



November 2012

ShelfLife

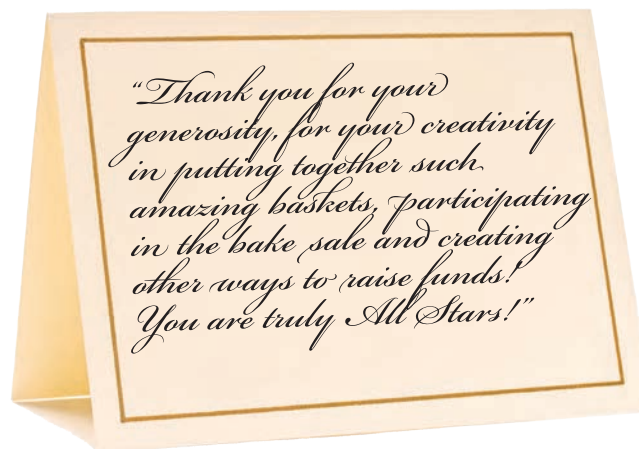
STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

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A Big Thanks From the United Way Committee

The MLS United Way Committee has reason to be proud of the way staff responded to the 2012 United Way Drive. The goal for the campaign was a little over \$21,000 and staff ended up pledging **\$22,200**, \$3000 of that being raised at FOCUS alone.



When life is going well for us as individuals, it's easy to overlook the hardships of others. Sometimes it takes something as huge as a hurricane to remind people that there's a big world out there and it's full of folks who need a helping hand. Thanks for reaching out.

Still Doing It Wright

You know that old maxim about big things coming in small packages? Did you know that that expression was originally created to describe Wright Library? Well, it should have been.

Marie Nichols and **Erika Onarsee**, on behalf of WR, have once again been recognized by the Stockyards Main Street Association at its annual meeting by receiving the Association's "Design Element of the Year" 2012 award. The certificate was presented to Marie on October 24 by the president of the SYMS board of directors, David Egan and SYMS executive director, Ms. Cookie Hill.



Erika Onarsee



Marie Nichols

With all the well-deserved brouhaha surrounding the revitalization of the downtown area, Oklahoma City shouldn't forget its past as symbolized by Stockyard City (which is included in the book *1,000 Places to See in the U.S.A. & Canada Before You Die* by Patricia Schultz) and one of the brightest jewels in its crown, Wright Library.



Ghouls Gone Wild Parade

On Saturday, October 27th, the library gang headed to Downtown for the Ghouls Gone Wild parade that lasted from 5-9pm. The library staffers chose a Gnomes and Elves theme this year.

Although a couple of Gnomes looked a little scary it didn't seem to taint their popularity. They must not have scared too many people—the group received a huge round of applause.



The Gnomemobile



Gnomes carrying the MLS banner



Garrett Young



Lloyd Lovely



First row: Outreachers: Mary Sholly, Emily Williams and Lisa Wood, CH: Jana Hausburg, Second row: CH: Jennifer Jones, BI: Anna Todd, Wright: Erica Onarsee Back row: Zac (Jennifer Jones' boyfriend). BUS: Lloyd Lovely, DN: Garrett Young, Anna Todd's Brother, Security: Spoticus (Linda Hyams), DN: Kim Edwards and Chelsea House.

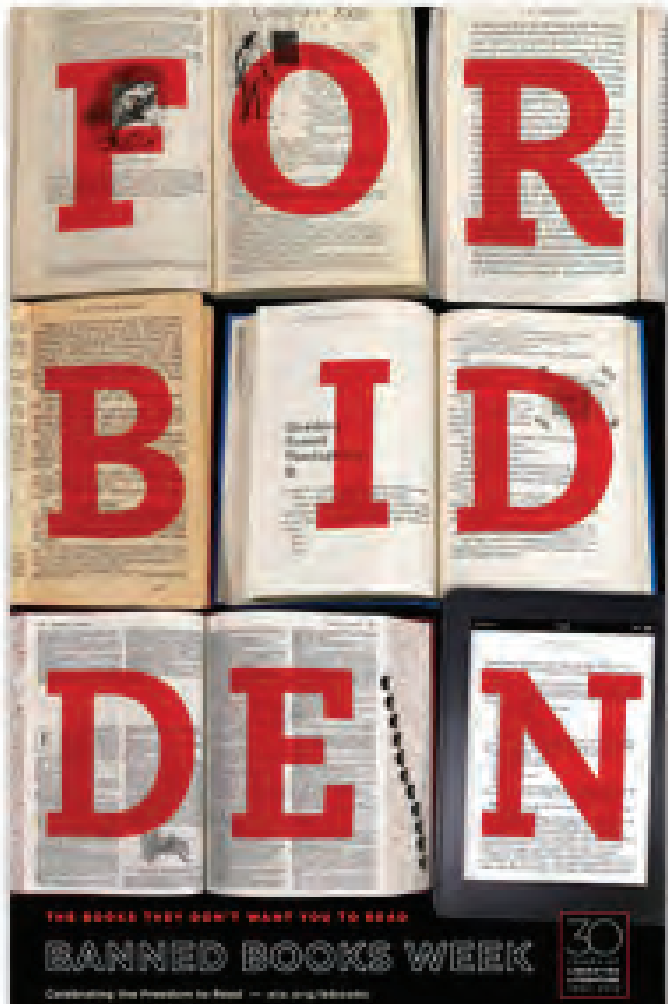
They'll Do It Every Time Dept.

