



# ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

March 2010

## News from the MLS Shelf



**Trial Database & ODL**  
page 2

**Booksale & Training  
& Phones**  
page 3

**Lending Library &  
Libraries**  
page 4

**ShelfLife Quiz &  
Staff Reads**  
page 5

**Mystery Person  
& Staff Profile**  
page 6

**MLS Employees**  
page 7

**Birthdays and Hire  
Dates**  
pages 8 & 9

## Executive Director Q & A

From Executive Director Donna Morris

**Q:** "How did the Commission react to the new Service Center? Did any of them have anything particular to say?"

**A:** The Metropolitan Library Commission met in the "empty" Friends space for their normal monthly meeting on February 18th. The Friends space was empty because the Friends decided not to move in until after the Booksale. About 10 library commissioners came early to tour the facility and see some of the innovations related to book processing, cataloging, sorting, storage and delivery. Commission members were very impressed and asked numerous questions about the various processes. Staff at the Service center gave tours of their areas to the commissioners and were able to explain what each of their departments did and how the move had improved their operations. The tours were staged so that you could follow new books from the delivery of boxes to the dock; through tech receiving, cataloging and back to tech processing and finally to the sorter for delivery to the libraries and customers. I think that made the tours more "real" for the commissioners as they were able to understand what needed to be done prior to a new book being placed on the shelf.

As part of the tour, they also visited Book Centers, Books by Mail and

Maintenance. **Special thanks go to Anita Roesler, Sharon Maine, Lanny Meyers, Patrick Williams, Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins, Heidi Johnson, and Karen Marriott** for providing the tours to the commission. And thanks also to all of the staff at the Service Center for their help in hosting this meeting.

We are excited to have this new facility after 30+ years in "temporary" space at Capitol Hill. We expect that it will enable us to improve our service to customers by handling materials more quickly and efficiently in a much more productive environment.

I hope many of you were able to tour the new MLS Service Center when we had the staff open house on February 11th. If you were not able to come that day, we plan to have several MLS meetings/training sessions in their meeting room over the next few months that might give more of you a chance to visit! And I am sure that we can arrange smaller group tours if needed. Once you have seen the operations there I am sure that you will agree that the construction of this new Service Center will lead us forward into the next decade by improving our capacity and efficiency to meet customer needs.

## Trial Database: *From A to Z*

**M**aterials Selector **Susan Ryan** has landed a trial database she'd like for you to take a look at. We can poke our heads under the

hood and fiddle around with it until March 17.

The database is [www.AtoZtheU-](http://www.AtoZtheUSA.com)

SA.com. Here's how it describes itself:

"AtoZtheUSA is a web-based encyclopedia of detailed editorial and images for 56 U.S. states and territories. The product sets a new standard for breadth and depth of coverage with more than 180 features organized in 22 categories.

"AtoZtheUSA contains a huge volume of proprietary data (editorial, maps, images), as well as the skillful collection and presentation of hard-to-find public domain data. The product is extremely well-organized and has a pleasing and intuitive user interface.

"AtoZtheUSA has been in full development for more than a year and was designed to be the U.S. state companion to World Trade Press' very popular Global Road Warrior country-based online encyclopedia."

It gathers together in one place data on the arts, state animals and plants, demographics, education, government and politics, media, state maps, and, as they in the infomercials, so much more. It's like one of those too-good-to-be-true ads that promise you the moon for only \$19.95 plus shipping and handling, only without the \$19.95 plus shipping and handling.

So if you've been curious about the history of tsunamis in Nebraska, now you know where to look.

Let Susan know what you think of this database. Your input will help her make an informed decision.

## ODL Requesting Our Input

**M**LS library staff has received a request from State Librarian Susan McVey.

Her note tells us that the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and the Oklahoma Museum Association are collecting information on the digitization needs of Oklahoma archives, libraries, and museums. If you're willing, she'd like for you to take part in a survey you can find at this address: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OklahomaDigitalSurvey>. They want to know about any digitization you may be involved in. That would probably be a Big O, but they also want our input in training needs and your thoughts on participating in a statewide digitization project.

