

Shelflife

Staff Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

March 2006



Legislative Report

Donna Morris, MLS Executive Director, is very businesslike when she discusses Oklahoma House Bill 2158, written by Representative Sally Kern, and Senate Bill 1777 written by Kern and Senator Cliff Aldridge.

Both bills are essentially the same. They both demand that "The Oklahoma Department of Libraries Board shall not grant or distribute any state funds that are allocated to libraries . . . unless the library has taken action to place all children [sic] and young adult books and materials that are homosexually themed or sexually explicit in an adult or special area in the library and the library has a policy in place to limit distribution of such books and materials to adults only."

Both bills declare a state of emergency to exist in Oklahoma "by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force . . ."

The Senate version adds that "This act shall become effective November 1, 2006."

"We don't know why for sure, but Representative Kern's bill was laid over by the subcommittee that was reviewing it at the hearing on February 15. That means that it was not considered and they chose to take no action on it. It wasn't on the agenda for this week, either.

"I know the Oklahoma Library Association Legislative Committee has developed talking points for Kern's bill and has asked voters to discuss this with their legislators. Senate staffers asked ODL for fiscal information related to the bill, but that's standard operating procedure on

things like this. It doesn't mean one way or the other whether or not the senate is considering passage."



Executive Director Donna Morris

Susan McVey, of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, informs us that Senate Bill 1777 did not meet the deadline for passage by committee. "As a result, the bill is not considered to be an active bill. Deadlines in the House of Representatives are different from those in the Senate so bills in the House are still being heard in committees."

Donna has promised to keep us all up to date on the bill's journey through the legislature.

New Clinic Opens Downtown

Kelley Hoffman, MLS Benefits Manager, has good news for **Downtown Library** staff and anyone who has to visit the DN Library. But you have to get sick in order to take advantage of it.

"A new clinic has just opened downtown," Kelley said, "in the Robinson Renaissance Building, in suite 160. It's the Valir Physicians Immediate Care office, and it opened on Dec. 20."



Valir Health has offices throughout the Metro area. The phone number for the new one downtown is **602-8969**, and the **hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Tammy Wood is director of outpatient operations for Valir and she said that the new facility has four exam rooms, a lab, digital X-ray, and on-site physical therapy.

"And yes," Kelley added, "it's

included in our PPO Benefits Plan. Just take your card with you when you go. If you don't have your card with you, just have the doctor's office call Human Resources and we can tell them what they need to know over the phone."

Just remember that there are some illnesses they can't help you with, like the summertime blues, the rockin' pneumonia, and the boogie-woogie flu. And if you're just sick of working, you need power ball, not pills.

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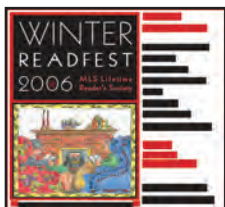
Winter Readfest 2006 *Setting Records for Participation*

There must be something in the water near the **Southern Oaks Library** that is making people want to read.

In 2005, SO led the field when it came to senior customers signing up for the Winter Readfest with 454 readers taking part. That was nearly 40 percent of the total number of people who joined the party for the entire library system. This year, SO has signed up 462 senior readers, and it's

only the end of the event's third week!

Shelflife spoke with **Anita Roesler**, MLS Senior Services



Coordinator, about the third year of Winter Readfest.

"Funny you should ask," Anita said. "I was just working on those stats. It's

amazing how well they're doing.

"The library that has the largest increase, percentage-wise, will win the framed original drawing for the brochure that Graphic Designer **Wanda Scott** created, and, with the same guideline, an extension will win the only framed print of the drawing."

It's early yet, but so far **Bethany** and **Harrah** look like the favorites to claim the prizes

because of their percentage increase over last year. Total enrollment to date is almost 300 participants ahead of last year's final total. And compared to the first year of Winter Readfest, 2004, we've already doubled the enrollment with just three weeks into the year.

"I will tell you," Anita added, "that I had to order additional bags and brochures the first week of the program!"

MLS's Cataloging Unique Among Public Libraries

Did you know?

