



December 2012

ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

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Willkommen, Bienvenue, Welcome

Aaron Bluit has joined the MLS family as Assistant Director of Library Operations, one of whose essential job functions is to "plan, coordinate and direct the general operations of the Extension libraries."

After meeting several staff members since he came on board on November 12, Aaron expressed his eagerness to get started on the job this way:

"I've had the opportunity to meet a good number of our employees this week, either virtually or in person. I was able to hear some of your stories and learn about what you do for our libraries and the people we serve. I can't thank you enough for the warm welcomes, your hospitality and your invitations to meet or to have lunch. If this week is any indication of what's to come, I have lots of positive things to look forward to. (See) what a big smile you all put on my face. Now that's happy. It is truly a blessing and a privilege to join THIS library system with THIS group of people."

Aaron, we're glad to have you with us. Welcome.



A Tip of the Hat



VI Circ Clerk **Shanelle Jackson** passed along to us a nice compliment she received on behalf of **Jana Hausburg**, Manager of Capitol Hill. For a number of years now Jana has been one of *info* magazine's book reviewers, taking on a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction genres.

VI customer Louise Andeel wrote, "I'd like to put *Falling for Eli* on reserve. I saw it in your *info* magazine. You be sure to tell that Jana lady that she has a great writing style. The way she described the book made me want to read it for sure. Good job!!"

If you'd like to get in on some of this reviewing action, it's easy enough to do. Send an email to dbentin@metrolibrary.org for more information.



Time to Make a New Friend!

In the past, requests for Friends of the Library funding of library projects could be submitted only during a specific time period, but that was then and this isn't. Now, applications are accepted all year long, so if circumstances kept you from seeking a FOL grant before, you must be full of good ideas that need some financial support.

FOL is soliciting "wish list" requests now. Take a look here <http://my.metrolibrary.info/drupal/news/friends-library-funding-opportunities-new-wish-list-process> for advice and guidance. Call 3761 with questions.

Briefly, it works like this:

1. Manager or other staff member contacts **Diane Sarantakos**, Director of Development, at 606-3761 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 discussion with Library Operations will help determine whether this is a project that can be pursued at this time.

- a. 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.
- b. If No, Diane will contact the requesting staff member and manager to discuss why this is not a request that can be considered at this time.
- c. Go ahead and ask. What have you got to lose?

You, Taxes and MLS

By now you've probably heard so much about the state questions on the last ballot that you're sick of them, but just in case you haven't found out what they mean to MLS, here is an explanation from Deputy Executive Director/Finance and Support **Lloyd Lovely**. Lloyd explains it all clearly and succinctly.

"You've heard that all the state questions were approved, and that two of those questions were related to property taxes, which supply the Library's revenue. The effect of these tax cuts on the Library won't be fully known until next August, and won't take effect until next year's budget (FY 2013-14), but here's my best guess at this point:

"1) State Question 758:

This lowers the yearly cap that tax on any given property can increase. From 1995 until now, we have operated under a 5% cap, now it will be lowered to 3%. It is still possible that our yearly revenues could be higher than 3%, because of new properties being added, or because of existing properties being sold and consequently re-assessed to the selling price (we will hope that property values climb and that lots of people buy and sell real estate so that their property will be re-assessed to market value!).

"2) State Question 766:

This change will eliminate intangible property* from the tax rolls. No one seems to know for sure how much intangible property is currently being taxed in Oklahoma County, but we're fairly sure this will have a distinct impact on the Library.

"My best guess at this point is that the changes will lower the total property valuations by about the same amount that values would have risen otherwise. Therefore, our next year's budget should not include an increase or a decrease in expense dollars overall. I expect that we will be postponing any large expenses for a year or so, after which time we hope to have absorbed this setback."



Supervisors can discuss all this at the next X-change meeting on December 3.

*Wikipedia defines intangible property as "something which a person or corporation can have ownership of and can transfer ownership of to another person or corporation, but has no physical substance. It generally refers to statutory creations such as copyright, trademarks, or patents. Generally, ownership of intangible property gives the owner a set of legally enforceable rights over reproduction of personal property containing certain content. For example, a copyright owner can control the reproduction of the work forming the copyright, but the book in which the copyrighted material is printed is personal property which can be bought and sold without concern over the rights of the copyright holder."



