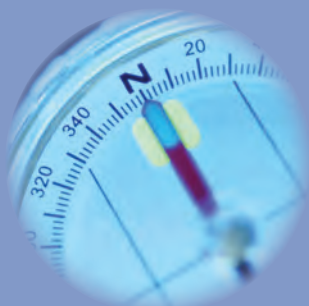




ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

July 2009



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No Blues This Summer

If you work at BE, DC, DN, ED, HR, JN, LU, NP, RE, VI, or WR get ready to take yourself to lunch. Why the congratulations? Have you seen the Summer @ the Library 2009 figures?

The number of either children or teen sign-ups at these libraries for the first four weeks of 2009 has already surpassed their respective total sign-ups for the entire eight weeks of 2008 Summer @ the Library.

Of course, sign-ups will not necessarily

equal the same number of finishers, but MLS Children's & Young Adult Services Coordinators **Lisa Wood** and **Emily Williams** say that the number of participants finishing their first two reading goals also appears to be on the increase.

Every MLS employee plays a role in the success of Summer @ the Library, so, as we said, give yourself a tip of the hat.

Sign Up - Week 4 Statistics

Number	Year			
Age	Library	2008	2009	Change
Children	BE	1,190	1,531	28.7%
	BI	746	808	8.3%
	CH	320	252	-21.3%
	CT	523	529	1.1%
	DC	556	764	37.4%
	DN	681	987	44.9%
	ED	3,523	4,438	26.0%
	HR	152	175	15.1%
	JN	28	38	35.7%
	LU	169	203	20.1%
	MC	1,150	1,201	4.4%
	NP	64	80	25.0%
	RE	294	1,083	268.4%
	SO	880	990	12.5%
	VI	1,003	1,264	26.0%
	WA	958	1,075	12.2%
	WR	39	24	-38.5%
Children Total		12,276	15,442	25.8%

Sign Up - Week 4 Statistics continued

Teens	BE	262	283	8.0%
	BI	140	157	12.1%
	CH	69	69	0.0%
	CT	117	103	-12.0%
	DC	118	197	66.9%
	DN	139	190	36.7%
	ED	566	540	-4.6%
	HR	59	50	-15.3%
	JN	8	14	75.0%
	LU	61	70	14.8%
	MC	309	314	1.6%
	NP	22	27	22.7%
	RE	134	132	-1.5%
	SO	442	380	-14.0%
	VI	270	305	13.0%
	WA	246	282	14.6%
	WR	8	10	25.0%
Teens Total		2,970	3,123	5.2%
Grand Total		15,246	18,565	21.8%





Interlibrary Loan to the Rescue

Interlibrary Loan has always been a successful if not heavily publicized MLS service, but lately more and more customers have been requesting ILL service. The ILL staff are happy to help your ILL customers get the books they want, but the increase in business requires some additional help from public service staff.

Cataloging Manager **Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins** asks that you please do not tape ILL red labels down, and please ask customers not to do so. She understands that the labels don't always want to stick, particularly on book spines, but our ILL agreement requires us not to stick anything on another library's materials that might damage them. Tape has a tendency to damage materials, especially when it's on for a while. The ILL labels have a special adhesive designed not to do damage. Please do everything possible to keep the label stuck on somewhere without taping it, or, if necessary, put it inside the front cover.

And one other thing--please do not give the ILL office phone number to customers. If they all start

calling to ask about their requests, ILL staff won't be able to fill them because they'll be too busy answering phone calls. If a customer wants to know the status of her/his request, please take the information and contact ILL directly. That way, they'll be able to spend more of their time working on filling new requests.

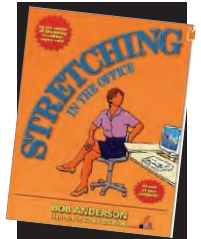
ILL appreciates all the staff who help them serve MLS customers with their out-of-system needs.



Lending Library Review:

Stretching in the Office

by Bob Anderson



We'd never say that working in a library, seated at a computer monitor all day, is the same as digging ditches or constructing buildings, but there are days when office workers go home with an aching back, sore arms, cramped legs, and eye strain. When you feel one or all of those symptoms coming on, maybe what you need to do is spend a few minutes stretching at your desk.

A little self-massage can help relieve sore muscles, combat neck/shoulder/back pain, reduce tension, and lessen the chance that carpal tunnel syndrome will develop.

