



ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

October 2007

United Way: Working For All Of Us

by Janet Brooks

I've often wondered how my United Way donations are used and if I'd ever need to use the services offered from UW funded organizations. I found out how this year. In the past year, my mother's health and mental state have declined considerably. It's been difficult for my family to care for her properly since we aren't in the same city and our jobs and family responsibilities often make it hard to give her consistent care.

Several years ago, I served on a United Way allocations committee that reviewed the budget requests and determined what amount of UW funds agencies should receive. One of the agencies we worked with was Sunbeam Family Services. It was during a visit to see the programs they offer that I discovered a resource that I thought could help my family. One of the services Sunbeam offers is a Senior Companion service. An older adult who is mobile serves as a companion to an older adult like my mom. They do minor work around the house, clean or cook. They also take them to appointments, shopping, or just sit and visit with them. This is a great help to the primary family caregivers who need relief from the daily care of their parents.

I thought this would be perfect for us, but unfortunately mom lives in Arlington, TX. I called the Tarrant County United Way and received a wealth of information and resources that my family could use. What a relief for all of us.

Had I not known about the help my local United Way provided to the community, I would not have thought about calling them in Texas. United Way donations stay in the local area, but even though my mom lives in another state, I still benefited from the efforts. So, please donate to the United Way. You never know how your life will be changed and it may be a United Way organization that can help you.

Community Meeting Coming Up

New Northwest Library Community Meeting

Adult Services **Tuesday, October 16, 2007** **Meeting Rooms**
Quiet Rooms **Crossings Community Church** **Teen Services**
Children's Services **14600 North Portland | OKC** **Technology**
7-9pm

Tell us what you want in your new Library!

Metropolitan LIBRARY SYSTEM

Libraries on the north and west sides of town should be aware that a community meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 16, to be held at the Crossings Community Church, 14600 N. Portland, from 7:00 to 9:00pm.

Residents of the northwest part of town will be invited to hear plans for the NW Library. They will be informed that site selection is nearly complete, but the meeting is mainly to give

the citizens in that part of the city an opportunity to chat with library officials and let us know what they want and expect in the new library upon completion.

"Attendees of the meeting will get to hear about our plans for the library and the approximate location," said MLS Marketing and Communications Manager Kim Terry. "They will also get to participate in 'vision sharing' which will be where they let us know what they would like the library to look like -- both the exterior and on the inside."

Be prepared to answer questions from the public about the meeting and what MLS expects the public and library officials to get out of it.

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• MYSTERY PERSON •

Another mystery person to identify.

Can you name him/her?

Here are the clues for this person's favorites:

Fav Movie:	<i>Accidental Tourist</i> , <i>Amélie</i> , and <i>Sense and Sensibility</i>
Fav Music:	Current fav artists: The Weepies and Sufjan Stevens
Fav Vacation(s):	Annual camping trip to New Mexico
Fav TV Show:	Favorite all time: <i>Northern Exposure</i>
Fav Food:	Avocados
Fav Season:	Fall
Fav Hobbie:	Reading and collecting cookbooks with her husband
Fav Book(s):	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> and <i>Winnie the Pooh</i>
Fav Pets:	3 cats, 2 dogs
Skills:	Baking Packing (i.e. dishwasher, suitcases)

Wants to do before he/she dies: On a perfect day—go on a picnic, watch the clouds and eat peanut butter.

See answer on page 4

Here Come the Teens!

Are you ready for what we hope will be a massive influx of teens through our doors during the month of October? You better be!

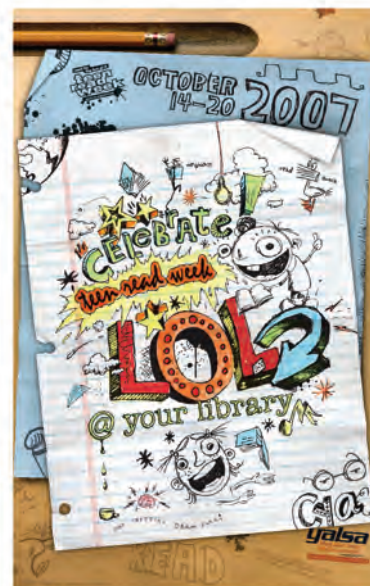
October is the month for National Teen Read Week. "The theme this year is LOL @ Your Library," said MLS Young Adult Services Coordinator **Emily Williams**. "Teen Read Week is a national literacy initiative aimed at teens, their parents, librarians and educators. It is celebrated each year during the third week of October."

