

# ShelfLife

Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

NOV 2003

## Choctaw Library Makes Plans for Opening



Choctaw Library under construction. Above, a view of the parking lot and entrance. Plans, as of early November, are to open in February 2004. Photo by Evelyn Davis.

Plans are being developed for the grand opening of MLS' newest branch, the Choctaw Library.

MLS Director of Construction Management, Todd Olberding, said the new facility is quickly nearing completion.

A grand opening celebration is scheduled for February 9-14.

The week-long event will feature a ribbon cutting, reception and numerous events for the community.

The new library, located at 2525 North Muzzy, will replace the current facility, located in the Choctaw Plaza Shopping Mall.

MLS officials moved the facility to the mall following the May 3, 1999 tornado which destroyed the old library building.



**ALL DRESSED UP--** Del City Library Staff who dress for Halloween include, front row: Shellie Zeigler-Hill, Nichole Smiraldo, Fran Harbert. Back Row: Sheila Fixel, Elizabeth Pressler, Crystal Suppes, Whitney Roberts, Lena Loper, LaShawn Bradley, Teri Redengaugh, and Linda Jameson. Photo by Kim Cobb, BI.

## Del City Library Staff In Costume!

"Del City held a Halloween pizza party on Thursday, Oct. 30, so all staff could participate, as Friday is a half-staff day," said **Shellie Zeigler-Hill**.

It's pretty obvious to us that Halloween is still fun at Del City.

## Pension Board Meets, Examines Assets, Costs To System

The Library Retirement Pension Board met Thursday, October 30, 2003, at 3:30 p.m. at Belle Isle Library.

**Penny McCaleb**, chair, introduced **Andrew Junkin**, inancial consultant, Asset Services Company. Mr. Junkin presented the Quarterly Review of Investments for the third quarter of 2003. The pension fund is \$13,627,420. This is an increase of 1.77%. Mr. Junkin stated that even though the Stock Market is improving there is slower growth for quality stocks and bonds.

**Mrs. McCaleb** introduced **Ken Culver**, president, FBD Consulting, Inc. Mr. Culver presented the Actuarial Report: Annual Valuation as of July 1, 2003. The plan asset on July 1, 2003, was \$13,581,885. This provides a benefit security ratio of 108%. The report also gives the contribution requirements. When the Employer contribution is made on February 1, 2004, the amount will be \$1,430,683. The estimated employee contributions for the 2003 year are assumed to be \$198,263.

**Mrs. McCaleb** entertained a motion that the Metropolitan Library System's contribution to the pension fund for FY 2003-04 shall be \$1,430,683 payable by February 1, 2004. Motion passed.

The Finance Committee met August 20, 2003, at 3:30 p.m. at the Belle Isle Library, and at that meeting **Nancy Anthony**, member, Metropolitan Library Commission, requested the Library Retirement Pension Board review options for changing the defined benefit plan to a 401K-type retirement plan. Pension Board Agenda Item VI – Discussion: defined benefit retirement plan was not discussed but will be on the next Pension Board meeting agenda.

The meeting will, tentatively, be the first week of February 2004.

-- **Laura Tallant**, Staff Assoc. Representative  
to Library Retirement Pension Board



*Derek Cash*

## Views & Reviews:

### News From Your Staff Association

After receiving the OK from appropriate MLS authorities, **Tindle Arnold** announced that she will discuss with representatives of JC Pennys and Sears about the possibility of a staff discount.

As both stores sell a broad range of merchandise and are located in different parts of Oklahoma City, the discount would be a great benefit for members.

The Staff Association is considering applying for a grant to purchase a camera. SA members could more easily photograph employees for highlighting in Shelf Life and use the camera for other purposes that promote the Staff Association.

There was discussion about creating a Staff Association T-shirt. We will speak with the people at MAC about costs and feasibility. If adopted, the price should be around \$5 to \$6.

**Helen Chacon** has agreed to speak briefly at our next meeting. The emphasis will be on FOCUS.

In a few weeks the MLS will host Warm Hands/Warm Feet, which is a program to help the needy during the winter. The libraries will have boxes for the donations.

Please be prepared to donate socks and gloves.

