



ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

February 2011
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the MLS
Shelf**

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Help With e-Media on the Way

If you're not already getting them, it won't be long before phone calls from customers asking how to download library material to e-Readers, iPads, Nooks and iPhones will start pouring in. (Complaints about the undownloadability of material to Kindles will be rife as well. Our sarcastic thanks to Amazon.com for not making its Kindle compatible with the other devices.)

In case you missed the recent e-mail announcement of new classes explaining to staff how to explain all this to customers, **Stacy Schrank, Kellie Delaney** and **Anne Fischer** have created a series of sessions to give staff a chance to examine a variety of e-Readers to see how they work. The classes will be held around the system during the month of February.

Here's the schedule:

Tuesday, February 1

9-12am - Edmond Library Small Conference Room
2-4pm - The Village Library Room B

Thursday, February 3

10-12am - Midwest City Library Room B
2-4pm - Choctaw Library Meeting Room

Tuesday, February 8

9-10:30am - Southern Oaks Library Meeting Room
11-12:30am - Capitol Hill Library First Floor Meeting Room
2-4:30pm - Downtown Library - Rooms C/D

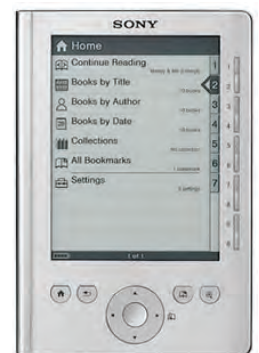
Wednesday, February 9

10-12am - Ralph Ellison Library Meeting Room
2-4pm - Del City Library

Thursday, February 10

9-10:30am - Warr Acres Library Meeting Room
11-12:30am - Bethany Library Meeting Room
2-4pm - Belle Isle Library Meeting Room C

"The training sessions," Stacy wrote, "are compensatory time and require supervisor permission to attend. No pre-registration is required, however sign-in sheets will be completed at each session for course credit. The times listed is the time Kellie and I will be at that library location to facilitate your learning— staff members are asked to rotate through during these times so we can reach as many staff members as possible. If the time/date does not work for your assigned location, you may attend another session with supervisor approval."





150 Years Ago on April 12

April 12, 1861, was the day on which Ed-
mund Ruffin may or may not have fired
the first shot of the Civil War. This April marks
the beginning of the war's sesquicentennial
(150th anniversary). While it's hard to "cele-
brate" an event that took the lives of over
600,000 Americans, many libraries around
the country will remember the war and the
sacrifices it demanded.

To assist with financing, the ALA (American
Library Association) Public Programs Office
and the National Endowment for the Human-
ities (NEH) are now accepting applications
for "Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the
American Civil War," a reading and discussion
program in America's libraries. Public libraries
are invited to apply online through April 19
by visiting www.ala.org/civilwarprograms.

The program will engage participants in
discussion of a set of common texts selected
by a nationally known scholar for their
relevance to a larger theme. Funding for
this program was provided by a grant from
NEH to the ALA Public Programs Office. It
is supported by NEH's We the People initia-
tive, which aims to stimulate and enhance
the teaching, study and understanding of
American history and culture. More informa-
tion including project guidelines and the
online application are available at www.ala.org/civilwarprograms.

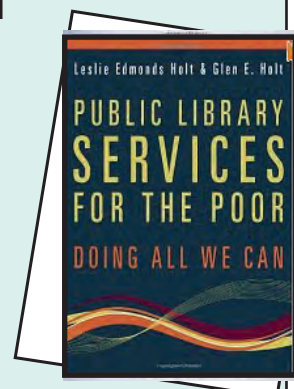
If you're interested, check it out.



Library Lit: Books to Help with Professional Growth

Public Library Services For the Poor: Doing All We Can

by Leslie Edmonds Holt and
Glen E. Holt



It may be one of our most unpleasant responsibili-
ties, but it's also one of the most necessary: deal-
ing with customers who are unbathed and bordering
hopelessness. Our hearts go out to them at the same
time our senses may be repelled.

