

OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11, NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1997

Adult Programs Announced

FINANCIAL PLANNING, a series of three informative programs, kicks off the winter season of adult offerings. The series will be held on three successive Wednesdays in January.

Economics and You is the opener at 7 p.m. January 15. Paul Ranieri will be the speaker. He will discuss "What, how and why does the Federal Reserve system operate," "What makes the stock and bond markets go up and down" and "How do these economic events affect me?" Ranieri is an experienced teacher currently conducting classes at Northwestern University, Triton College, Moraine Valley Community College and College of DuPage. He has a broad background in the area of economics and finance based on personal experience in securities trading, investment and academia. He is able to present complex and confusing subject matter in an easy-to-understand format.

Retirement Investment Strategies, specifically designed for senior citizens, is the topic for the second series program, 7 p.m. January 22. Stephen McCormick and Jerry Schmitt, representatives of Wilmarc Financial Group, will talk about methods to determine if income taxes are over paid each year. They will delve into the topic of whether investments are designed to outpace inflation. Participants will learn how to increase the return on their investments while reducing the tax bite on social security income. Handouts will be distributed.

Investment Planning for Women is the last of the series, 7 p.m. January 29. This program addresses women's concerns and needs. Janet Beutler, representative of Prudential Securities, will conduct the seminar. She notes that at some time in their lives, nine out of ten American women will be — or already are — solely responsible for their own finances. This session is educational and does not promote specific companies or products. Beutler has been certified by the National Center for Women and Retirement Research to present this program. Beutler has been a financial advisor for seven years and has had advanced studies in Investment Management Consulting. Prior to her consulting work she was a teacher. A valuable handout will be distributed to participants.



Staff members discuss "Cultural Awareness in the Library" as part of their participation in Staff Inservice Training Day, December 6. From small discussion sessions, staff members brought conclusions and questions back to Dr. Henry Allan, consultant, who was leading this inservice segment. Other subjects of the day were coping with stress, knowing the community, stress relief with Tai Chi and learning about internal library functions.

SUNDAY WITH FRIENDS SERIES: RIGHT OF WAY BAND/THE BIG BAND SOUND will get the year going in style, 2 p.m. Sunday, January 18. This talented music group has entertained library audiences several times and each show is better than the last. Those who like to sing, dance and tap their toes to the music of the 30's and 40's will not want to miss this event sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Seating in the lower level meeting room B is on a first-come, first-served basis to room capacity of 100. Library doors open Sundays at 1 p.m.

LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING, a program sponsored by the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation, will provide a follow-up to the earlier January series. An overall approach to financial planning and investing is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, February 6.

Details of this presentation will be released during January. Watch local newspapers and flyers in the library.

(Continued on Page 4...)

Internet Access Now Available

Now available are two public computers with access to the Internet through Netscape Navigator. Users may view graphics and text and may print or download files. One public Internet access computer is located in the Reference Department. This is limited to patrons high school age and up. Users are limited to 60 minutes per day. The other public Internet access computer is located in the Youth Services Department and is limited to youth patrons through age 14. Users are limited to 30 minutes per day.

Generally, library staff will provide very limited assistance. Users must have basic computer skills including the ability to use a mouse. Many books concerning Internet and Netscape Navigator are available for checkout. In addition, the library subscribes to several periodicals which can be requested at the Periodicals desk.

Information on Internet is retrieved from sites around the world. (Only the Oak Lawn Public Library Home Page, 205.231.41.66 or LIB.OAK-LAWN IL.US, is provided and maintained by the library.) The library has no control or responsibility for the accuracy of the information. It may be outdated, controversial or incorrect. The library will not impose any censorship on patrons' use. The entire responsibility of identifying, evaluating and avoiding "offensive" information rests entirely with the patron. E-mail is not available.

Complete copies of guidelines, procedures and policies regarding the use of the Internet are available on request.

Reference Adds Dictionary of Art

A recent addition to the reference collection is the *Dictionary of Art* from Grove's Dictionaries, Inc. This multi volume set examines civilizations, cultures, artists, theories, materials, techniques and styles from around the world. Indeed, chief editor Jane Turner sought to include representative material from every modern country in the world. The only visual art form not included is the history of film making.

The British publishing firm set out in the early 1980's to present a comprehensive account of the "history of all visual arts world wide, from prehistory to the present." The result is a 34 volume, 25 million-word *Dictionary*. A team of 50 editors compiled 41,000 articles written by 6,700 contributors. Almost half of the articles are biographical entries which range in length from a paragraph to several pages with topical coverage from art legislation to the Bronze Age of Zygouries.

Unfortunately, the one drawback to an art work of this size is that there are only black and white illustrations. At a current price of \$8,800, color illustrations would have priced the set out of the market for all but a very few.

The library is confident that the *Dictionary of Art* will be as valuable an art source as its companion title, *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* in the music reference collection.

Introducing....



Ann Stovall

Ann comes to Oak Lawn from the Calumet City Public Library where she had worked for more than ten years. During that time she went to Columbia College, Chicago, and earned a BA degree. After graduation she became a full-time library employee, a paraprofessional reference interlibrary loan librarian. She began her advanced studies in library science at Indiana University. In her final year at Calumet City, she was Technical Services department supervisor until her graduation with an MA in library information and science.

At Oak Lawn, Ann is periodicals and homebound services librarian.

Library Automation and Technology

Two committees have been responsible for the development of technology at the Oak Lawn Public Library. The Technology Committee, led by Director James Casey, began in December 1992. This committee still meets when there is a need. That committee obtained the consultant to help with the development of a Local Area Network (LAN). It obtained proposals for the LAN, developed a position description for a LAN Manager and created the Automation Committee.

The Automation Committee, organized in June, 1993, consists of library staff from each department. It meets twice each month in an advisory capacity to set the overall strategy for further development of the library's computer systems and to present specific recommendations for expenditure of budgeted resources for hardware, software and databases. This committee also established a budget to support the computer system including upgrades, replacements and overall maintenance. Policies, procedures and guidelines are developed by this committee and submitted for approval to the director and the board of trustees.

Members of the Automation Committee are Jim Baker, technical services; Linda Besbekos, administration; Al Fournier, maintenance; Rich Gast, LAN Manager; Bill Goodfellow, reference; Judith McMahan, youth services; Jill Morris, circulation; Mary Lynn Mysz, periodicals; Kathy O'Leary, reference. Past members are Susan Baird, patron services; Kathy Szott, administration; Chris Rusthoven, youth services.

The Home Page Development Committee consist of Rich Gast, LAN Manager; Margaret Hall, youth services; May Lynn Mysz, periodicals; Kathy O'Leary, reference; Linda Olsen, administration.

Director's Corner

Dr. James B. Casey

As we head into the new year and ever closer to the 21st century, most of us will be asking ourselves what skills and training will be required to compete in the new marketplace of goods and services. Not only are we concerned about our own ability to earn a living and cope with fast paced change, but we are concerned with that of children who will eventually succeed us. If there is one virtual certainty we can count on as we look ahead, it is that "the future will belong to those who prepare for it." Ambitious young students who are working hard to prepare for the challenges of the new millennium find that the public library is a strong and able ally.

The taxpayers of Oak Lawn have invested wisely and well in their public library. This library is not only a key intellectual pillar of the Southwest Suburban area, but an essential resource supporting lifelong learning for people at every age level — from preschoolers to senior citizens. Also important is the public library's essential role in support of formal education for youngsters from kindergarten through senior high school. To the 18 public and parochial elementary and high schools in Oak Lawn must be added the many home schooling situations in our community. The library is open seven days a week during the school year and four evenings a week to 9 p.m. providing service and access to library collections for thousands of young people whose school libraries are closed after classes are dismissed on weekday afternoons. Even students in colleges, universities or community colleges who are hard at work on term papers and research very often choose their public library to augment the resources found in academic libraries.

Less than four percent of the property taxes collected in the Village of Oak Lawn go to support the public library. When one considers the overwhelming importance of education in helping us meet the challenges of a new era and its ever increasing costs, the public library represents a very significant bargain and an extremely wise use of your hard earned tax dollars.

Community Display Cases

Two adjoining display cases are available for use by local community groups or individuals who wish to share special collections, handcrafts, special activities, creative works or other appropriate display material.

Reservations are accepted for a month at a time on a first-come, first-served basis. The cases are secured with locks to protect the exhibits. Applications can be picked up at the General Information booth, first floor, or the Public Relations office, lower level.

Ten display cases which can be used to mount photos, art work, handcrafts and other small items are available in the lower level hallway. Interested exhibitors should examine the cases before submitting requests due to the limited size. However, the cases are secure and track lighting highlights the exhibited material.

Youth Services Programs

(Note: Oak Lawn residents and students will be given first preference for registration. Each child's library card must be presented at the time of registration.)

Storyhours resume the week of January 13. Registration for **Preschool Storyhours**, ages three to five, and **Afterschool Storyhours**, kindergarten through second grade, opens January 20. Early registration is encouraged; sessions fill rapidly.

Toddler Time registration, a program for two-year-olds accompanied by an adult, opens January 2. The first session is scheduled for the week of January 20. There is a limit of 12 child/adult teams per class.

Drop-in Storyhours will continue, 10 a.m.-10:30 a.m. the first Saturday of each month for children ages three through eight. The program is for busy, on-the-go families so no registration is required. Parents must remain in the library during the storyhour.

Culture Club, third through sixth graders, will meet from 3:45-4:45 p.m. Tuesdays. The first session meets February 7. Registration opens Saturday, January 25.

Rumpelstiltskin, a production of the Children's Theater of Western Springs, will be presented at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, January 18. The play is open to children ages three through 12. Free tickets will be available at the Youth Services Desk beginning Saturday, January 4.

Traveling World of Reptiles, the Dave DiNaso exhibit, will visit the library at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 22. Young people ages four to 14 can pick up free tickets beginning Saturday, February 8 to see, pet and feed these exotic animals.

JUNIOR FRIENDS: A SPECIAL GROUP

The 1997 Junior Friends program of the Youth Services Department runs from January 14 through April 19. Students in grades seven through ten volunteer as members of the Junior Friends to help staff in the department. General duties include putting up displays, locating books on shelves, preparing name tags for programs, cleaning books, arranging magazines and assisting with special projects. There may be other opportunities to help with library programs.