But a single week for teens isn't long enough for us. No, MLS expands the festivities to the entire month.

"Since 1998," Emily continued, "Teen Read Week has encouraged teens to:

- Make time to read for the fun of it
- Use their local library to discover their interests
- Get reading materials and participate in events at their school or public library"

So get ready to greet the teens and make sure they know that they are always welcome at the library.



Our Extended Family

ShelfLife receives many announcements of the achievements of family members of staff from around the system, but except for our annual Graduation Issue we've had no outlet for sharing them with you.

So here's an update on a staff member.

This month we heard from Downtown Librarian **Mary Strasner**, whose daughter Elizabeth, a Putnam

City West High School grad, is attending Point Park University in one of our favorite cities, Pittsburgh, PA. Liz is majoring in theatre and Mary says she "loves playing in 'happy, sappy' musical comedies."

But who can explain the sometimes bizarre notions of casting directors?

"What else," Mary writes, "she was picked for the lead in *Top Girls*, a

1980's political drama by a British feminist!"

Mary will be off to The Burg this month not only to see the play but also to meet the parents of her future son-in-law and to do some planning for a March wedding.

Where Are You Putting Your Focus?

Did you know that you could check the MLS Intranet to find out which Focus sessions you're signed up for? You don't have to wait for the big day, which is Monday, Oct. 8, to find

out not only which workshops you're in but also who else is signed up for the same ones.

MLS Employee Development Manager **Stacy Schrank** and his team have lined up some quality sessions this year, and Focus will once again give system staff opportunities to learn more about MLS and the people who make it work.

In the meantime, check out this address -- http://morris/GotInfo/whats_new/focus/focusenrollments.xls— to find out your Focus schedule.



SHORT, DARK AND CREEPY

Well, what would the October issue of ShelfLife be without a tip of the hat to one of our favorite holidays, Halloween?

Here, for your reading pleasure, is the original version of what has been called the world's shortest horror story. It was written by the American poet/editor/novelist/short story writer Thomas Bailey Aldrich circa 1870. It's been touched up and fiddled with over the years, but here it is as Aldrich wrote it—the shortest horror story of all time.

"A woman sits alone in a house. She knows she is alone in the whole world; every other living thing is dead. The doorbell rings."

Happy Halloween!

Don't Forget —Staff Recognition Dinner

YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A DINNER
HONORING
METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM
STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE.

NOVEMBER 10TH, 2007
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
THE CENTRE
4325 NW 50TH
OKLAHOMA CITY

PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 29TH, 2007 TO
FRANCIE PENDLETON
AT 606-3726 OR EMAIL TO RSVP@METROLIBRARY.ORG.

THIS EVENT MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM.

CELEBRATING
Us
FROM PAST TO FUTURE

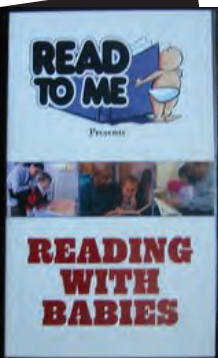
— NOVEMBER 10, 2007 —





Lending Library Review:

Reading With Babies



READING WITH BABIES is an 18-minute DVD that shows babies 0-24 months 'reading' books with their parent(s) according to their developmental capacities. This pro-baby videotape is not just an idealized view of a parent reading to a quiet compliant baby but a more complex,

realistic, playful portrayal of babies interacting with books.