The Holts writes about service to the poor after 30
years combines experience at St. Louis Public Library.
Their book addresses the ways that public libraries
can help the poor and working poor. Divided into
three parts—"Think and Plan," "Act," and "Big Challeng-
es"—the chapters cover such topics as understanding
professional attitudes about poverty, overcoming
barriers that keep the poor from using the library,
developing programs and services from which the
poor can benefit, and collaborating with other agen-
cies. Special concerns such as homelessness are also
addressed. Theory is combined with practice through
the use of examples from Enoch Pratt Free Library, St.
Louis Public Library, and others.

In its review of the Holt's book, *Library Journal*
wrote: "At a time when the news is full of stories of
people resorting to their public libraries during the
economic downturn and of libraries experiencing
drastically declining budgets, this book could not be
more useful or necessary, with its thoughtful theoret-
ical and practical advice for providing public library
services to the poor."



Building a Reading City

We continue to support the Building a Reading City initiative by spotlighting the books currently being read by MLSers. Let us know what you're reading and we'll let everyone else know next month.

John Hilbert, (librarian, SO): *Causing a Scene, Extraordinary Pranks in Ordinary Places with Improv Everywhere*, and *Non Campus Mentis: World History According to College Students*, compiled by Anders Henriksson.

Jennifer Jones, (librarian CH): *Battlefield of the Mind* by Joyce Meyer, and *Fly Away Home* by Jennifer Weiner.

Dana Morrow, (OUT): *The Soul of Leadership: Unlocking Your Potential for Greatness* by Deepak Chopra, *The Seasons on Henry's Farm: A Year of Food and Life on a Sustainable Farm* by Terra Brockman, and *Fatal Voyage* by Kathy Reichs.



Tracy Stone, (librarian, DN): *Freedom* by Jonathan Franzen, *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks, and *Rescue* by Anita Shreve.

Doug Bentin, (MaC): *Fellowship of the Frog* by Edgar Wallace, *Susan Lenox: Her Fall and Rise* by David Graham Phillips, and *Murphy's Master and Other Stories* by James Payn.

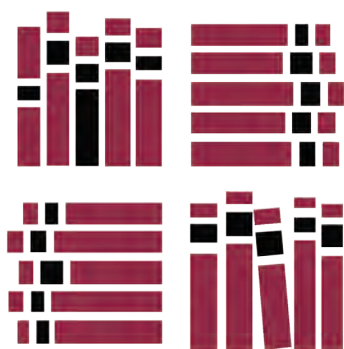
And check out the February issue of *info* magazine for these reviews:

Christine Bassett (librarian, BI) on *Fall of Giants: Century Trilogy Part 1* by Ken Follett, and *A Journey* by Tony Blair.

Phyllis Davidson (librarian, DN) on *A Vintage Affair* by Isabel Wolff.

Jana Hausburg (librarian, DN) on *Old Filth* and *The Man in the Wooden Hat* by Jane Gardam.

Changes to FOL "Wish List" Form



Some changes have been implemented to the Friends of the Library "Wish List" form to make that initial project request easier to fill out and submit.

Yes, it's time to start thinking about any FOL funds you might want to apply for. The deadline

is 5:00pm on Monday, February 14, and remember that your supervisor has to have signed his/her approval. Requests should be sent to the attention of the Development Office, DN.

The new shortened, streamlined version of the application form can be found at:

http://morris/gotinfo/supplies/forms/dvs_friends_wishlist-11.doc

Development Coordinator **Siobhan Morava** suggests you keep your request brief and to the point. "A typed submission is ideal," she said, "and we ask that you please keep an electronic copy – if your request is selected for consideration, you will be asked to e-mail this version to our office. Should Administration require additional detailed information (photos, etc.), you will be asked to provide this prior to the Friends' decision-making period."