Each member must attend the library once a week for one hour. This is the maximum time allowed to volunteer per week. Volunteers are asked to come Monday through Saturday during regular library hours and plan to finish at least one hour before closing time. Usually, volunteers come at a regular time each week.

There are many advantages to serving as a volunteer member of the Junior Friends. Volunteering looks great on job and school applications, and, in some cases, is required. Members get to know

where materials are located in the Youth Services Department and have an edge over classmates when it comes to homework assignments. Best of all, it is a fun way to meet new friends and spend time with old ones.

Registration, in person, begins January 2. Enrollment is limited to 15 persons. Volunteers are asked to attend an initial orientation meeting from 4-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 14. A thank-you celebration for those who have completed 12 hours of volunteer service is set for Tuesday, April 22.

Income Tax Forms

The library provides some of the basic federal and state income tax forms through April 15. They are furnished on a self-serve basis in the outer lobby of the Raymond Avenue entrance. Also available are tax forms in a reproducible format. These are placed near the copy machines for easy accessibility.

The most complete selection of federal tax forms can be picked up at an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) office. The closest is at 7601 S. Kostner, fourth floor, Chicago (Ford City Shopping Center).

IRS phone numbers for forms or assistance are;

-tax assistance: 1-800-829-1040

-order forms/publications:

1-800-829-3676

-recorded tax and refund information: 1-800-829-4477

Best times to call are at 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

State of Illinois tax forms can be picked up at 9730 S. Western Avenue, Evergreen Park. The phone number is 708-857-2300. Be advised, however, that assistance is given on a walk-in basis only.

House Call for Homebound

Oak Lawn residents who are homebound due to illness or physical disability may be eligible for Homebound Service. Librarian Mary Lynn Mysz and her staff can make arrangements to bring books to the homes of those who qualify.

For details, contact the library and ask for Homebound Services.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Oak Lawn Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding library accessibility should call the Administration Office 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven working days prior to the event.

Friends of the Library

A trip to Chicago Lyric Opera to see and hear an evening performance of **Turandot** sponsored by the Friends is set for Friday, February 21. The cost is \$45 for members; \$47 for others. This includes round-trip bus transportation from the library and reserved seats.

In person reservations will be taken from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. Thursday, January 9, in the library lobby, Raymond Avenue side. No reservations will be accepted prior to this date. If seats are still available following the in person session, they will be available on a first-come, first served basis from Genevieve Sobanski, 708-598-7971.

An opera lecture on **Turandot** will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 11, in the lower level meeting room B. A representative of the Lyric Opera volunteers will present background about the composer, highlights of the music and a look into the opera's story or plot.

The lecture is open to the public without charge.

Friends Discussion Groups

Titles for discussion by the Friends of the Library's book and short story discussion groups were incorrectly listed in a **Newsletter** last fall. Listed below are the correct titles.

January 22	<i>Elmer Gantry</i> by Sinclair Lewis
February 26	<i>Daisy Miller</i> and <i>The Beast of the Jungle</i> both by Henry James
March 26	<i>Custom of the Country</i> by Edith Wharton
April 23	<i>Felicia's Journey</i> by William Trevor
May 28	<i>Missing Joseph</i> by Elizabeth George
June 11	Party!

Library Board Members

President	Robert Honkisz
Vice Pres.	Marian Sullivan
Secretary	Lee Stein
Treasurer	Patricia Roberts
Trustees	Shirley Barrett Joann Buschbach Lois Gasteyer

The library board meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room, lower level. Meetings are open to the public.

(...continued from Page 1)

JOBS AND CAREERS WORKSHOP, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, February 15, will feature the two most requested job topics. Consultant Patti Bach will lead the first part of the program with *The Job of Searching for a Job*. Bruce Bloom will be featured in the second half of the workshop with *Successfully Marketing Yourself through Effective Interviewing Skills*. The group will meet in lower level meeting room B on a first-come, first-served basis. The program is open to the public without charge.

SUNDAY WITH FRIENDS SERIES: SKYLARKS MUSICAL REVIEW brings back another popular program, 2 p.m. Sunday, February 16. Library audiences may recall the colorful costumes, great voices and wonderful well-known music that this group presents. This is bound to be another "can't miss" event with the usual first-come, first-seated arrangement in effect.

COMING IN MARCH: Watch for details in the next *Library Newsletter*. John Lynn with his travelog "Footloose in Scotland;" an open mike "Short Story and Poetry Reading;" Sunday with Friends presentation of Forestview Express with Bluegrass and more.

Basic Sign Language Class

An adult Basic Sign Language Class will be offered from 10-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, February 1-March 8. Class size is limited to 25. The fee is \$20 which is non-refundable. Registration is available in person at the General Information Booth from January 21 to January 31 on a first-come, first-served basis.

A Certificate of Completion will be issued at the end of the course by the instructor for those who meet completion requirements.

The General Information Booth is open during regular library hours.

Speakers Bureau Service

Clubs and organizations that are looking for speakers for their group meetings are invited to contact the library's Speakers Bureau Service. A list of speakers who have asked to be included has been compiled for distribution. They speak on a wide variety of topics. Although some offer free services, others have a fee. The arrangements for a speaking date are made directly between the group and the speaker. The library does not serve as a broker in the process.

Speakers who are interested in being listed for referral are welcome. The list of speakers is maintained at the library and shared with groups on request.

For a list, listing or information, contact Mary Nelson, public relations and development officer, 422-4990.

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Director Dr. James Casey
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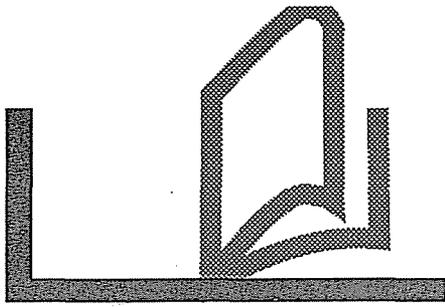
HOURS
Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day

Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 Raymond Avenue
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

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OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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MARCH/APRIL 1997

Stay Home And Read A Book Ball

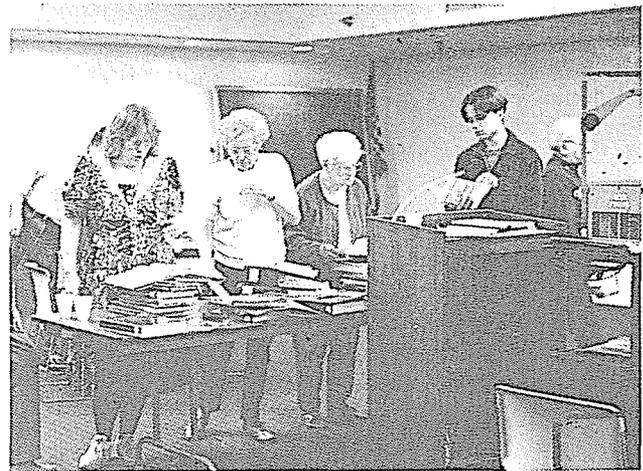
Area residents are invited to join in this unusual fund raising campaign of the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation, a volunteer organization dedicated to financially supporting the library. The project will be launched on Sunday, April 13, as a part of National Library Week.

What is a "Stay Home and Read a Book Ball"? It's a special event in which everyone can participate with very little effort. No need to buy a new dress, rent a tuxedo, hire a baby sitter, drive across town or downtown, eat rubber chicken, make small talk and get home late. Instead, participants can send a contribution to the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation. This automatically gives the donor permission to select a night of choice to stay home and read a book.

What a great opportunity to enjoy an evening at home and support a wonderful asset — the Oak Lawn Public Library. How much should one give? That's a personal choice. One way might be to add up what an evening "out" would cost and send that amount. Another way might be to total up the cost of the number of books, videotapes, cassettes and other services the library has provided and send that amount. Whatever the decision, the funds will be used for the Oak Lawn Public Library.

All of the funds collected will be added to the endowment fund. This fund will be a safeguard in ensuring the maintenance in the future of the high quality and standards of the library.

Additional information about the Foundation and the "Stay Home and Read a Book Ball" can be picked up at the library's Open House, Sunday, April 13.



Librarian Kathy O'Leary (left) explains some of the genealogy references on display at a recent library sponsored Genealogy Workshop. Family history studies have become very popular, and the library schedules workshops for interested patrons as often as the schedule permits.

Programs for Adults

Coming up in March and April — a variety of adult programs that are certain to please.

Footloose in Scotland with John Lynn is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, March 13. Lynn has developed an avid fan club in Oak Lawn based on his outstanding travelog presentations over the past few years. This colorful travelog of the best of Scotland includes its lowlands and its highlands, lochs and glens, history and culture as experienced during Lynn's 500-mile walk from the English border in the southeast to John O'Groats on the north coast. This is John Lynn's final leg of an end-to-end walking odyssey of Great Britain. In past showings, Oak Lawn audiences have had an opportunity to travel with him, not only on this whole journey but also throughout the United States. Seats will be at a premium for this program.

Poetry and Short Story Reading with an open mike is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, March 15.

(Continued on Page 4...)

Literary Research Available on Internet

The library's internet home page has a very special feature that is useful to students working on assignments in literary research. The important feature is a group of databases developed by library staff for the sole purpose of providing access to a large body of materials dealing with literature.

According to William Goodfellow, reference department head, the goal was to make available via internet a number of indexes specifically created to provide access to the library's large literature and literary criticism collection. This means that students can conduct much of their research from a remote site, whether it be in a school computer lab, library or their own home.

With one exception, these databases are designed to allow a user to search the library's collection of books and journals for the purpose of locating criticisms, discussions and explications, at least two pages in length, of individual literary works.