Halloween Photos from Capitol Hill

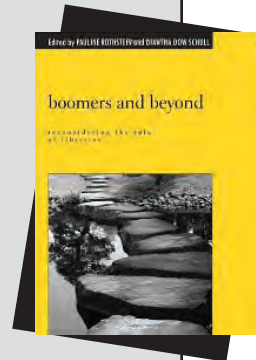


Participants in the Cat. Tech Proc. Halloween picture.
Cara Koszara (TP), **Ursula Ward** (CAT), **Heidi Johnson** (TP),
Jenny Bodenhamer (CAT), **Heather Kolliopoulos** (TP), and **Jill Vessels** (CAT).



Costumed staff at CH. **Glenn Webb**, **Laura Moody**,
Jennifer Jones and **Jana Hausburg**.

Lending Library: *Boomers and Beyond: Reconsidering the Role of Libraries*



By Pauline Rothstein and Diantha Dow Schull

If you need proof that the population of America is aging, just look around. Not only are baby boomers now reaching retirement age, but people are generally living longer. There is a need to better understand and support this relatively active stage of life that follows the phase of traditional work and family life. This volume offers essential concepts and current statistics on this growing population segment and explores opportunities for meeting the needs of older adults through library services. We may be carrying our official Geezer Cards, but we're not quite ready to hang up our spurs permanently and we look to our library, among other places, for the same reasons we looked there all along—for help in finding the information we need, the support we want, and the opportunities to continue to grow.

Pauline Rothstein has a Ph.D. from Fordham University, and an M.L.S. from Pratt. She has had a long career as a practicing librarian in special and academic libraries, specifically as Dean of the Library for Ramapo College and librarian for the Russell Sage Foundation. Diantha Dow Schull established DDSchull Associates to provide advisory services to libraries, museums and foundations on program development, organizational planning, grant making and fundraising. Formerly she was President of Libraries for the Future (aka Americans for Libraries Council) where she designed and directed the Lifelong Access Libraries initiative and other national library development programs.

Building a Reading City: Just for Fun

You know them as the MLS staff who volunteer to write reviews for our monthly magazine, but the info gang also reads a lot just for fun. Not everything gets reviewed—some books are of limited interest, some are not owned by MLS, and some just aren't worth it. We asked the info reviewers to let us know what they are currently reading that they have no intention to review. Here are their responses.

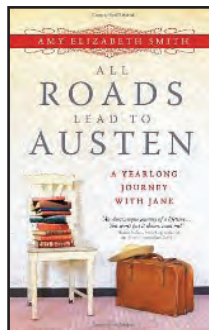
Marilyn Backus (MS): I found an old historical book online, eyewitness accounts of the author's friendship with Lincoln when he was a postmaster, then a lawyer, *Early Pioneers and Pioneer Events of the State of Illinois* by Harvey Lee Ross. The year after he first met Lincoln, about the time of the Blackhawk War, the author at age 16 rode his horse 20 days roundtrip to rescue his 8-year-old cousin who was just orphaned in the "Lead Mining Country" of northwest Illinois. That orphan was my great-great-great grandfather.

Christine Bassett (BE): *London: Portrait of A City* by Reuel Golden. (It weighs over seven pounds and is written in English, French and German.) I absolutely love this book as it captures London's social history so well. One of my favorite photos is of a traffic jam on Westminster Bridge of the early horse drawn omnibuses. Things don't change!

Doug Bentin (MaC): I'm currently taking a slow stroll through *Death on the Cheap: The Lost B Movies of Film Noir* by Arthur Lyons. In my geezer-years, film noir has become my favorite movie viewing but not all the pleasure comes from the recognized classics. Fans cannot live by Double Indemnity alone. Lyons provides short introductions to hundreds of the cheapo quickies that fell through the cracks.

Phyllis Davidson (DN): In the car, I'm listening to *Angel Sister* by Ann Gabhart. During the Great Depression, 14-year-old Kate is struggling to keep her family together in spite of her father's alcoholism. Help arrives in the form of a dirty, abandoned little girl who thinks Kate is an angel sent by her mother from heaven.

Jana Hausburg (CH): *Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter*, by Seth Grahame-Smith. What if the Civil



War wasn't about states' rights and slavery after all?