If you haven't submitted an FOL Wish List before, or if it's been a long time and you need some help, information, or advice, give Siobhan a call at 606-3763 and sing out.



Don't Know Why There's No Sun Up in the Sky...

We don't expect that many of you remember the great recordings Billie Holiday and Lena Horne made of the song "Stormy Weather," but we all may be singing the "Ice Storm Blues" before the end of winter. Here's a reminder of how to record Inclement Weather on your time sheet. The full description can be found on the intranet under "Employee" in the folder "Employee Information."

REPORTING HOURS IN HRPAY WHEN INCLEMENT WEATHER IS INVOLVED

All employees will receive regular compensation for hours they are normally scheduled to work when the libraries close for inclement weather (or other emergencies). Remember, this only includes "regularly scheduled hours".

For employees earning leave, hours should be listed in the HRPay system using the "Inclement Weather" designation and included in the total number of hours worked. This includes overtime exempt employees. Leave slips are at the supervisor's discretion.

Employees who don't earn learn, hours should be listed as regular hours.

If an employee chooses not to come to work on a partial inclement weather day, the employee must use Annual Vacation Leave, Floating Holiday or work-week-adjustment to cover the **entire time** they would have normally worked.

Also, if an employee is off work on Annual Vacation Leave, Sick Leave, or other leave, and their library building (work-place) is unexpectedly closed due to weather conditions or any other unanticipated circumstances,

the original leave will still be charged to the employee.

Inclement Weather during meal periods

When the library system closes for partial inclement weather days it can sometimes cause confusion in regards to meal periods.

If the employee's normally scheduled meal period falls during the time the library is open the employee may be allowed to take a meal period. However, if the employee chooses not to take a meal period the total hours for the day cannot exceed the hours they were originally scheduled.

Examples: **The Executive Director decides to open the library system at 1pm due to inclement weather.**

I. A full-time employee whose normal meal period is from 12:30pm to 1:30pm would be eligible for a meal period because the library would be open during part of their normal meal period. The employee, with supervisor's approval, should adjust their meal period to fall somewhere in the middle of their adjusted shift. If the employee chooses not to take a meal period they will need to adjust the inclement weather leave to insure they are not being paid for more hours than they were originally scheduled.

I. A full-time employee, working 7:30am to 4:30pm, normally goes to lunch from 11:30am to 12:30pm. They would not be eligible for a meal period because the library would be closed in this example. If the employee put on their time sheet Inclement Weather from 7:30am to 1pm and regular hours from 1pm to 4:30pm then the total paid hours for that day would be 9 hours. In this example the employee will put Inclement Weather from 7:30am to 12pm and regular hours from 1pm to 4:30pm. 8 hours total.

I. Department head gets notice at 11:30am that the library will close at 1pm. Several staff members have not taken their meal period yet and want to know if they can leave early, 12pm if they get a one hour lunch?

As long as the department or location is properly staffed until the library officially closes. This must be approved by the supervisor in advance. If employee decides not to take a meal period, inclement weather leave will begin at 2pm.





February 2011

Kittens of the Night —What Meowing They Make

On the recommendation of RE librarian **Anna Todd**, I read the book *iDrakula* by Becca Black (great book! A cell phone novel...a first for me). It's a quick read and I finished the book in one day. That night, I dreamt that one of my cats had become a vampire cat, bit the other cat, who then bit me. I remember (but was it the dream?) even touching my neck and felt sticky blood coming from it. When I knew I couldn't hide from the cats any more and just accepted my fate, I kept thinking, "It's okay, because when the Master Vampire dies, we all change back to humans."

But do you know how hard it is to get ready for work when you can't see yourself in the mirror?

Anyway, I tweeted about this the next morning:

@MetroLibraryOK 11:21am via tgadget: Finished *iDrakula* last night. Dreamt my cats had turned into Vampire cats and bit me. Even touched my neck and "felt" blood! Real??