All participants who respond by March 1 will receive a copy of the report and a Digitization Projects Toolkit on CD-ROM.

The survey is only 25 questions long. If you have any interest in seeing state archives, papers, even our own Folklore Collection digitalized for the ages, this is the place to start.

## Booksale 2010

Thousands of booklovers ignored the cold, wet weather, a still stumbling economy and the Winter Olympics to make the drive to the Fair Grounds for the FOL Annual Booksale on Feb. 20 and 21.

"My first Booksale," said FOL Coordinator **Siobhan Morava**, "was a TON of fun!"

To make our print deadline, ShelfLife could only get preliminary proceeds totals, but those clocked in at a whopping \$241,951, and that will turn into a lot of programming and other benefits for MLS.

"This makes a grand total raised since 1981, \$3,869,527.70," Siobhan added. It's pretty clear to see that next year's Booksale will shatter the \$4 million mark.

"We had 850+ volunteers staff the event," Siobhan said, "including many of our wonderful Library Staff. Our sincerest thanks go out to everyone who helped in any way."

## Can You Hear Me Now?

The MLS voice mail server is being updated. On Monday, March 8, everyone with voicemail will have to re-record their names, departments and whatever else you include in your greeting.

An email will be sent out to remind you.

## A Pair of Reminders

First, remember that the month of March marks the end of the first quarter of 2010 and so Safety Training is due. (Here's a safety tip—don't park in the alley behind the Downtown Library on a day when the construction company is going to knock over part of the new parking garage. That falling column missed my van by the width of one parking space and it didn't do my blood pressure any good at all. I'm just saying.)

Secondly, if you're looking for some extra training, Metro University is offering 10 sessions this month. If you see something that interests you, talk to your supervisor about the opportunity to attend.

- Tue Mar 9, 2010: 1:30pm - 4:30pm Excel Basics - **Stuart Williamson** Where: MUT (DN)
- Thu Mar 11, 2010: 1:30pm - 4:30pm True Leadership - **Heidi Port** Where: DN
- Tue Mar 16, 2010: 8:30am - 12:30pm Collection Management - MSL staff Where: MUT (DN)
- Tue Mar 23, 2010: 8:30am - 12:30pm Collection Management - MSL staff Where: MUT (DN)
- Thu Mar 25, 2010: 8:30am - 12:30pm SGR - Principles of Public Service (S2) Where: City of Edmond Cross Timbers Complex
- Thu Mar 25, 2010: 1pm - 5pm SGR - Effective Communication Processes (CS2) Where: City of Edmond Cross Timbers Complex
- Thu Mar 25, 2010: 1:30pm - 4:30pm Supervising Volunteers with True Colors - Heidi Port Where: DN
- Tue Mar 30, 2010: 8:30am - 12:30pm Collection Management - MSL staff Where: MUT (DN)



MetroUNIVERSITY



## Lending Library Review:

### Encountering Enchantment: A Guide to Speculative Fiction for Teens

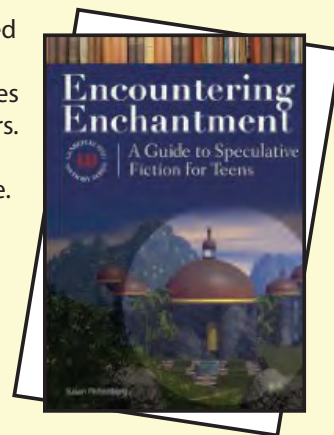
by Susan Fichtelberg

The new movie based on the first of Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson novels hasn't done as well at the box office in two weeks as the next Harry Potter will do on opening day, but the very fact that large amounts of money are being poured into movies based on fantasy novels for children and YAs is proof enough that the genre is still hot. Even after duds like *Eragon* and *The Dark is Rising*, audiences still hope for the best.

