



October 2012

# ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

## PAGES

2 SO Information  
and Pics

3 Friends Grants  
Lending Library

4 Building a  
Reading City

5 Mystery Person  
Staff Profile

6 ShelfLife Quiz

7 MLS Staff  
Quiz Answers

8&9 Birthdays &  
Hire Dates

## The New York Times

Copyright © 2007 The New York Times

NEW YORK, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2012

The Times, they are a'changin'. And by that we mean *The New York Times*, which I think is a newspaper or something. Anyone out there ever heard of it?

The change is that MLS is now The Times' BFF. It must be so because we are getting an online subscription to the venerable "Gray Lady" of American journalism to add to our newspaper databases—and we will be the only public library that has one. The. Only. One.

The Times is considered the non plus ultra of American newspapers. Founded in 1851, it has won an astonishing 108 Pulitzer Prizes. The online version receives more than 30 million unique visitors every month. The paper's motto is "All the News That's Fit to Print"—online it's "All the News That's Fit to Click."

**Susan Ryan**, Mat Sel, hopes that our subscription will begin during the first week of October, but as of this writing there are still a few details to be ironed out. She has her fingers crossed. Stay tuned.

---

## *The Genres, They're Changing-too*

We came across an online article recently that might be of interest to anyone who follows YA literature, fiction for a primarily female audience, book marketing trends, or changes in genre fiction. It's called "Is Young Adult Fiction the New Chick Lit?"

Writer Anna North points out that more than a few writers of traditional chick lit are making a switch to YA. She singles out Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus (*The Nanny Diaries*) whose second novel is "about a 17-year-old girl named Max's first experience with heartbreak. Kraus says that her youth gives the story more urgency. She and McLaughlin hoped to address a basic question about a very first breakup: 'how do you know that you're going to live through it if you haven't before?'

Kraus explains that part of the appeal of young adult fiction is being able to 'watch someone go through something for the first time.'"

Even Candace Bushnell, author of *Sex and the City*, is moving into YA, and Jessica Brody (*The Fidelity Files*) had trouble selling her second book, *The Karma Club*, until she rewrote the main female characters, changing them from adults to teens.

MLS owns all the books mentioned above if you're not sure how they fit into a YA reading list and you want to check them. You can find the complete article here: <http://www.buzzfeed.com/annanorth/is-young-adult-fiction-the-new-chick-lit>

# Southern Oaks Up and Running

The Southern Oaks Library, established in 1975, stands out prominently against a background of trees & small creek just ¼ mile north of I-240.

The library now features nearly 1,878 in new square footage and 1,593 in reclaimed square footage (from the previously existing garage) for a total addition of nearly 3,500 square feet.

At 20,164 square feet, the library is the 4th largest library by area in the MLS.

## Features & Services

- 42 public computers
- Free WiFi
- Two quiet study rooms
- Four self-service checkout stations
- Drive-up book return
- Interior automatic book return

## Renovation Highlights

- New front vestibule and entry
- New, expanded bathrooms
- New rear driveway
- 31 additional parking spaces
- New reading lounge areas
- All new furniture and shelving

Take a look at the pictures and drop by SO for an up-close and personal tour. But be sure to wipe your feet or the staff may not let you in the door.  
*See more photos on page 4.*



*Southern Oaks Library staff. First row: Edie Daniel, Heidi Bookout, Cathy Webb, Cheryl Jones, Susan Stinson, Julie Schofield, and Sally Phillips. Second Row: Patti Ortiz, John Hilbert, Darrie Breathwait, Beverly Phillips, Emily Caniff, and Sharon Nelson.*

*Children using new Southern Oaks computers*



*From left to right, Mayor Mick Cornett, OKC School Board member Ron Millican, Commission members Ralph Bullard and Cynthia Friedemann, and Executive Director Donna Morris.*



*Artist Joe Slack and Southern Oaks LO manager Randy Wayland.*



## Granted, They Are Our Friends. . .

Friends of the Library grants have been lifesavers for library's needing additional funding for special programs. They still are, but according to MLS Director of Development **Diane Sarantakos**, the procedure for applying for FOL grants has changed.

"In the past," she said, "staff and libraries would request funds from the Friends prior to the budget input cycle. Along with trying to determine the needs at a library for the upcoming year, we were asking that you also try to identify special projects that might be appropriate to ask for the Friends to fund."