Anderson's book illustrates stretches for the morning to help the day get started on the right track. There are also stretches for the lower back, neck and shoulders, and wrists. Exercises especially designed for keyboard operators and copy machine users—there are even stretches you can do while on the phone.

Anderson warns that "Tension, stress and intense mental focus can produce physical tension (stiffness and pain), which can lead to mental stress—a debilitating cycle." Take a look at this book to become aware of the warning signs and how to lessen them.



Capitol Hill Bids Farewell To

Joan Shelton

Angela Hill, from Capitol Hill, asked us to recognize the retirement of one of CH's best-loved librarians, children's specialist **Joan Shelton**, whose last day will be Friday, July 31.



In her 17 years in the Metropolitan Library System, Joan has worked at The Village, Warr Acres, Southern Hills, Southern Oaks and Capitol Hill Libraries. Also, for short periods of time, at Edmond, Bethany and Midwest City. While working at the Warr Acres Library she made the decision to return to the University of Oklahoma to get her Master's Degree in Library Science.

Instead of taking a leave of absence, she was offered the position of Branch Head of the Southern Hills Library (a store-front) soon to be the Southern Oaks Library. Joan hired **Cheryl Mann** and Linda Pittman while she was in charge. Her Children's Librarian, was **Donna Morris**.

Joan worked as Children's Librarian at Capitol Hill for nine years. Besides helping the children (one hopes), she left two visible legacies to the library. One is the group of seven colorful quilted banners illustrating the CH history (designed and executed by Joan and others) and the other is the set of six plexiglass window panels in the front windows. The panels were designed by Joan but were executed by her and others.

Joan and her husband, Joe, moved frequently in their early working years. Joan, therefore, worked in many other libraries such as: Ponca City and Tulsa; Oklahoma Library for the Blind; Las Vegas, Nevada and Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

Joe and Joan also lived in Mexico City for a year while Joe worked as President (Gerente) of a company called Computadoras Comptran in Mexico City, Mexico. Joan practiced her Spanish, shopped and did a lot of sightseeing.

Joan has enjoyed her years working at MLS and the people she has met and worked with.

Cataloging Manager and "Teacher"

Congratulations to MLS Cataloging Manager **Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins**. Pauline was asked to submit an idea for a short course to the Missouri State Library at Columbia—her idea was selected and she was asked to teach at their bi-annual Missouri Library Institute.

Pauline will offer a three day course in Dewey cataloging.

"The Institute," she said, "is made up of a section on Basic Library Service, which everyone has to

take, and then two other advanced courses on specific topics. I'll be teaching a pretty intensive course. Students will begin knowing nothing about the subject and then finish up being able to do Dewey classification."

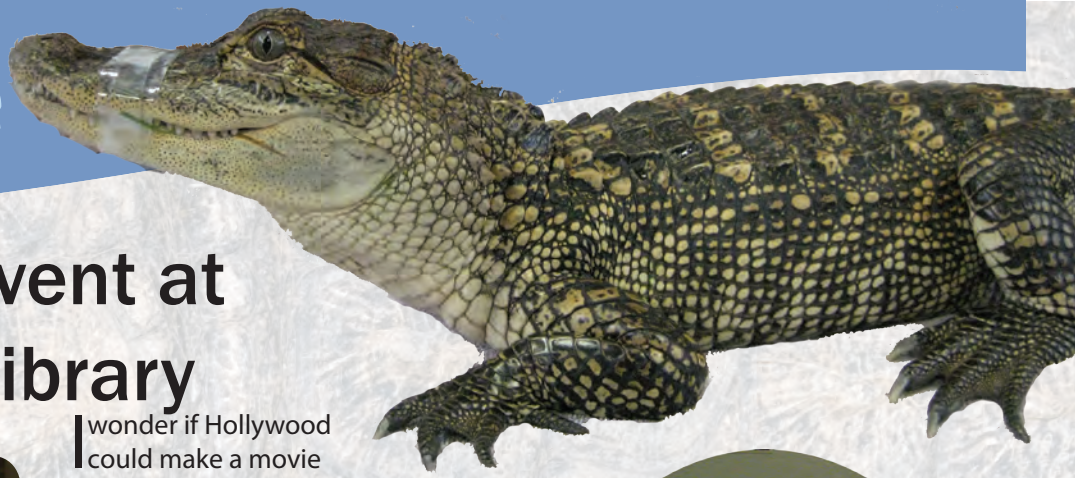
Pauline has taught before. She offered some instruction at the Mustang Library, and presented some short courses for OLA, but this will be her first time to travel out of state to teach.