There are six literary criticism databases made up of over 30,000 individual records:

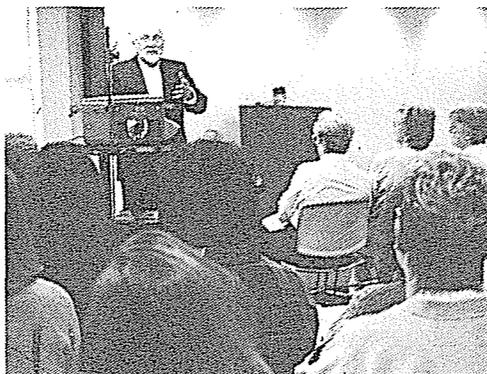
- Chaucer's Canterbury Tales
- Shakespeare's Plays
- Plays by Selected Playwrights
- Novels by Selected American Authors
- Novels by Selected English Authors
- Short Stories by Selected Authors

In addition, the program offers a geographic index to short stories by foreign (no American or English) authors which are found in the library's 4000 anthologies.

For those wishing to visit the library's home page, the worldwide web addresses are <http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us> or <http://205.231.41.66>. The literary indexes are located in the Local Database portion of the Reference and Information section of the home page. These databases are designed to be accessed by Netscape Navigator. However, other browsers will probably function as well.

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The Oak Lawn Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding library accessibility should call the Administration Office 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven working days prior to the event.



Dr. Henry Allan addresses an inservice meeting of the library staff on the topic of Cultural Awareness. Inservice training sessions help to keep the staff abreast of current events and technology, of trends in the library field, of positive approaches to daily activities and other appropriate training subjects.

Income Tax Forms

The library provides some of the basic federal and state income tax forms through April 15. They are furnished on a self-serve basis in the outer lobby of the Raymond Avenue entrance. Also available are tax forms in a reproducible format. These are placed near the copy machines for easy accessibility.

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Library Board Members

President	Robert Honkisz
Vice Pres.	Marian Sullivan
Secretary	Lee Stein
Treasurer	Patricia Roberts
Trustees	Shirley Barrett
	Joann Buschbach
	Lois Gasteyer

The library board meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room, lower level. Meetings are open to the public.

Director's Corner

Dr. James B. Casey

Our efforts to enhance the appearance and the efficiency of the library shall continue during 1997. We hope that you will notice big improvements as we move into spring and summer.

The carpeting in the heavily traveled public service areas of the library has needed replacement for quite some time. Now that the Village Green construction is over and the snows of winter are receding, we plan to replace the old carpeting with new, versatile carpet tiles. Because carpet tiles don't have to be rolled down, placing the squares in and around the stack areas should proceed smoothly and without the need to close the library. After the carpet tiles have been installed, we are confident that occasional replacements of squares here and there can be done on a regular basis without disruption of services.

Programs for adults and children held in the library over the past few years have been extremely popular and well attended. Some have attracted as many as 150 to 200 persons at one time. Inadequate air conditioning, cramped conditions and overflow crowds of patrons into the halls and adjacent rooms clearly indicated that our meeting room facilities were not keeping up with our programming success. The library is seeking \$80,000 in State Construction Grant money to help us with a major remodeling and an upgrading of the air conditioning for our Rotary and large meeting rooms. When the project is completed, both rooms will be usable as one combined facility with ample seating for as many as 250 persons at one time and vast improvement in our heating and air conditioning to the entire area. A folding wall will be installed enabling us to revert back to the two distinct meeting rooms, but with more space in each room and with significantly better lighting.

Be sure to visit the Library's home page — our electronic branch, <http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us>.

Community Display Cases

Two adjoining display cases are available for use by local community groups or individuals. Those who wish to share special collections, handcrafts, special activities, creative works or other appropriate display materials can pick up an application at the General Information booth, first floor, or the Public Relations office, lower level.

Reservations are accepted for a month at a time on a first-come, first-served basis. The cases are secured with locks to protect the exhibits.

Organizations celebrating special anniversaries or other observances might want to consider reserving the cases for displays to inform the public of their activities.

In addition, ten display cases which can be used to mount photos, art work, handcrafts and other small items are available in the lower level hallway. Interested exhibitors should examine the cases before submitting requests due to the limited size. However, the cases are secure and track lighting highlights the exhibited material.

From The Friends...

Friends of the Library, a non-profit library support group, on a regular basis arranges for educational and cultural bus trips and handles all of the library's book sales. This includes the ongoing book sale and annual book sale, usually held in June. Again this year, it will not be possible to hold the annual sale in June. Last year, construction of the Village Green and parking lots necessitated a late sale. This year, the library's meeting rooms will be closed for several months for complete renovation. Although a fall date has not been set, the public will be notified as soon as possible.

In the meantime, readers are urged to patronize the ongoing sale. We appreciate your support and your patience.

Executive Board

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library

Writers Invited

Interested writers are invited to join the Oak Lawn Writers Group in its ninth year of meetings. Barbara Schaff, professional writer and teacher, leads the library-sponsored group. It meets from 9:30 a.m. to noon, second and fourth Saturdays of each month.

Group participants vary in their interests and writing experience. Included are poets, lyricists and writers of short stories, genealogy, history, true stories and more. The meetings are informal with participation in readings, discussion and assignments. Currently, members of the group are working on a special event for the public to take place this spring.

Leader Schaff coordinates activities with the library Public Relations office. Registration is not required. There are no entrance or membership fees. Those with an interest are invited to join the group at one of its meetings.

HOT MIKADO Scheduled by Friends

A trip to Drury Lane South for dinner and a matinee performance of *Hot Mikado* has been scheduled for Thursday, April 10. The bus will leave the library at 11:30 a.m. for noon dinner and 2 p.m. show. Cost of the event which includes transportation, dinner and reserved seats is \$34 for members and \$36 for others.

Hot Mikado is a boogie-woogie adaptation of the famous Gilbert and Sullivan operetta. It swings with the sounds of the big bands of the 1940's. Set in the mythical kingdom of Titipu, it is a romantic and hysterical tale of mistaken identities and improbabilities with music akin to Benny Goodman.

First-come, first-served reservations will be taken from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, March 10, in the first floor lobby of the library near the Raymond Avenue entrance.

If any reservations remain after the in person sign up, they will be available by calling Genevieve Sobanski, trip chair, 708-598-7971.

Great Books Discussed

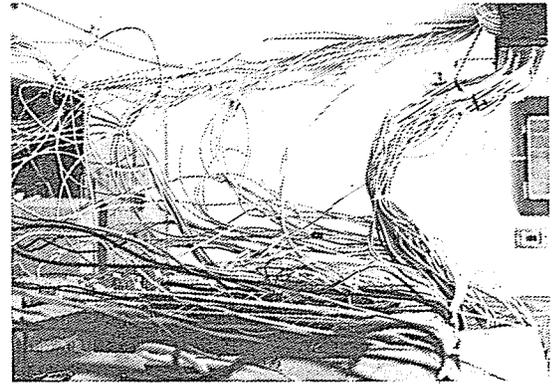
Spring topics for the Oak Lawn Library Great Books Discussion Group have been announced. The group meets from 6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. second and fourth Tuesdays in meeting room B, lower level.

The schedule is as follows:

March 11	<i>Principles of Government</i> by Montesquieu
March 25	<i>Canterbury Tales</i> Chaucer
April 8	<i>Agamemnon</i> by Aeschylus
April 22	<i>The Beast in The Jungle</i> by James
May 13	<i>The Prince</i> by Machiavelli
May 27	<i>The Death of Ivan Ilych</i> Tolstoy

Dr. Ernest Jaski coordinates the group which uses the "shared inquiry" method of discussion promoted by the Great Books Foundation. The purpose of the program is to discuss some of the greatest works of Western civilization.

Official registration to join the group is not required. Interested persons are invited to sit in on a session. For additional information prospective members should contact Dr. Jaski, 708-535-1997.



Can you guess what this is? Here's a clue. All of this is a necessary part of the library's participation in the "Information Super Highway." Here's another hint. The public uses this all of the time, but never gets to see it.

(Answer: These are some of the connections to the library's Local Area Network (LAN) which allow patrons full use of all library computer equipment.)

Attention, Program Chairpersons

Clubs and organizations that are looking for speakers for their group meetings are invited to contact the library's Speakers Bureau Service. A list of speakers has been compiled for distribution. The list includes a wide variety of topics. Although some speakers offer free services, others do have a fee. Groups can arrange for speaking dates directly with the speakers. The library does not serve as a broker in the process.

Speakers who are interested in being listed for referral are welcome. Only speakers who request a listing are included in the Speakers Bureau Service. The list of speakers is maintained at the library and shared with groups on request.

For a list or a request to be listed or other information, contact Mary Nelson, public relations and development officer, 708-422-4990.

House Calls For Homebound

Oak Lawn residents who are homebound due to illness or physical disability may be eligible for Homebound Service. Arrangements can be made with library staff to bring books to the homes of those who qualify.

For details, contact the library and ask for Homebound Services.

(...continued from Page 1)

Writers (and listeners) are invited to join the group for a morning with interesting and creative people. The meeting is divided into two sessions. All those who signed in at the door to read do so during the first session. Poets have five minutes; short story readers have ten. After a break, those who have not read can do so with the same time limitations. If time remains, readers can read for a second time. Light refreshments are available during the program. There is no advance registration.

Forest View Express, a Sunday with Friends Series offering, will entertain and delight the audience at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 16. Many will remember Forest View Express as the Rockin' Bluegrass Boys, the original name for the two young men who started this group and brought their bluegrass to the library a couple of years ago. Today the organization is comprised of five musicians: Tom Deuter, guitar; Jeff DeVries, mandolin, guitar and dulcimer; Phil Graniczny, bass; and John Thier, guitar. They all share lead and harmony vocals and trade solos and licks. Forest View just enjoys making music and having fun doing it. This promises to be a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

National Library Week (NLW) is the focus of April adult programming. The week will include an open house, music, special speaker and the kick off for a *Stay Home and Read a Book Ball*. (Read about this on page 1).

Ragtimist Bob Milne, who is returning by popular demand as part of the Sunday with Friends Series, will begin the NLW celebration at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 13. This exceptional musician has drawn overflow audiences for both of his previous appearances. He is one of the few

ragtime pianists in the country who makes his living with his music.

Library Open House will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 13, a cooperative effort of the Oak Lawn Public Library, Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation and Friends of the Oak Lawn Library. Refreshments will be served by members of the Library Foundation. The entertainment is sponsored by the Friends. Library departments will have special publications and activities for those who attend.

