



ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

December 2010

News from the MLS Shelf

**Going Up &
Library Lit**
page 2

**Reading City &
Giving**
page 3

**The Oklahoman
Mystery Person
& Staff Profile**
page 4

**Daniel Fields, FLDP
& ShelfLife Quiz**
page 5

MLS Employees
page 6

**Birthdays and Hire
Dates**
pages 7 & 8



Holiday Greetings! *from* *Executive Director Donna Morris*

How many times this holiday season have you already said, "I can't believe it's almost Christmas already"? When we were kids it seemed like it took forever to get from one Christmas to the next, and now the months just fly by.

So what have you got going on this year? Shopping, buying, baking, decorating, gift wrapping, all while still going to work every day? Being a good host can put you on edge, but being a good guest can be just as stressful. It's hard to find any "me time" at all, but everybody needs it. Taking a few days off to get away from it all would be perfect, but that might not be possible for a lot of us.

I'm going to try to find a few minutes every day when I can sit back, close my eyes and take a flash-vacation, so if you come to my office and I hold up my hand I'm just saying "Talk to the palm because the rest of me is reading a book on the beach at Honolulu. Come back in five minutes."

Wherever you go and whatever you do during the holidays, I wish you the best of the season. Take some time to rest up because when the holidays are over we'll all start saying, "I can't believe it's almost time for Summer Reading already!"



Going Up

Are you familiar with the concept of the Elevator Speech? That's a quick talk you can give in the length of time it takes to ride an elevator from the first floor to the top of the building. They're used to introduce yourself to potential employers or to publicize some aspect of your organization. They've been defined this way: "An elevator pitch or elevator speech is an overview of a product, service, person, group or organization, or project and is often a part of a fund raising, marketing communications, brand, or public relations program."

"Good morning."

"Good morning."

"I've just been in a meeting to plan a work project I'm really excited about."

"Really?"

What is it?"

Now you've got the other person hooked

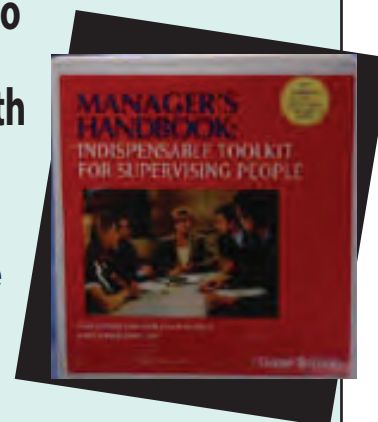
and you can talk about an upcoming program at your library. That's not the only way to go about it, of course. In fact, there are as many ways as there are personalities who use the technique.

Send your example of an Elevator Speech to Marketing, either **Doug** at dbentin@metrolibrary.org or **Kim** at kterry@metrolibrary.org. We'll include them in a future issue of ShelfLife so everyone can become familiar with this method of spreading the good word about the things we do for our customers.



Library Lit: Books to Help with Professional Growth

Manager's Handbook: Indispensable Toolkit for Supervising People



by Glen Shepard

So, you always thought you wanted to be a manager. Now you are one. Or maybe not yet, but you still want it.

How do you prepare yourself? You know there are dozens, if not hundreds of books out there with advice, good, bad, and ugly, each one discussing one or more aspects of the skills needed to be an effective manager. But is there one that addresses all the basic problems of management? Yes, there is a book called *Managing For Dummies* (shelf number: 658/N424m2) but reading it in public might send the wrong message.

How about turning to *The Manager's Handbook: The Indispensable Tool for Supervising People* by Glenn Shepard? Amazon.com says that "each module is jam packed with enough information to create a separate seminar."

Individual sections discuss "Legal Principles Every Manager Needs to Know," "Supervisory Skills You Must Master in Order to Succeed," "How to Eliminate Unacceptable Behavior," and "Sample Policy Manual with Sample Policies."

This one is a great place to start, and you can find titles that address specific topics later.

Good luck.