The potential problem was that the ideas for these projects don't always come along during the window of opportunity for applying, so changes needed to be made that would allow applications to be submitted all year long.

The new process will work this way:

1. Manager or other staff member contacts Diane Sarantakos (ex. 3761) to discuss the special project or funding need
2. All projects must be aligned with the Friends' giving preferences, and the Director of Development will make that determination
  - a. A discussion with Library Operations will help determine whether or not this project can be pursued at this time
  - b. If yes, the Manager will submit a 2-3 paragraph outline of the project and the amount of monies being requested. This will then be submitted to the Friends Board of Directors at their monthly meeting for consideration and vote
  - c. If no, Diane will contact the requesting staff members and Manager to discuss why this is not a request that can be considered at this time
3. The written portion of the request must be submitted by the second Monday of the month to be included in the Board packets
4. The library or department Manager must approve the request before it will be considered



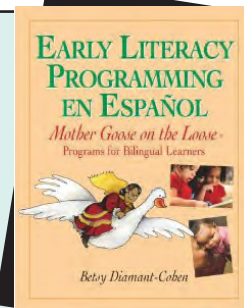
### Lending Library: *Early Literacy Programming En Español: Mother Goose On the Loose: Programs for Bilingual Learners*

by Betsy Diamant-Cohen

Diamant-Cohen is the creator of the Mother Goose on the Loose concept currently in use at several MLS libraries. In this book, supporting the program, she uses a combination of translated MGOL songs and traditional Spanish songs from around the world, this lively program helps children develop school readiness skills and presents child development tips to the adults in their lives. The book is loaded with lyrics, rhymes, activities, developmental tips, program aids, set-up instructions, worksheets, and bibliographies in both English and Spanish."

*Booklist* calls it an "informative book [that] will help librarians plan and implement bilingual storytimes. All of the lyrics, activities, and scripts have Spanish translations alongside the English. Resources include a CD-ROM with audio of the songs and rhymes and reproducible documents found in the book. The most helpful information covers how to work within the Latino community; how to plan and present with a Spanish-speaking partner; and how to customize the book's programs to suit the individual library."

If you're Spanish-speaking customer base is growing and you want to learn more about the Mother Goose on the Loose program, this is a good place to start.





## More Southern Oaks Pics



Children enjoying a snack.



Librarian Beverly Phillips helps a customer.



Library Commission Chair Fran Cory and Donna Morris

## Building a Reading City: Keep It Short, vol. 2

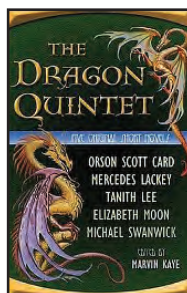
Last month we asked staff to send us the titles of their favorite short stories and we received more responses than we had room to run, so this month we'll use this space to complete the list. Once again, our staff's taste in short fiction runs the gamut from everyday realism to dark fantasy, from the familiar to the forgotten.

Thanks to everyone who submitted a title and author.

**Susan Beckett (WA):** wanted to tell us about *Joust* by Mercedes Lackey, from the book *The Dragon Quintet*. "It's a story about a slave boy trained to care for dragons and his quest for independence becomes real when he hatches a dragon's egg. I enjoyed the story because you get a feel for the boy's life and how his life changes as he interacts with the dragons, eventually gaining his freedom."

**Daniel Fields (BE):** Daniel introduces us to *Naftali the Storyteller and His Horse Sus* by Isaac Bashevis Singer, "the story of a boy who 'loved stories too much' and the life his love of stories led him to live. It's a story of a life well lived and an inspiration to pursue the passions that mean the most to us. The story can be found in *Stories for Children* by Isaac Bashevis Singer, found only at the Downtown Library."

**Tom Ballagher (DN):** Tom wrote that a short story he enjoyed was *An Alpine Divorce* by Robert Barr. "A couple, each who hates the other very intensely, plot to kill the other. The saying that hell knowth no fury



like that of a woman scorned applies here. This was included in a collection entitled *Murder Most Foul, Volume One*."

**Sally McCurry (DC):** Sally is a woman after my own heart with her recommendation of *The Graveyard Rats* by Henry Kuttner. "It's the perfect horror story: rats and claustrophobia and a groundskeeper who gets what he deserves (and maybe a little more)."