Hotels, Hospitals and Jails: A Memoir, by Anthony Swofford (author of *Jarhead*.) This book makes me happy that my one and only published work was never picked up by Hollywood and made into a "major motion picture event" (or I'd be knee deep in drugs and disease by now).

All Roads Lead to Austen: A Yearlong Journey With Jane, by Amy Elizabeth Smith. It's a cliché, I know, but I love *Pride and Prejudice* (and especially Mr. Darcy) and apparently so do women in Mexico and South America. This is the story of a traveling book club, hosted by an English professor, who is curious to see if Austen's novels resonate with Latin American readers. Fun!

Lloyd Lovely (BO):

I recently read *Mark Twain's Civil War*, a fact and fiction book of stories about Mark Twain's civil war experiences (which lasted all of two weeks). The book is not in our system. It was interesting, though.

I'm currently reading (infrequently) *Bill Bryson's At Home*. I've liked Bryson's other books, but either I've tired of him or his penchant for excruciating detail doesn't work well when describing common, household objects, because I find this book gawd-awful boring and I'll never be able to finish it. And another book I just finished but can't recommend is a new one - *Custer* - by Larry McMurtry. Poorly written. Maybe he wrote it in a hurry, perhaps for a quick money fix.

Ruby Soutiere (MS):

My "guilty pleasures" often involve food. So, I love to read cookbooks, even if I never make a recipe from the book.

The last cookbook I read was *In the Kitchen With David* by David Venable. He is the host of a weekly cooking/food show on the shopping network QVC. He is not a thin man, and his cookbook involves what many people call comfort food--mac and cheese, deviled eggs, buffalo chicken, and desserts galore. I did actually try a couple of his recipes, and I am happy to report that his artery-clogging mac and cheese recipe is fabulous!



A Feast of Reading



So Thanksgiving dinner is in the past (at least for 2012) and it's time to start thinking about what to cook for Christmas. Here are 12 suggestions drawn from favorite works of literature, one for each of the 12 Days of Christmas, with nary a partridge or pear among them. Bon appétit, readers.

Day 1: Butter beer (from the Harry Potter series)

Day 2: Half a loaf of pumpernickel bread
(*Sophie's Choice*)

Day 3: New England clam chowder
(*Moby-Dick*)

Day 4: Gibleet soup (*Ulysses*)

Day 5: Steamed dumplings (*The Joy Luck Club*)

Day 6: Garleek, oynons, and eek lekes
(*The Canterbury Tales*)

Day 7: Boeuf en Daube (*To the Lighthouse*)

Day 8: Roast goose (*A Christmas Carol*)

Day 9: Roast beast (*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*)

Day 10: Madeleine cookies
(*Remembrance of Things Past*)

Day 11: Cupcakes (*The Corrections*)

Day 12: Turkish delight
(*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*)



And, of course, any day is a good day for fava beans and a nice Chianti (*The Silence of the Lambs*).

STAFF PROFILE Fingerprints

Jacson Melvin, public computer and AV specialist, has worked at MLS since March 2011.

"Reading, computer programming, building computers and collecting comic books are a few of Jacson's off-time activities. The reading part includes his favorite book *Ender's Game*.

"The book that had the most impact on my life was, *Inventing Western Civilization* by Thomas C. Patterson. It makes you think critically about everything we take for granted. It was a real eye opener for me.

Jacson is also active physically. "When I lived in

California, one of my friends had a great idea for a birthday present for me. He woke me up at 4AM and we drove to Big Bear. We got there about the time the park opened. We skied until about 2pm. Then we drove down the mountain and back to the beach where we surfed until the sun went down. That was an amazing day. Also, I can say that I have skied and surfed on the same day."

At the library Jacson says he loves the atmosphere. "There are so many books and so many ways of getting books that I could feed my reading addiction forever. The people I work with are wonderful, helpful, and knowledgeable. Every interaction with a customer is a learning experience and I love to learn new things."