- When a title leaves Cataloging, it has a record in the catalog, with author, title, and subject access, with holdings, and barcode labels printed. This is equivalent to having typed and filed all the cards in a card catalog.

- The average turnaround time for cataloging materials with system reserves waiting is 24 hours; the average turnaround time for cataloging other materials is 48-72 hours; for many libraries, the average turnaround time is measured in weeks or even months.

- MLS catalogers know MLS customers, and make sure to assign Dewey numbers so that materials are shelved where customers look for them.
- MLS assigns a unique call (shelf) number to every nonfiction title; most public libraries don't bother with unique call numbers.

- Every new record added to the MLS catalog is evaluated and enhanced by a Cataloger before it is added; many libraries download records from other sources into their catalogs without any evaluation nor enhancement.

- 21,000 new records were added to the MLS catalog in FY 04-05.

Cataloging Staff

Cataloging Manager: Pauline Rodriguez

Catalogers: Jana Hausburg, Clyde Herrod, Aaron Killough

Cataloging Technicians: Veronica Bernal, Paula Han-napel, Jill Vessels

Documents Cataloger: Ursula Ward

Materials Services Division Technicians: Margaret Angeles, Laqueta Lewi

- Every time an additional copy of a title is added to the MLS collections, a Cataloging Technician reviews the record; records in most library catalogs are never reviewed.

- Most libraries purchase barcode labels, while Cataloging prints them in-house;

- Over 114,000 barcode labels were printed between July 1, 2005 and January 31, 2006.

- MLS is a depository for state and federal government documents; depository government documents are cataloged and shelved with other library materials while in most libraries, government documents are a separate department with its own shelving, and users must go to that area to use documents.

- Materials Services Division Technicians in Cataloging reprocess all materials transferred between agencies; about 15,000 items were transferred in fiscal year 2004-2005.

- MLS's Cataloging department is considered a leader in cataloging in Oklahoma.

- Cataloging loves to help library staff!



News ... News ... News ...

MLS to Unveil New Computer Services ...SOON

Does signing up computer time for the public computers at your library give you a headache? Do you feel a constant battle with customers over who gets first dibs? Well, that's about to end soon. At the Feb. 15 Managers' Meeting, Jimmy Welch, MLS Deputy Executive Director/Technology, and Anne Fischer, Director of Information Technology, introduced new additions to our multi-use and reference computer service.

The concept is to make it easier for the customers – and the staff. Currently different agencies have different ways

to sign up for the public computers. When the new system is installed, we'll all operate the same!

It begins by having customers sign in to use a computer on a main pc. Once signed in, they will receive a printed receipt that has their reservation code. When a computer is ready, a main display monitor will display their reservation code and the computer that is available. If there are computers available when they sign in, they will be assigned a computer immediately. The display unit will also show where they are on the waiting

list as well as how much time is remaining on the computers that are in use.

PC Librarian is software that will be installed on the reference computers. It will allow staff to see how many customers are waiting, take a unit out of service if it is not working and in the case of a problem, move a customer up on the waiting list. PC Helper is software used by the IT staff to take a unit out of service if

it has not been done by the staff and they've called in a service call. IT can also set a unit to be out of service when the customer currently using it is finished if there is repair work that needs to be completed on the unit."

The new system won't be available for a few months, but just think how great it is going to be when it is! MLS IT is awesome. Period.



Overcrowded and Outta Space...

DN Library staff breathed freely for the first time in years when they moved into their new building, but other MLS staff feel constricted and look forward to a time when they, too, gain some elbow room.



Capitol Hill Library, home to Tech Processing & Cataloging.

An already crowded facility is CH, where Tech Processing and Cataloging share quarters with a busy library.

The concept of an MLS Service Center has been kicking around for a number of years.

The center would house Tech Processing, Cataloging, Maintenance, Books by Mail, the Outreach Book Centers collection, and the Friends of the Library sorting site. Currently, all those functions and departments share 22,000 square feet at CH and the Maintenance

Center. Plans are to build a Service Center of 39,000 sq. ft.

"We explored eight solutions to the space problem," said Todd Olberding, Director of Construction Management. "We thought about expand-

ing the current Maintenance Center, of buying the property that abuts it and putting up a new building, of adding on to CH, lots of things.