Building a Reading City



Here's another peek into the private reading of your colleagues. Give away a little secret about yourself by letting us know the book(s) in which you've currently got your nose buried. (See the lengths we'll go to in order to avoid ending a sentence with a preposition?) Send

your latest reading list to dbentin@metrolibrary.org

Lisa Wood, (OUT): *The Secret Life of Lobsters* by Trevor Corson, *Do It Anyway: The New Generation of Activists* by

Courtney Martin, *21st Century Kids*, *21st Century Librarians* by Virginia Walter, *Children's Services: Partnerships for Success* by Betsy Diamant-Cohen

Heidi Port, (DVS): *Happiness Project* by Gretchen Rubin

Dana Morrow, (OUT): *The Recessionistas* by Alexandra Lebenenthal, *The River Cottage Cookbook* by Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, *Now They Call Me Infidel* by Nonie Darwish, *Death du Jour* by Kathy Reichs

Jennifer Jones, (CH): *The House of Night* series by PC and Kristen Cast, *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan and *Won by One* by Wendy Treat

Doug Bentin, (MaC): *Dark Eyes of London* by Edgar Wallace, *Hobson's Choice* by Harold Brighouse, *Mortuary Confidential: Undertakers Spill the Dirt* by Kenneth McKenzie and Todd Harra

A Giving Time of Year



People who work in libraries are good guys. We're not saying that just to give ourselves a pat on the back, although we certainly deserve one. Just see the article in this issue about Bethany's **Daniel Fields**. There's something in the nature of the kind of people who choose to work in libraries, and other not-for-profits, that makes them want to help strangers.

These thoughts come to us at this time of year because this is the season for helping and giving. Sometimes the gifts come from unexpected places. We in libraries have been the recipients of billions of dollars from Bill and Melinda Gates through their foundation. But did you know that Warren Buffet is giving away 85% of his \$40 billion dollars through the Gates Foundation as well? And Buffet and Gates do it because they know how badly people need that support. They feel no religious compulsion because they are both atheists.

Here's some more data that may come as a surprise.

A recent study found that the national average for individual giving in the United States is 3.1 of our estimated household income, but Americans of Pakistani descent, the majority of whom are Muslims, give an average of 3.5 percent. That's gone down a little over the past few years because American Muslims are careful not to give money to organizations that might be fronts for terrorists.

Americans have no reason to hide their faces when it comes to generosity. The U.S. ranking in the world according to the Gallup World Giving Index is a tie for fifth place with Switzerland. New Zealand, Canada, and Ireland in places 2-4. The most generous nation in the world? Australia. It's a very g' day, mate.

Most of us find a way to give without making a big deal out of it. Good for us.

And Season's Greetings from ShelfLife.



The Oklahoman Every Day Since 1901

There are still people in the world who get their news from sources other than Jon Stewart and Rush Limbaugh. Did you know that you and our customers can look at *The Oklahoman*, every page of every issue dating back to September 25, 1901? And that includes the current date as well. It's all online and free.

Go to the Database file on our website and click on the Oklahoman Electronic Archives link. On the left side of the page, click on Browse Archive. This brings up a calendar and a way to select whatever date you want to look at. The Active Paper Archives contain over 2.2 million pages in 37,000 issues. Recent issues are full-color. The contents of all issues are fully text searchable and reflect the full context and layout of each page.

In playing with this service to write this article, I decided to find out what movies I could go see near my birth date. Let's see, *The Man From Colorado* and *Yellow Sky* open tomorrow. Hey, so does *Unknown Island* at the Warner, and that ad contains a picture of a dinosaur. Bingo. But today, at the Will Rogers, I can catch a bill with *10 Big Cartoons*, a western featurette, and an Andy Clyde comedy short. Looks like I'll be calling in sick today.

Seriously, this is a valuable resource for local history. Check it out so you can recommend it to your customers.