Later that day, the author of the book, Becca Black, tweeted back:

@bekka_black 2:47pm via Hoot-Suite @metrolibraryok Sorry. You have to keep the windows closed.

And also make a treaty with the cats, basically giving in to all their demands.

The amazing reach of Twitter!

Plus the book is available as a free app for your iPhone.

—Kim Terry



• MYSTERY PERSON •

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

Fave Music:	Foo Fighters, 70s K-Tel
Fave Book(s):	<i>Crimson Petal and the White</i>
Fave Movie(s):	<i>Paper Moon</i>
Fave Vacation:	Las Vegas and New Orleans
Fave TV Show:	<i>Curb Your Enthusiasm</i>
Fave Season:	I like Spring and Fall (but my allergies don't!)
Fave Hobby:	Still learning to knit
Fave Pet:	Henry the Blue Heeler and Denise the cat

Answer on page 7

STAFF PROFILE Fingerprints

Shanelle Jackson, a page at VI, has been with MLS for three and a half years.

She has a 'beautiful' three-year-old daughter.

Shanelle recently read *The Three Kings* by Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez, and *Unzipped* by Noire. Her favorite game is Kinect Dance Central, Lady Gaga dance moves.

She is teased by her co-workers that she has the

skill of walking a fine line between "Ha Ha, that's funny," to "What'd she say?"

Shanelle says she is a true oenophile, and a logophile, but not a sesquipedalia. (I had to look all three up.)

She says she loves suggesting items to customers who were not aware of the selection MLS provides.





Educational Opportunities for Kids and Teens

We heard recently from Bill Young, Public Information Manager at ODL (Oklahoma Department of Libraries,) about a pair of terrific opportunities for science-minded middle and high school kids. The Oklahoma Sam Noble Museum of Natural History is offering two Science Field Programs for students during Summer 2011.

The program is FREE to the students who are accepted.

Here's the content of the information flyer:

"Oklahoma Science Adventure

Grades 6, 7 and 8 July 9-16, 2011

Wild about science? Spend a week working with real scientists in the field! Students will travel across the state to field research sites to learn about the different "ologies" during a one-week science field camp. We will use science to investigate the world around us as we learn about Oklahoma and ourselves.

Application Deadline: February 18, 2011

Fee: No cost to participants

Paleo Expedition

Grades 9, 10 and 11 June 8-26, 2011

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a paleontologist? Join the Expedition!

Students from across Oklahoma will work together with paleontologists at the Sam Noble

Museum to explore the science behind ancient life. The Expedition participants will then travel

to a field location in Nebraska for the fossil-finding adventure of a lifetime!

Application Deadline: February 25, 2011

Fee: No cost to participants

Expenses for accepted participants are paid for by the Whitten-Newman Foundation, sponsor of the Museum's ExplorOlogy Program.

For more information on ExplorOlogy, Oklahoma Science Adventure and Paleo Expedition, visit <http://explorology.snomnh.ou.edu/>

Tell your kids, your grandkids, your nieces and nephews—and your customers! If you want an electronic copy of the flyer that you can copy and distribute, send a note to dbentin@metrolibrary.org

WEIRD? WHO, US!

I came across an article not long ago that began with this thought: "Libraries can be places of exploration and discovery. Libraries can be places of information and learning. Libraries can also be really, totally, absolutely weird. Yes, weird!"

So just what exactly constitutes weirdness? How about the parking garage for the Kansas City Public Library, the outside of which is decorated to look like the spines of books that have been influential in the history of the city. How about a rave for teens and a glow-in-the-dark Frisbee golf game at Seattle Public.

Finally, the article quoted The Wall Street Journal declaring that downloading books to your iPhone is odd. "The free OverDrive Media Console for iPhone and Android taps into the digital collections of e-books, audiobooks, music and video titles offered by 13,000 public libraries . . ."

Hey—that's us!