WAY TO GO!

"This is not only a great compliment to me," she added, "but an even greater compliment to MLS. In Oklahoma, MLS is known to do some of the best cataloging in the state, and that's due entirely to our wonderful catalogers."

Pauline will be in Missouri from August 10 through the 14th.



An Hssstoric Event at Midwest City Library



An Oklahoma City Herpetological Society member holds a snake.

I wonder if Hollywood could make a movie about it. Maybe call it, "Snakes in a Library." What?

On June 9, **Kristin Williamson** and the brave souls at MC opened their doors to a host of reptiles and amphibians. The six-hour event filled the library with snakes, turtles, toads and lizards—none of them toxic, but all of them fun.

And the public loved it. Over 600 people turned out to look at, ask questions about, and even touch an arkful of these fascinating creatures.

Here are some photos Kristin thought you might like to take a look at.

The program was co-sponsored by the Oklahoma City Herpetological Society.

Photos by Kristin Williamson.



A child touching a lizard at MC. And an alligator stretched out on the table.

Feel Appreciated

One of the committees working on the Organizational Culture Survey is the one that is looking into the feeling among some staff members that they are underappreciated in the workplace. The committee recently sent out an e-mail thanking staff for the honest information sent in that will be used as feedback for addressing these concerns.

The committee, which is made up of **Stacy Schrank**, PLA; **Denyveta Davis**, LO; **Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins**, CAT/ILL; **Roy Ballou**, HUM; and **Jamar Rahming**, DC, wants to take their information gathering to the next level. To do that, they enlisted the aid of MLS Researcher **Stuart Williamson** to develop a short online survey of six questions.

"We will use the results," they wrote, "to make our committee recommendations for how to proceed in eliminating this perception. All three of the committees will present their recommendations at the next X-Change Meeting in August."

The survey began at the end of June and will continue through Sunday, July 12th.

Please take a look at it. It can be found at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=uVnSONzgkHhTzU12hUo5Cw_3d_3d

Thanks for your help.



Recognition of a Co-worker

Priscilla Doss, manager of LO, Belle Isle, asked ShelfLife to print a note of recognition about a staff member.

"I am privileged to work with a very good crew of reference librarians. Excellent public service is not an unusual occurrence at Belle Isle (to say the least). However, this morning I was witness to a truly outstanding example of a librarian in action.

Terrie (Thomas) was approached by a traveler stranded in Oklahoma city and rapidly running out of money. In order to help this customer, she made calls to various agencies, friends and relatives to help this man get a loan of enough money to get home. As well, she searched far and wide to find him an affordable place to stay while he was in town.

With considerable effort, she managed to find all these things, and yet ***continued to serve numerous other customers during this entire time.*** It was most impressive!"

*David French
Reference Librarian
Belle Isle Library*

The ShelfLife Quiz: Scandals Ho!

June was a great month for lovers of political scandal, but Oklahomans can't feel too superior when it comes to state politicians and jurists who have gotten into a legal bind over money, romance, and the quest for power. See if you remember some names from the seamier side of Oklahoma political history.

1. During the 1920s this Oklahoma governor was impeached not once, but twice. The second time, he was brought up on 13 different counts. As any baseball fan knows, 13 strikes and you're out. Who was this unlucky governor?
2. This governor was inaugurated on Jan. 9, 1923, and was impeached and removed from office on Oct. 23, thereby becoming the Oklahoma governor with the shortest term in office. Can you name him?
3. This former law professor and District Attorney was the first Oklahoma governor to be convicted of criminal acts—racketeering, bribery and extortion—committed while he was in office. Do you remember him?
4. In 1965, a retired Oklahoma state Supreme Court justice was convicted on federal bribery charges related to his collection of campaign funds. He later implicated two other sitting justices in his misdeeds, one of whom was impeached. Who was the judge who got convicted?
5. This governor adopted his niece by marriage, then had the adoption annulled in 1928 so he could marry her. Talk about your "family values." Who was he?

Answers on page 7.