**Luisa Matthynssens (ED):** Luisa likes F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Head and Shoulders*, about "a young genius and a dancer who challenges his intellectual life that is void of fun. They go on to get married and their roles of brains v. body are reversed."

Finally, **Robin Sagel (MC)** Robin reminds us of a pair of everyone's favorites. "There are several I like, but one I've always been fond of was *The Lady or the Tiger?* by Frank Stockton. It's about the king's daughter and a young man falling in love, and the king sending the suitor into the arena to choose one of two doors and meet his fate. It's a real 'cliffhanger' and thus its dear place in my heart. And of course, if you want to discuss Christmas stories, who can beat *The Gift of the Magi*, by O. Henry? I think most people know that one, so I won't give a synopsis. I do love a heroic tearjerker!"



## Not Too Ghoul To Be True

Hello, kiddies. It's your favorite Creepy Uncle, the Shah of ShelfLife, the Mullah of Marketing, here to make his annual visit inviting you to take part in the *Oklahoma Gazette's* Halloween Parade as part of the MLS contingent.

Every October the MLS Maladjusted Miscreants put on tasteful Halloween costumes (it's tasteful if it isn't totally cover with blood—like the tortured soles of Linda Hyams' shoes—or if it is covered with brains—mmm, very tasty) and represent the library system in this new Halloween tradition that's fun for the whole family. The Manson Family, that is.

The parade is Saturday, October 27th, and the gang will need help from 5-9pm. Details about theme and costume will be decided after our application has been finalized. Or after the Gazette committee that examines the applications has been finalized, whichever comes first. Per parade rules, no one under 18 is allowed to participate. You are responsible for your own costume. And bail.

If you are interested in being one of our Monstrous Marchers, our Sanguinary Steppers, our Pulse-Pounding Paraders, our – oh, forget it -- contact Dungeon Mistress Emily Williams in Outreach. For more information about the event and the parade route, check out <http://okgazetteparade.com/ghouls/home.html>

Your supervisor must approve this and it counts as part of your regular work schedule. If you have any trouble with getting permission, just let us know. Vee haf vays uf letting you walk.



### • MYSTERY PERSON •

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

<b>Fave Music:</b>	Elton John; Christian; TobyMac, Mandisa
<b>Fave Movie:</b>	<i>Courageous</i>
<b>Fave Sports:</b>	Volleyball
<b>Fave Vacation:</b>	San Antonio as a kid
<b>Fave TV Show:</b>	<i>Top Gear</i>
<b>Fave Food:</b>	Italian
<b>Fave Season:</b>	Spring
<b>Fave Hobby:</b>	Computers
<b>Fave Pets:</b>	6 dogs and 1 cat
<b>Fave Social Network:</b>	Facebook
<b>Fave Smart Phone App</b>	Netflix
<b>Current Repeat song on iPod:</b>	<i>Lose My Soul</i> , by TobyMac
<b>Special Skills:</b>	Computers, Spanish

**What profession would you be in if you were not working at MLS?** Teacher.

*Answer on page 7*

## STAFF PROFILE Fingerprints

Janet Bowen, BE circ, loves her family and dotes on her four granddaughters. "I love being Grammy. It is great to see the world again through their eyes."

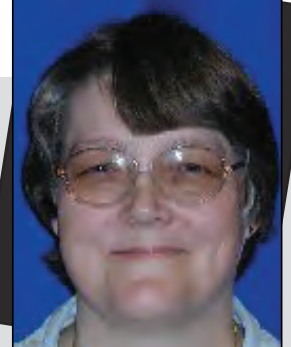
She also has four sons and a husband, two dogs and a cat.

Janet likes to quilt, sew and read after work hours. "I love Clive Cussler, Janette Okes, and any good murder mystery-but not gory. My favorite movies are *The Goonies*, all the *StarTrek* movies, *Hildago* and *Independence Day*.

Community to Janet is her church "It is my earthly anchor. I am active in my church, First Baptist Of Bethany."

Janet's bucket list "is to visit every state in the U.S and I only have 12 more to go." She knocked off Alaska on a recent cruise.

Janet's been with MLS for 13 years and says "I like the variety in my job. No two days are the same."