But kids can't always be going to new movies or, gasp, watching the same films over and over

again on TV, so librarians can feed their desire for new fantasy and science fiction with the 1400 titles published within the last 15 years. Fichtelberg's book is a handy introduction to this popular genre.

Chapters cover such sub-genres as epic fantasy, wizardry, romance, and mystery, which are further broken down by subgenres and themes. Annotations offer bibliographic information, brief plot summaries, reading levels, alternative media formats (including large print and Braille), and awards information. Author profiles, programming ideas, lists of "The Finest in the Realm" for each subgenre, and reproducible lists of Harry Potter read-alikes and "Girl Power" titles make this a versatile resource.



## The Beauty of Libraries



Library of Parliament in Ottawa.

Most of us grew up with plain vanilla libraries that spent the little money they had on books (mostly Readers Digest condensed ones) and not buildings. When my little town built a new library (two rooms) that had a window overlooking a garden, we thought that even the Vatican couldn't have anything so cool.

But I recently came across a website with photos of "The Most Amazing Libraries in the World," and I thought you might like to take a look at it. You get one peek at each library and then can vote on how amazing it looks to you. The site is in two parts at these addresses:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/22/the-most-amazing-librarie\\_n\\_432126.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/22/the-most-amazing-librarie_n_432126.html)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/02/22/the-most-amazing-librarie\\_n\\_469484.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/02/22/the-most-amazing-librarie_n_469484.html)

Here's how the site introduces the pix: "Times are changing for libraries everywhere. But even as many libraries build their digital collections and amp up their technological offerings, we thought we'd take a step back and show our appreciation for the beauty of many of these vast collections of books. Below are some of the most amazingly beautiful libraries from around the world."

I like the Library of Parliament in Ottawa.

"I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library" - Jorge Luis Borges  
Yeah, this kind.



# ShelfLife

March 2010



## ***Building a Reading City—What Book Is On Your Bedside Table?***

Admit it—when you go over to someone's house you always check out the book shelves to see what kind of thing that person likes to read. Well, consider this your virtual book shelf. Let us know what titles are currently sitting on your bedside table, or have finally worked their way to the top of your To-Be-Read list.

**Doug Bentin, MaC:** *Satan's Circus: Murder, Vice, Police Corruption, and New York's Trial of the Century* by Mike Dash; *Complicated Women: Sex and Power in Pre-Code Hollywood* by Mick LaSalle; and *She* by H. Rider Haggard.

**Suzette Felton, MC:** *Six Cultures Within Academic Librarianship, and Information and Knowledge*

**Jennifer Jones, CH:** *Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan, and *God's Armor Bearer* by Terry Nance

**Nancy Lytle, MaC:** *The Girl Who Played With Fire*, by Stieg Larsson, and *Hercule Poirot's Early Cases* by Agatha Christie

**Dana Morrow, OUT:** *Double Take: A Memoir* by Kevin Connolly; *Hands of My Father* by Myron Uhlberg; *Solo* by Clyde Edgerton; and *Shadow Tag* by Louise Erdrich

**Katrina Prince, BE:** *The Lost Symbol* by Dan Brown, and *U is for Undertow* by Sue Grafton

**Emily Williams, OUT:** *Scarlett Fever* by Maureen Johnson, and *Literature for Today's Young Adults* by Alleen Pace Nilsen

**Lisa Wood, OUT:** *Great Lent* by Alexander Schmemmann, and *Charles and Emma* by Deborah Heiligman

Let us know what you're reading. Send titles to [dbentin@metrolibrary.org](mailto:dbentin@metrolibrary.org)

## **The ShelfLife Quiz: Last Lines**

Most readers are familiar with the famous first line of the novel *Moby-Dick*—"Call me Ishmael"—but how many of you know the book's last line? "It was the devious-cruising Rachel, that in her retracing search after her missing children, only found another orphan." Okay, so it isn't as catchy.