• MYSTERY PERSON •

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

Fave Music:	Rock, 70s & 80s Punk
Fave Book(s):	Suspense
Fave Movie(s):	Usually action or comedy, the more stuff that gets blown up the better!
Fave TV Show:	<i>Big Bang Theory</i> , <i>CSI</i> , <i>NCIS</i> , <i>The Mentalist</i> and <i>Criminal Minds</i>
Fave Food:	Mexican
Fave Hobby:	Genealogy
Family:	2 daughters, Amanda and Bekah
Fave Pet:	2 cats - Houdini and Jethro
Facebook, Text, Twitter?	Facebook
PC or MAC:	PC

What profession would you be in if you were not working in the library? Private detective or professional genealogist.

Answer on page 6

STAFF PROFILE Fingerprints

J.R. Day, administrative receptionist under the Director's office, has worked at MLS for 15 months.

He is a huge Chicago Cubs afficiando and can tell you anything about the team. He's also a soccer fan and plays regularly. He also watches the Dallas Cowboys and the Newcastle United Football Club. Other hobbies include hiking and keeping a salt water aquarium.

J.R. lives in Norman with his girlfriend Mallory and

their cat Gidget. J.R.'s mom, who lives in Tulsa, is a librarian at Tulsa Central Library.

During his junior year at college JR lived in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne in England and would love to return some day.

J.R.'s says in his job at the library presents a new and different challenge every day, "which makes each day a worthwhile experience."





A Pat on the Back for Daniel Fields WAY TO GO!

There are times when we all feel like we'd like a pat on the back for what we do for our customers. Sometimes we get it. Mostly we don't.

But when one of does receive some attention from the "outside world," we can all join in our colleague's good news. In case you missed it, here's the press release that went out informing our customers about congratulations that recently came Daniel Fields' way.

What's it like to have a television news crew show up at your place of employment and ask you for an interview?

If you're Daniel Fields, librarian at the Bethany Library, and you're being recognized for the good you do in your community, it's humbling.

"During fall break week," Fields said, "we were having Toddler Story and Play Time at the library when Kevin Ogle and a crew from KFOR surprised me. A library customer, Mary Stokes, nominated me for the *Pay It 4ward* program because she said that I had helped her family a number of times at the library and this impressed her

enough to recommend me. This was Mary's extraordinary way of saying thanks."

Fields admitted that seeing that microphone coming toward him when he'd had no time to prepare for it was shocking. He observed that everyone who comes to the library needs assistance with something, and "I feel that it is a privilege to be in a position to help them, which is what all library staff do every day at every one of our libraries."

Along with the honor of the recognition comes a cash award, and Fields used the money to buy books to present as gifts to children who attend story time at the Bethany Library during the month of November.

"I also wanted to do something to help beautify our library and community so I purchased an Oklahoma redbud tree which has now been planted at the southwest corner of the library, and 27 narcissus bulbs which will be planted near the library entrance."

The ShelfLife Quiz: All I Want For Christmas

Here's what your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews are sick of—those crummy toys you get them every year and then try to pass off as gifts from Santa. New flash: They ain't buyin' it.

Here's a list of the stuff they really want this Christmas, disguised as this month's quiz. Read the name of the toy and then match it with its cost. Good luck.

While researching this thing we found a toy that is perfect in its simplicity. It's the The Telekinetic Obstacle Course. You try to make a ball roll through a maze just by staring at it. Hammacher Schlemmer, \$79.95.

- A. Diamond Barbie, co-designed by DeBeers
- B. Miniature Off Roader, fully loaded
- C. 18 K Gold Hand Held Gameboy
- D. Original 1963 G.I. Joe prototype
- E. 1982 World's Fair Astronaut Pez Dispenser
- F. 125th Anniversary Teddy Bear, with gold mouth and eyes of sapphires and diamonds

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. \$85,000 | 4. \$40,000 |
| 2. \$32,205 | 5. \$200,000 |
| 3. \$193,000 | 6. \$25,000 |

Answers on page 6



Federal Library Depository Program Customer Survey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HSLCRRB>

The Government Printing Office (GPO) is conducting a customer survey about Federal Library Depository Program materials through the end of December. MLS is a depository library system, and we would very much like for our customers to complete this survey as the GPO will share the results with us. There will be a link to this survey on our website and post cards with the address above will be provided for distribution. Please take this opportunity to inform our customers about these resources and help us get their feedback. **Ursula Ward** (CAT) and **Sharon Bish** (DN) do a great job maintaining our collection of these materials.