Surely ShelfLife doesn't need to tell you that the Metropolitan Library System keeps on moving ahead at a steady pace, but here are some additions we can all look forward to during FY 2009-2010:

- Staff tours of the new Service Center and the Grand Opening of the Center
- The Grand Opening of the new, improved Ralph Ellison Library
- Office 2007 coming to a computer near you
- A new self-service Reserve system that will allow customers to find their own Reserve items
- An increase in the number of self-service check-out facilities

And please remember that ShelfLife exists in part so MLS staff can share their success stories—and occasionally the other kind as well—with everyone. If you know something that you think should be shared with the rest of the MLS family, be sure to tell us about it. A lot of good information falls through the cracks because, despite what we want you to believe, ShelfLife staff doesn't know everything.



STAFF PROFILE

Fingerprints

Sharon Maine is the Outreach Specialist who chooses the list for the Books by Mail catalog—then fills the orders for her customers. She's been working for MLS for 27 years and has made the rounds working as a bookmobile clerk, and working at ED and MC libraries before her present Outreach/BBM job.

Sharon loves reading a good mystery and watching old black and white mystery movies, i.e. *The Thin Man* and *Charlie Chan*. She's also an indoor gardener in her free

time. Sharon is married and has a son, daughter-in-law and 2 grandchildren.

Her favorite part of her job is "helping my customers find something that they are looking for, or suggesting something they might enjoy. Making them feel better when they call me and just want someone to listen.

If they are laughing at the end of our conversation then I know I've done something good," she said.

"I would like for staff to know that BBM is in the maintenance building, not DN. I now have over 800 customers, and believe it or not, I do know most of them by name, even if I never get to meet them face to face," Sharon said.



• MYSTERY PERSON •

Here are the clues to this month's mystery person.

Fave Music:	Music from the 50s, 60s, 70s and ballads
Fave Sports:	Watching ice skating
Fave Vacation(s):	Anywhere outdoors involving nature and visiting family and grandchildren
Fave Movie:	<i>Lord of the Rings</i> trilogy
Fave Food:	Veggies
Fave TV Show:	<i>Star Trek</i> series
Fave Season:	All the seasons for the variety they bring to life (least favorite is summer)
Fave Hobby:	Reading, sharing stories and crocheting
Family:	Husband, 2 daughters and their spouses, 2 grandchildren
Cell phone ring:	standard

What profession would you be in if you were not working in the library? *A storyteller or adult educator.*

Is there something you want to do or accomplish before you die? *Visit the Grand Canyon, revisit Craters of the Moon National Park and see my grandchildren grow up to be great adults.*

Answer on page 7.





HELLO TO

Debbie Gossett.....	Page, VI
Eks Wye Pollock.....	Page, VI
Emily Reynolds.....	Page, DN
Twila Zuniga.....	Page, MC
Joann Collins.....	Youth Asst., OUT
David Duplissis.....	Youth Asst., OUT
Joetta Thompson.....	Youth Asst., OUT
Katherine Benton.....	Youth Asst., OUT
Phoebe Butts.....	Youth Asst., OUT
Brenda Negrete.....	Youth Asst., OUT
LaPorshia Simms.....	Youth Asst., OUT
Jon Vodka.....	Delivery Driver, MTC
Jessica Carter.....	Page, MC
Molly Allen.....	Youth Asst., OUT
Courtney Bolt.....	Youth Asst., OUT

GOODBYE TO

Jennifer Peery.....	Page, SO
Eric Knudsen.....	Page, BE
Alesa Clymer.....	Page, VI
Angela Gore.....	Page, MC
Stefan Warner.....	Page, HAR
Randy Wilson.....	Delivery Driver, MTC
Nicole Bungert.....	Admin. Recpt., DIR

PROMOTION

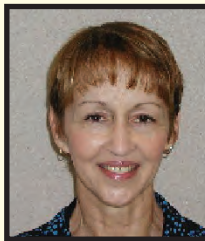
Wendy Gabrielson.....	From Assoc. Librarian, to Librarian, DN
Laci Bowers.....	From Page to Circ Clerk, ED

RETIREMENT

Ernestine Clark.....	Dir. of Development, DVS
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Answers to ShelfLife Quiz