"We finally decided that the most cost-effective plan would be either to buy a used building and renovate it to suit our needs, or to buy raw property and build our own building."

An expansion of the current Maintenance Building isn't feasible, Administration began scouting around for another location. A variety of factors were considered and the area around 36th and Santa Fe seemed to be MLS' centroid.

"Making a used building work for us," Todd explained,

"involves issues that could result in a lot of lost cost. For instance, with most improvements, you get something in return for the money you spend. But if you have to first do something before you can begin the improvement, you get nothing back for that expenditure. We have to look at so many things—cost, location, impact on the entire system."

This information will go before the Long Range Planning Committee of the Library Commission on March 7. We'll let you know how things progress.



News ... News ...News ...



Staff Association Report for January 2006

The MLS Staff Association met at **Warr Acres** on January 26.

Marian La Crone, Director of the **Friends of the Library** Booksale attended the meeting. She told us what to expect if we volunteered to work at the 2006 Friends Booksale. She said that 5300 hours of volunteer work went into the Booksale.

Last year there were 800 volunteers. On Friday night the Friends made \$33,000 per hour and \$500 per minute. Heidi Port also attended the January meeting. She asked if the Staff Association representative would be willing to work with her to encourage

people to take part in the volunteer events in 2006.

After the Friends Booksale in March we will participate in Heart Association Wear Red Day, March 10-12. In April we will take part in the Oklahoma City Heart Walk.

One of the goals for 2006 is the Staff Association History Project. **Jean Johnson** reported that there is a mountain of material to look through. She suggested that most if not all of the historical archive should be collected each month and submitted at the end of each year.

The archive will include the minutes of each Staff Asso-

ciation Meeting and an MLS Commission report. A historian is already provided for in the Staff Association by-laws. **Beverly Phillips** volunteered to assist in looking through the old material.

Lloyd Lovely will speak at our next meeting on February 23 at the **Village Library**. We will also discuss our final list of questions from the MLS staff for the ad team.

If you have any concerns or questions that you would like to present to the Staff Association, please talk to your representative.

Staff Association Representatives are:

*Jean Johnson, Edmond
Sharon May, Ralph Ellison
Sheldon Beach, Downtown
Jean Wilburn, Belle Isle
Joan Shelton, Capitol Hill
Regina Kirkham, Bethany
Tindle Arnold, Choctaw
Lena Loper, Del City
Beverly Phillips, Southern Oaks
Mark Marshall, Village
Lynn Stephens, Warr Acres*
—Jean Johnson



Packing It In

Mark Twain once said, "To cease smoking is the easiest thing I ever did. I ought to know because I've done it a thousand times."

I remember my grandfather telling me when I was a pup that when cigarettes reached 50 cents a pack, he'd quit. He had to admit that he got 49 cents worth of pleasure out of those 20 smokes, but that one

additional penny would be too much. He was as good as his word.

"I swore that when they got to be \$3 a pack, I'd quit," said **Joyce McCauley-Johnson**, Mail Technician, "but I didn't."

Now Joyce has quit, and it took a combination of things to move her beyond her reliance on cigarettes.

"You know, I could go eight hours at work without a cigarette, but when I got

home I really wanted one. But I wanted to quit, too, so I just stopped putting them in my purse, and I finally got to the point where I wasn't enjoying it anymore. Plus, the cost was way too much."

Finally, Joyce combined that need to quit—and that desire to save money—with the idea of the Wear Red Weekend and American Heart Association HeartWalk and she is now smoke-free, not an easy accomplishment for a dedicated smoker of 30 years.

You reach a certain age and you start thinking more about

your health. "Everyone needs to think about it," Joyce said.

If you'd like to take part in the AHA Heartwalk, or make a pledge for someone who is walking, you can find more information about the event at www.okheartwalk.org. The Heartwalk will take place on Saturday, April 22, beginning at the SWC Bricktown Ballpark around 8:30 a.m.