[to learn more go to:](#)

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/libraries.html>



MYSTERY PERSON IS:

Kelly
Dalrymple,
SWA

HELLO TO

Mary Jane Hall	Page, VI
Sam Johnson.....	Page, MC
Tim Rankin	Page, MC
Sara Robinson.....	Page, VI
Janet Scroggins.....	Page, VI
Katie King	Public Computer Spc., BI
Caitlin Walker	Page, BI

PROMOTION

Gloria Melchor	From Page to Circ Clerk, CH
Kristin Hill	From Mat. Serv. Div.Tech. , CAT, to Rcv. Tech., TP

GOODBYE TO

Dacia Alexander.....	Proj. Spc., OUT
Amber Keeler	Page, DN
Ron Harrison.....	Circ. Clerk, DN
Chey Higgins.....	Page, CT
Cordelia Logan	Page, DN
Kathryn Williams.....	Page, SO

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Kasandra Dewbre** (HUM), who was married Oct. 16. Kasandra and her husband spent their honeymoon exploring New Orleans.



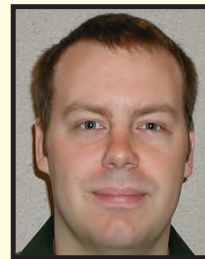
Kasandra Dewbre and her husband.



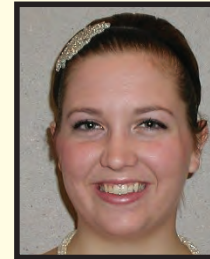
Mary Jane Hall



Sam Johnson



Tim Rankin



Sara Robinson



Janet Scroggins



Katie King



Caitlin Walker

SYMPATHY

To **Rick George**, MAC, whose mother passed away in El Reno on October 31.

Answers to ShelfLife Quiz

Answers:

- A – 1
- B – 4
- C – 6
- D – 5
- E – 2
- F – 3



December 2010

December Bulletin Board



December Birthdays



CORY NIEBANK, III	12/1
CAROL OVERTON	12/1
CHRIS CARROLL	12/1
RORI BURESH	12/1
EMILY GREEN	12/2
KIM RICKEY	12/2
ALAN SIAVASHI	12/3
MELODY NEARY	12/3
JENNIFER JONES	12/5
KIM NELSON	12/5
CHARLEEN MILLER	12/6
BETHANY SKOCH	12/7
JO NITA WHITE	12/7
DEBORAH MONTGOMERY	12/9
VICKIE DIXON	12/10
JAIME HACKWORTH	12/11
ALICIA RUZYCKI	12/12
FAYE HORN	12/12
CINDY FRAZIER	12/13
VANDA COLE	12/14
LORETTA FRANTZ	12/15
ROSEMARY CZARSKI	12/18
JULIE HENRY	12/19
SUSAN BECKETT	12/20
DUSTIN CHANDLER	12/21
REGINALD WALKER	12/21
DOUG BENTIN	12/22
JENNIFER ADKISSON	12/22
TERI WOOLEY	12/22
JON VODKA	12/24
MARY TAYLOR	12/27
KIM EDWARDS	12/28
PHIL TOLBERT	12/28
ANDREA GESELL	12/31



Employee's December Date-of-Hire



DOUGLAS G. BENTIN	12/26/1985
ROSEMARY G. RYDEN	12/3/1996
EDWARD AHAD MARAND	12/1/1997
JOAN G. KENDALL	12/20/1999
KATHRYN UPCHURCH	12/29/1999
SHARON D. THOMPSON	12/11/2000
DIANE RICE	12/23/2002
REGINALD WALKER	12/30/2004
RICHARD ANTONISSE	12/12/2005
JOSHUA DONALD LEWIS	12/4/2006
KELLIE JEAN DELANEY	12/4/2006
ALLEGRA D. SEALS	12/18/2006
DENNIS D. DELANO	12/3/2007
GRANT E. YOKLEY	12/5/2007
SHARON L. YOUNG	12/17/2007
TIFFANY L. BONNER	12/1/2008
ELLINGTON H. WOODY SR	12/29/2008
JEAN M. LONGO	12/7/2009
LORI ANN MULLOOLY	12/14/2009
KASANDRA DEWBRE	12/14/2009
MACEY RAE HERNANDEZ	12/28/2009