The 50+ babies in *READING WITH BABIES* show us, readers and non-readers alike, the fun and sometimes exasperating antics that emerge when reading to very young children. We see how babies read by eye, ear, finger and mouth; how they use books as toys; and how they engage in efforts to communicate with their parents.

Earlier than one might expect, babies show how they want to please their parents AND investigate books in their own ways. The families on the DVD speak English, Spanish, Russian and Chinese. The babies speak 'baby.'



Fingerprints STAFF PROFILE

Christine Bassett—Bassett, part-time clerk at the Bethany Library, moved to Oklahoma 10 years ago from England, where she received a bachelors degree in English and History (a combined degree), and trained as a teacher there. Christine grew up in Stamford, England (near Cambridge), met her Oklahoma born husband in London, and now makes yearly visits back to see her parents who live near Northumberland near the Scottish border, which is also near Alnwick Castle, where *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* was filmed.

Since moving to the US, she has received her masters in library science from OU.

Christine teaches adults to read through community literacy and also volunteers in the English as a Second Language program at Bethany. She's also involved in helping "single mums" in her church - providing things for them. (She started a library at her church also.)

For fun, she belongs to a crossword society in England and has puzzles sent to her. Christine says she finds American crosswords too colloquial.

This Christmas Christine and her family, (husband, son and daughter,) will return to England for a visit. "And we're going to have Christmas crackers and pudding —no green bean casserole!"



Winston, new member of the Bassett family.



Debbie Robertus, BI, won 10th place at the Oklahoma State Fair for the quilt shown here. Deb said:

"This is the first time I ever entered anything at the Fair or anywhere, for that matter. It will be hanging in my front room, with the ribbon, of course."

MYSTERY PERSON IS:

Lisa Wood,
Children's
Services Coordinator,
Outreach



HELLO TO

Jaime Hackworth.....	Page, MC
Jennifer Nguyen.....	Page, SO
Stephen Shenold.....	Page, WA
Travis Howell.....	Page, MC
Claudia Wagner.....	Page, ED
Donna Canfield.....	Page, WA
Kyndall Overstreet.....	Page, BI
Brittany Clack.....	Page, ED
Anetra Alexander.....	Page, BI
Joshua Wells (rehire).....	Page, BI

PROMOTION

Van Bielstein.....	From Page, to Circ, VI
Karen Davis.....	From Mat. Sel. Div. Tech, MS to ILL Tech., ILL
Kerry Burrows.....	From Page, to Assoc. Librarian, MC

TRANSFER

Jennifer Adkisson.....	From Circ Clerk, VI, to LO
Cheryl Pernell.....	From Assoc. Librarian, RE to DN

GOODBYE TO

Tulin LaFollette.....	Assoc. Librarian, CT
Megan Adkins.....	Page, BE
Dianne Carson.....	Page, CT
Audrey Goodine.....	Page, ED
Charles Peters.....	Tech. Asst., WA
Veronica Collins.....	Page, BE
Jessica Heitman.....	Page, WA

CONGRATULATIONS

To Veronica Escobar, Cataloging, who gave birth to a boy, Alexander, on Friday, August 10. Welcome to the library family!

SYMPATHY

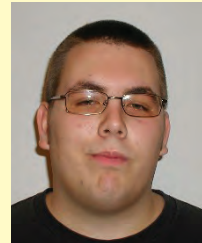
To Sheila Fixel, DC, whose mother passed away September 16.