People

Hello To:

John Ellis-Etchison	Tech Processor, TP
Mark Vance	Delivery Driver, MTC
Liana Mich.....	Page, ED
Maria Reyes.....	Page, CH
Sharon Nelson	Page, WA
Anna Todd	Page, ED
Jessica Heitman	Page, WA
Kenneth Brown	Maintenance Tech II, MTC
Liz Schroeder	Page, VI
Rhonda Turley.....	Assoc. Librarian, DN

New Staff Members



John Ellis-Etchison



Mark Vance



Liana Mich



Maria Reyes



Sharon Nelson



Anna Todd



Kenneth Brown



Liz Schroeder



Rhonda Turley

Goodbye To:

Zironya Lewis.....	Page, RE
Elizabeth Pressler	Assoc. Librarian, DC
Jessica Isted-Murray	Page, SO
Suzanne Anderson	Page, RE
Tanya Jamerson	Circ Clerk, MC
Charla Long	Researcher, PLA
Jessica Lothrop.....	Page, MC

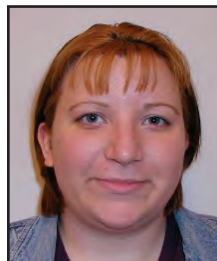
Promotion:

Sylvia Lawson	From IT Tech 1, to Senior Acct.. Tech, BO
Emily Williams	From Librarian, to YA Services Coordinator, OUT
Richard Antonisse	From Librarian, PT,LO, to Librarian, FT, MC

Sympathy:

To Loretta Frantz, TP, whose mother passed away Feb. 1.

Sympathy also to Sharlott White Brown, ILL, whose father Sam White, died Feb. 17.



Jessica Heitman



11 Cup DBP Cuisinart Food Processor. \$125.
(Valued at \$280; I've seen discounted at \$159.) Brand new in box. Intended gift recipient already had one at Christmas and I can't return it. Great wedding gift or birthday gift or for yourself!
Call Karen Kruse Lehr, at 879-2225.

TV: 27" Mitsubishi Color TV- \$75
TV Stand: with built-in speakers - \$35. (for 21" TV or smaller)
Video/DVD Cabinet : With locking doors, \$25.
Call Debbie Robertus, at 949-1645, after 5:30 p.m.

March Birthdays

SUZANNE TAYLOR ANDERSON	3/1	•
DAVID J. BLAILOCK	3/2	•
JESSICA REAGAN KLOIBER	3/2	•
BENJAMIN B. JACOB	3/3	•
AIMEE C. OKAMURO	3/3	•
EDWARD AHAD MARAND	3/5	•
SARAH J. KELLUM	3/6	•
PATSY A. GLOVER	3/8	•
NANCY J. LYTLE	3/9	•
JULIA ANN BALLOU	3/9	•
CHARLES S. ISAACS	3/12	•
DEREK J. CASH	3/13	•
SERINA L. GARCIA	3/14	•
JUANITA M. MENDOZA	3/14	•
ROBERT M. FERGUSON	3/15	•
BARBARA M. PARR	3/17	•
AMY KATHRYN UPCHURCH	3/19	•
DIANNA L. RUPP	3/19	•
FARIBA WILLIAMS	3/21	•
TREVOR L. DAILEY	3/21	•
MARY J. SHOLLY	3/22	•
MARIAN JANE LECRONE	3/22	•
MATTHEW MCSPADDEN	3/22	•
RUSSELL L. PIERCE	3/22	•
KATHRYN F. HATFIELD	3/22	•
ABE EJTEHADI	3/23	•
SHAHIN ASGHARI	3/25	•
KIM L. COBB	3/26	•
PAMELA S. BUCHANAN	3/27	•
MARY L. STEPHENS	3/27	•
PATRICIA RIVAS	3/30	•
SHEILA D. FIXEL	3/31	•
JANA C. HAUSBURG	3/31	•