December 2010

January Bulletin Board



January Birthdays



LAURIE MACK-CLARK	1/2
ASHLEY MEYER	1/3
JERRY NANCE	1/3
RANDY WAYLAND	1/4
JENNIFER FANN	1/5
URSULA WARD	1/5
MICHAEL LEE	1/6
JULIA MCCONNELL	1/6
RENA GIBSON	1/6
DENISE LUKES	1/7
SALLY PHILLIPS	1/7
CAROL MOODY	1/8
WANDA LITTLE	1/9
LILY WANG	1/10
PAT WHISENHUNT	1/10
PETE ROBERSON	1/12
STEVEN JENKINS	1/14
ANNE MOTLEY	1/15
JUSTIN HERWIG	1/15
BEVERLY PHILLIPS	1/18
TODD OLBERDING	1/18
GLENN WEBB	1/19
JOE POE	1/19
JOYCE JACKSON	1/19
RONNA DAVIS	1/19
RANDALL MYSTER	1/20
DANA BEACH	1/21
JOHN HILBERT	1/21
ABIGAIL GRIFFIN	1/23
JESSICA MINTER	1/24
JOSH LEWIS	1/24
LAURA WINTERS	1/24
NGOC NGUYEN	1/24
JOANN WALKUP	1/25
JOAN KENDALL	1/26
ROBYN ICKS	1/29
SUSAN MONROE	1/30
TANAZ DERAKHSHAN	1/30
LLOYD LOVELY	1/31
SANDRA EFFINGER	1/31



Employee's January Date-of-Hire



CAROL PROVINCE	1/6/1975
KATRINA PRINCE	1/6/1985
NANCY LYTTLE	1/22/1985
SYLVIA LAWSON	1/24/1989
ERIC KING	1/9/1990
JIM NIMMO	1/18/1993
MARIE NICHOLS	1/5/1994
GREG BENNETT	1/21/1997
DENISE LUKES	1/5/1998
TIM FISHER	1/26/1998
BUDDY JOHNSON	1/26/1998
LISA WALKER	1/26/1998
VICKIE DIXON	1/26/1998
KATHY FRITSCH	1/27/1998
CHRISTINE R. BASSETT	1/25/1999
TIM HANNA	1/16/2001
JENNIFER ADKISSON	1/7/2002
SHARON BISH	1/7/2002
LAURA MCMURTRY	1/23/2002
KELLEY HOFFMAN	1/21/2003
LLOYD LOVELY	1/12/2004
PATRICK WILLIAMS	1/20/2004
KIM MACARTY	1/1/2005
BETH STEELMAN	1/18/2005
JONATHAN WILLIS	1/4/2006
NITA NORMORE	1/4/2006
LYNDA TONEY BAHR	1/4/2006
MARK VANCE	1/30/2006
ANNA TODD	1/31/2006
MATTHEW COTTER	1/2/2007
PAIGE NIFONG	1/12/2007
NATHAN CLYMER	1/29/2007
GERALDINE ADAMS	1/2/2008
TORY GRAY	1/11/2008
DEBORAH AUSTIN-MUNDEN	1/14/2008
ADA MADISON	1/28/2008
KIMBERLY CLARK	1/12/2009
DEBBIE MCPHERSON	1/26/2009
JAMAR RAHMING	1/26/2009
LACI BOWERS	1/29/2009
MICHAEL LEE	1/29/2009
SIOBHAN MORAVA	1/11/2010
MELISSA WALKUP	1/11/2010