Banned Books Week created a small Hurricane Sandy in a teacup at Northwest Library, where one of the American Library Association posters commemorating the event was on display. **Stacy Schrank** informed us that a customer didn't appreciate the poster, but for the wrong reason, seeing in it a message that wasn't intended by the library staff.

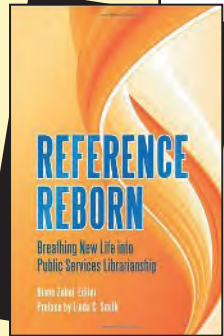
The customer read the sign incorrectly as saying For Biden and was angered at the library for displaying such a blatantly partisan political poster.

It was an honest mistake, but amusing none the less.

ALA poster highlighting Banned Books Week.



Lending Library: *Reference Reborn: Breathing New Life Into Public Services Librarianship*



Edited by Diane Zabel

Editor Diane Zabel, the Louis and Virginia Benzak Business Librarian at the Schreyer Business Library, Penn State University, and one-time president of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of ALA, has put together an anthology of over two dozen essays on developments and trends in reference and public services librarianship.

Many customers might think that librarianship is the one profession that never changes (since all you do at work is read all day long—urggh!), but the truth of the matter is that technological advances and the economic downturn have done as much to change libraries as Gutenberg did to change publishing. The trick is finding ways to expand and enhance public services by embracing what the book calls “a more user-centric philosophy.”

“Today,” Zabel writes, “it’s not unusual for librarians to also serve as trend trackers, data analysts, project managers, IT troubleshooters, marketers, and staffing specialists.” Our customers, she adds, have new needs and expectations. The essays also address outreach initiatives, the migration from print to e-reference collections, staffing 21st century libraries, and more.

Library Journal says Reference Reborn is “essential for public service librarians—academic and public, both veterans and new to the profession—and for students or potential students in information science. Highly recommended.”

Building a Reading City: Midwest City

November is NaNoWriMo. No, that's not Robin Williams' catch phrase from "Mork and Mindy." Write it out in full and it's National Novel Writing Month, during which potential writers are encouraged to write a complete 50,000 short novel in 30 days. (Or maybe 50,000 words of a novel to be completed later.) Midwest City Library celebrates it every year with their "Come Write In" program so we thought we'd ask the staff at MC to let us know what they're reading in November. Their responses cover the waterfront from classics to steampunk. Take a look.

Jerod Gerfen is reading an anthology of short weird fiction edited by Ann and Jeff VanderMeer called, appropriately enough, *The Weird: A Compendium of Strange and Dark Stories*.

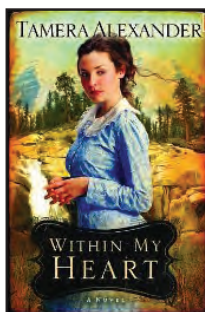
"As noted explicitly in the subtitle, this book is a collection of, well, strange and dark short stories. The type of tale found in this anthology is one that doesn't quite fit into the standard horror genre, but often proves to be psychologically unsettling all the same. If you are looking to get creeped out but are tired of the whole vampire, zombie and shapeshifter fare, this book is definitely worth your while."

Joshua Jordan is taking a peek at a children's book.

"Here's my cheezy-to-the-max ShelfLife submission: *When Blue Met Egg* by Lindsay Ward. Snuggle up with your little one and join two unlikely friends for a wintery romp through New York City. When Blue meets Egg one icy afternoon, a friendship is kindled—but then an unexpected turn of events threatens to ruin everything. Will Blue and Egg's friendship blossom, or will it be thawed out? Find out in this snowy adventure."