1. Henry Simpson Johnston
2. Jack C. Walton
3. David Hall
4. N.S. Corn
5. Ernest Whitworth Marland



Debbie Gossett



Eks Wye Pollock



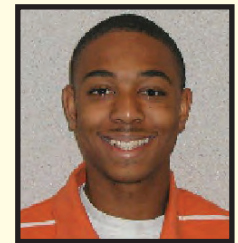
Emily Reynolds



Twila Zuniga



Joann Collins



David Duplissis



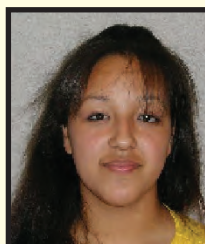
Joetta Thompson



Katherine Benton



Phoebe Butts



Brenda Negrete



Laporshia Simms



Jon Vodka



Jessica Carter



Molly Allen



Courtney Bolt

MYSTERY PERSON IS:

Rosemary
Czarski,
Mgr of LO,
Choctaw




July Bulletin Board



July Birthdays


HIEN SI CHAU	7/1
SAISRI MCCORMICK	7/1
BEVERLY CUNNINGHAM	7/8
NATHAN I. CLYMER	7/8
CYNTHIA SELINGER	7/9
DOYLE K. WILCOX	7/10
ELIZABETH KESSLER	7/10
CHAD MCNAUGHTON	7/11
SUZETTE FELTON	7/11
ALMA LOUISE BROWN	7/12
AARON J. STEWART	7/13
CAROL C. COOK	7/13
LAWANA MORGAN	7/14
LINDA M. WILLIAMS	7/14
KELLEY E. HOFFMAN	7/15
KIMBERLY ANN TERRY	7/16
DENISE A. COURTS	7/19
JEFFREY FREDERICKS	7/20
HARRY DUY HOANG	7/21
ERIKA M. SALINAS	7/22
JENDAYI N. DOUGLAS	7/22
LENA C. LOPER	7/23
MICHELLE HINDMAN	7/23
SHIRLEY J. HENDERSON	7/23
DIANE RICE	7/24
JANET E. BROOKS	7/24
DENYVETTA DAVIS	7/26
GLORIA J. TURNER	7/26
ROSE ANNE KIRBY	7/26
DENESA C. BENNETT	7/28



Employee's July Date-of-Hire


JANET E. BROOKS	7/1/1980
URSULA A. WARD	7/1/1982
RONNA C. DAVIS	7/19/1982
FRANCES V. HARBERT	7/8/1985
ANITA F. ROESLER	7/28/1985
KAREN R. BRAY	7/7/1986
DAVID L. MACK	7/2/1990
ANGELA M. PAELTZ	7/15/1992
PATRICIA WHISENHUNT	7/25/1994
MARY L. DAUGHERITY	7/28/1994
DAGMAR M. PEERY	7/7/1997
CAROL MOODY	7/28/1997
PAULA A. HANNAPEL	7/26/1999
KIMBERLY A. RICKEY	7/10/2000
RUSSELL L. PIERCE	7/17/2000
JOHN LEROY HILBERT	7/16/2001
LISA M. WOOD	7/16/2001
MARIA E. WATKINS	7/21/2003
REAGAN KLOIBER	7/6/2004
AARON G. KILLOUGH	7/18/2005
ROSE ANNE KIRBY	7/6/2006
KAYHAN N. YAZDANI	7/17/2006
MICHELLE HINDMAN	7/17/2006
SHIRLEY ANN WOLF	7/18/2006
RACHEL A. HUDSON	7/31/2006
BRYAN SMYTHE	7/3/2007
SANDRA J. GONZAGA	7/18/2007
TIMOTHY HAMMOND	7/30/2007
RONALD HARRISON	7/30/2007
RICK SAMUEL GEORGE	7/30/2007
RAMINA GOLSHANI	7/30/2007
KAREN PETERS MILLER	7/1/2008
CHEYENNE HIGGINS	7/14/2008
LENA MUNIR KHADER	7/15/2008
KIRSTIE ANN BROWN	7/15/2008
ANGELA MARIE OXTOBY	7/28/2008