Dickens and the City of London, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, will trace some of the important areas of London in Dickens' life and work. Slides will be shown along with narration by Dickens scholar Linda Putnam. The program will focus on *Bleak House*, *Little Dorritt* and *Pickwick Papers*. These sites still remain to be seen in the heart of London. The audience will step into another century, into the world that inspired Charles Dickens. (This program co-sponsored by Patron Services and Public Relations.)

The Power of Birth Order: Youngest to Oldest will be discussed by special speaker Joan Murphy, 7 p.m. Thursday, April 17. This entertaining and light seminar will help the audience to understand the power of birth order by reviewing the characteristics of youngest, middle and oldest children. Family rank can have a life long effect on how and why people behave the way they do. The program provides an opportunity to examine sibling relationships, marriage partner selections and parenting styles. Speaker Murphy says that applying birth order knowledge can help people in their daily communication.

Joan Murphy, RN, PhD, is Director of Health Promotion Services at Little Company of Mary Hospital, Evergreen Park.

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Editor: Mary Nelson
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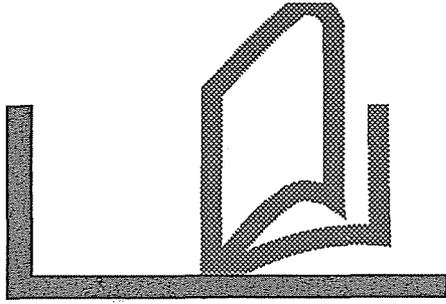
HOURS
Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day

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Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

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OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11, NO. 3

MAY/JUNE 1997

Kids Summer Reading Program Announced

A summer full of reading, programs, prizes and fun is ready for Oak Lawn students and residents, preschool through eighth grade. The summer reading program TEAM IREAD, in conjunction with the IREAD committee of the Illinois Library Association, will run from June 2 through August 8.

During May, librarians will be visiting Oak Lawn schools to promote the program. Students will be given bookmarks to remind them of summer library programs and activities.

Registration will begin June 2 at the Youth Services desk. Library cards must be presented at the time of registration. Those who register will get a bookmark to get them set for a marathon of reading.

Program participants register in one of three groups: *Relay Racers* — pre-readers who have someone read 20 books to them;

All Stars — readers through fourth grade who will read ten books on their own reading level;

Dream Team — readers in the fifth through eighth grade who will read five books at their own reading level.

The purpose of the summer reading program is to provide children with enjoyment in summer reading while maintaining reading skills during the long summer break. Prizes will be offered including buttons, plastic bags, pencils, stickers, medallions, flying saucers, wrist purses, sports caps and coupons from White Castle, Wendy's, McDonald's, Tenth Planet, Pizza Hut, Premo's, Hollywood Park, Burger King, Haunted Trails, Jr's Hot Dogs, Jupiter Ice Cream Parlour and Oak Lawn Park District.

Programs for a variety of age groups will be presented throughout the summer. Kids are invited to team up with the library for storyhours, games, puzzles, weekly drawings, book buddies, junior volunteers and special Friday offerings.



Youth Services librarians Margaret Hall and Brian Wilson get ready for the super summer ready program, TEAM IREAD, with tee shirts, caps, frisbees, wrist purses and pencils, only part of the awards for those who join the program beginning June 2. All young people, pre-school through eighth grade are invited to join TEAM IREAD this summer.

The main display wall in the Youth Services Department will become the *Sports Wall of Fame*. Each school will be represented by a jersey and pennant in its school colors. Program participants' names will be added to the jersey with a jersey number representing the number of registrants from that school. As players reach their goals, an athletic shoe will be added to the wall. On the sidelines, the Youth Services cheerleader will root for the reading players. The more books that are read, the bigger the pom-poms.

Complete details about TEAM IREAD are available in a program booklet which can be picked up in the Youth Services Department.

Library Closings

The library will be closed on Sunday and Monday, May 23 and 24 in observance of Memorial Day.

The library will be closed on Sundays throughout the summer. Regular library hours will resume on September 7.

Library Renovation Underway

Library patrons have been very patient during current major renovations which include changes in offices and workrooms in Youth Services, library recarpeting and complete remodeling of community meeting rooms.

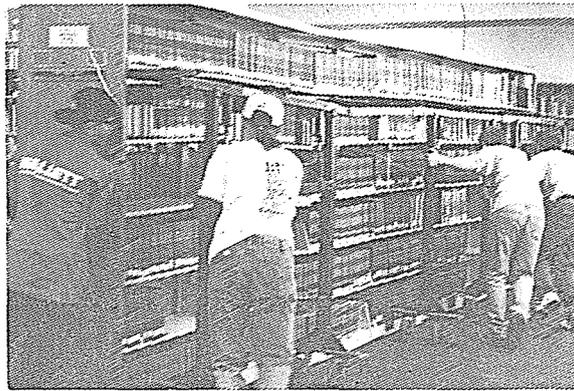
Day to day inconveniences were the greatest when sections of the library had to be closed down or available only by circuitous routes during the complete recarpeting of the first and second floors. That was preceded by painting all of the walls. However, painting was done after closing. Unfortunately, rug installation at night was not an option.

The meeting room project will take up most of the summer months. After the rooms are stripped and the middle storeroom removed, new heating and air conditioning will be installed for the meeting rooms. Poor heating and ventilation have been a problem in the rooms for many years. The two rooms will be combined into one large room with a folding wall divider to create a larger and smaller room when needed. This should provide the same type of space arrangements as before for both small and large groups. The seating, however, should be more flexible without any built in tables and other equipment. In addition, it will be possible to seat up to 250 people when the full area is used. With the former large room, only 100 could be accommodated. On many occasions, this meant that audiences were turned away or had to stand in the hall. New chairs will replace those which had been in service for more than 20 years. Although sturdy, audiences often found them uncomfortable after a short period of time.

As soon as work is done and furniture delivered, rooms will be available for use by community groups. An announcement will be made via the newspapers, library flyers and *Newsletter*.

The community's patience and endurance during this renovation period has been appreciated. Through it all, the library board and staff have tried wherever possible to maintain uninterrupted service to the public. Keeping the library open during regular hours has been a top priority.

With new carpet, new paint, new meeting rooms and new seating, the library will be "all dressed up" to meet the challenges of the coming millenium.



Entire stacks of books and other library materials are hoisted and rolled aside in preparation for library recarpeting. This type of move eliminated the need to remove all material from the shelves and then replace it when the carpet was laid.

Help Preserve Oak Lawn's Past

The local history section of the library is seeking to expand its collection of videos and movies. The staff is interested in locating video recordings and 8mm films which depict events in the life of the community. Examples of subjects include parades, school events, church-related activities, festivals, historic buildings, graduations, etc. In fact, staff members are interested in virtually anything dealing with some aspect of life in the Village of Oak Lawn.

Although the library is looking for donations, it does have the ability to duplicate both video and film. In this way, any originals can be returned to the contributor while a bit of Oak Lawn history can be preserved.

Those who would like to contribute, lend or help in any way should contact William Goodfellow, head of reference services, 708-422-4990, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Did You Know That...

...America's libraries are paid for with less than one percent of tax dollars and are used by more than two-thirds of the population?

...America's libraries have more card carrying members that VISA?

...America's libraries have more kids enrolled in summer programs than Little League?

...America's libraries have more visitors each week than all museums and zoos combined?

...Recent findings suggest that nearly 80 percent of public libraries are now connected to the Internet as opposed to 21 percent in 1995?

(Submitted by Ann Stovall, OLPL Periodicals Librarian, from the North Dakota State Library National Library Week Homepage.)

Director's Corner

Dr. James B. Casey

We are approaching the summer months and completion of our recarpeting project. Our library should be up and running full speed by the busy month of June when our Summer Reading Program begins a great opportunity for kids who will be looking for things to do with the many weeks until school begins again this fall.

Library patrons should know that there are more than a few adult patrons of the library who use our business collections, stock reports and up-to-the-minute stock market analysis on the library TV every day, rain or shine. These diligent and tireless investors pursue their passion for making money in the financial markets with as much enthusiasm as that which brings golfers to the courses, gardeners into their back yard and genealogists into the archives. Stock market followers are by no means "fair weather library patrons." Come rain, sleet, snow, heat or mildness, they will be studying their charts and following investment trends at the library — and possibly earning considerable sums of money. Unsatisfied with the quick buck and short odds of any type of formal gambling or lottery, the stock market followers look for an edge to help them compete in the world of global economics. The information gathered here at their library is evidently current and valuable. With the TV, CD-ROM tools and internet access provided, we can't be far behind many of the latest resources available to the sophisticated investor.

Golfers, gardeners, cooks, antique collectors, baseball card enthusiasts and antique car mechanics will find plenty of source materials here as well and might even come in for a book, video or periodical title or two. Summer at the library isn't just for kids — but the kid in all of us.

Our summer hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. We are open 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sundays in May until the Memorial Day weekend. Sunday hours resume after the Labor Day weekend.

P C

I have a spelling checker

It came with my PC:

It plainly marks for my revue
Mistakes I cannot sea.

I've run this poem threw it.

I'm sure your please too no.

It's letter perfect in it's weigh.

My checker tolled me sew.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Oak Lawn Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding library accessibility should call the Administration Office 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven working days prior to the event.

From the Friends...

The Friends Annual Dinner Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5, at the Old Barn Restaurant, Central Avenue and State Road. This is the one time each year that all "Friends" and friends are invited to meet and share a pleasant evening. Believe it or not, this is the 18th Friends annual get together! As usual, those who attend will enjoy good food and conversation, a short business meeting, entertainment and an opportunity to learn about what's happening at the library. Tickets remain at \$12 per person. If you would like to attend, please complete and mail in the coupon on the bottom of this page along with your check for the number in your party. Deadline for reservations is May 25.

If you haven't heard, the annual book sale will probably be in October again this year. The community meeting rooms will be closed for complete renovation for approximately five months — May 1 - September 30. Depending on completion of this project, the book sale will be scheduled and announced.

In the meantime, the Ongoing Book Sale is open during regular library hours. Great bargains can be found there.

If you have suggestions for trips that can be scheduled by the Friends, please call our trip chair Genevieve Sobanski, 708-598-7971.