MYSTERY PERSON

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

Fave Music:	Brit pop, Celtic, Classical
Fave Book:	Mysteries, <i>Where the Sidewalk Ends</i> , and <i>The Zoo Where You're Fed to God</i>
Fave Movie:	<i>Transformer</i> and <i>Mummy</i> movies
Fave Sports:	Football, basketball, World Cup Soccer (plays basketball & fences)
Fave Vacation:	Scotland (been 4 times) & Vancouver
Worst Vacation:	Losing luggage when arriving in London, then flight was cancelled back to NJ, spent the night in the airport w/no food places open
Fave TV Show:	<i>Bones</i> , <i>NCIS</i> , <i>Grimm</i>
Fave Food:	Pad Thai
Fave Season:	Fall
Fave Hobby:	Sleeping
Family:	Husband, son (20 mths) step daughter (age 8)
Fave Pets:	Cats and dogs
Repeat Song:	<i>Underdog</i> by Kasabian
Special Skills:	Plays multiple instruments and does competitive Irish dancing

What profession would you be in if you were not working at MLS? Visl would be a scientist and study the affects of the arts on the brain.

Do you have a 'Bucket List' and what's at the top of it? No bucket list, but would love to see the Kansas Jayhawks basketball team play at the Allen Field House.

Answer on page 7



The ShelfLife Quiz:

That's What You Think

You know what they say about opinions. Well, it's true, but some opinions stand the test of time better than others. Here are excerpts from early negative reviews of 10 books now considered classics. See if you can match the review to the book under discussion.

The Reviews

1. "It is no discredit to the author that he wrote [title of book], only that he did not burn it afterwards."
2. "[This book] appears to have been written by a perverted lunatic who has made a speciality of the literature of the latrine...and it dwells appreciatively on things that sniggering louts of schoolboys guffaw about."
3. "Seriously, I do not know what to say of this book except that it seems to point to the final blowup of what was once a remarkable, if minor, talent... The characters have no magnitude and no meaning because they have no more reality than a mince-pie nightmare."
4. "How a human being could have attempted such a book as the present without committing suicide before he had finished a dozen chapters, is a mystery. It is a compound of vulgar depravity and unnatural horrors."
5. "This [author], he's a short story guy. And he knows how to write about kids. This book though, it's too long. Gets kind of monotonous. And he should've cut out a lot about these jerks and all that crummy school. They depress me."
6. "[The author] deserves a good shaking. Here is an unmistakable talent unashamed of making itself a motley to the view with an absurd story, whether considered as romance or melodrama."
7. "It is trashy and vicious, no better in tone than the dime novels which flood the blood-and-thunder reading population..."
8. Its author is like a brilliant painter who decides to throw all the ideas in his sketchbooks onto one canvas, relying on their charm and shock to compensate for the lack of design..."
9. "If there are any of our readers who wish to find examples of bad rhetoric, involved syntax, stilted sentiment and incoherent English, we will take the liberty of recommending to them this precious volume."
10. "There are two equally serious reasons why it isn't worth any adult reader's attention. The first is that it is dull, dull, dull in a pretentious, florid and archly fatuous fashion. The second is that it is repulsive."

The Books

- A. *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov
- B. *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- C. *Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman
- D. *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
- E. *Absalom, Absalom!* by William Faulkner
- F. *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller
- G. *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- H. *Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville
- I. *Ulysses* by James Joyce
- J. *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

Answers on page 7



HELLO TO

Theresa Porter	Public Comp. Spc., WA
Bethany Magley	Library Aide, VI
Barbara Calhoun	Library Aide, BI
Averi Lee	Library Aide, MC
Aaron Bluit	Asst. Dir, LO, LO
James Chappell	Library Aide, NW
Sabrina Little Axe.....	Librarian, DC
Patricia Jones	Library Aide, NW
Kerry Burrows (rehire).....	Ext. Spc., LO

PROMOTION

Richard Maxwell.....	From Library Aide, to Public Comp. Spc., VI
Kevin Sendall.....	From Circ Clerk, CT, to Ext. Spc., LO
Sharon Nelson	From Library Aide, SO, to Circ Clerk, WA

TRANSFER

LaVetta Dent.....	From VI to AL, Manager of LO I
Shaina Wells.....	From HT to FT, Circ Clerk, VI

GOODBYE

Tera McAmis	Library Events Coord., DN
Deborah Morris	Library Aide, VI

SYMPATHY

Deborah Montgomery, SO, whose husband Danny passed away Wednesday, Nov. 14 after a long illness.

Better Safe . . .

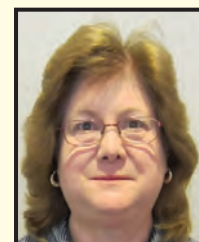
Hey, this is just a quick note to remind you that 4th quarter Safety Training is due in December. If you attended one of the FOCUS sessions that counts as Safety Training but you haven't turned in your form yet, don't forget. If not, you still have to train for 30 minutes. So get to it!