Perhaps the weirdest thing you could find in any library is a book containing the longest word in English that's really a word and not something cobbled together just to set a record. The word is—well, it refers to a protein found in the tobacco mosaic virus and is 1185 letters long, and if I tried to put it here, Nancy Lytle, who formats ShelfLife, would never speak to me again. Take a look here if you're curious. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/01/24/longest-word-in-the-english-language_n_813347.html.

The ShelfLife Quiz: Born in February

Here are 10 sets of two or three words. Put the words together to form a clue to a famous person born in February. Good luck.

1. Opera buffa
2. War is hell
3. Country's father
4. Call him Shirley
5. Murder, Inc.
6. Expensive baseball card
7. Hated in Oklahoma
8. Buy a vowel
9. Around the world
10. Rich and annoying

Choices:

- a. Jules Verne 2/8/1828
- b. George Washington 2/22/1732
- c. Honus Wagner 2/24/1874
- d. Leslie Nielsen 2/11/1926
- e. Gioachino Antonio Rossini 2/29/1792
- f. Bugsy Siegel 2/28/1906
- g. John Steinbeck 2/27/1902
- h. William T. Sherman 2/8/1820
- i. Paris Hilton 2/17/1981
- j. Vanna White 2/18/1957

Answers on page 7



February 2011

HELLO TO

Katie Trattner	Tech Proc. Aide, TP
Lenard Ward	Tech Proc. Aide, TP
Vinci Barron	Page, BI
Sandra Booker	Page, ED
Nancy Driver	Page, ED
Shanae Fouts.....	Page, CH
Natasha Irons	Page, ED

PROMOTION

Cyndi Selinger.....	From Assoc. Librarian to Librarian, CT
Breck McGough.....	From Page to Assoc. Librarian, ED

TRANSFERS

Liz Kickham.....	From Librarian, ED to DN
Joey Shelton	From Assoc. Librarian, MC, to ED

RETIREMENT

Deanne Biddle	Assoc. Librarian, BI
Lynn Stephens.....	Circ Clerk, WA

GOODBYE TO

Sache Primeaux-Shaw	Page, RE
Will DeShield.....	Page, DC
Rikki Martin (Death).....	Page, WA
Kim Wade	Circ. Clerk, BE
Rachel Allen.....	Page, VI
Keisha Moore	Page, RE
Darryl Hillard	III Tech, ILL

SYMPATHY

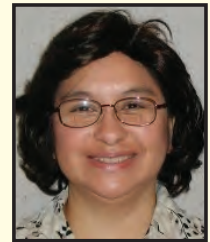
Employee Rikki Martin, a page at Warr Acres, died January 3.
Sympathy to Dana Beach, PLA, whose grandfather died Jan 4.



Katie Trattner



Lenard Ward



Vinci Barron



Sandra Booker



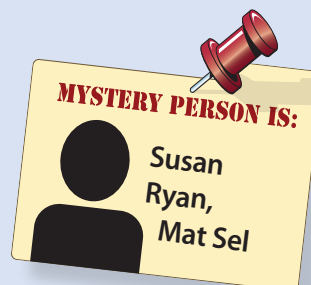
Nancy Driver



Shanae Fouts



Natasha Irons



Answers to ShelfLife Quiz

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



February 2011

February Bulletin Board



February Birthdays



KAELI DUNN	2/1
LEE MATA	2/6
CARA KOSZARA	2/6
DEBBIE MCPHERSON	2/7
ANN MEEKS	2/9
CAROL ROBERTS	2/9
KAREN LITTERAL	2/9
DEE MCDANIEL	2/10
KRISTINE CHARTER	2/10
RUTH HARDER	2/11
KRISTIN HILL	2/17
CAROL HUNTER	2/18
DAVID MORAND	2/18
ERIC KING	2/18
KATHRYN SHEESLEY	2/19
DANIEL FIELDS	2/20
KATHLEEN LAUGERMAN	2/20
JULIANNA LINK	2/23
JERRY O'HARE	2/24
BUDDY JOHNSON	2/24
JANET SCROGGINS	2/26