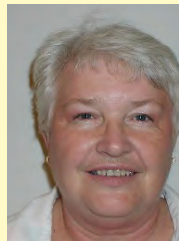
Jaime Hackworth



Stephen Shenold



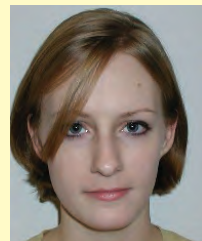
Travis Howell



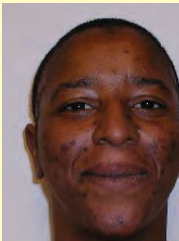
Claudia Wagner



Donna Canfield



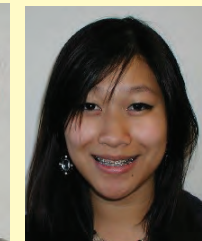
Brittany Clack



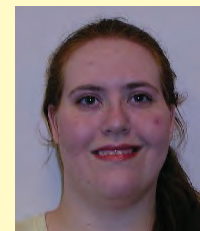
Anetra Alexander



Joshua Wells



Jennifer Nguyen



Kyndall Overstreet

MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE: Metal filing cabinet, 22"Wx/28"Hx12"D, with locking top and bottom shelf. Has single drawer, 3.5" deep. Asking \$25. Call Debbie Robertus @606-3202 or after 5:30 p.m. @949-1645.



Also for sale from Debbie Robertus:

2 - Lexar CompactFlash memory cards, 64 MB each. Originally about \$35 each, would like \$25 for the pair.



October Birthdays

LINDA A. TEMPLE	10/1
RENÉE M. LAUNEY	10/1
SHELDON BEACH	10/1
ANDREW R. TOLLY	10/2
JAMES R. SANDERS	10/3
REBECCA L. PETERS	10/3
LISA E. MYERS	10/4
JEROD PAUL GERFEN	10/4
DIANNE L. CARSON	10/5
KERRY STEWART HUBBS	10/5
STACEY MARIE O'NEIL	10/6
BARBARA K. BEASLEY	10/7
KRISTIN WILLIAMSON	10/7
GEORGE M. MARSHALL	10/8
LAVETTA KINSEY DENT	10/9
CHERYL ANN COLEMAN	10/11
HEATHER ELIZABETH SLUTZ	10/12
SHARON D. THOMPSON	10/14
CASEY JO BEACH	10/15
FANNIE M. HARSHBARGER	10/16
CHRISTOPHER L. LARWIG	10/17
MARY R. MCELROY	10/18
RONDIA K. BANKS	10/18
MARYL BAIRD	10/19
TONDA FAME KELLY	10/19
PAULINE RODRIGUEZ-ATKINS	10/20
MARGARET DIANA ANGELES	10/20
RUTH M. BUTLER	10/23
BRYAN CONNOR SMYTHE	10/24
REBECCA F MASON	10/24
KELLIE J. BRADFORD	10/25
DARLENE R. QUINN	10/26
HA L. TRAN	10/27
LINDA A. FELTON	10/30
HEIDI A. PORT	10/30

Employee's Date-of-Hire for October

JIMMY C. WELCH	10/22/1970
FRANCIE L. PENDLETON	10/9/1972
RUBY J. SOUTIERE	10/1/1978
STEVEN B. JENKINS	10/5/1987
KAREN L. BAYS	10/2/1992
REGINA D. KIRKHAM	10/4/1993
CECIL L. PEADEN	10/18/1993
JOANNE SCHNEIDER	10/24/1994
JOYCE L. TALLANT	10/6/1998
LINDA J. HOLMBERG	10/22/1998
RONDIA K. BANKS	10/4/1999
LENA C. LOPER	10/5/1999
MARYANN M. HEARD	10/18/1999
LISA K. BRADLEY	10/22/1999
KAREN A. LEHR	10/1/2000
PATSY A. GLOVER	10/16/2000
TODD S. OLBERDING	10/1/2001
CHARLES S. ISAACS	10/1/2001
CHRISTY M. O'BRIEN	10/9/2001
RACHEL B. SMOOT	10/1/2002
SUSAN J HUTCHINS	10/7/2002
JENNIFER M. HUNTER	10/22/2002
MELISSA K. WEATHERS	10/28/2002
THUY THI MAI NGUYEN	10/30/2002
CANDELARIA NUNEZ	10/28/2003
ROSEMARY STAFFORD	10/4/2004
SHELDON L. BEACH	10/5/2004
JESSICA Y. LITTLE	10/12/2004
REBECCA L. PETERS	10/12/2004
WENDY J. GABRIELSON	10/13/2004
ERICA Y. RUTLAND	10/21/2004
KRISTIN WILLIAMSON	10/25/2004
PATRICIA RIVAS	10/26/2004
KATHRYN F. HATFIELD	10/3/2005
NICOLE E. BURESH	10/26/2005
CHARLES L. PETERS	10/16/2006
JEROD PAUL GERFEN	10/23/2006
SANDRA J. GONZAGA	10/24/2006
LI WANG	10/26/2006
BRENDA STOCKTON-HISS	10/26/2006
HARRY DUY HOANG	10/27/2006

