

ShelfLife

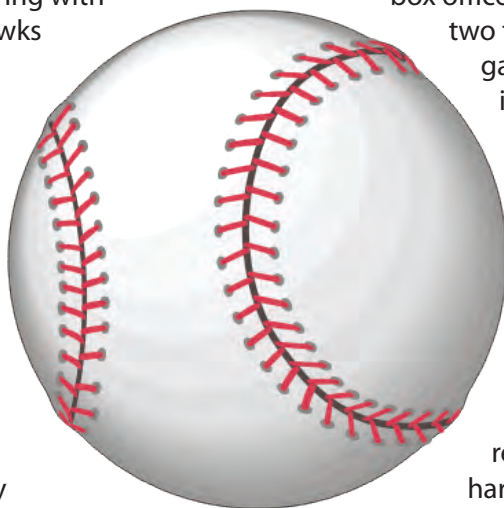
Staff Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

August 2006

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

MLS has been partnering with the Oklahoma Redhawks for Library Night at the Ballpark for many years now, so we know the drill. But for those new to MLS here's the rundown:

Kids and Teens who complete Goal 2 of their Summer at the Library reading goals receive a coupon they can exchange at the ballpark



box office for tickets for two to a specified game. This year, it's the Aug. 7 game with the Tucson Sidewinders. As always, there are coupons available for MLS staff as rewards for the hard work that has gone into making

this summer's program one of the most successful ever. (ShelfLife will publish stats next month.)

So if you're interested in free admission to the AT&T Bricktown Ballpark for the Aug. 7 game, contact Children's Services Coordinator Kristin Smith.

Game starts at 7:05, and you'll need to exchange your coupon for tickets, so arrive a little earlier.

Play Ball!

MLS Bags are Here! — And Are on Their Way to You!



As you know, last year MLS stopped purchasing plastic bags for customer materials. MLS used between 50,000 and 75,000 bags each year, and the cost of the bags was incredibly high (not to mention the cost to our land fills.) So instead of wasting

that money on throw-away bags, it was decided that each library would sell canvas-type bags instead.

At the end of each fiscal year, the money made on bag sales will be used to buy

more bags the next year. This way the money is constantly recycled, as are the bags.

Well, in the immortal words of Poltergeist... **they're here!**

Libraries will be selling two different bags: a very nice, large blue canvas bag with zippers, pockets and everything you could ask for in a book bag (except books) for \$5, and another more economical blue bag (\$1) that customers can easily store in their purse, car, etc.



Your library will soon receive a supply of both bags, as well as flyers announcing the bags for sale. When a customer purchases the bag, just go to Financials in VCirc then go to 805 Gifts. Under "Choose Type", scroll down

to Bag Sales. It will then show "Explanation: Payment Bag Sales" and you'll just enter the amount paid.

It's easy as pie!

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It's Your Money —Don't Lose It

Don't forget, if you contributed to the Flexible Benefits – Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan (MERC) in FY 2005-2006 that you have until September 30, 2006, to claim any funds that are still in your account. As much as you love MLS, we're sure you don't want to let your money transfer to the system because you forgot to put in a claim for it, so fill out and send in that Flex Form before the end of September.

And, if you're a contributor in 2006-2007, it's not too early

to begin saving your receipts for eligible over-the-counter (OTC) medications. "By saving your

receipts early," says Kelley Hoffman, MLS Benefits Manager, "you'll be sure to make the

best use of the funds in your MERP."

If you're not sure what items qualify, you'll find an OTC Quick Reference Guide on the MLS Intranet in the Employee/Benefits/Flexible Benefits Plan section. Remember, you can include the cost of the item and the sales tax in your reimbursement request.

So it's not too late for last year's funds, and it isn't too early for this year's.



The Pirate King Takes Key West

*"Oh, better far to live and die
Under the brave black flag I fly,
Than play a sanctimonious part*

We were on board for the voyage, which lasted six days and five nights."

did a lot of snorkeling and had 10 hours of shore leave in Key West."



