

# ALL-STAR



# EDITION

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The newsletter of your 2012 MLS United Way Campaign!

## Did You Know?

12 or so years ago the United Way and Bank of America joined forces to create a community mobilization to assist parents in getting children ready to learn before they entered school. During those early years we began to learn about how the brain begins its rapid growth at birth and attains 90% of its development by the end of age 3. All nonprofit groups serving families in Oklahoma came to the table. Today we have partnerships that were begun in those early years and are still thriving. We work together to assist our children and families grow and learn and build a better community.

Because of all this new information, the library began to incorporate this information into the programs we provide. This collaboration is the reason you see what we offer to parents and children today. Those programs include Baby Lapsits, Toddler Aerobics, 123 Play with Me, Mother Goose on the Loose. All of these programs affect brain development and assist in reading and school readiness for children.

Some of these programs have now been adopted by 2 of our largest school districts, Oklahoma City Public Schools and Putnam City Schools for their parents and young children from birth to five.

All of this happened because United Way and Bank of America knew something needed to be done to assist our struggling children and parents. A call for action was put to the community and the community stepped forward to band together in solving these issues. I am proud to say that the library was one of those community organizations that stepped forward and is still stepping forward.

(contributed by Dana Morrow  
– thanks Dana!)



## There's a Cupcake in my Packet

Cupcakes in hand, the United Way committee members have been out and about distributing the packets for this year's campaign! So let's cut right to the chase! If you have already dug into your packet, you should have discovered the smattering of things inside of it!

There's a pledge card and envelope, a flyer/letter, and a bookmark! A lot to look at! All of this is everything you need to be an active participant in this year's campaign! And well, if you feel like something in the packet is missing or just plain confusing, drop any of the United Way Committee members a line and we'll get it figured out!

As we made our way around, our one goal was to spread the good news for this year's campaign and give you the information and supplies you need to be a part of it! So, if you saw any of us out at your location, let us know what you thought at [jrday@metrolibrary.org](mailto:jrday@metrolibrary.org)!



## EARLY (TO) BIRD?

## EARLY TO PRIZE?!

The early bird gets the worm, right? Or is it the prize? Or is a worm the prize?! Now that you're thoroughly confused, we should remind you that getting your pledge in during the Early Bird Campaign that starts Friday (Sept 14-20) and qualifies you for the chance to win some great prizes!

ALSO - Denise from the Business Office would just like to take a minute to remind you that in order to qualify for the Early Bird Prizes, your pledge form must be in her hands **by 2:00 on Thursday, September 20th!** That means, for those of you sending your pledge form via the delivery drivers to Downtown, you must remember that it can take **up to 2 days** for it to get here, depending on which agency you are located at! So be sure to send those pledge cards early and avoid the competition with time. I hear he's quite the competitor!

## I'M A BASKET CASE...

Do you have your basket idea yet? You do, huh? Well, listen up then!

Every year we see so many unique and creative baskets and we are looking forward to that again this year! We already know we have some of the most talented and creative people anywhere, so let's see it!

Remember that all your goodies need to fit inside your basket and baskets are due to Mary @ Downtown by September 25th! Don't forget about the bake sale, either! We love cookies, cakes, candies, and all things wonderful!

If you have any questions Mary or Candace will be happy to answer them too! Just send 'em an email or call Mary at 606-3719 or Candace at 606-3728!

### Remember!

There are only **24** pay periods when figuring your donations (not 26!)

### How About That?!

United Way returns 86% of your donations directly to their partner organizations!

## Important dates for you to remember:

- September 14-20: Early Bird Campaign
- September 21: Early Bird Prize Drawings
- September 21-October 8: Campaign and Prize Drawings
- September 25: Baskets due to Mary Sholly @ DN
- October 8: FOCUS!