Friends Executive Board

Friends Trips

The Friends are planning a trip to Grant Park on Saturday, June 28, to hear Handel's "Royal Fireworks Music" and works for oboe and bassoon soloists. William Eddins, an assistant conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, will conduct the program.

Advance registration for this trip is scheduled for 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 14, in the Raymond Avenue lobby. Tickets are five dollars per person which covers the round trip cost of bus transportation from the library.

A second Grant Park trip will be in August for a concert featuring the works of William Schuman, Mozart and Richard Strauss. Details will be announced in the next Newsletter.

Ravinia schedules were not published at the time the *Newsletter* went to press. However, the Friends board hopes to select a July date with possible June pre-registration. Watch the local press for details. Also, flyers will be available in the library as soon as arrangements are made.

Library Board Members

President Robert Honkisz
Vice Pres. Marian Sullivan
Secretary Lee Stein
Treasurer Patricia Roberts
Trustees Shirley Barrett
Joann Buschbach
Lois Gasteyer

The library board meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room, lower level. Meetings are open to the public.

Staff Notes

Congratulations to **Margaret Hall**, Youth Services Department, who has been nominated for the 1999 Newbery Committee. The Newbery Award is given each year by the American Library Services for Children, a division of the American Library Association, to honor an author for the most distinguished writing for children up to age 14. The election for the committee will take place in May with election results announced on July 3.

Mary Nelson, public relations and development officer, has been listed in Marquis' 1997-98 edition of *Who's Who in the Midwest*. This is her fourth listing in that publication. She previously has been listed in *Who's Who of American Women*.

Susan Baird, Patron Services Department Head, recently completed writing a general editorial chapter for the ninth edition of *Magazines for Libraries*, edited by Bill Katz and published by R. R. Bowker. This reference book is used by librarians considering the merits of a periodical before adding it to a library collection.

Susan also represented the library in the annual fashion show sponsored by the Oak Lawn Business and Professional Women. Models were selected to represent Oak Lawn organizations and businesses.

Mary Lynn Mysz, patron services senior Librarian, taught courses in Readers Advisory Skills during the summer, 1996, and spring, 1997, at St. Xavier University in the Adult College Library and Technical Assistant (LTA) program.

Kathy O'Leary, reference librarian, has been the editor of the newsletter of the Chicago Genealogical Society for nine years. The publication comes out eleven times each year.

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Annual Dinner Meeting Reservation Old Barn Restaurant 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5, 1997

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Town _____ Zip _____

Choice of entrees:

_____ Sirloin of beef _____ Chicken Kiev _____ Sole

Number of reservations @ \$12 each for a total amount of \$ _____

Make checks payable to Friends/Annual Dinner and send to Friends Annual Dinner, 9427 Raymond Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453
Deadline for dinner reservations is May 25.

Wood Sculptures on Display

Wood sculptures by Harlow Lusk will be on display during May and June in the first floor cases, directly behind the General Information booth. Some of Lusk's magnificent work was a featured exhibit during January of this year.

Lusk, a Worth resident, works with a large variety of wood in developing his creations. About 25 years ago, his interest in art was painting. From that period he has a mural of a deer and doe which he created on his garage wall. However, he was curious about wood sculpture and took out several library books to find out what it was all about. He got started then and has been with it since, self-educating himself along the way.

He started with smaller pieces but has graduated to larger sizes, many life size. Although he has sculpted other figures, a large part of his work is with birds and animals such as a grizzly bear, pelican, dogs, etc. Many library patrons saw his reproduction of Mickey Mouse during his last showing. Recently, he completed Donald Duck and Goofy. One of his other projects was carving a carousel on which a person can sit.

"I'll tackle anything once," Lutz admitted, but he added that he has to be in the mood to do his sculpting.

The display is open to the public during regular library hours.



A new facility for "library-sponsored programs" is nearing completion on the library's lower level. Dedicated to former library employee and current consultant, the Mary Nelson Classroom will be scheduled for workshops, seminars and classes as part of library Adult Programming. Friends of the Library are financing all of the furnishings and decorative pieces for the room.

Successful Open House Reported

More than 300 persons were introduced to the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation (OLCLF) over coffee and cookies at the library's Open House, April 13. OLCLF launched its fund raising campaign, *Stay Home and Read a Book Ball*, on that date. The purpose of the campaign was to invite participants to "stay home and read a book" on a night of their choice. Instead of spending time and money to buy clothes, hire a sitter, drive across town for a so-so meal and get home very late, donors were asked to send a contribution to the Foundation and avoid all the fuss. In addition, they were entitled to a free night to enjoy a book.

Although the final tally on donations is not complete, the members of the OLCLF board are enthusiastic about the response and plan to consider making this an annual event.

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HOURS

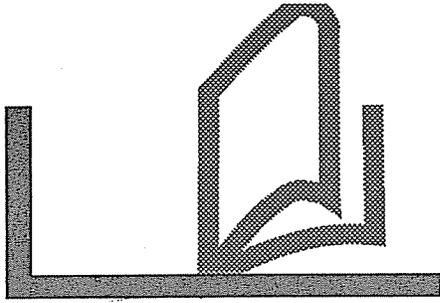
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OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11, NO. 4

JULY/AUGUST 1997

Friends Schedule Summer Trips

Friends of the Library have monthly trips planned for this summer guaranteed to be interesting and exciting. In-person registrations will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, near the Raymond Avenue entrance on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ravinia is set for Wednesday, July 23, to hear the enduring Peter, Paul & Mary as they bring their special blend of acoustic folk-pop music, seasoned with social conscience to young and old audiences. The coach will leave the library at 6 p.m. Tickets per person are \$32 for members and \$34 for non-members. Transportation will be provided by a deluxe coach for passenger comfort and convenience.

Grant Park is planned for Friday, August 8, featuring the works of Schuman, Mozart, and Strauss. The music from *2001 - A Space Odyssey* will be conducted by Christof Perick and will feature Valentina Lisitsa on the piano. Tickets for Grant Park are \$5 per person which includes bus fare.

A trip to **Navy Pier** boarding the **Spirit of Chicago** will take place on Thursday, September 11. The full day trip will feature a two-hour "Big Band" buffet luncheon as you enjoy a breathtaking view of Chicago's spectacular skyline. Before the cruise, there will be a narrated guided tour of Chicago's shoreline and waterways before boarding the Spirit at Navy Pier. Tickets are \$58 for members and \$60 for non-members. Transportation will be provided by deluxe coach.

From the Friends...

Attention readers, book collectors, young and old. The Friends annual book sale is scheduled for October 23-25, 1997. Opening day is for members only on Wednesday, October 23. The buck for a bag of books will be Saturday, October 25. Watch for more details in coming newsletters.

Library Closings

Friday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, September 1	Labor Day



Mary Nelson - Enduring Leader

Have you ever attended a Library program? Do you regularly enjoy this newsletter? Then Mary Nelson has touched your life. Sadly, she passed away suddenly on May 5, 1997, and left many in shock and disbelief. Even though Mary was courageously undergoing cancer treatments, she was full of life, vitality, and energy because "she loved her job." Her recent death is a loss felt by Library staff, patrons and numerous community organizations.

As the Library's public relations consultant, Mary acted as editor of the Library newsletter and arranged and promoted enriching programs for the community. During her 12 years at the Oak Lawn Public Library, this often included well-attended travelogs, live-music concerts, career and financial advisement lectures, sign language classes, genealogy and writing workshops. At the Friends of the Library Annual Dinner, Dr. Casey affirmed that: "The Library will do its very best to carry on Mary's work with the same dedication and commitment to excellence which she exemplified."

Mary also served as the Library's liaison to the Friends of the Library. With Mary's help, this group held successful programs, trips and book sales. In February 1997, the Friends donated material and equipment to the Library for a project they named "The Mary Nelson Classroom." At the Friends annual dinner they recognized the void that is felt by those who worked closely with her.

Mary was also an active member in the community including the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation, Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce, School District 123 Foundation, just to name a few.

Library staff hope to honor her memory with a "Mary Nelson Remembrance Day" to be arranged for this fall. Her inspiration and spirit will live on with those who worked with her and knew her.

Meeting Room Construction Project, July-September

Along with brand new carpet tile throughout the first and second floors of our library, you may also have noticed that the interior and exterior of the Library have received a brand new paint job, the railings have been restained and work began on improving our grounds. Yet another major project is about to begin which will bring further improvements by October.

The basement meeting rooms which presently can accommodate only 100 persons in the larger room and 60 in the smaller room will be redesigned into one large room which can hold a crowd of up to 258 persons. The lighting will be enhanced, air conditioning and ventilation improved and the sight lines will make it easier for patrons to view activities taking place at any point in the room. Although the decor will be consistent throughout the entire room and include new carpeting and new chairs, a large folding door will enable the Rotary Room to resume its separate and distinct status when needed. Whether used as one large meeting room for major affairs or set up as two distinct meeting rooms, our patrons will gain in terms of both capacity and comfort.

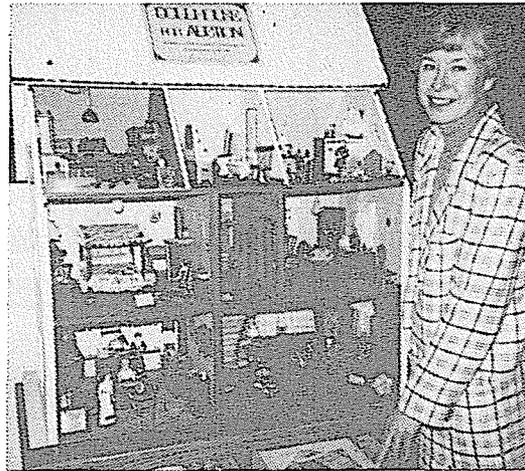
Programming and meeting room use in the basement have been suspended until work is completed. By October 1, our programming should resume in far more advantageous quarters.

Taxpayers should be pleased to note that a portion of the cost for this project is being paid for by an Illinois Construction Grant of \$79,947. The excellence of our Library's adult and children's programming has long been noted throughout the Chicago area. The late Mary Nelson was among the movers and shapers of Library programming over many years and a prime contributor to the planning of this important construction project.