Here are 10 other last lines from well-known novels. See how many of them you can figure out.

1. "Oh, my girls, however long you may live, I never can wish you a greater happiness than this!"
2. "I never saw any of them again, except the cops. No way has yet been invented to say goodbye to them."
3. "I'm so glad to be at home again."
4. "Here's the black, wicked Witch. Ha! Ha! Ha!"
5. "'Yes,' I said. 'Isn't it pretty to think so?'"
6. "The knife came down, missing him by inches, and he took off."
7. "Tomorrow, I'll think of some way to get him back. After all, tomorrow is another day."
8. "The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which."
9. "But I reckon I got to light out for the Territory ahead of the rest, because Aunt Sally she's going to adopt me and sivilize me and I can't stand it. I been there before."
10. "If I were a younger man, I would write a history of human stupidity; and I would climb to the top of Mount McCabe and lie down on my back with my history for a pillow; and I would take from the ground some of the blue-white poison that makes statues of men; and I would make a statue of myself, lying on my back, grinning horribly, and thumbing my nose at You Know Who."

Titles:

- A. *Gone With the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell
- B. *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway
- C. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- D. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
- E. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum
- F. *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller
- G. *The Long Goodbye* by Raymond Chandler
- H. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- I. *The Tin Drum* by Gunter Grass
- J. *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut

Answers on page 7.

# ShelfLife

March 2010

## Literary Voices™ Speaking Up in April



If customers start asking about the 2010 Literary Voices™ event, the dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 13, at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club.

This year's guest speaker is Harlan Coben, author of the Myron Bolitar series of mysteries as well as several stand-alone crime novels and thrillers. His next novel is called *Caught*, and it will be released on March 23.

Remember that there's a cost for the Tuesday evening dinner, but Coben will be

speaking for free the next morning at the Downtown Library, in the 4th floor auditorium, from 10-11a.

For more information about either event, call **Chris Carroll**, Development Specialist, at (405) 606.3760.

## **STAFF PROFILE** **Fingerprints**

**Cheryl Coleman**, YA librarian at WA, has worked for MLS for seven years and she's a busy person.

Cheryl plays the flute and sings. (She's a member of the Oklahoma Flute Society and the Ambassador's Concert Choir.) You can view her flute playing on YouTube under "flutinlibrarian."

She has a daughter Andrea, who went to Los Angeles to "find herself" Cheryl said.

Cheryl is a die-hard Cubs fan and loves to watch the Williams sisters and others play tennis.

Her latest favorite book is *Who Do I Talk To?* by Neta Jackson.

Cheryl says she has come full circle—she began working at MLS at BE as a page under Barbara Beasley, and is now working for her at WA.

"I love the people, and the earnest friendships I've never experienced at other jobs," said Cheryl, about working for MLS.



### • MYSTERY PERSON •

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

<b>Fave Music:</b>	Classical, Big Band, Christian Folk
<b>Fave Book(s):</b>	<i>Ruthless Trust</i> by Brennan Manning
<b>Fave Sports:</b>	Tennis and the Olympics
<b>Fave Vacation(s):</b>	Branson, MO (with family)
<b>Fave Movie:</b>	<i>Tears of the Sun</i>
<b>Fave TV Show:</b>	Original NCIS or <i>Numb3rs</i>
<b>Fave Food:</b>	All - but mostly Mexican
<b>Fave Season:</b>	Spring
<b>Fave Hobby:</b>	Aviation
<b>Pets:</b>	Cat named Poohbear
<b>Family:</b>	Beautiful wife
<b>Fave: PC or MAC:</b>	MAC but I'm forced to use a PC
<b>Do you:</b>	
<b>Text, Facebook, Twitter:</b>	All three
<b>Special Ringtone:</b>	Only for the wife - not saying what it is

