

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER

ONLINE AT Kentucky.com



LONDON OLYMPICS U.S. gymnast Raisman wins gold, bronze

Sports, B1: Tiebreaker goes her way this time

ARE YOU READY FOR SCHOOL?

Life + Neighbors, C1: Dealing with homework, bullies, first-day jitters and loading the backpack

City | Region, A3: Bunch's widow upset by sentencing » Sports, B1: UK freshman receivers catching on » Business, B6: Calumet items to be auctioned

AUGUST 8, 2012 | WEDNESDAY | METRO FINAL EDITION 1*

\$1.00

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES POPPING UP



Jill Peterson, 7, read a favorite *Curious George* book aloud during Tuesday's grand opening of Lexington's third Little Free Library, which is at Third Street Stuff downtown.



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PHOTOS BY PABLO ALCALA | palcala@herald-leader.com
Pat Gerhard, left, and Todd Johnson of the International Book Project helped launch the Little Free Library at Gerhard's Third Street Stuff on Tuesday.

Lexington now has 3 branches as simple 'take a book, leave a book' idea spreads

By Mary Meehan

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Give and take. Advocates of the Little Free Library build on that simple idea to spread literacy and build community.

Here's how it works: A waterproof box with a door that can latch is placed where people come and go. Books go in. People take

one and share one of their own.

Lexington's third Little Free Library opened Tuesday.

Looking like a Seussian bird-house fit for a pelican, a Little Free Library is the latest addition to the colorful chaos on the patio of Lexington's Third Street Stuff at 257 North Limestone.

Owner Pat Gerhard said hav-



See a video and a photo gallery online.

ing a Little Free Library was a natural fit for her eclectic eatery, coffee shop and store.

Sharing books "is such a

friendly thing to do," said Gerhard, who is known for her shock of red hair and day-glo style. "It's warm and cuddly."

The idea for Little Free Library in Lexington came from Betsy Adler, who loves sharing books with her sister who'd sent her an email with a link to the

See BOOKS, A2

Letters offer a glimpse of life in 1850s Lexington

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS CORRESPONDENCE ONLINE

By Valarie Honeycutt Spears

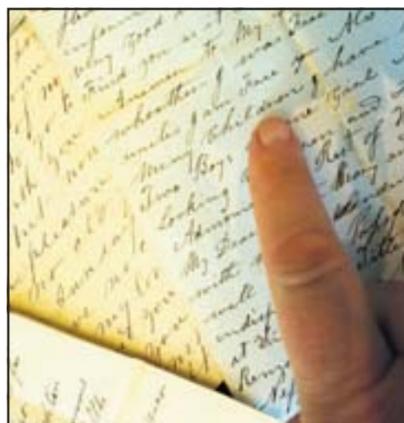
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In the 1850s, a Lexington man named Ferdinand, who had been a slave, wrote to his uncle Rueben in Western Kentucky about the death of Ferdinand's wife, his children's health and his newfound freedom.

The correspondence is included in a collection of 19th-century letters that the Kentucky Historical Society acquired July 9 from a family that lives out of state.

Ferdinand wrote four of the 27 letters that depict the lives of free and enslaved families alike in Lexington and Hopkinsville. Other

See LETTERS, A2



Two lines above Louise Jones' finger, a letter from Ferdinand Robinson says "I am free." Jones is director of Special Collections and Library at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History in Frankfort.

DAVID PERRY | STAFF

MARVIN HAMLISCH:

1944-2012

Composer won Pulitzer, Tony, Grammy, Oscar

Biggest hits were *A Chorus Line* and *The Way We Were*. Page A7



JUDITH CRIST

1922-2012

Feared by filmmakers

Movie critic with enormous clout never pulled punches. Page A7

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Weather, Page B10: Partly cloudy with isolated storms possible. High 91, Low 68

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