

# ShelfLife

Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

FEB 2003

## Drexel Extension Library To Close

The Metropolitan Library System will close the Extension Library located at Northwest 16th and Drexel as of March 3, library officials announced today.

The closing was approved by the MLS Commission at its January 16th meeting.

"The tenants of the property informed us that they will no longer be subleasing the property and cannot give us permission to continue to occupy the site," said Judy Walden, MLS deputy director for public services.

Walden said the community served by the Drexel Extension is within the service areas of several full-service libraries, including the Belle Isle library, which is situated three miles away from the Drexel Extension.

"The Drexel Extension is housed in a 40-year-old trailer," she added. "These trailers were once used as mobile libraries, but with the comprehensive



**MLS's Drexel Extension Library is shown in an earlier photo. The Extension will officially close March 3.**

expansion of the library system into permanent buildings over the last several decades, the remaining mobile units were parked in designated locations to serve as extension libraries."

Walden said Drexel was one of three remaining Metro trailer libraries. Others are located in the towns of Spencer and Luther, and talks are under way to replace the mobile units in those communities.

In addition, Walden said the trailers must be decommissioned because they fail to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act, and do not provide adequate safety and security for staff and customers.

"Plus," Walden said, "statistics show that of the 15,493 library cardholders living within this service area, only 288 of them are active users who prefer to use the Drexel Extension."

Walden said library officials have explored other options but decided not to re-locate the library to another site.

Drexel Extension users are being

**Continued on page 6**

# Photos from around the system



Photo by Evelyn Davis of the Downtown/  
Library Learning Center

## Former Commissioner Donates Original Art



Executive Director Donna Morris (above) receives an original painting, *Melding*, from Stuart and Revanella Earnest (right). Earnest, former chair of the Oklahoma County Board of County Commissioners, donated the painting to the system. The oil on canvas was painted by Carol Armstrong.

# Read About It Hosts Luncheon to say "Thanks"

On Friday, Dec. 20, B.J. Williams, producer and host of the MLS TV show, "Read About It," gave a special thank-you lunch for her "Read About It" stars, the men and women who help out as interviewers or interviewees.

The lunch was held at the Western Heritage Museum (formerly the Cowboy Hall of Fame.)



**Megan Johnson, Ruby Soutiere and Ursula Ward**



**Heidi Johnson and Elizabeth Kessler**



**Evelyn Davis, Doug Bentin and Clyde Martin**



**Ronna Davis, Joyce McCauley-Johnson, Phil Tolbert and Heidi Port**



**Donna Morris and Kelley Riha**



**Rosemary Czarski, Susie Beasley and Frank Ray**



# CONSTRUCTION ZONE

## News from the Construction Guy

### New Choctaw Library

The Choctaw Library remains on schedule for completion on Aug. 30.

The underground mechanical work is 80 percent complete, and the electrical work is approximately 10 percent complete. (It may appear that this underground work is taking forever.

This is due, in part, to the fact that the building will not have a typical ceiling space. Accordingly, much of the mechanical / electrical work that is "normally" installed above the ceiling and after the building is enclosed must be installed in the dirt and below the floor. Because making changes after the slab is poured involves the removal of concrete, extra care, i.e. additional time, must be taken to ensure these items of work are in their correct location.

The good news is the time normally spent at the end of the project installing systems above the ceiling will not be needed.

This means the finish work, when it starts, will appear to fly.)



*Choctaw Library - west end looking north. The arrows identify the concrete form work needed to construct the west steps which lead up to the west entry/porch area. (Photos by Evelyn Davis)*

A final review of the furniture package for the Choctaw Library is under way.

### Downtown Library

The matter of the exterior panels remains under discussion.

The basement ceiling grid is 90 percent complete, and the ceiling grid on the first floor is being installed.

Phase I installation of the telephone and data cabling started Jan. 6 and should be completed by mid-February.

The Audio / Visual package is being prepared for bidders with an award expected in March.

Please feel free to e-mail any building questions to: [tolberding@metrolibrary.org](mailto:tolberding@metrolibrary.org).

**--Todd Olberding**



*Same area looking east.*

## Warm Hands and Feet: Successful Staff Association & Staff Volunteers Effort



*Darlene Browers and Heidi Port sort the many items given by staff for the Warm Hands and Feet project. Heidi said MLS filled 24 large boxes of goodies for Eldercare and 12 giant bags of warm hands and feet items for the Salvation Army.*

## Staff Association Views and Reviews

By Darlene Browers

Your Metropolitan Library Staff Association Executive Council wishes the very best for the New Year to all the Metropolitan Library employees.