Robin Sagel is indulging in a little comfort reading.

"I'm currently reading *Within My Heart*, the third book in the Timber Ridge Reflections series by



Tamera Alexander. It's an inspirational novel about life in a small mountain town in Colorado in the late 1800s, centering on a small group of people and their trials, tribulations, and personal relationships. I could tell you more, but I'll just say the whole series has been good, very enjoyable if you would like some light reading with no objectionable content."

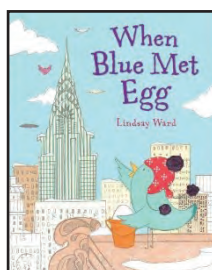
Linda Temple takes us back to Tsarist Russia.

"After 40 years, I'm re-reading *Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy and am finding it surprisingly enjoyable and readable—all 900 pages of it. Sometimes described as one of the best books of all time, it has been made into a movie with a November release date. This sweeping novel touches on human frailties, strengths, and foibles, as well as realistically depicting the times in which it is set. I highly recommend this great book."



Tracey Thompson challenges the MC Librarians to beat the novel she's reading, *Phoenix Rising: A Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences Novel* by Pip Ballantine & Tee Morris.

"It's a steampunk adventure in which daring deeds are afoot. Agent Eliza D. Braun, a ravishing daredevil with a penchant for dynamite, and Agent Wellington Thornhill Books, Esquire, a librarian with an encyclopedic mind, must save Britain from a dire fate. It is a fast paced tongue-in-cheek novel."





New Arrangements in Human Resources

- General HR questions
Call **Kassandra** at #3739
- Recruitment questions & needs
Call **Elizabeth** at #3746
- General benefit (FMLA, W/C or Leave)
questions? Call **Denise** at #3742
- Benefit plan assistance & questions?
Call **Kelley** at #3743

Lori Piccolo, our new Director of Human Resources, has reorganized the roles and responsibilities of staff. The recent departure of Roy Ballou made it possible to shift staff duties. Lori wrote, "I am pleased to inform everyone that there are exciting changes taking place in the Human Resources Department. We have been reorganizing in order to continue to improve the effectiveness of the HR function here at MLS. In doing so, we've also

changed some phone extensions. The information above will help you quickly get to the person you might be looking for:

Office space assignments have also been altered so next time you're at DN and on the third floor, drop by to see who is where.

Lori offered to answer questions so please feel free to give her a call at 606-3741.



• MYSTERY PERSON •

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

Fave Music:	Civil Twilight
Fave Book:	<i>The Chaos Walking Trilogy</i> by Patrick Ness
Fave Movie:	<i>Scott Pilgrim Vs the World</i>
Fave Sports:	Speed sleeping
Fave Vacation:	Visit family in Chicago
Fave TV Show:	<i>Naruto</i>
Fave Food:	Mexican
Fave Season:	Autumn
Fave Hobby:	Old school muscle cars
Fave Pets:	Soon-to-be-born Wolf
Fave Social Network:	Facebook
Fave Smart Phone App	Angry Birds
Special Skills:	To charm:), learning, & combat

Do you have a 'Bucket List' and what's at the top of it?
Visit Japan and have custom blade forged.

Answer on page 7

STAFF PROFILE *Fingerprints*

Mary Long, cataloger for MLS for two years, worked at Pioneer for nine years in various positions. "Yes, I've always worked in libraries. I started shelving books when I was 17 and haven't looked back!" As for working at MLS, Mary said "I appreciate how organized and efficient MLS is."

Mary's favorite books are the Harry Potter series and *Ender's Game*. Her other free time is devoted to genealogy and her church. "I'm active at my church and am involved in the food pantry there."

An outside activity is hiking. "I love to go hiking and take trips to National Parks."

One of Mary's best trips happened this year. "I got married this summer and we went on an Alaskan cruise for our honeymoon. We got to take lots of skiff tours, go kayaking and bushwacking, and we saw lots of brown bears and humpback whales. It was wonderful!"

Her future retirement looks similar to her life now.

"Being a snowbird I'd like to have a summer cabin in the woods in Estes Park, Colorado and come back to Oklahoma in the winter."





The ShelfLife Quiz:

A Hardboiled Dictionary

Every so often we get into a conversation about the disadvantages of using library jargon when dealing with our customers—should we say “circulation” or “check out”? Most, and maybe all professions have their own unique vocabularies. As a fan of hardboiled and noir literature, I’ve picked up on some of the slang heard on the mean streets of the 1920s and ’30s, at least as used in fiction. See if you can figure out the meanings of these words and terms. (The easy ones are still familiar today.)