Employee's February Date-of-Hire



RIC REA	2/16/1982
DENESA C. BENNETT	2/28/1986
LINDA J. JAMESON	2/26/1990
SARAH J. KELLUM	2/14/1994
SUSAN M. MONROE	2/12/1996
DARLENE S. BROWERS	2/12/1996
ROY S. BALLOU	2/8/1999
GEORGE M. MARSHALL	2/15/1999
SHAHIN S. ASGHARI	2/16/1999
SUSAN K. BECKETT	2/7/2000
TERI L. REDENBAUGH	2/16/2001
CAROL S. HUNTER	2/19/2001
CHERYLL RENEE JONES	2/3/2003
GLORIA J. TURNER	2/2/2004
TAMERAT ATLABACHEW	2/2/2004
CHRISTOPHER CARROLL	2/17/2004
LAWANA MORGAN	2/23/2004
JAMES B. GORDON	2/2/2005
RIKKI D. MARTIN	2/5/2007
DAVID WAYNE RUSHING	2/4/2008
DAN W. HOLMAN	2/11/2008
GLORIA B. DELEON	2/23/2009
VANDA DEE COLE	2/1/2010
ANGELA THORNTON	2/8/2010
SHAYLA ARIELLE LAW	2/8/2010
KAREN ELAINE CASEY	2/8/2010
PATRICIA A. WIDHALM	2/23/2010



March Bulletin Board



March Birthdays



GRANT YOKLEY	3/1
REAGAN KLOIBER	3/2
STEVEN GLOVER	3/3
BEN MOUNT	3/5
AHAD MARAND	3/5
KIRSTIE BROWN	3/5
SARAH KELLUM	3/6
DARIN SMITH	3/8
EMMY VERDIN-CROWE	3/8
PATSY GLOVER	3/8
JULIE BALLOU	3/9
NANCY LYTL	3/9
VICKIE ROSS	3/9
STEVEN ISAACS	3/12
SERINA GARCIA	3/14
VINCI BARRON	3/15
ALLEGRA SEALS	3/16
BARBARA PARR	3/17
CHRISTOPHER CADE	3/17
ROBIN SAGEL	3/17
AMY UPCHURCH	3/19
DIANNA RUPP	3/19
KATHRYN HATFIELD	3/22
MARY SHOLLY	3/22
RUSSELL PIERCE	3/22
ABE EJTEHADI	3/23
GLORIA MELCHOR	3/25
SHAHIN ASGHARI	3/25
KIM COBB	3/26
PAM BUCHANAN	3/27
PATRICIA RIVAS	3/30
JANA HAUSBURG	3/31
SHEILA FIXEL	3/31



Employee's March Date-of-Hire



DARCUS SMITH	3/28/1986
DENISE COURTS	3/16/1987
JILL VESSELS	3/19/1987
JOE POE	3/21/1987
TRACY STONE	3/17/1988
MARY STRASNER	3/6/1989
BEVERLY PHILLIPS	3/22/1993
LEE MATA	3/15/1994
MARGARET COLLINS	3/27/2000
VINCENT ARMIJO	3/26/2001
BETTY SCOTT	3/11/2002
JESSICA MINTER	3/23/2005
JULIET ALAVICHEH	3/28/2005
JEFFREY FREDERICKS	3/13/2007
BEVERLY CUNNINGHAM	3/26/2007
DENISE RYAN	3/26/2007
REBECCA MASON	3/27/2007
ROBYN ICKS	3/17/2008
WANDA LITTLE	3/9/2009
SANDRA EFFINGER	3/14/2009
GLORIA MELCHOR	3/23/2009
EMMY VERDIN-CROWE	3/23/2009
PHILL JO	3/1/2010
RUTH HARDER	3/8/2010
TARYN KINGERY	3/22/2010