August Bulletin Board



August Birthdays

BARBARA A. JOHNSON	8/1	LINDA J. JAMESON	8/14
LYNDA G. TONEY BAHR	8/1	JOE HARLEY SHELTON	8/15
CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY	8/2	SUSIE L. BEASLEY	8/18
DEBORAH AUSTIN-MUNDEN	8/2	DOUGLAS P. BROWN	8/20
BRENDA STOCKTON-HISS	8/3	GARY W. CROUCH	8/20
CAROL L. PROVINE	8/3	VAN R. BIELSTEIN	8/21
JAMES E. NIMMO, JR	8/3	BRANDON M. ROSE	8/22
LANDON D. HOLMAN	8/3	CRYSTAL DAWN ROPER	8/22
CHESTER KINZIE, JR	8/4	JEAN M. WILBURN	8/22
DAGMAR M. PEERY	8/4	NICHOLAS R. THOMPSON	8/22
JILL L. VESSELS	8/4	JESSICA Y. LITTLE	8/23
JONATHAN I. TOLLE	8/4	EVELYN CAROL GILBERT	8/24
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/5	BRENNAN MICHAEL CARLAW	8/25
KATRINA B. PRINCE	8/6	KARMEN QUEITA HARVEY	8/25
RICK SAMUEL GEORGE	8/6	LINDA LEE HYAMS	8/25
ANNA N. TODD	8/7	THUY THI MAI FARRELL	8/25
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/7	BRITTANY MARIE BARBER	8/27
REGINA M. WOLFINGER	8/7	ANN G. ALIOTTA	8/28
KATHY L. FRITSCH	8/8	VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/28
ANGELA L. HILL	8/9	ELIZABETH WILSON	8/29
JOSHUA H. GERNER	8/9	JAMAR O'NEIL RAHMING	8/29
JOYCE MCCAULEY-JOHNSON	8/9	KIMBERLY P. GREEN	8/29
LENA MUNIR KHADER	8/9	LOIS F. CROSS	8/29
LINDA A. ELSTON	8/9	TERESA GOGGINS	8/29
JONITA NORMORE	8/10	TIMOTHY D. FISHER	8/29
JAMES B. GORDON	8/12	JOYCE A. HELMS	8/30
ANITA F. ROESLER	8/13	WENDY J. GABRIELSON	8/30
ERICA Y. RUTLAND	8/13	BETH K. STEELMAN	8/31
FRANCIE L. PENDLETON	8/13	BRENDA ANN HAMMONS	8/31
LAURA MCMURTRY	8/13	JONATHAN E. WILLIS JR	8/31
SYLVIA A. LAWSON	8/13	KAY L. BAUMAN	8/31



Employee's August Date-of-Hire

PRISCILLA M. DOSS	8/1/1972
CHERYL E. PERNELL	8/1/1979
PHILLIP E. TOLBERT	8/9/1982
SHARON L. MAINE	8/17/1982
BARBARA K. BEASLEY	8/1/1984
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/29/1989
KARMEN QUEITA HARVEY	8/21/1991
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/26/1991
GALEN R KURTH	8/30/1993
JULIA ANN BALLO U	8/30/1993
KAREN L. LITTERAL	8/31/1996
KATHLEEN M. LAUGERMAN	8/4/1997
GLENN E. WEBB JR	8/25/1997
JANET E. BOWEN	8/25/1999
STEPHANIE D. GERLING	8/14/2000
SAISRI MCCORMICK	8/21/2000
DAVID L. CALHOUN	8/1/2001
KIM L. COBB	8/9/2001
JOHN D. WOOD	8/27/2001
FANNIE M. HARSHBARGER	8/10/2002
SHARON DAVIS JORSKI	8/10/2002
GERALD W. HICKMAN	8/10/2002
BARBARA A. JOHNSON	8/19/2002
NGOC KIM NGUYEN	8/3/2004
KEVIN D. COLWELL	8/30/2004
BARBARA M. PARR	8/1/2005
ANGELA L. HILL	8/2/2005
TERRIE LUCILLE THOMAS	8/8/2005
VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/15/2005
ELIZABETH LEANN WILSON	8/14/2006
STORMY DAWN LEE	8/28/2006
JOE HARLEY SHELTON	8/1/2007
LINDSAY JONES EGLE	8/7/2007
STANLEY A. TAUCER	8/13/2007
ERIKA M. SALINAS	8/13/2007
JAIME LYNNE HACKWORTH	8/27/2007
STEPHEN CATER SHENOLD	8/27/2007
CLAUDIA WEBER WAGNER	8/29/2007
TRAVIS REID HOWELL	8/29/2007
VANESSA ANN SPAETH	8/12/2008
CARSEN KENNETH MOON	8/27/2008