## The ShelfLife Quiz:

### We Don't Need No Education

Yeah, and we don't need no thought control or dark sarcasm from our supervisors, either. (This Pink Floyd Moment has been brought to you by My Wasted Youth.)

But seriously, comrades, some people apparently don't need formal education for success, as evidenced by a list of writers who dropped out of school (sometimes college) and then went on to get rich and famous and win Pulitzer Prizes and stuff.

Take a look at the lists below. One is a list of big shot authors and the other is a list of the jobs they took when they dropped out (if they got one) and the age at which they did it. Match 'em up correctly and you, too, can be a winner.

#### The Authors

1. Charles Dickens
2. William Faulkner
3. Jack Kerouac
4. Harper Lee
5. Jack London
6. Bernard Shaw
7. Mark Twain
8. H.G. Wells

#### The Descriptions

- a. Dropped out of Columbia University during freshman year
- b. Became a self-taught student at age 14
- c. Worked at a bank at age 15
- d. Became a draper's apprentice at age 11
- e. Worked in a boot blacking warehouse, age 12
- f. Dropped out of the University of Alabama during junior year
- g. Became a printer's apprentice at age 12
- h. Became an oyster pirate at age 10

**Bonus question:** In a ten-page single spaced essay define, explain, and discuss the life of an oyster pirate. On second thought, don't bother

Answers on page 7

## The Best of the Worst

Long-time readers of ShelfLife—it takes some people three weeks to finish reading a single issue, and others don't finish it all—know that annually and unfailingly (when we remember it) we bring you the results of the Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest. The competition is for the worst opening line of a non-existent novel, named in honor of the Victorian novelist who penned the memorably mediocre first sentence, "It was a dark and stormy night."

Here are a couple of my favorites from the 2012 contest, followed by the winner. For more literary masochism, check out the official website at: <http://bulwer-lytton.com/>

Milton's quest for the love of Mrs. Bradley was a risk but no sorry trivial pursuit yet he hadn't a clue why she had a mo-

nopoly on his heart's desires—in fact, it boggled his mind and caused him great aggravation because, in his checkered and troubled careers, he had always scabbled hard and it drove him bonkers that considered life just a game.

*Linda Boatright, Omaha, NE*

Tucked in a dim corner of The Ample Bounty Bar & Grille, Alice welcomed the fervent touch of the mysterious stranger's experienced hands because she had not been this close with a man in an achingly long time and, quivering breathlessly, began to think that this could be the beginning of something real, something forever, and not just a one-time encounter with a good Samaritan who was skilled at the Heimlich Maneuver.

*Mark Wisenweski, Flanders, NJ*

#### And the winner...



As he told her that he loved her she gazed into his eyes, wondering, as she noted the infestation of

eyelash mites, the tiny deodids burrowing into his follicles to eat the greasy sebum therein, each female laying up to 25 eggs in a single follicle, causing inflammation, whether the eyes are truly the windows of the soul; and, if so, his soul needed regrouing.

*Cathy Bryant, Manchester, England*





## HELLO TO

Brittany Schein .....	Circ Clerk, BE
Samantha Stacy .....	Library Aide, CH
Diana Booth.....	Library Aide, RE
Gary Stotler.....	Public Comp. Spc., CT
Phyllis Eagle.....	Library Aide, BE
Jake Dubberstein (rehire) .....	Library Aide, ED
Ajax Delvecki (rehire) .....	Assoc. Librarian, NW

## PROMOTION

Anne Hall .....	From PT Library Aide, NW, to HT, BI
Heather Kolopoulos .....	From PT Library Aide, to FT Tech Processor, TP

## TRANSFER

Kathy Marquis.....	From PT Librarian, LO, to HT Librarian, SO
Jennifer Choi .....	From HT Circ Clerk, WA, to FT Tech Processor, TP
Robyn Icks .....	From FT Tech Processor, TP, to PT