*With a pirate head and a
pirate heart."*

*W.S. Gilbert, The Pirates of
Penzance*

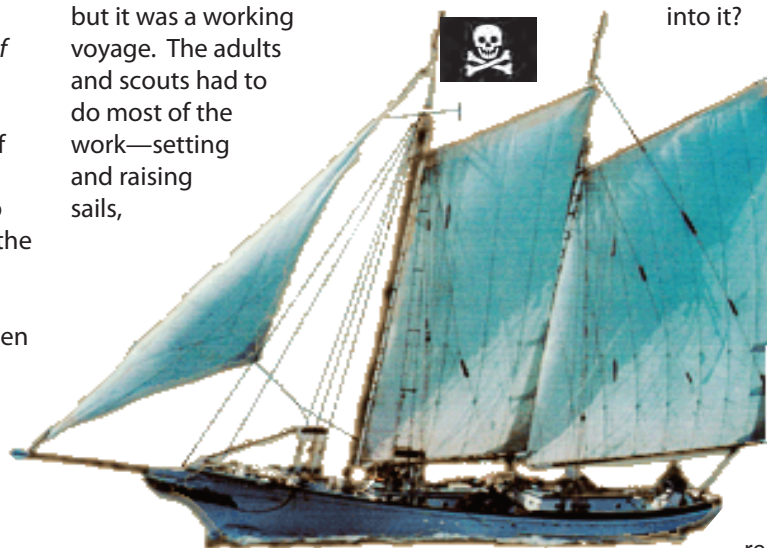
His smile is part mischief and part delight in the memory of the decks of the good ship Heritage of Miami II running red with the blood of his pirate mates in battle.

Okay, his smile is really all mischief when we asked him if he'd had any trouble with pirates and he admitted that his crew had been the pirates.

We were chatting with **Ric Rea**, MLS Director of **Human Resources**, about a working cruise off the coast of Florida he and his son David recently took with a group of Boy Scouts and Sea Scouts.

"We were with 15 scouts and seven adults at the national Sea Base located on Island Maroda, FL," Ric said. "Our ship was the two-masted Heritage of Miami II.

Sound like fun? Well, maybe, but it was a working voyage. The adults and scouts had to do most of the work—setting and raising sails,



swabbing the deck, standing watch all night, cooking and cleaning. I think the captain's name might have been Bligh. "But we had plenty of time for fun," Ric admitted. "David caught 26 fish, including a nearly-four foot barracuda. We also

And where does the piracy enter into it?

"We had lots of hot dog buns so we wadded them into dough-balls and used a small brass cannon and a large slingshot to fire on other ships. Many of the ships were flying pirate flags, but we were the most aggressive."

Would Ric and David re-enlist for another voyage, even with the threat of Tyburn Tree hanging over their heads?

"Oh yeah. We had a blast."



News ... People ... News

Code Adam—Coming Soon to Downtown

John Walsh's face and story have become familiar to millions of people world-wide. He is the host of the television program America's Most Wanted, and he has become front man for a variety of child protection initiatives since his son Adam was abducted from a Florida shopping mall in 1981 and later found murdered.

The Code Adam program began in 1994. It is a method by which employees of businesses and public institutions can be notified instantly if a child goes missing on their premises. A Code

Adam decal is posted at the building's entrance alerting the public of the location's participation in the program.

The decal also alerts potential predators that this is not a good place to pull anything as the staff here is prepared to respond to an emergency. Code Adam participants follow six steps

when a child goes missing. Here is a simplified version of those steps: get a detailed description of the child; a

designated staff member makes a general announcement; if the child doesn't turn up within 10 minutes, law enforcement is notified; if the child is found and is okay, s/he is returned to parents; if the child is found with someone not the parent, reasonable efforts are made to delay that person's departure; code is cancelled if child is found or law enforcement arrives on the scene.

MLS Code Adam participation will soon begin at DN. We'll work out any problems and then the rest of MLS will join the Code Adam team at a later date.



Free Stuff

Hey, in case you didn't see the email, here's to let you know that the good folks from Six Flags and Hurricane Harbor have once again sent us some discount coupons.



Order these free coupons through Denise Courts in Human Resources by emailing or calling her at 606-3742. Each coupon is good for up to six people. You don't have to take six if your family is small and, like me, you don't have five friends, but you can take up to six if you

see some clean, well-dressed strangers.