– **Derek Cash, WA**

## Spotlight on Staff



*Katherine Williams with her artwork displayed at the Ralph Ellison Library. Photo by Rondia Banks.*

## Meet Katherine Williams

In this article we would like to honor **Katherine Y. Williams** who has been a page at Ralph Ellison for three and a half years.

Katherine has been an artist for as long as she can remember. At an early age she used crayons to draw rabbits, because her grandfather raised them.

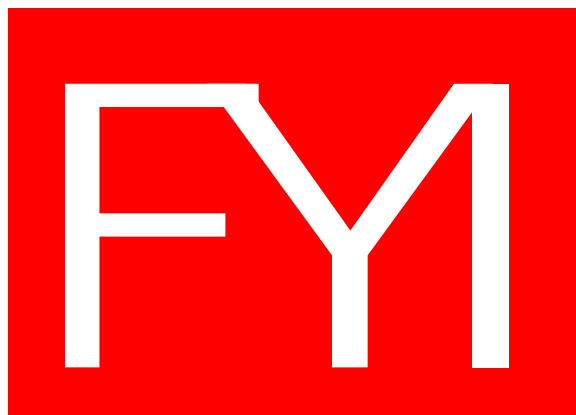
Today, she enjoys painting flowers and natural forms because of the colors and the interesting shapes.

**Katherine** has worked in all mediums, but watercolor is her favorite. "I like to draw my composition first in pencil with all the detail and then start applying the color. I like to do 2 or three layers, starting with a light wash until the color is as intense as I like it. I love color!"

**Katherine** has sold her work through friends, co-workers, and acquaintances. At one time a cousin owned an art gallery in Tulsa, and she sold some of her paintings there. It is a thrill "to know someone appreciates your work enough to buy it."

As an MLS employee **Katherine** enjoys designing the bulletin board in the children's area at Ralph Ellison. The great children's books with superb illustrations inspire her with ideas. Some of her favorite illustrators include Jerry Pinkney, Tomie De Paola, and Pat Cummings.

– **Derek Cash, WA**

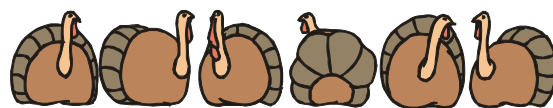


## NOVEMBER Birthdays

SELMA ZUHDI	11/01
YVONNE M. DYESS	11/02
KELLEY L. RIHA	11/04
LINDA J. HOLMBERG	11/05
CHERYLL R. SMITH	11/07
SUSAN E. HALL	11/09
LOVINIA M. NICHOLS	11/10
BETTY A. WYRICK	11/11
MATTHEW E. EVANS	11/11
MARGARET J. COLLINS	11/11
SHARON DAVIS JORSKI	11/12
CHELSEA N. GRISSOM	11/12
ROY S. BALLOU	11/13
RANDY L. KNUTSON	11/13
KARYN J. MILLER	11/14
TERI L. REDENBAUGH	11/16
DONNA L. MORRIS	11/16
GWEN THOMPSON	11/16
SAMUEL SCOVILL	11/17
SUSAN D. PALMER	11/18
JABARIA. TOURE	11/20
ELIZABETH HOLSHOUSER	11/22

## NOVEMBER Birthdays (cont)

PHYLLIS A. DAVIDSON	11/26
DEBORAH A. KELLEY	11/27
RAMON LIRA	11/27
RACHEL MOSMAN	11/27
DEANNA L. BIDDLE	11/29
J. PRESTON BELL	11/30



## Congratulations

### Nicoma Park Library

To the Nicoma Park Library, which won the Nicoma Park Beautification Award of the Month.

### Rosemary Czarski

To Rosemary Czarski, CT, and her family on the birth of their first grand-child, Caleb, born Oct. 28. Caleb is the son of Rosemary's daughter Jennifer and Jennifer's husband Michael.

