabitat.org
<http://www.lawrencehabitat.org>.

Firefox Added to Workstations

Firefox, the award winning web browser from Mozilla, has recently been installed on the Library's three patron workstations. Firefox is increasing in popularity as an alternative to Explorer and Netscape, and many web users are of the opinion that it is the best web browser available. See for yourself the next time you use the Library.

Current Art Gallery Exhibition

The September exhibits in the Douglas County Law Library Art Gallery and the Division IV Art Gallery are of photography by Ron Beeton.

The exhibits will run through the end of September. All of the pieces are for sale and may be purchased directly from the artist. Contact information for Mr. Beeton is available in the Library and through a link to his website from the Art Gallery page on the Law Library's website.

The October 2006 exhibitions will feature photography by Joe Sutcliffe. More information on the exhibits will be in the October E-Mail Newsletter.

Art Gallery Exhibitions

For more information on past, current, and future Art Gallery exhibitions, or for more information on the Art Gallery, please consult the Art Gallery page on the Law Library's website.

If you would like to exhibit your art in our gallery, or know of local artists who would

like to show their original art here, contact Bill Pendleton, the Library's Art Gallery Exhibitions Coordinator at 843-3536 ext. 19 or billpen@pendletonandsutton.com, or the Law Library at 838-2477 or by e-mail at info@douglascolawlibrary.org.

New Acquisitions

Newly acquired material added to the Law Library's holdings:

AALL Spectrum. v. 10:8 and v. 10:9 (June and July 2006).

Juvenile and Family Court Journal. v. 57:2 (Spring 2006).

Juvenile and Family Law Digest. v.38:5-v.38:7 (May-July 2006).

LaFave Criminal Procedure, 4th, 2006 Pocket Part.

Law Library Journal. v. 98:3 (Summer 2006).

The New OPL Sourcebook: a Guide for Solo and Small Libraries, by Judith A. Siess.

Search and Seizure Checklists, 2006-2007 ed.

Session Laws of Kansas, 2006:1 and 2006:2.

Did You Know?

Every other week, a bit of Law Library trivia is posted in the Law Library and on the Law Library's website. The previous month's "Did You Know" tidbits are then published here in the Newsletter. The hope is for this to improve communication between the Law Library and its users.

August's entries were:

- In addition to having the current volumes, the Law Library has a separate collection of superseded volumes of the Kansas Administrative Regulations, providing the ability to research regulations that have been repealed or older versions of regulations that have been revised.
- The Law Library uses only 100% post-consumer content recycled paper in its printer/copier.

Current Law Library Volunteer Opportunities

The Library is looking for individuals to fill the following volunteer positions:

E-Mail Newsletter Editor.

Film Series Commentators

Patron Education and Training Assistant.

Publicity and Marketing Assistant.

Recycling Assistant

Reference Assistant.

Volunteer Coordinator.

Work Station Maintenance Assistant.

The Library also has opportunities for volunteers to create positions around their own interests and skills.

For more information and/or for position descriptions, contact the Library or visit the "Volunteers" page on the Law Library's website.

Library Volunteer Program

The Law Library Volunteer Program provides a capable and dependable voluntary

work force to assist with the day-to-day operations of the Law Library and its special projects. This work force supplements the paid Library staff and allows the Library to provide the best possible service to local judges, attorneys, and the public.

The Volunteer Program is instrumental in linking a valuable community resource - the citizens - with a valuable community institution - the Douglas County Law Library - for the benefit, growth, and enrichment of both.

If you or someone you know might be interested in volunteering for one of them, or if you would like more information on our program and/or the positions we have open, please contact the Library or visit the "Volunteers" page on the Law Library's website.

Feedback

This Newsletter is intended to be useful to its readers. As in any enterprise, feedback on how the Newsletter is fulfilling this goal is crucial to our achieving it. If our articles are helpful, let us know. If they are not, let us know. If you have suggestions on how to improve the Newsletter, please let us know. Thank you.

Submitting Articles for Newsletter

The Editor encourages readers to submit articles for publication and/or make suggestions on material to be included in future issues of the Newsletter.

To Subscribe

Contact the Law Library by mail, e-mail, or telephone and request a free subscription to the Newsletter. It will be sent to you as a PDF attachment to an e-mail. The Library's mailing address is: Douglas County Law

Library, Judicial and Law Enforcement Center, 111 East 11th Street, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044. The Library's e-mail address is: info@douglascolawlibrary.org. The Law Library's telephone number is: 785-838-2477.

Classified Ads

Free classified ads may be placed in the Newsletter by contacting the Law Library. The Editor reserves the right to refuse anything deemed inappropriate and to add restrictions as the need arises.

Employment:

GAL Wanted. The Douglas County District Court seeks applications by Sept. 8 for appointment to the juvenile panel. Qualified applicants will have received 6 hours of guardian ad litem training during the last CLE year. The appointing judge has the option of allowing a new GAL to complete the training within six months of appointment. Please send a letter of application stating your GAL experience and training and a resume to Linda Koester-Vogelsang, court administrator, via email (lkv@douglas-county.com), fax (785-838-2455), or postal mail (111 E. 11th St., Lawrence, KS 66044). Juvenile panel attorneys may be called upon to represent children or parent(s) in child in need of care cases and in juvenile offender cases. Current pay is \$2003 per month.

Douglas County Law Library E-Mail Newsletter

Editor: Kerry Altenbernd

Published monthly by:

The Douglas County Law Library,
Judicial and Law Enforcement Center,
111 East 11th Street,

Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Phone: 785-838-2477

Fax: 785-838-2455

E-mail: info@douglascolawlibrary.org

Website: <http://www.douglascolawlibrary.org>