The Words

1. Behind the eight-ball
2. Get the bum’s rush
3. Butter and egg man
4. Chicago typewriter
5. Close your head
6. Duck soup
7. Go climb up your thumb
8. Gooseberry lay
9. Meat wagon
10. Muggles
11. Orphan paper
12. Pearl diver
13. Wooden kimono

Definitions

- a. Easy; a piece of cake
- b. Go away; get lost
- c. Bad checks
- d. To be kicked out forcibly
- e. Ambulance
- f. Man with the bankroll; a yokel ripe for the picking
- g. Shut up; be quiet
- h. Marijuana; reefers
- i. Coffin
- j. In a tight spot
- k. Machine gun
- l. Stealing clothes from a clothesline
- m. Dish washer

Answers on page 7

My 6,128 Favorite Books

Observations from Joe Queenan’s *One For the Books*

Humorist Joe Queenan can be pretty annoying. When he starts in on people he doesn’t like, he takes no prisoners, and the chip on his shoulder is often as big as a California redwood. Here are some brief excerpts from his latest book about books and reading, which as of this writing was on order for MLS.

“I started borrowing books from a roving Quaker City bookmobile when I was 7 years old. Things quickly got out of hand. I had no way of knowing it at the time, but what started out as a harmless juvenile pastime soon turned into a lifelong personality disorder.

“I absolutely refuse to read books that critics describe as ‘luminous’ or ‘incandescent.’ I never read books in which the hero

... roots for the New York Yankees. I once spent a year reading nothing but books I picked off the library shelves with my eyes closed. The results were not pretty.

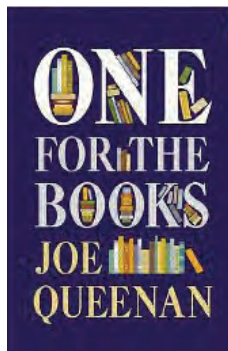
“Winston Churchill supposedly read a book every day of his life, even while he was saving Western Civilization from the Nazis. This is quite an accomplishment, because by some accounts Winston Churchill spent all of World War II completely hammered.

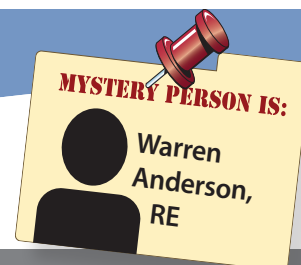
“I think of “obsessive readers” as dissatisfied customers. If you have read 6,000 books in your lifetime, or even 600, it’s probably because at some level you find ‘reality’ a bit of a disappointment. No matter what they may tell themselves, book lovers do not read primarily to obtain information or to while away the time. They read to escape to a more exciting, more rewarding world. A world where they do not hate their jobs, their spouses, their governments, their lives.

“This is how I feel about my favorite writers. If you are an old man thinking of taking early retirement, read King Lear first. Take lots of notes, especially when the gratuitous blinding of senior citizens starts in.

“I do not speed-read books; it seems to defeat the whole purpose of the exercise. Unless paid, I never read books by or about businessmen or politicians; these books are interchangeably cretinous and they all sound exactly the same: inspiring, sincere, flatulent, deadly.

“People who need to possess the physical copy of a book, not merely an electronic version, believe that the objects themselves are sacred. Some people may find this attitude baffling, arguing that books are merely objects that take up space. This is true, but so are Prague and your kids and theistine Chapel. Think it through, bozos.”





HELLO TO

Katherine Etzkorn.....	Public Comp. Spc., NW
Eric Rothwell	Library Aide, DN
Meaghan Hunt Wilson	Librarian, ED
J.J. Blair	Assoc. Librarian, ED
Dee Cannon.....	Library Aide, VI
Jammie Flaherty	Library Aide, ED
Elizabeth Gould.....	Library Aide, VI
Priscella Seeds	Library Aide, WQ
Dochelle Whitley.....	Public Comp. Spc., RE
Stephen Boulden.....	Public Comp. Spc., CH
Matt Kilgore.....	Library Aide, NW

PROMOTION

Elizabeth Kessler	From HUM Spc. to HUM Coordinator, HUM
Kassie Elsten	From Library Aide, NW, to Circ Clerk, ED
Judi Bates-Newberry	From Library Aide, to Circ Clerk, NW
Chelsi House.....	From .75 to FT Circ Clerk, DN
Reagan Cloiber	From Library Aide, to FT Circ Clerk, DN
Lori Mullooly	From PT to FT Mat Sel Tech