Theresa Porter



Bethany Magley



Barbara Calhoun



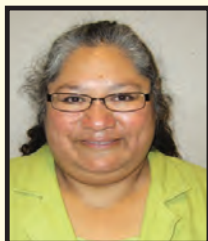
Averi Lee



Aaron Bluit



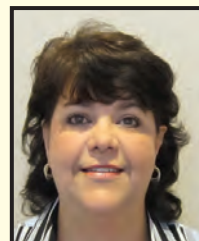
James Chappell



Sabrina Little Axe



Patricia Jones



Kerry Burrows

MYSTERY PERSON IS:



Devin
McGhee,
DC

The ShelfLife Quiz:

Answers

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

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



January Bulletin Board

January Birthdays

BETSY DAVIDSON	1/2
CHELSEI HOUSE	1/2
LAURIE MACK-CLARK	1/2
ASHLEY MEYER	1/3
JERRY NANCE	1/3
GARY STOTLER	1/3
BLACEY TURK	1/3
RANDY WAYLAND	1/4
URSULA WARD	1/5
RENA GIBSON	1/6
MICHAEL LEE	1/6
JULIA MCCONNELL	1/6
PATRICIA JONES	1/7
DENISE LUKES	1/7
SALLY PHILLIPS	1/7
REBECCA SPENCER	1/7
CAROL MOODY	1/8
WANDA LITTLE	1/9
JEVON DOOLIN	1/10
LILY WANG	1/10
PATRICIA WHISENHUNT	1/10
PETER ROBERSON	1/12
RICHARD ANTONISSE	1/14
STEVEN JENKINS	1/14
MARGARET MANNERS	1/14
JUSTIN HERWIG	1/15
ANNE MOTLEY	1/15
JESSICA BENNETT	1/16
ALEISHA PHILLIPS	1/16
DAVID SCHULER	1/17
PRISCELLA SEEDS	1/17
TODD OLBERDING	1/18
BEVERLY PHILLIPS	1/18
MENDI SUMTER	1/18
JOYCE JACKSON	1/19
JOE POE	1/19
GLENN WEBB	1/19
RANDALL MYSTER	1/20
DANA BEACH	1/21
JOHN HILBERT	1/21
WILLIAM HAMMACK	1/22
KATHY MARQUIS	1/22
JOSHUA LEWIS	1/24
JESSICA MINTER	1/24
NGOC NGUYEN	1/24
STANLEY OLIVERAS	1/24
LAURA WINTERS	1/24
JOAN KENDALL	1/26
ROBYN ICKS	1/29
ALEXANDRA MCLELLAN	1/29
SUSAN MONROE	1/30
JENNIFER CHOI	1/31
ALICE FIELDING	1/31
LLOYD LOVELY	1/31

Employee's January Date-of-Hire

CAROL PROVINCE	1/6/1975
KATRINA PRINCE	1/6/1985
NANCY LYTLE	1/22/1985
SYLVIA LAWSON	1/24/1989
ERIC KING	1/9/1990
JAMES NIMMO	1/18/1993
MARIE NICHOLS	1/5/1994
GREGORY BENNETT	1/21/1997
DENISE LUKES	1/5/1998
TIMOTHY FISHER	1/26/1998
BUDDY JOHNSON	1/26/1998
LISA WALKER	1/26/1998
VICTORIA DIXON	1/26/1998
KATHY FRITSCH	1/27/1998
CHRISTINE BASSETT	1/25/1999
TIMOTHY 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
BETH STEELMAN	1/18/2005
JONATHAN WILLIS	1/4/2006
JONITA NORMORE	1/4/2006
LYNDA 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
DEBORAH AUSTIN-MUNDIN	1/14/2008
ADELAIDA HERERIAS	1/28/2008
KIMBERLY CLARK	1/12/2009
DEBORAH MCPHERSON	1/26/2009
MICHAEL LEE	1/29/2009
SIOBHAN MORAVA	1/11/2010
MELISSA WALKUP	1/11/2010
NANCY DRIVER	1/3/2011
RISA WHITE	1/26/2011
DAVID GROW	1/27/2011
IAN FULLER	1/26/2012