Long Range Planning

There is much truth to the saying: "The future belongs to those who prepare for it." That is one reason why library trustees, staff and concerned patrons met at the Library on Saturday, May 17 to commence work on a long range plan to chart the future direction of the Library into the year 2000. Led by volunteers of the Executive Service Corps., the planners have been identifying the key critical issues facing the Library during the next three years. From these critical issues, planners will then set down goals and objectives to be addressed and specific activities which shall be undertaken by library staff and board. It is hoped that a planning document will be completed by September 1997.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
The Oak Lawn Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding library accessibility should call the Administration Office 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven working days prior to the event.



Library Auctions Dollhouse

The estate of St. Linus school teacher Carol Jean Doctor has presented the Library with a dollhouse to be auctioned so that children's books may be purchased in her memory.

"The large, nine-room dollhouse is fully decorated with dozens of elaborate detailed figures and has an internal lighting system," said Library Director James Casey. "It stands about 3' X 3' X 2' and includes a large wooden stand filled with additional miniatures."

Sealed bids for purchase of this dollhouse should be sent to: Oak Lawn Public Library "Dollhouse Bid," 9427 S. Raymond Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453 beginning Monday June 2, 1997. Bids will not be accepted after September 12, 1997, 12 Noon when they will be formally opened. Minimum bid is \$500 and must be accompanied by a personal check for 10 percent of the bid amount, full name, address and phone number of the bidder. The Library will not accept phone bids.

The prevailing bidder need not be present. They may be notified by phone until 5 PM, Friday, September 12. If phone notification of a successful bidder is required, the Library cannot be responsible for phone malfunction, busy signals or no answer after 10 rings. If phone contact cannot be made, the 2nd highest bidder will prevail. If there is more than one high bid, a live auction among the top bidders will be held in the Library Saturday, September 13, 1997 at 10 AM. All bidders must be present in order to qualify.

The successful bidder must remove the dollhouse no later than 5 PM Saturday, September 13. Removal following purchase is the responsibility of the successful bidder. Library personnel cannot assist. The Library makes no guarantees or warranties of any kind, implied or direct as to information provided by the donor, condition or origin of this dollhouse.

Library Board Members

President Robert Honkisz
Vice Pres. Lee Stein
Secretary Shirley Barrett
Treasurer Patricia Roberts
Trustees Joann Buschbach
Lois Gasteyer
Marian Sullivan

Director's Corner

Dr. James B. Casey

On the morning of June 2nd, five librarians from Joliet Public Library visited the library in order to observe and take notes. They had looked through our Home Page for a "virtual visit" earlier and were intrigued by what they had seen to be one of the most technologically advanced public libraries in the South Suburban area. They were interested in many aspects of our Library including our career center, the facilities available for youngsters to do their homework; our newsletter, our new carpet tile, the public access personal computers and Internet access, and our use of space in both periodicals and audio visual areas.

That our public library is considered to be an important trend setter even among larger libraries serving more populous communities is just another result of the wisdom and hard work of Library trustees, staff, Friends, Foundation members and volunteers over the past 60 years. Dedicated and highly talented people like the late Mary Nelson — editor and founder of this newsletter — not only contributed significantly to our success, but offer an inspiration for those of us who are privileged to follow their lead.

There is, however, another group of library supporters worthy of recognition. The Oak Lawn taxpayers — even those who don't regularly use the Library — also have had a major role in our success because they have paid a few dollars more in order to achieve excellence. Only 3.9% of your total property tax bill is devoted to support of the Library. That percentage constitutes nearly 90% of the total revenue which the Library receives. Communities in South Suburban Chicago pay from as little as 1.59% to as much as 6.5% of their property taxes for library service. Although Oak Lawn's library rate is certainly not the highest, it is clearly above average. The results which our library has achieved with your precious tax dollars have been very far above average. In a January 1996 survey conducted by the Village of taxpayer satisfaction, 84% of the respondents rated the Library "Excellent".

Earlier Time for Board Meetings

At their May 1997 reorganizational meeting, the Library Board of Trustees chose to begin their monthly meetings at 7 PM rather than 7:30 PM. It is hoped that meetings will end earlier in the evening and therefore prove to be less fatiguing. The date for meetings will remain the third Tuesday of each month.

News in Youth Services

The TEAM IREAD Summer Reading Program is in full swing. Registration is still open for those who have not yet joined. The last day to participate in TEAM IREAD is Friday August 8. The following activities are available to reading club members:

Games Galore

Registration is limited but there still may be openings for Relay Racers (Grades K-2), Charades (Grades 3-6), and Family Feud (Grades 7-10). Inquire at the Youth Services desk for availability.

Winner Nights

Three to eight year olds can enjoy storytelling, poetry and songs on Wednesday evenings, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and August 6. Attendance is limited to 50 members, one adult per family. Tickets are available on Mondays 10 days prior to program date.

Kick Back Time

Friday events include a game show with the Timestep Players on July 11, a real robot named HERO 1 on July 18, Dr. Gesundheit the clown on July 25, and the Library League Championship on August 1. Tickets for these events are available on Saturdays 2 weeks prior to program date.

Wall of Fame

While visiting the library, check out the Youth Services "Wall of Fame" with its jerseys and pennants representing the number of registrants for each school in Oak Lawn, athletic shoes honoring those readers who have reached their goal, and a scoreboard and cheerleader displaying the total number of books read.

Certificates

For those reading club members who have reached their goal, a certificate of achievement will be sent to the Oak Lawn school principals in September. For those members who have reached their goal but do not attend an Oak Lawn school (including preschoolers), certificates of achievement may be picked up at the library during the month of August.

Fall Registration

Registration for fall programs will begin August 23. Pick up a program booklet in the Youth Services Department in August for information about Toddler Time, Preschool Storyhour, Afterschool Storyhour and other fun-filled events.

NEWSLETTER is a publication of
the Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 Raymond, Oak Lawn, IL 60453
Telephone: (708) 422-4990
FAX: (708) 422-5061

Editors: Linda Olsen and Linda Besbekos
Director Dr. James Casey
The Library is accessible to the disabled.

Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 Raymond Avenue
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453



Library Foundation Awards Books

The more than sixty library enthusiasts who "attended" the Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation's "Stay Home and Read a Book Ball" during National Library Week (April 13-19) will be receiving invitations to come to the Oak Lawn Public Library to pick up a free book.

Foundation President Lois Gasteyer said: "Donors who contributed to the \$4,675 in proceeds from the ball will be notified by letter to visit the library, turn in their notification card at the Circulation Desk and claim a book from among those on a special display cart. Pick up of free books will begin on July 1 and end on July 15."

Pictured above (from left) are Foundation Board Members Lois Gasteyer, Ernest Jaski, Joanne Buschbach and the Honorary Chair of the Ball, Evergreen Bank Vice-President, James Brady.

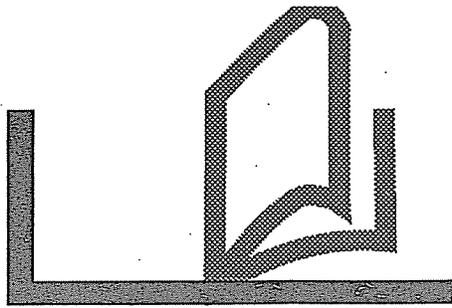
HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day

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OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11 NO. 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1997

Fall Programs for Adults

This fall, the library offers an exciting variety of adult programs that are open to the public without charge on a first-come, first-served basis in our newly remodeled, lower level meeting rooms. October events are listed below.

Travelog Potpourri

7 p.m. Wednesday, October 15

You'll sit back and enjoy the scenery when George Carey presents slides collected from his travels across the United States, Canada and Swiss Alps. This program showcases his best landscapes, wildlife and nature. George Carey, a favorite of library audiences, has delivered several successful travelogs over the past few years: *The Canadian Rockies* (1996), *Glacier-Waterton International Peace Park* (1995) and *Fall Colors of New England* (1994).

How to Self Publish

10 a.m. Saturday, October 18

Calling all writers! Find out what it takes to get published. Local author, Paul Fornatar will share his experiences, answer questions and help you decide if you are a candidate for self publishing. Paul Fornatar's body of work includes: *For the Love of a Bum* (1997); *Winter Whispers, Summer Screams* (1996); *With A Barrel Beneath Her Breast* (1995); and *Not Just A Bum* (1995).

Marimba Magic

2 p.m. Sunday, October 19

What is a marimba? You'll find out at this concert performed by Lory Schrieber. She will educate you on the origin and development of the marimba, a unique musical instrument similar to the xylophone, and play a wide range of musical styles, from popular waltzes to ragtime. This concert is brought to you by the **Sunday with Friends** series sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Public Library.

Coming in November and December...

Check the next *Newsletter* for program offerings for the remainder of the year. Jack Lund will bring an *Asia Travelog* and local writers are invited to participate in an *Open Mike Poetry* and *Short Story Reading*. The 1997 *Sunday with Friends* series ends with a *Barbershop Chorus* and folk group, *Small Potatoes*.

Library Announcements

- The library will be closed Monday, September 1, Labor Day.
- The library will observe regular hours Saturday, September 6, during *Fall On The Green*, a two day program sponsored by the Village of Oak Lawn. The library will be closed Sunday, September 7. Patrons will need to find alternative parking during this event and its set up and take down times.
- The library will resume Sunday hours, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., September 14.



This is "before." Come see "after" at one of our exciting fall adult programs. The public is invited to attend an **Open House** celebrating the completion of the summer-long Meeting Room remodeling project Sunday, November 2. More details will be available in the local press and the next *Newsletter*.

Basic Sign Language Classes

Two six-week basic sign language classes will be offered Saturdays, October 11 - November 15, in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room, lower level.

Adults, high school and up, can register for the 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. session, where they will be taught ASL (American Sign Language), finger spelling and about deaf culture. Class size is limited to 20 plus five alternates. A \$20 non-refundable fee per person covers materials and instructor.

Children, up to eighth grade, can sign up for the noon - 1 p.m. session. They will be taught ASL (American Sign Language) and finger spelling. Class size is limited to 20 plus five alternates. A \$15 non-refundable fee per person covers materials and instructor.

