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STATE OF KANSAS

NEWS RELEASE

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PROOFREADER ENDS 29-YEAR TENURE AT SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE ON HER 86TH BIRTHDAY

TOPEKA (October 11, 2012) – This morning a celebration was held at the Kansas Secretary of State's Office in honor of Madeline Cowell's last day at work. Cowell was hired as a part-time proofreader in 1983 by Secretary of State Jack Brier. Over 29 years later, she chose her 86th birthday as her final day in the office.

"Madeline's professionalism and attention to detail served the people of Kansas well for nearly thirty years," said Secretary of State Kris Kobach.

The celebration cake pictured legal publications that Cowell had carefully checked for accuracy for decades, including the *Kansas Register* that is printed weekly. Each publication named a different secretary of state for whom she had worked: Jack Brier, Bill Graves, Ron Thornburgh, Chris Biggs, and Kris Kobach.

Cowell's own books were pictured on the cake as well: *Sweet Sour N' Spicy* and *Too Old to Cry – Too Young to Cuss*. Staff brought homemade dishes to feast on throughout the day as they shared memories and said their good-byes.