Each coupon is good for the following:

* Six Flags Over Texas Buy one get 1 Free (Thru October 1st)

—OR

* \$10.00 off Hurricane Harbor Monday -Friday

—OR

* \$5.00 off Hurricane Harbor Saturday & Sunday

We think you'll have a great time! Enjoy!

Don't Be —At a Loss

Libraries always worry about the loss of material due to theft. We hate to admit it, but we all know that books, magazines—even CDs and now DVDs can be stolen from libraries without much effort or advance planning.

But personal items can go missing as well. Things that belong to customers or staff, if left unattended, are just as prone to theft as a new paperback.

That's why Jack Speakman, from the Chubb Insurance Group, will be visiting all MLS libraries on August 1 & 2 to check them out and suggest ways to help with loss control. If you have any questions or concerns, bring them up with Mr. Speakman. He'll be there to help.



Soup's ON and Shaggy's Cooking!

"Never eat at a place called 'Moms', but if the only other place in town has a sign that says 'Eats', go back to Moms."

W. C. Fields



Anita Roesler, MLS Senior Services Coordinator, is proud of her son-in-law,

even if his nickname is "Shaggy." (Yes, he's nicknamed Shaggy from Scooby Doo.)

"In the OKC-Metro Voice for July," Anita said, "inside the front cover is a restaurant review of Michael's Grill where my son-in-law is the chef. They rave about him and the restaurant!"

And indeed they do. "Chef Erik J-D 'Shaggy' Cowie," wrote reviewers Christy Robertson and Dale Gober, "plans and prepares menu items that exhilarate the dining experience. Owner Michael Sills has great confidence in giving full freedom to Chef Cowie's expressive meal preparation."



ShelfLife congratulates Anita not only for acquiring a great cook for the family, but for having a son-in-law who defies all the bad jokes by being a success as well as a nice guy.

Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

Applications for the **Lee B. Brawner Scholarship** for the fall of 2006 semester will be accepted by the **Human Resources** Office through Monday, August 7, 2006.



The scholarship was established by the **Friends of the Library** in 1991 to

encourage library employees to improve their job skills and to develop their professional career potential. Scholarship grants are awarded to successful applicants upon completion of a course

or courses leading to completion of an approved degree.

"Full-time employees who have successfully completed the six month performance appraisal period prior to the beginning of the semester are eligible to apply," said **Ric Rea**, Human Resources Director.

Details of the scholarship program and application forms are available on the Employee Benefits section of the Intranet.

Please feel free to call Ric at 606-3741 with any questions you may have.

Graduation II

All good stories deserve a sequel—at least that's what they say in Hollywood, and it's true for MLS, too.

Only this sequel is coming your way because we left part of the story out.

Kristin Brewer, Circ Clerk at **RE**, sent us a note for the last issue of ShelfLife letting us know about her graduation last December, and the email got deleted before the article was written. The technical word for that in professional journalism is "Ooops."

Anyway, our apologies to Kristin. No kidding, your diploma's in the mail.

People

HELLO TO AND RE-HIRES



Anne Kirby



Joshua Montgomery



Kay Samaripa



Reni Creek

Joshua Montgomery Page, VI
 Kay Samaripa Friends Coord., DEV
 Reni Creek Page, WA
 Candice McDaniel HQ Manager, LO
 Elizabeth Scott..... Page, DC
 Anne Kirby Page, BI
 Thuy Nguyen..... Librarian, LO



Candice McDaniel



Elizabeth Scott



Thuy Nguyen

PROMOTION

Kenneth Hagy From Page to Circ Clerk, ED
 Deborah Leal From Page to Circ Clerk, DC
 Melissa Weathers From Provisional Mgr. of LO
 to Mgr. of LO I

GOODBYE TO

Matthew McSpaddenPage, WA
 Brook Welch.....Page, DN
 Regina LowryCirc Clerk, ED
 Derek CashLibrarian, WA
 Tara McDanielAssoc. Librarian, CH
 Jessica SchickCirc Clerk, WA
 David BlailockTech Asst., MC

SYMPATHY

To Dianna Rupp, BE, whose mother passed away in July.

