## **Johnson County Library Appoints New County Librarian**

by Pat Hassan, Johnson County Library

The Johnson County Library Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Donna Lauffer as the County Librarian for the Johnson County Library. Donna Lauffer has served as the Interim County Librarian since January of 2007. Lauffer has been with the Johnson County Library since 1979. She most recently served as the Associate Director for Branch Services and Outreach from 2002-2007 supervising 12 locations, system-wide youth services and outreach services.



Throughout the 1990s Lauffer served as the Deputy County Librarian and oversaw the planning and construction of several library facilities ending with the new Gardner Library in 2001. She served as the planner for the library's issues forum series and Community Issues 101. She has been involved with civic engagement initiatives in the KC metro area since 2002. She has consulted for the Kettering Foundation on research for Teaching Public Politics.

Lauffer has been involved with the League of Women Voters of Johnson County and Kansas. She currently serves on the board of the National League of Women Voters organization.

Lauffer holds a Masters in Library Science from UCLA, a Masters in Public Administration from KU, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from University of California, Long Beach. Lauffer began her role as County Librarian for the Johnson County Library on July 1, 2007.

Lauffer succeeds Mona Carmack, who successfully held the position of County Librarian for the Johnson County Library Foundation from 1988-2007. Carmack retired from her position as County Librarian in January of 2007.

Johnson County Library was established in 1952 and serves a population of more than 391,500 in the metropolitan Kansas City area with 12 branch libraries and a Central Resource Library. The mission of the library is to provide access to ideas, information, experiences and materials that support and enrich people's lives. The Johnson County Library's strategic plan, entitled *Connections: Enriching Lives, Building Community*, emphasizes traditional library service while challenging the institution to build partnerships, to encourage patron involvement, and to expand the library's presence throughout the community and on the World Wide Web. For more information please contact Kasey L. Riley at 913/261-2345 or <a href="mailto:rileyk@jocolibrary.org">rileyk@jocolibrary.org</a> or visit the Johnson County Library Web site at <a href="https://www.jocolibrary.org">www.jocolibrary.org</a>.