## GOODBYE

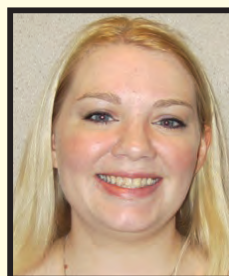
Mackenzie Stephens .....	Library Aide, LU
Rachel Allen.....	Circ Clerk, VI
Brian Buckley.....	Circ Clerk, NW
Roy Ballou .....	Employment and HRIS Mgr., HUM
Jacki Fulwood .....	Public Comp. Spc., MC
Krysta Hollis.....	Library Aide, NW
Lisa Myers.....	Circ Clerk, VI
Adrienne Nolan .....	Circ Clerk, DN
Emily Green .....	Library Aide, SO
Cindy Frazier.....	Library Aide, WA



*Brittany Schein*



*Samantha Stacy*



*Diana Booth*



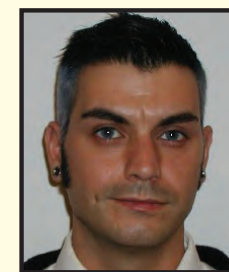
*Gary Stotler*



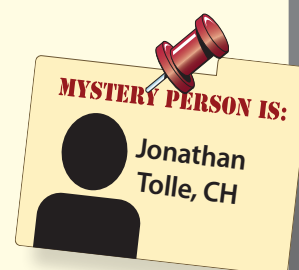
*Phyllis Eagle*



*Jake Dubberstein*



*Ajax Delvecki*




## The ShelfLife Quiz:


### Answers

1 = e	4 = f	7 = g
2 = c	5 = h	8 = d
3 = a	6 = b	


# October Bulletin Board




## Employee's October Date-of-Hire



JIMMY WELCH	10/22/1970
FRANCIE PENDLETON	10/9/1972
RUBY SOUTIERE	10/1/1978
STEVEN JENKINS	10/5/1987
REGINA FIELDS	10/4/1993
CYNTHIA MARTIN	10/1/1998
LINDA HOLMBERG	10/22/1998
RONDIA BANKS	10/4/1999
LISA BRADLEY	10/22/1999
PATSY GLOVER	10/16/2000
TODD OLBERDING	10/1/2001
STEVEN ISAACS	10/1/2001
SUSAN HUTCHINS	10/7/2002
JONATHAN TOLLE	10/11/2002
MELISSA WEATHERS	10/28/2002
ROSEMARY STAFFORD	10/4/2004
SHELDON BEACH	10/5/2004
JESSICA LITTLE	10/12/2004
WENDY GABRIELSON	10/13/2004
ERICA RUTLAND	10/21/2004
KRISTIN WILLIAMSON	10/25/2004
PATRICIA ORTIZ	10/26/2004
KATHRYN HATFIELD	10/3/2005
JEROD GERFEN	10/23/2006
LILY WANG	10/26/2006
HARRY HOANG	10/27/2006
CAROL OVERTON	10/11/2007
MICHAEL OWENS	10/6/2008
DREA GATES	10/7/2008
KATHRYN SHEESLEY	10/8/2008
CHRIS KENNEDY	10/20/2008
PHILLIP BELT	10/5/2009
MATTHEW	
LOGO-FALEPOUONO	10/5/2009
MALLORY WEIGL	10/19/2009
CARA KOSZARA	10/6/2010
SAM JOHNSON	10/18/2010
MARY JANE HALL	10/18/2010
MELODY KELLOGG	10/3/2011
RONI ANDERSON	10/4/2011
TODD PODZEMNY	10/17/2011
RICHARD MAXWELL	10/19/2011
KRISTIN KENNELLEY	10/21/2011



## October Birthdays



LINDA TEMPLE	10/1
SHELDON BEACH	10/1
ELIZABETH BROWN	10/3
LISA MYERS	10/4
JEROD GERFEN	10/4
TRACEY THOMPSON	10/6
STACEY O'NEIL	10/6
BARBARA BEASLEY	10/7
KRISTIN WILLIAMSON	10/7
ERIN BEDFORD	10/7
MARK MARSHALL	10/8
STAN TAUCER	10/8
LAVETTA DENT	10/9
JOHN BLEVINS	10/10
CHERYL COLEMAN	10/11
DEBORAH MORRIS	10/11
MYRA DOVER	10/13
SHARON THOMPSON	10/14
ROGER BANKER	10/14
JOSHUA WELLS	10/15
FANNIE HARSHBARGER	10/16
LORI PICCOLO	10/16
CHRIS LARWIG	10/17
MARY LONG	10/17
MARY MCELROY	10/18
RONDIA BANKS	10/18
ANTHONY EDWARDS	10/18
MARYL BAIRD	10/19
ERIN YOUNG	10/19
PAULINE	
RODRIGUEZ-ATKINS	10/20
WARREN ANDERSON	10/21
J.R. DAY	10/22
MALLORY WEIGL	10/22
MATTHEW	
LOGO-FALEPOUONO	10/23
BRYAN SMYTHE	10/24
REBECCA MASON	10/24
CARLA CORMACK	10/25
KELLIE DELANEY	10/25
JENNY BODENHAMER	10/28
HEIDI PORT	10/30
KASSIE ELSTEN	10/31
MARIAN MCPHERSON	10/31





