

FROM THE LIBRARY

We received news last week that Bongo Barry, one of our summer reading performers, had passed away at the age of 55 during the night of August 26. He has entertained our children each summer for at least the last five years. He will certainly be missed in the library world and in the schools around Kansas City where he worked during the school year. Our thoughts are with his wife and two daughters.

Our book discussion of *Charming Billy* scheduled for Monday, Aug. 31 was cancelled due to illness of the facilitator. We are in the process of rescheduling and will contact everyone with the new schedule.

Our second discussion in the **Award Winners** series of the TALK program sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Council will be held at 7 PM, on Monday, Sept. 28. This discussion will be on *Motherless Brooklyn*, by Jonathan Lethem, which was a winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1999. *Motherless Brooklyn* is a detective novel centered on a group of now-grown orphans rescued from St. Vincent's Home for Boys by the self-proclaimed "King of Brooklyn." The orphans were groomed to work in a car service/detective agency which was a front for shady mob dealings. Join us for the discussion of this funny novel. Refreshments will be served.

Our two-week period of free return of library materials ended Monday evening. We had 186 items returned and waived \$948.80 in overdue fines. We appreciate getting YOUR materials back so that others may use them.

Story time for this year will begin next week. Our Tuesday storytime is for children that are two years of age by Sept. 1 and our Wednesday or Thursday storytimes are for children that are three years of age by Sept. 1 and not yet in Kindergarten. All story times are held from 10:30 to 11 AM each day. Registration is required.

Our August count of patrons entering the Library is 2,640.