**What profession would you be in if you were not working in the library?** Investigations - (police or military)

**Is there something you want to do or accomplish before you die?** *Travel overseas. Been to Canada and Mexico but that's it!*

*Answer on page 7*

# ShelfLife

March 2010

## HELLO TO

Vanda Cole ..... Page, WA  
Karen Casey ..... Page, BI  
Navin Gazi ..... Page, WA  
Patrick Hosang ..... Page, DC  
Shayla Law ..... Page, DC  
Angela Thornton ..... Mgr. of Lib. Op. II, ED

## PROMOTION

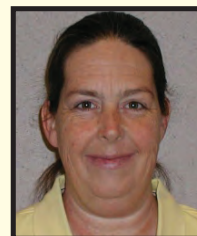
Evelyn Brown ..... From Page to Circ Clerk, VI

## GOODBYE TO

Laura Johnson ..... Page, DN  
Rainna Okapal ..... Circ Clerk, BI

### Answers to ShelfLife Quiz

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. C | 6. F  |
| 2. G | 7. A  |
| 3. E | 8. D  |
| 4. I | 9. H  |
| 5. B | 10. J |



Vanda Cole



Karen Casey



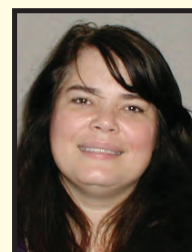
Navin Gazi



Patrick Hosang



Shayla Law



Angela Thornton

## First Library Card

Katrina Prince, BE, sent in this photo about Katelyn Hoefar getting her first library card on Jan. 20:

"Katelyn's mother took a photo of her daughter with her first library card. Katelyn was very excited. She had insisted that she get her own card."

*Katrina thought it was a "great Kodak moment" and wanted to share it.  
Thanks Katrina.*



**MYSTERY PERSON IS:**

**Matt Cotter,  
IT**



## March Bulletin Board



### March Birthdays

GRANT E. YOKLEY	3/1
JESSICA REAGAN KLOIBER	3/2
STEVEN LEE GLOVER	3/3
EDWARD AHAD MARAND	3/5
BENJAMIN D. MOUNT	3/5
KIRSTIE ANN BROWN	3/5
SARAH J. KELLUM	3/6
CHEYENNE HIGGINS	3/7
PATSY A. GLOVER	3/8
DARIN RAY SMITH	3/8
MARIA ELISA VERDIN	3/8
NANCY J. LYTTLE	3/9
VICKIE L. ROSS	3/9
JULIA ANN BALLOU	3/9
CHARLES S. ISAACS	3/12
SERINA L. GARCIA	3/14
ALLEGRA D. SEALS	3/16
BARBARA M. PARR	3/17
ROBIN C. SAGEL	3/17
CHRISTOPHER CADE	3/17
DIANNA L. RUPP	3/19
KATHRYN UPCHURCH	3/19
FARIBA WILLIAMS	3/21
RUSSELL L. PIERCE	3/22
MARY J. SHOLLY	3/22
KATHRYN F. HATFIELD	3/22
EBRAHIM EJTEHADI	3/23
ISABEL K. BURNS	3/25
SHAHIN S. ASGHARI	3/25
GLORIA MELCHOR	3/25
KIM L. COBB	3/26
MARY L. STEPHENS	3/27
PAMELA S. BUCHANAN	3/27
PATRICIA RIVAS	3/30
JANA C. HAUSBURG	3/31
SHEILA D. FIXEL	3/31