## November Bulletin Board

### November Birthdays

SELMA ZUHDI	11/1
ANGELA THORNTON	11/2
KAREN STRANGE	11/2
KRISTIN KENNELLEY	11/3
RICHARD MAXWELL	11/4
KELLEY RIHA	11/4
EDITH DANIEL	11/5
LINDA HOLMBERG	11/5
CATHLEEN KELLEY	11/6
CHERYLL JONES	11/7
ALEXANDER HINTON	11/7
SHARON NELSON	11/9
LARINDA CROSSLAND	11/9
LOVINIA NICHOLS	11/10
FELICIA HAYES	11/11
MATTHEW EVANS	11/11
MARGARET COLLINS	11/11
SHARON JORSKI	11/12
MARY HALL	11/12
RANDY KNUTSON	11/13
STACY SCHRANK	11/13
SHANELLE JACKSON	11/14
DENISE RYAN	11/15
TERI REDENBAUGH	11/16
DONNA MORRIS	11/16
KAREN CASEY	11/18
LIGEIA CHAMPION	11/19
LISA BRADLEY	11/19
TARYN KINGERY	11/21
BREANNA BOLTON	11/22
CATHY WEBB	11/22
RONI ANDERSON	11/22
NANCY DRIVER	11/24
HEIDI WELLS	11/25
KELLEY CHEEK	11/25
DESTAVIE ELLIS	11/25
LORI MULLOOLY	11/26
PHYLLIS DAVIDSON	11/26
LISA COKER	11/27
BEVERLY WILLIAMS	11/27
GATLIN SULLIVAN	11/28
PRESTON BELL	11/30

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

DANA MORROW	11/5/1979
RANDY WAYLAND	11/16/1982
DENYVETTA DAVIS	11/22/1982
PERRY WILSON	11/16/1984
PAULINE RODRIGUEZ-ATKINS	11/4/1985
PRESTON BELL	11/25/1986
SALLY PHILLIPS	11/21/1995
DEBRA JACKSON	11/4/1996
KELLEY RIHA	11/13/2000
DARRIE BREATHWIT	11/20/2000
ELIZABETH KESSLER	11/20/2000
DAVID FRENCH	11/15/2001
CHERYL COLEMAN	11/4/2002
JOHN UTLEY	11/4/2002
SERINA FREEMAN	11/26/2002
LISA COKER	11/10/2003
LINDA ELSTON	11/24/2003
PETER ROBERSON	11/24/2003
LINDA HYAMS	11/24/2003
ALICIA RUZYCKI	11/24/2003
STACEY O'NEIL	11/23/2004
SALLY GRAY	11/7/2005
TULIN LAFOLLETTE	11/15/2005
LOIS CROSS	11/28/2005
DEVON MCDANIEL	11/28/2005
KAELI DUNN	11/5/2007
BRANDON ROSE	11/5/2007
KAREN STRANGE	11/3/2008
LISA HEINRICH	11/3/2008
DONNA ADAMEK	11/5/2008
SHARON NELSON	11/13/2008
HEIDI BOOKOUT	11/29/2010
JEFFERY CAMPBELL	11/1/2011
PAULA TRAN	11/2/2011
ERIN BEDFORD	11/14/2011
GALAXIA-DAWN SUBA	11/14/2011
SALLY MCCURRY	11/14/2011
JANEAL WALKER	11/14/2011
BEVERLY WILLIAMS	11/14/2011
JENNIFER CHOI	11/14/2011
JEREMIAH STEVENSON TITSWORTH	11/14/2011
CATHERINE HAGAR	11/28/2011