Registration for both classes will begin Monday, September 8 and continue until Wednesday, October 8 or when the classes are full, whichever comes first. Registration forms will be available at the General Information Booth during regular hours and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be submitted with the form in order to be eligible for enrollment.

A Certificate of Completion will be issued at the end of the courses to those who meet completion requirements.

Great Books Discussion Group

This September, the Oak Lawn Library Great Books group opens its tenth year of discussion and interpretation of Western Civilization's greatest literary works. For more information, call Dr. Ernest Jaski, coordinator, 708-535-1997.

Youth Services Fall Programs

The Youth Services Department is pleased to present the following programs for Fall 1997. Registration for programs begins Saturday, August 23, unless otherwise noted. Preference will be given to Oak Lawn residents and students. Each child's library card must be presented at the time of registration. Toddler Time, Preschool Storyhour and Junior Friends registrations must be made in-person.

Toddler Time is a storyhour designed for two-year-olds and an accompanying adult. Each series consists of five sessions: September 10 - October 10 and October 22 - November 19. Patrons may choose either Wednesdays or Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. There is a limit of 12 adult/child teams per class. Registration for the second series begins October 8.

Preschool and After School Storyhours begin the week of September 8 and continue through December 15. **Preschool Storyhours** are designed for three to five-year-olds and are offered Monday afternoons, Wednesday and Thursday evenings or Friday mornings. **After School Storyhours** are for children in kindergarten through second grade and are offered Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Please remember that sessions fill up quickly, so early registration is encouraged.

Drop-In Storyhours are the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Youth Services Program Room. These storyhours are for busy, on-the-go families, so no registration is required. Children ages three to eight are invited to attend. Parents must remain in the library during storyhours. Mark your calendar for September 6 and October 4.

The American Girls allows third through sixth graders the chance to explore American lifestyles and history through the adventures of the American Girls, including the newest one - Josefina. The program will meet Thursdays, September 11, 18, 25 and October 2 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

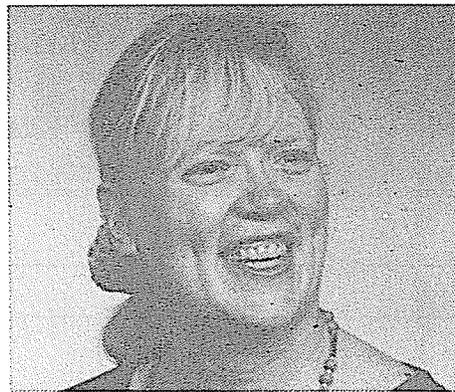
Goosebumps Club is for third through sixth graders who are interested in R.L. Stine's *Goosebumps* series and would like to do some writing of their own. Join the ghoulish fun Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Registration begins September 20.

Junior Friends of the Library offers students in grades seven through ten an opportunity to volunteer one hour a week to help with displays and programs in the Youth Services Department, September 16 - December 2. There will be an initial meeting for members Tuesday, September 16 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Happy Halloween. Chris Fascione will act out stories, poems and folktales using mime and juggling in this fun-filled Halloween participation show for children ages three and up. This program will be held Saturday, October 18 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the newly remodeled meeting room. Tickets will be available October 4.

Fall 1997 Program Booklets are available in the Youth Services Department for more information about these and other programs.

Introducing...



Karen Sutherland New Youth Services Librarian

Karen Sutherland comes to Oak Lawn after experience at Downers Grove and LaGrange Park Public Libraries. She has also worked at the University of Houston Library, M. D. Anderson Tumor Institute Medical Library, Head Start child development program and as a nurse for new mothers and their babies. Karen has published more than 75 freelance articles in publications including *Boys Quest*, *Boy's Life* and *Mature Living*. Her favorite area of interest is American history. In her spare time, Karen enjoys reading, cooking Swedish foods, growing irises and vacationing at Walt Disney World.

Children's CD-ROMs

CD-ROMs for children may now be checked out for three weeks from Audio Visual. Titles include programs for young children, such as The Berenstain Bears Get in a Fight, which are book related, and programs for older students, such as Eyewitness Virtual Reality Bird, which are useful for school assignments. The programs can be used on one or more of a variety of operating systems, such as Windows 3.1 or Windows 95, and require at least an Intel 386 or Macintosh 68040 computer. Come in to browse this new collection. It is small, but growing. More titles will be added in the near future.

Bus Service to the Library

In keeping with the commitment of the Village of Oak Lawn and the Oak Lawn Public Library to improve access by our senior citizens and the disabled to tax supported services, the Village Senior/Handicapped Bus Service Program is worthy of your attention. Whether you need trips daily, weekly or monthly, the bus service program may be extremely helpful. For further information, contact Jeanne Foody Galzin at the Village of Oak Lawn, Office of Quality Control, 708-636-4400.

The Oak Lawn Public Library is a handicapped accessible facility with automatic doors on the Raymond Avenue side, fully accessible lavatories, an elevator, braille door signs, specially designed magnifiers for the visually impaired and sufficient space between every aisle to accommodate wheelchairs.

Director's Corner

Dr. James B. Casey

As the new school year begins, your public library will again provide vital support for education as busy students from grade school right on up to the graduate level flock to our doors. Local scholars find that our collections include 233,666 volumes, an audio visual collection of more than 20,000 items, subscriptions to some 810 newspaper and magazine titles and 19 computer workstations offering access to a variety of electronic databases. We also have four computers accessing the vast information resources on the Internet, two personal computers where patrons can undertake basic word processing and several typewriters for public use.

Perhaps the most important resource possessed by our library is its ever resourceful and diligent staff. During all of the 68 hours per week in which our library is open, service is provided by many staff members with long experience in public libraries and supervised by individuals who possess significant training in academic disciplines and librarianship up to the masters level. The staff who selects books, subscriptions, audio visual materials and electronic resources are all experienced and highly educated professionals. They are committed to providing our patrons with the best possible service and access to collections through the most careful and efficient expenditure of our precious tax dollars.

Our library is open seven days per week beginning September 14. Throughout the year, Monday through Thursday hours are 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. It is fully accessible to persons with disabilities with plenty of free parking for everyone.

Students who wish to succeed will want to become frequent visitors to our library. Those persons who are not formally enrolled in an education program will also join in the pursuit of lifetime learning within our walls. Whether it might be a search for information regarding an obscure disease, the proper carburetor for an older model car, how to cook a gourmet meal, the best way to develop a resume or practically anything else, your public library is here to help you learn more and reach higher.

Library Board Members

President	Robert Honkisz
Vice President	Lee Stein
Secretary	Shirley Barrett
Treasurer	Patricia Roberts
Trustees.....	Joann Buschbach
	Lois Gasteyer
	Marian Sullivan

The library board meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room, lower level. Meetings are open to the public.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Oak Lawn Public Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding library accessibility should call the Administration Office 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven working days prior to the event.

Friends Annual Book Sale

Bring some loose change and your love of books to the Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale, October 22 - 25. The sale starts off with "members only night" 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday, October 22. Books at bargain prices are offered to the public 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Thursday, October 23 and 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Friday, October 24. Bring your grocery-type bags for the "bag of books for a buck" sale 9 a.m. - noon Saturday, October 25. Membership applications will be accepted at all sale dates.

Volunteers are needed for set up dates, Tuesday and Wednesday, October 21-22. Those interested should contact Dorothy LaBianca, book sale chair, 708-423-7147.

An Ongoing Book Sale located near the Cook Avenue entrance, next to the elevators, offers a variety of books and magazines for purchase all hours that the library is open.

The Friends wish to thank those who have generously donated used materials for resale at the annual and ongoing book sales. "Gently used" books, magazines and other suitable sale material can be donated to the library year-round by placing donations on a designated table near the Cook Avenue entrance. Patrons are asked not to bring in donations until after October 1, when the lower level remodeling project is complete and storage space becomes available. Tax letter forms are available at the General Information Booth.

Program Planning

Planning will soon begin for 1998 Adult Library Programs. Some programming will be based on past attendance, audience suggestions and evaluation forms. Your input could determine whether the library tries some new ideas.

The library is especially interested in music, career and job seminars, small business, financial and investment workshops, cultural events, creative endeavors and other kinds of educational or enriching activities. Adult library programs do not include handicrafts, physical fitness or any other activities handled by the Oak Lawn Park District or other specialized agencies in the area.

This edition of the *Newsletter* has a short form you can complete and return or you can stop by and fill out an Adult Library Program Survey available at our Community Information Centers. You may also submit ideas on the Internet at the library's Public Opinion Forum site (<http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us/LIB-PUB.HTM>). The deadline for program suggestions is November 3.

Friends Schedule Fall Trips

Once again, the Friends of the Library have scheduled interesting and entertaining monthly excursions.

A trip is set for Thursday, October 2 to the **Carmelite Shrines and Arsenic and Old Lace**, starring child star Margaret O'Brien, in Munster, Indiana. The bus will leave the library from the Cook Avenue side at 8:30 a.m. The cost of the trip, which includes transportation, lunch at the theater and the play, will be \$46 for members and \$48 for others. PLEASE NOTE: Some stairs and walking will be involved at the Carmelite Shrines.

A Sunday, November 16 trip is scheduled to go to **A Christmas Carol** at the Goodman Theatre. The bus will leave the library from the Cook Avenue side at 12:30 p.m. The cost of the trip, which includes transportation, the play and a roast turkey and beef dinner at Mabenka Restaurant, will be \$38 for members and \$40 for others.

On Sunday, December 7, the Friends will take an exciting Mid-America bus tour of **Spectacular Chicago Christmas Lights**. You'll get a behind the scenes tour of Marshall Field's State Street store, view their holiday window displays and do a little shopping. Then you'll see the holiday decorations at Navy Pier, the Lincoln Park Zoo Lights Festival and the Magnificent Mile Lights Festival on Michigan Avenue. The bus will leave the library from the Cook Avenue side at 1 p.m. and return at approximately 9:30 p.m. The cost of the trip, which includes the entire tour, transportation and dinner at Joe's Crab Shack, will be \$48 for members and \$50 for others.

Preregistration for all three trips is available by calling Genevieve Sobanski, trip chair, 708-598-7971, after 4 p.m. You may also register in-person 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 10 in the library's first floor lobby near the Raymond Avenue entrance. Memberships will also be accepted at this sign up.