We will continue to work on behalf of a good work environment and to promote good library services.

We want to welcome **Tindle Arnold** as the new rep from Choctaw. She will be filling the spot left by Marcia Findiess who is taking on other site responsibilities. A big thanks goes to Marcia for all she has done.

Our Council meetings have been set for 2003 and are as follows: *Jan 23 at BI, Feb 27 at VI, March 27 at ED, April 24 at MC, May 22 at RE, July 2 at SO (on a Tuesday because of holiday), July 24 at BE, Sept 4 at BI, Sept 25 at WA, Oct 23 at BI, Nov 13 at SO and Dec 18 at BI.* All meetings are from 3-5 p.m.

We have two more scheduled weekends for Border's discounts. Plan your shopping for books for the weekends of Feb. 7-9 and then in April 25-27. At both Border's locations, they will give a 20 percent discount on most items in the store to all MLS Staff Association Members.  
Enjoy!!!!!!!

## Library Retirement Pension Board Report

The Library Retirement Pension Board met twice during the last quarter.

The regular meeting was Monday, November 11, 2002, at 3:30 pm at the Asset Services Company, 5101 N. Classen, Suite #600. At that time Andrew Junkin, financial consultant, Asset Services Company, reported that the Total Market Value for the Library Retirement Pension Fund as of September 30, 2002, was \$11,470,984.

Mr. Junkin noted that in the first, second and third quarters of the 2002 calendar year, the Library's pension fund investments, in total, have outperformed their policy indices.

Ken Culver, president, FBD Consulting, Inc., (actuary for the Board) gave a brief history of

the Metropolitan Library System Pension Plan, effective July 1, 1969, and most recently rewritten in July 1994. Since then Federal laws and regulations have changed. Mr. Culver presented a draft of a rewritten Plan that brings the Plan into compliance. The Plan must be brought into compliance by the end of December 2002.

The Board decided to review the draft, communicate any changes to Mr. Culver and meet again on December 12, 2002, prior to the Metropolitan Library

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The Board met on December 12 at 3:00 pm at Belle Isle Library and approved the new Metropolitan Library System Pension Plan.

– **Laura Tallant**

## ***Drexel Library continued***

sent letters of notification about the closing and are being urged to visit the full-service libraries in their area.

"We want to make the transition as smooth as possible for our customers," Walden said. "We encourage them to call us if they have questions."

## ***Touring Downtown***



Ad Team members tour the new Downtown Library & Learning Center's first floor circulation area: Kay Bauman, Todd Olberding, Denyvetta Davis, Karen Marriott, Donna Morris, Anne Hsieh and Judy Walden.



# People

## **FREE FISH AND TANK! To Loving People**

1 5 gallon fish tank, complete with filter, heater, light, plants and guppies.

1 10 gallon fish tank, complete with filter, heater, light, plants, catfish, gourami, and betta.

Call the Village Library (755-0710, ext. 22) and talk to one of the librarians. Linda Gens, Village Library (405) 755-0710, ext. 22



## **For Sale**

Low-Profile Tires, 215-40-16 with sharp Smith wheels. four tires, 1 is brand new. \$450 obo. Please call Shellie @ 292-0855 (or email shelliebean29@hotmail.com)

## **For Sale**

Never worn - MLS shirt - polo, color - navy, pique, xlarge (but large for xlarge), short sleeve. You can purchase this shirt from Pam Brandt, for \$17.56. Call 769-7411.



## **News From Edmond**

*This note was sent to The Edmond Library.*

Dear Librarians,  
Thank you all so much for the Harry Potter tickets. We had a great time. A special thank you to the children's librarian who tried so hard to call us while we were out or busy being muggles!  
Thanks,  
The Hartmans

## **Downtown Library**

Joyce McCauley-Johnson's nephew, Carsceal M. "Petey" Turner, has been named assistant sports director at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona, Florida. Petey is the main contact for men's basketball, cross-county and track and field.





### Welcome To

Trista Milner	Page, CT
Diane Rice	Tech Asst, VI
Chelsea Grissom	Page, CT

### Goodbye To

Michael Tortorelli	Circ Clerk, WA
Cathy DeGiusti	Asst. Benefits
	Mgr., HR
Annika Bryant	Library Asst,
DC	

### Promoted

Christy O'Brien	From Receiving
	Tech to Data
	Entry Tech,

### TP Transferring Is

Katherine Williams	Page, from RE
	to ED

### Congratulations!

To Kalyani Chekuri, CH, who gave birth to daughter, Sriya Chekuri, Dec. 20. She weighed 6 pounds and 1ounce, and was 19 and 1/4 inches long.