August Birthdays

BARBARA JOHNSON	8/1
LYNDA BAHR	8/1
CAROL L. PROVINE	8/3
LANDON D. HOLMAN	8/3
CAROLYN ABERNATHY	8/3
JAMES E. NIMMO, JR	8/3
DAGMAR M. PEERY	8/4
JILL L. VESSELS	8/4
CHESTER KINZIE, JR.	8/4
RACHEL B. SMOOT	8/5
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/5
KATRINA B. PRINCE	8/6
REGINA M. WOLFINGER	8/7
ANNA N. TODD	8/7
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/7
KATHY L. FRITSCH	8/8
LINDA A. ELSTON	8/9
KATHRYN M. DUNN	8/9
ANGELA L. HILL	8/9
JOYCE MC-JOHNSON	8/9
JOSHUA H. GERNER	8/9
JONITA NORMORE	8/10
KAREN A. LEHR	8/11

Continued on page 6

August Birthdays

Continued from page 5

JAMES B. GORDON	8/12
SYLVIA A. LAWSON	8/13
JESSICA LEIGH MICHAEL	8/13
ANITA F. ROESLER	8/13
FRANCIE L. PENDLETON	8/13
LAURA MCMURTRY	8/13
MARYANN M. HEARD	8/14
LINDA J. JAMESON	8/14
BOBBIE KAY BREWER	8/15
SUSIE L. BEASLEY	8/18
VAN R. BIELSTEIN	8/21
EDWARD N. TERRY	8/21
CRYSTAL DAWN ROPER	8/22
JEAN M. WILBURN	8/22
JESSICA Y. LITTLE	8/23
LINDA LEE HYAMS	8/25
PAMELA K. KOSTED	8/25
QUEITA HARVEY	8/25
REAGAN D. BOCKHOLD	8/27
ANN G. ALIOTTA	8/28
VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/28
TIMOTHY D. FISHER	8/29
LOIS F. CROSS	8/29
TERESA GOGGINS	8/29
JOHN W. ELLIS-ETCHISON	8/30
JOYCE A. HELMS	8/30
WENDY J. GABRIELSON	8/30
KAY L. BAUMAN	8/31
BETH K. STEELMAN	8/31
JONATHAN E. WILLIS JR.	8/31
BRENDA ANN HAMMONS	8/31

August Anniversaries

PRISCILLA M. DOSS	8/1/72
CHERYL E. PERNELL	8/1/79
MARILYN R. BARNETT	8/20/81
PHILLIP E. TOLBERT	8/9/82
SHARON L. MAINE	8/17/82
BARBARA K. BEASLEY	8/1/84
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/29/89
KARMEN QUEITA HARVEY	8/21/91
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/26/91
GALEN R KURTH	8/30/93
JULIA ANN BALLOU	8/30/93
EVA F. PETEET	8/23/94
JACQULYN J. TAYLOR	8/29/94
DEBORAH J. WILLIS	8/31/96
KAREN L. LITTERAL	8/31/96
KATHLEEN LAUGERMAN	8/4/97
GLENN E. WEBB JR	8/25/97
FREDERICK R. WILSON	8/10/98
JANET E. BOWEN	8/25/99
STEPHANIE D. GERLING	8/14/00
SAISRI MCCORMICK	8/21/00
DAVID L. CALHOUN	8/1/01
KIM L. COBB	8/9/01
JOHN D. WOOD	8/27/01
FANNIE HARSHBARGER	8/10/02
SHARON DAVIS JORSKI	8/10/02
GERALD W. HICKMAN	8/10/02
YVONNE M. DYESS	8/12/02
BARBARA A. JOHNSON	8/19/02
NGOC KIM NGUYEN	8/3/04
JENA MULHOLLEN	8/6/04
WIMFORD MARTIN	8/16/04
KEVIN D. COLWELL	8/30/04
TERRI PAULINE FROST	8/31/04
JULIA C. ENGEL	8/31/04
BARBARA M. PARR	8/1/05
SAM G. HALE III	8/1/05
KELLIE J. BRADFORD	8/1/05
ANGELA L. HILL	8/2/05
TERRIE LUCILLE THOMAS	8/8/05
VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/15/05
SARAH JO LITRELL	8/22/05

