

## **Celebrate the Book! Conference Returns to Topeka**

by Deborah Bryan, Adult Services Librarian, Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library

Celebrate the Book: A Regional Readers' Advisory Conference

Friday, November 3, 2006

9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$30 - includes a continental breakfast and catered hot lunch

Registration accepted September 15 - October 20, 2006

Registration forms can be printed from [www.tscpl.org/regform.pdf](http://www.tscpl.org/regform.pdf)

Hosted by the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, Topeka, Kansas

The Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS) and the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library invite area library staff to attend the third annual **Celebrate the Book! A Regional Readers' Advisory Conference, Friday, November 3**, at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. This year's featured speakers are KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway and author Mark Spragg. Chancellor Hemenway is Zora Neale Hurston's biographer, a fierce advocate of libraries and reading, and an enthusiastic and engaging speaker. Wyoming writer Mark Spragg is the author of *Where Rivers Change Direction*, a memoir that won the Mountains & Plains Booksellers Award, and *The Fruit of Stone*, a novel. Both were top ten Book Sense selections and have been translated into seven languages. His second novel, *An Unfinished Life*, was published in 2004 and adapted into a film of the same title directed by Lasse Hallstrom.

Numerous other presenters from the area will be conducting 45-minute breakout sessions throughout the day. These will cover various aspects of reader's advisory work, featuring sessions on genres such as mystery and audio books. Sessions on promoting reading will also be conducted, covering such topics as library blogs, online book discussions, and visual merchandizing. Informational sessions about the Kansas Center for the Book and the upcoming Kansas Reads: *The Learning Tree* initiative will also be available.

The registration fee includes a continental breakfast and a catered hot lunch with a vegetarian option. For more information contact Valerie Reif or Deb Bryan at 785/580-4553. You can also contact us via e-mail at [vreif@mail.tscpl.org](mailto:vreif@mail.tscpl.org) or [dbryan@mail.tscpl.org](mailto:dbryan@mail.tscpl.org). We look forward to gathering together with many of you to Celebrate the Book in November!