November Birthdays

SELMA ZUHDI	11/1
PENELOPE GREER BIRD	11/4
KELLEY L. RIHA	11/4
LINDA J. HOLMBERG	11/5
CHERYLL R. SMITH	11/7
SUSAN E. HALL	11/9
LOVINIA M. NICHOLS	11/10
BETTY ANN HEPLER SCOTT	11/11
FELICIA ANN HAYES	11/11
MATTHEW E. EVANS	11/11
MARGARET J. COLLINS	11/11
SHARON DAVIS JORSKI	11/12
ROY S. BALLOU	11/13
RANDY L. KNUTSON	11/13
STACY G. SCHRANK	11/13
SHANELLE J. JACKSON	11/14
NICOLE DAWN CHANEY	11/14
DENISE D. RYAN	11/15
RYAN BLAINE TAYLOR	11/15
TERI L. REDENBAUGH	11/16
DONNA L. MORRIS	11/16
LISA K. BRADLEY	11/19
JABARI A. TOURE	11/20
SARAH M. FRENCH	11/20
CLAUDIA WAGNER	11/22
ELIZABETH HOLSHOUSER	11/22
DESTAVIE S. ELLIS	11/25
PHYLLIS A. DAVIDSON	11/26
LISA DAWN COKER	11/27
DEANNA L. BIDDLE	11/29
RACHEL A. HUDSON	11/30
J. PRESTON BELL	11/30

Employee's Date-of-Hire for November

PAMELA K. KOSTED	11/4/1975
DANA L. MORROW	11/5/1979
RANDY E. WAYLAND	11/16/1982
DENYVETTA DAVIS	11/22/1982
JOYCE A. MCCAULEY-JOHNSON	11/1/1984
PERRY A. WILSON	11/16/1984
PAULINE RODRIGUEZ-ATKINS	11/4/1985
DEANNA L. BIDDLE	11/3/1986
J. PRESTON BELL	11/25/1986
KATHRYN A. WILLIAMS	11/9/1992
TRACI N. JINKENS	11/30/1992
SALLY K. PHILLIPS	11/21/1995
DEBRA K. JACKSON	11/4/1996
LOIS W. MCKENNA	11/23/1998
KELLEY L. RIHA	11/13/2000
DARRIE J. BREATHWIT	11/20/2000
ELIZABETH ANN KESSLER	11/20/2000
MARY L. STEPHENS	11/27/2000
JABARI A. TOURE	11/6/2001
DAVID WILLIAM FRENCH	11/15/2001
CHERYL ANN COLEMAN	11/4/2002
JOHN C. R. UTLEY	11/4/2002
SERINA L. GARCIA	11/26/2002
LISA DAWN COKER	11/10/2003
LINDA A. ELSTON	11/24/2003
LINDA LEE HYAMS	11/24/2003
ALICIA M. RUZYCKI	11/24/2003
ANDREW R. TOLLY	11/24/2003
MARYL BAIRD	11/1/2004
JOSHUA H. GERNER	11/22/2004
STACEY MARIE O'NEIL	11/23/2004
FARIBA WILLIAMS	11/7/2005
SALLY A. GRAY	11/7/2005
AARON J. STEWART	11/21/2005
LOIS F. CROSS	11/28/2005
JONATHAN SHIRLEY	11/6/2006
SAMUEL V. RICHARDS	11/6/2006
BREANNE L. FORD	11/8/2006
RENÉE M. LAUNEY	11/27/2006
JUSTIN L. MAGDELLINI	11/27/2006