September Anniversaries

MARY J. PATTON	9/1/1971
KAREN L. MARRIOTT	9/6/1977
SUSIE L. BEASLEY	9/18/1978
FAYE HORN	9/10/1979
JO NITA WHITE	9/25/1981
PAMELA L. BRANDT	9/1/1982
ROSEMARY A. CZARSKI	9/13/1982
ALMA LOUISE BROWN	9/16/1982
KAY L. BAUMAN	9/27/1982
RUTH M. BUTLER	9/17/1984
PAMELA S. BUCHANAN	9/10/1985
NINA M. GINSTERBLUM	9/5/1989
SUSAN E. RYAN	9/13/1989
SHIRLEY J. HENDERSON	9/3/1991
CHESTER KINZIE, JR.	9/6/1994
JANA C. HAUSBURG	9/11/1995
DEBBIE E. ROBERTUS	9/11/1995
ANN L. MEEKS	9/11/1995
CRYSTAL L. SUPPES	9/25/1995
JOYCE A. HELMS	9/24/1996
MARCIA J. FINDEISS	9/20/1997
MARY E. TAYLOR	9/16/1999
JONATHAN D. ST.AUBIN	9/5/2000
LINDA A. FELTON	9/18/2000
ANGELA K. SANDERS	9/5/2001
D. DIANE SHARP	9/17/2001
SHARON GAYE MAY	9/2/2002
ELIZABETH M. NEWLAND	9/10/2002
THOMAS P. GALLAGHER	9/16/2002
MATTHEW E. EVANS	9/17/2002
VAN R. BIELSTEIN	9/17/2002
STUART H. WILLIAMSON	9/19/2002
EMILY R. WILLIAMS	9/2/2003
PRIYA M. DESAI	9/7/2003
BURTON D. THURMOND	9/16/2003
TERESA R. MATTHEWS	9/29/2003
MARY ANN JOHNSON	9/13/2004
CINDY S. FINNEGAN	9/13/2004
AJAX S. C. DELVECKI	9/17/2004
C. GEORGE NIEBANK, III	9/27/2004
JESSICA ANN PRIEBE	9/12/2005
LAUREN ASHTON ABRAM	9/14/2005
ELIZABETH D. HICKEY	9/17/2005
EMILY K. GREEN	9/19/2005

September Birthdays

MARY L. STRASNER	9/1	LANNY B. MYERS	9/11	TINDLE J. ARNOLD	9/26
TERESA R. MATTHEWS	9/1	PRISCILLA M. DOSS	9/12	JANA L. EATMON	9/26
DANIELLE D. WALKER	9/2	CANDACE L. MCDANIEL	9/13	JEANELLE M. ECHOLS	9/27
KIM ELLEN MACARTY	9/2	BARBARA JEAN O'DELL	9/13	KAREN R. BRAY	9/27
DEBORAH FAITH LEAL	9/2	CHERYL E. PERNELL	9/14	DEBRA K. JACKSON	9/27
AJAX S. C. DELVECKI	9/3	KENDRA M. WILLIAMS	9/14	MARY ANN HUGGINS	9/27
KATHRYN A. WILLIAMS	9/4	VINCENT D. ARMIJO	9/14	KAREN L. MARRIOTT	9/28
DARRIE J. BREATHWIT	9/6	RUBY J. SOUTIERE	9/15	JOYCELIN KAY CARINDER	9/29
PERRY A. WILSON	9/6	KIMBERLY L. WADE	9/17	MARYGRACE BERKOWITZ	9/30
ELIZABETH SCHROEDER	9/8	SAM G. HALE III	9/17	ELIZABETH ANN SCOTT	9/30
JACQULYN J. TAYLOR	9/8	ROSEMARY G. RYDEN	9/19	DAVID WILLIAM FRENCH	9/30
BURTON D. THURMOND	9/9	ANGELA M. PAELTZ	9/19		
TULIN R. LAFOLLETTE	9/10	LIANA C. MICH	9/22		