TRANSFER

Jean Johnson	From FT to PT Librarian, ED
Jessica Minter.....	From Circ Clerk, to Library Aide, WA
Sam Johnson.....	From PT to HT Librarian, MC
Shanelle Jackson.....	From Circ Clerk, DN, to VI
Sara Noriega	From Library Aide, VI, to SO

GOODBYE

Chris Sanz.....	Library Aide, MC
Rosa Summers	Library Aide, MC
Amy Chaney	Mat. Sel. Tech., MSL



Katherine Etzkorn



Eric Rothwell



Meaghan Hunt Wilson



J. J. Blair



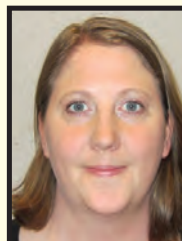
Dee Cannon



Jammie Flaherty



Elizabeth Gould



Priscella Seeds



Dochelle Whitley



Stephen Boulden



Matt Kilgore

The ShelfLife Quiz:

Answers

1 = j	6 = a	11 = c
2 = d	7 = b	12 = m
3 = f	8 = l	13 = i
4 = k	9 = e	
5 = g	10 = h	

To Linda Jameson, DC, whose sister, Diana Laurent, passed away Oct. 21.



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

December Bulletin Board

Employee's December Date-of-Hire

DOUG BENTIN	12/26/1985
ROSEMARY RYDEN	12/3/1996
AHAD MARAND	12/1/1997
JOAN KENDALL	12/20/1999
AMY UPCHURCH	12/29/1999
SHARON THOMPSON	12/11/2000
DIANE RICE	12/23/2002
REGINALD WALKER	12/30/2004
RICHARD ANTONISSE	12/12/2005
JOSHUA LEWIS	12/4/2006
KELLIE DELANEY	12/4/2006
DENNIS DELANO	12/3/2007
GRANT YOKLEY	12/5/2007
SHARON YOUNG	12/17/2007
AMY LAMINSKY	12/8/2009
LORI MULLOOLY	12/14/2009
KASANDRA DEWBRE-BURROWS	12/14/2009
JACOB DUBBERSTEIN	12/11/2010
LENARD WARD	12/13/2010
KATHRYN TRATTNER	12/13/2010
MOLLY WILLS	12/1/2011
TAYLOR HORN	12/5/2011
SUSAN BURT	12/5/2011
ERIN YOUNG	12/12/2011
SHAE MITINE	12/12/2011
PATRICIA MORGAN	12/12/2011
JEVON DOOLIN	12/12/2011
ALEISHA PHILLIPS	12/12/2011
GARRETT YOUNG	12/12/2011
TIMOTHY ROEMER	12/12/2011
STEPHEN GO	12/12/2011
JESSICA BENNETT	12/29/2011

December Birthdays

CORY NIEBANK	12/1
CAROL OVERTON	12/1
CHRIS CARROLL	12/1
RACHAEL KNIGHT	12/1
KIM RICKEY	12/2
ALAN SIAVASHI	12/3
JEREMY TITSWORTH	12/3
JENNIFER JONES	12/5
KIMBERLY NELSON	12/5
ROBERT FLORES	12/5
AMY LAMINSKY	12/6
CHARLEEN MILLER	12/6
JO NITA WHITE	12/7
JOSHUA RUSSELL	12/8
SHAE MITINE	12/8
DEB MONTGOMERY	12/9
KARI FOX	12/10
VICTORIA DIXON	12/10
JAIME HACKWORTH	12/11
ALICIA RUZYCKI	12/12
FAYE HORN	12/12
JOSHUA JORDAN	12/13
HANNAH BETHEL	12/14
PAULA PENROD	12/14
VANDA COLE	12/14
ROSEMARY CZARSKI	12/18
JULIE HENRY	12/19
ROBERTO SOTO	12/19
SUSAN BECKETT	12/20
CASEY PATTILLO	12/21
DUSTIN CHANDLER	12/21
REGINALD WALKER	12/21
ANGELA SANDERS	12/22
DOUG BENTIN	12/22
JENNIFER ADKISSON	12/22
REGINA COBERLEY	12/22
TERI WOOLEY	12/22
LYNDSIE ENGLAND	12/23
BRETTE HOLLY	12/24
DEVIN DAWSON	12/24
JON VODKA	12/24
EMILY CANNIFF	12/27
MARY TAYLOR	12/27
KIM EDWARDS	12/28
PHIL TOLBERT	12/28