## ShelfLife

Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

ShelfLife, the official newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System, is published electronically each month by the **Marketing & Communications Department.**

### M. Scott Carter, Director

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.**





# People

## NOVEMBER Anniversaries

PAMELA K. KOSTED	11/4/75
DANA L. MORROW	11/5/79
RANDY E. WAYLAND	11/16/82
DENYVETTA DAVIS	11/22/82
JOYCE MC. JOHNSON	11/1/84
PERRY A. WILSON	11/16/84
PAULINE B. RODRIGUEZ	11/4/85
DEANNA L. BIDDLE	11/3/86
J. PRESTON BELL	11/25/86
TRACI N. JINKENS	11/30/92
KATHRYNA. WILLIAMS	11/17/95
SALLY K. PHILLIPS	11/21/95
DEBRA K. JACKSON	11/4/96
LOIS W. MCKENNA	11/23/98
ZIRONYA D. LEWIS	11/8/99
AWNALEE	11/13/00
KELLEY L. RIHA	11/13/00
THUY THI MAI NGUYEN	11/13/00
DARRIE J. BREATHWIT	11/20/00
ELIZABETH KESSLER	11/20/00
MARY L. STEPHENS	11/27/00
JABARIA. TOURE	11/6/01
DAVID WILLIAM FRENCH	11/15/01
CHERYL ANN COLEMAN	11/4/02
JOHN C. R. UTLEY	11/4/02
SERINA L. GARCIA	11/26/02

## Welcome To

Ivory Dawson	Page, WA
Natalie Robin Roth	Page, CAT
Linda Dobbs	Page, SO

## Good Bye

Teresa Matthews	Librarian, ED
David Blailock	Tech Asst., MC

## Transferring

Christine Bassett	From Page, to Circ, BE
Mandana Roshan	From Page to Circ, ED

## Sympathy

To Kathy Fritsch, BI, whose brother died suddenly on Oct. 11.

Sympathy also to Christy O'Brien, TP, whose grandfather died in Ohio on Oct. 10.

Sympathy to Katrina Prince, DC, whose father died in October.

Sympathy also to Debra Spindle whose father died Oct. 29.



For More Information  
About Statewide  
Literacy Programs  
Call

1-800-879-0987



*Nathanael Fronko and Spoticus*

## MaC Recruiting Spoticus Performers

Marketing and Communications is bringing **Spoticus**, the new MLS mascot, to life and we need some help to do it.

A local costume maker is building a **Spoticus** suit.

This will be just the like the costumes worn by professional sports mascots, like the famous San Diego Chicken.

We're sparing no expense—okay, we're sparing one or two expenses—to create a first class mascot suit. It's lightweight, easy to move around in, and even contains a built-in fan. What it doesn't contain on delivery is you.

Yes, Marketing is now recruiting three or four MLS staff members to put on the dalmatian's spots and become **Spoticus** for special occasions. We have hired a professional mascot—the same fella who portrayed Clifford at CH's recent birthday party—to teach MLS staff how to be a good mascot.

We're looking for physically active employees to take the training and then be willing to go to the dogs with us.

If you're interested in this volunteer opportunity, check with your manager/supervisor to make sure it's okay, then let either Scott Carter or Doug Bentin in MaC know. When we get the training sessions set up (probably sometime in December), we'll get back to you.

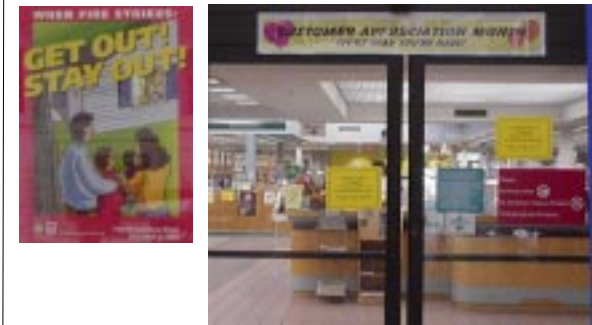
This is a great chance to have a heckuva lot of fun and help MLS out at the same time. So let us hear from you.

But for now, as the mother dalmatian said when her last puppy left home, "Dots all, folks."

(And you're right. I have no shame.)  
Call 231-8618.

– **Doug Bentin, MaC**

## Midwest City Dresses Up For Customer Appreciation Month



**SIGNS OF THE TIMES** - "Customer Appreciation Month - We're Glad You're Here" was a juxtaposition to our Fire Prevention Awareness poster "Get Out! Stay Out!" A bit of library humor," says Deb Willis, Midwest City Library manager. Photo by Susan Monroe.