### Employee's March Date-of-Hire

DARCUS D. SMITH	3/28/1986
KIMBERLY L. WADE	3/31/1986
DENISE A. COURTS	3/16/1987
JILL L. VESSELS	3/19/1987
JOE J. POE	3/21/1987
TRACY C. STONE	3/17/1988
MARY L. STRASNER	3/6/1989
BEVERLY K. PHILLIPS	3/22/1993
HECTOR L. MATA	3/15/1994
MARGARET J. COLLINS	3/27/2000
VINCENT D. ARMIJO	3/26/2001
KATHY S. MARQUIS	3/27/2001
TONDA FAYE KELLY	3/4/2002
BETTY SCOTT	3/11/2002
JESSICA L. MINTER	3/23/2005
JULIET M. ALAVICHEH	3/28/2005
JEFFREY E. FREDERICKS	3/13/2007
BEVERLY CUNNINGHAM	3/26/2007
DENISE D. RYAN	3/26/2007
REBECCA F MASON	3/27/2007
ROBYN LYNN ICKS	3/17/2008
WANDA LOUISE LITTLE	3/9/2009
DACIA ALEXANDER	3/18/2009
GLORIA MELCHOR	3/23/2009
MARIA ELISA VERDIN	3/23/2009



## April Bulletin Board



### April Birthdays

KEVIN R. SENDALL	4/1
JEANETTE C. MIRLL	4/2
DARLENE S. BROWERS	4/3
JOHN D. WOOD	4/4
CRYSTAL L. SUPPES	4/7
EMILY R. WILLIAMS	4/7
BREANNE L. FORD	4/8
SIOBHAN MORAVA	4/9
FRANCES V. HARBERT	4/10
KAYHAN N. YAZDANI	4/10
GAIL S. SLOOP	4/14
MARY J. GIGAX	4/14
LISA L. WALKER	4/14
MACEY RAE HERNANDEZ	4/15
ADELAIDA H. MADISON	4/16
GERALD W. HICKMAN	4/17
GREGORY W. BENNETT	4/18
KERI L. CLOUD	4/18
STEPHEN SHENOLD	4/18
HEIDI M. JOHNSON	4/19
JOHN C. R. UTLEY	4/19
SHARON L. MAINE	4/20
JULIE A. SCHOFIELD	4/21
PATRICK D. WILLIAMS	4/21
MARK DANIEL VANCE	4/21
MELISSA K. WEATHERS	4/22
BRANDI E. GAY	4/22
JANET E. BOWEN	4/24
DAVID L. MACK	4/24
SANDRA LEA LANHAM	4/25
SUSAN A. STINSON	4/26
PAIGE ALLYSON NIFONG	4/26
LEONDREA GATES	4/26
JOYCE L. TALLANT	4/27
MICHAEL ERIC OWENS	4/27
STUART H. WILLIAMSON	4/27
JULIET M. ALAVICHEH	4/27
TIMOTHY D. HANNA	4/28
MARIA E. WATKINS	4/28
RACHEL LYNN ALLEN	4/29
THOMAS P. GALLAGHER	4/30



### Employee's April Date-of-Hire

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
DANIEL E. FIELDS	4/2/2001
MARY R. MCELROY	4/5/2001
KERI L. CLOUD	4/29/2002
MELANIE DIANE LEVICK	4/26/2004
LINDA A. TEMPLE	4/25/2005
JULIANNA LOUISE LINK	4/25/2005
LONDON D. HOLMAN	4/3/2006
SANDRA LEA LANHAM	4/3/2006
BRADLEY S. MCCOY	4/10/2006
DOYLE K. WILCOX	4/24/2006
KEVIN R. SENDALL	4/9/2007
JEANETTE C. MIRLL	4/23/2007
JESSICA C. MORRIS	4/7/2008
ROLAND JUSTIN HERWIG	4/7/2008
CYNTHIA SELINGER	4/7/2008
SYDNEY MARIE ASHBY	4/9/2008
NANCY JEAN SLUSAR	4/14/2008
ERICA J. GOLDMAN	4/14/2008
ISABEL K. BURNS	4/28/2008
VICKIE L. ROSS	4/28/2008
JULIA ANA MCCONNELL	4/6/2009
HANNAH SAYRE RUDEK	4/13/2009
MAEGYN DOYLE	4/20/2009
CHAD M. MCNAUGHTON	4/20/2009
ROGER ALLEN BANKER	4/20/2009