### Sympathy

To Cheryl Cherry, RE, whose brother passed away Dec. 30. Cheryl has been a circulation clerk for a short time at Ralph Ellison Library.

Sympathy also to Kim Rickey, Mat Sel, whose Father-in-law passed away.

And to Ann Aliotta, ED, whose mother-in-law passed away Sunday, Jan. 19, in Michigan.

And sympathy to Heidi Port whose grandmother passed away in January.



### And The Contest Winners Are:

Winners of the two paperback *Lord of the Rings* trilogies are Jan Reynolds, DVO, and Annika Bryant, DC.

Winners of the *Two Towers* paperbacks and CD soundtrack are Sharon May, RE, and Jonathan St. Aubin, ED.

And winner of the *Two Towers* paperback was Rondia Banks, RE.

The answers are:

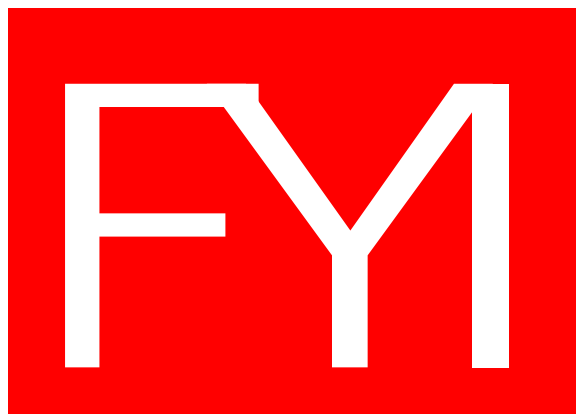
*What killed Gandolf?* A balrog - but of course Gandalf comes back as Gandalf the white.

*What is Gandolf's horse's name?* Shadowfax

*What is Sam's pony's name?* Bill

Thanks to all who participated. We still have *The Two Towers* posters for anyone who wants one.





### FEB Birthdays

FRANK C. RAY	2/01
JOANNE SCHNEIDER	2/03
MARY J. PATTON	2/04
HECTOR L. MATA	2/06
CARA ELIZABETH PETERS	2/08
LAURA ANN WYLIE	2/09
KAREN L. LITTERAL	2/09
ANN L. MEEKS	2/09
LINDA K. BIRCHETT	2/13
ROBERT A. HURST	2/15
PEGGY M. LONG	2/18
ERIC G. KING	2/18
CAROL S. HUNTER	2/18
ERICA LAREE' BURTON	2/18
KATHLEEN LAUGERMAN	2/20
DEBORAH J. WILLIS	2/20
DANIEL E. FIELDS	2/20
GENE E. CHAPPELL	2/22
LARRY G. JOHNSON	2/24
ALLISON FIELDS MCBETH	2/26
ERNESTINE F. CLARK	2/28

### FEB Anniversaries

JUDITH A. WALDEN	2/1/77
RIC REA	2/16/82
DENESA C. YOST	2/28/86
WANDA SCOTT	2/7/90
LINDA J. JAMESON	2/26/90
SARAH J. KELLUM	2/14/94
JASON E. EVANS	2/1/96
SUSAN M. MONROE	2/12/96
DARLENE S. BROWERS	2/12/96
DEBORAH A. KELLEY	2/1/97
LORI KANE	2/16/98
MARYAM SALAMAT	2/3/99
ROY S. BALLOU	2/8/99
GEORGE M. MARSHALL	2/15/99
NATHAN K. LEONARD	2/15/99
SHAHIN S. ASGHARI	2/16/99
SUSAN K. BECKETT	2/7/00
AMELIA E. YOUNG	2/9/00
KATHERINE Y. WILLIAMS	2/21/00
CHARLOTTE OVERTON	2/5/01
TERI L. REDENBAUGH	2/16/01
KATHRYN M. DUNN	2/19/01
CAROL S. HUNTER	2/19/01
TIERRA RENEE YOUNG	2/11/02
JANA L. EATMON	2/18/02



## ShelfLife

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ShelfLife, the official newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System, is published electronically each month by the **Public Relations Division**.

Written and graphic contributions are welcomed. Please forward all comments to: Nancy Lytle, editor.

**Nancy Lytle**

Editor

**Wanda Scott**

Graphic Design

For more information contact: Public Relations at **405.231.8618**.



*Linda Carter and Wanda Scott*

Linda Carter, Downtown Library's Avon lady, was the first person to buy Wanda Scott's ink drawing of the author Ralph Ellison.