March Anniversaries

DARCUS D. SMITH	3/28/1986	•
KIMBERLY L. WADE	3/31/1986	•
HELEN F. HARRELL	3/2/1987	•
DENISE A. COURTS	3/16/1987	•
JILL L. VESSELS	3/19/1987	•
JOE J. POE	3/21/1987	•
MARY A. MAHAN	3/15/1988	•
TRACY C. STONE	3/17/1988	•
MARY L. STRASNER	3/6/1989	•
BEVERLY K. PHILLIPS	3/22/1993	•
LEE MATA	3/15/1994	•
MICHAEL A. BAUGHMAN	3/22/1999	•
MARGARET J. COLLINS	3/27/2000	•
KATHY S. MARQUIS	3/5/2001	•
VINCENT D. ARMIJO	3/26/2001	•
TONDA FAME KELLY	3/4/2002	•
VERONICA BERNAL	3/4/2002	•
KRISTEN T. KEYSER	3/5/2002	•
BETTY ANN HEPLER SCOTT	3/11/2002	•
PAMELA E. WISER	3/3/2003	•
SIMONA LONG	3/17/2003	•
DEBORAH MARTINEZ-THOMPSON	3/8/2004	•
BRENDA ANN HAMMONS	3/29/2004	•
MATTHEW R. MCSPADDEN	3/29/2004	•
MARGARET DIANA ANGELES	3/29/2004	•
JESSICA L. LANDRY-GATERS	3/2/2005	•
SANDRA KAY EFFINGER	3/14/2005	•
KAREN J. DAVIS	3/23/2005	•
JULIET M. ALAVICHEH	3/28/2005	•

April Anniversaries

CAROLYN S. ABERNATHY	4/1/1966	•
EDWARD N. TERRY	4/4/1966	•
ERNESTINE F. CLARK	4/22/1976	•
LAVETTA KINSEY DENT	4/27/1979	•
HEIDI M. JOHNSON	4/30/1979	•
ANNE G. FISCHER	4/3/1981	•
CLYDE D. HERROD	4/13/1982	•
JEAN M. WILBURN	4/6/1992	•
LORETTA G. FRANTZ	4/25/1994	•
SUSAN E. HALL	4/5/1999	•
KRISTINA F. ROBERTSON	4/13/2000	•
DANIEL E. FIELDS	4/2/2001	•
MARY R. MCELROY	4/5/2001	•
JUANITA M. MENDOZA	4/30/2001	•
KERI L. CLOUD	4/29/2002	•
KERRY STEWART HUBBS	4/12/2004	•
MELANIE DIANE LEVICK	4/26/2004	•
BROOK WELCH	4/25/2005	•
LINDA A. TEMPLE	4/25/2005	•
JULIANNA LOUISE LINK	4/25/2005	•
RACHEL H. BROWN	4/27/2005	•

April Birthdays

ANGELA K. RUPEL	4/2	•	GREGORY W. BENNETT	4/18	•	DAVID L. MACK	4/24
DARLENE S. BROWERS	4/3	•	HEIDI M. JOHNSON	4/19	•	JANET E. BOWEN	4/24
JOHN D. WOOD	4/4	•	JOHN C. R. UTLEY	4/19	•	PAIGE ALLYSON NIFONG	4/26
EMILY R. WILLIAMS	4/7	•	KELLEY LYN BERTRAM	4/20	•	SUSAN A. STINSON	4/26
CRYSTAL L. SUPPES	4/7	•	ERIN K. RACHELS	4/20	•	JULIET M. ALAVICHEH	4/27
KAREN J. DAVIS	4/9	•	SHARON L. MAINE	4/20	•	STUART H. WILLIAMSON	4/27
FRANCES V. HARBERT	4/10	•	MARK DAVID VANCE	4/21	•	JOYCE L. TALLANT	4/27
KELLY E. WOLF	4/11	•	PATRICK D. WILLIAMS	4/21	•	CHRISTY M. O'BRIEN	4/28
LISA L. WALKER	4/14	•	JULIE A. SCHOFIELD	4/21	•	MARIA E. WATKINS	4/28
KAREN L. BAYS	4/16	•	ISABEL T. OROZCO	4/22	•	TIMOTHY D. HANNA	4/28
GERALD W. HICKMAN	4/17	•	BRANDI E. GAY	4/22	•	THOMAS P. GALLAGHER	4/30
KERI L. CLOUD	4/18	•	MELISSA K. WEATHERS	4/22	•		