Friends Discussion Groups

The Friends of the Library sponsor two discussion groups that meet once a month September through May. The short story discussion group meets on the second Wednesday and the novel discussion group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Both groups meet at 1 p.m. in the lower level Conference Room. Material is available in advance at the library and everyone is welcome to join. For reading schedules and additional information, call Beth Baird, 708-422-4933.



Joy Flowers and Amanda Ault receive a fanny pack for reaching the 10 book goal of the Young Adult Summer Reading Program, "Join the Team." A party was held for participants August 16 in the Village Green gazebo.

Fiction Lovers

Looking for a good book? Then you'll want to check our notebook filled with brief reviews written by Oak Lawn Public Library patrons and staff. This sunflower-covered notebook is the result of our Summer Reading Program for adults and young adults. A total of 61 participants read and reviewed 405 books from June 2 to August 15. The colorful yellow and blue sheets containing patrons' annotations were originally posted on bulletin boards and then retired to the notebook which will be available through the end of 1997. Stop by the Fiction Desk and take a look. You are welcome to add suggestions of your own.

Coming soon - Bestsellers Club. More details in the next *Newsletter*.

Visit Our Periodicals Site

A wide range of periodical information is available at the "Magazines and Newspapers" site of our Home Page (<http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us/MN.HTM>). You can access an alphabetical list of our more than 600 newspaper and magazine subscriptions, browse a subject guide to the magazines we own and link to indexes, electronic journals and other periodical related sites. Search over 192,150 employment ads from across the country, read current news from your favorite magazine or newspaper, research stories in the Chicago Tribune since January 1985 and then visit the library for the full text article. This site is maintained by Ann Stovall, Periodicals Librarian.

The Periodicals Department is located on the first floor. Inquire at the Reference Desk for access to library Internet computers.

Adult Programs Suggestion Form

I/we would like to suggest the following for consideration for 1998 adult programs:

Name and phone number (optional): _____

The deadline for suggestions is November 3, 1997. Return this form to the General Information Booth or mail:
Oak Lawn Public Library, ATTN: Linda Olsen, 9427 S. Raymond Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Library Meeting Rooms Reopen

Following completion of a major remodeling project, library meeting rooms will be available for use by nonprofit community groups on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be accepted beginning Monday, September 15 for the period from October 1 - December 31.

Those who wish to use the rooms must pick up, complete and return the standard application form to the General Information Booth or mail, ATTN: Linda Olsen. Reservations will not be accepted via phone or fax. The entire Board Policy Statement governing meeting room use is printed on the reverse of the room application. Only limited setups will be furnished. The room diagram that accompanies each application must be returned for processing. After the application has been processed, the form will be mailed to the applicant indicating whether or not room use has been approved.

Staff Notes

Kathy O'Leary, Reference Librarian, will be spending one week in Maynooth, Ireland to attend the Third International Irish Genealogy Conference. About 1,000 people are expected to attend from all parts of the world. Afterwards, Kathy will tour through Ireland for two weeks with a co-worker, Lorraine Grivakis, Audio Visual.

Opera Lectures Announced

Eight opera lectures are scheduled this fall and winter to precede opening performances of the Lyric Opera of Chicago. Lectures will be held at 2 p.m. on select Sundays. They are open to the public without charge or registration on a first-come, first-served basis, in the lower level meeting rooms.

Each lecture will be presented by a member of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps. These informative sessions will give the community an opportunity to hear vocal and musical selections and learn about the story line and composer of an upcoming opera.

The following schedule is for September and October lectures:

Nabucco	September 21
Peter Grimes	September 28
Idomeneo	October 12

A full schedule of opera lectures is available at the library's Community Information Centers.

HOURS

Monday through Thursday	9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday*	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

* Closed Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day

Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 Raymond Avenue
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

A Few Words from the New Editor



Hi, my name is Linda Olsen. I've worn many hats at the library over the past six years. You may recognize me from the Circulation Desk or the General Information Booth. I am now the library's Public Relations and Development Officer, a position formerly held by Mary Nelson.

My duties include reopening the Public Relations Office in time to prepare for fall adult programs, editing the bimonthly newsletter, planning upcoming programming and events, generating publicity, web site development, posting community bulletins and scheduling use of meeting rooms and display cases.

I need your input. Please complete and return the program planning suggestion form in this *Newsletter*, stop by and fill out an Adult Library Program Survey available at our Community Information Centers or submit your ideas at the "Public Opinion Forum" site of our Home Page (<http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us/LIB-PUB.HTM>).

Dollhouse Auction Continues

It's not too late to submit a bid for a dollhouse on auction at the library. The large, nine-room dollhouse is currently on display in the lobby near the Raymond Avenue entrance. Bids will be accepted until noon September 12, 1997. The minimum bid is \$500.

The estate of St. Linus school teacher Carol Jean Doctor donated the dollhouse to the library to be auctioned so that children's books may be purchased in her memory.

For more information pick up a flyer at the library or call Linda Olsen, Public Relations and Development Officer, 708-422-4990.

NEWSLETTER is a publication of the
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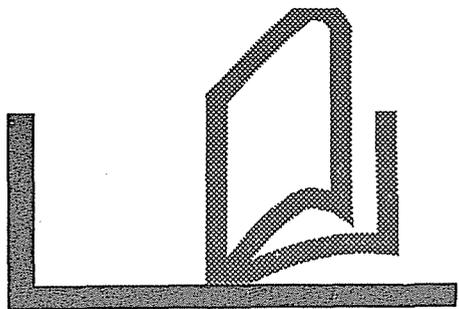
EditorLinda Olsen

DirectorDr. James Casey

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OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 11 NO. 6

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1997

You are invited to share a special event!

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 2 at 1:30 p.m.

*Celebrating the completion of the
meeting room remodeling project.*

Lower Level Meeting Rooms
5300 West 95th Street

** Refreshments * Tours * and More! **

PROJECT PARTIALLY FUNDED BY
THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY LIVE AND LEARN GRANT

More Exciting Fall Programs

The following programs are open to the public without charge on a first-come, first-seated basis in our newly remodeled, lower level meeting rooms. Bring a friend!

Asia Travelog

7 p.m. Wednesday, November 12

See exotic Asia! Jack Lund will present a travelog slide show of beautiful sights in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India and Nepal. During his 46 year career in commercial art, Jack Lund served as art director for the Chicago Tribune and other local publications. Now retired, he and his wife have traveled to all 50 states and 54 countries.

Open Mike Short Story and Poetry Reading

10 a.m. Saturday, November 15

Poets, writers and people who enjoy listening to original creative works are invited to attend this continuing program. Bring your best piece and register at the door to read during session one. Poets will have five minutes, short story readers will have ten. Following a break, those who did not register may read in session two, same time limits apply. Light refreshments will be available.

Barbershop Chorus

2 p.m. Sunday, November 16

Audiences will delight in favorites from the 1860s and on in this all vocal concert performed by the Oak Lawn Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America. This concert is brought to you by the **Sunday with Friends** series sponsored by the **Friends of the Oak Lawn Library**.

How Can You Benefit from the Tax Reform Act of 1997?

7 p.m. Wednesday, December 3

Robert Thompson, C.F.P., will share financial planning strategies for individuals after the Tax Reform Act of 1997. Discover tips for investment planning using the new capital gains rules, how you can take advantage of tax law changes in the last decade, the benefits of the new ROTH IRA and how the new tax laws will affect Charitable Giving and Estate Planning. Handouts will be available. This program is sponsored by the **Oak Lawn Community Library Foundation**.

Folk Music and More

2 p.m. Sunday, December 14

Small Potatoes, a dynamic Chicago-based duo, will dazzle audiences with their eclectic brand of folk music described as "Celtic to Cowboy." Jacquie Manning and Rich Prezioso will sing, yodel, play the guitar and an array of instruments. Their music ranges from original to traditional, with inspiration from jazz, blues, swing, gospel, country and Irish music. This concert is brought to you by the **Sunday with Friends** series sponsored by the **Friends of the Oak Lawn Library**.

Make a "Virtual Visit"

Visit the Oak Lawn Public Library without leaving home? Sure, just log-on to our Home Page (<http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us>) to find out more about materials, services and link to a variety of resources and useful sites on the Internet. Each department has a site: Reference and Information Sources, Magazines and Newspapers, Youth Services, Fiction, Audio Visual and Administration. Submit your feedback at the Public Opinion Forum.

Staff Inservice Day

The library will be **CLOSED** all day Friday, December 12, for the annual Staff Inservice Day. A committee, comprised of members representing each department, has set an agenda that includes workshops, informational sessions and training designed to help library staff work to their full potential. Regular hours resume Saturday.

Library Closings

Thanksgiving Day..... Thursday, November 27
Staff Inservice Day..... Friday, December 12
Christmas Eve..... Wednesday, December 24
Christmas Day..... Thursday, December 25
New Years Eve..... Wednesday, December 31
New Years Day..... Thursday, January 1

News from Youth Services

Saturday Drop-In Storyhours, November 1 and December 6 at 10 - 10:30 a.m. *Children ages three to eight*. A Youth Services Librarian will introduce stories, songs, fingerplays and flannel boards to young children. Parents are reminded to stay in the library while children attend the half-hour program on their own. Advance registration is not required.

Celebrate Children's Book Week, November 16 - 22. Parents of children in storyhour programs are invited to attend with their children. Join the librarian and children as they read stories, sing songs and engage in other fun activities.

Children's Author Visit, Saturday November 22 at 2 - 3 p.m. *Children kindergarten to fifth grade*. Mary Elise Monsell, author of the Mr. Pin series, the bestseller, *Underwear!*, and other popular books for children will talk about what it is like to be an author, including where she gets her ideas for stories, how she develops those ideas and uses details and local settings within a story. Pictures, puppets and other props will add to her presentation. Hardcover and paperback copies of Ms. Monsell's books will be available for purchase and she will be happy to autograph them. Tickets will be available starting November 8.

'Tis the Season, Saturday December 20 at 2 - 3 p.m. *Children ages three and up*. Dan LeMonnier will lift the yuletide spirit with holiday songs and folklore. Enjoy multi-cultural stories and songs about gift-givers from around the world very much like Santa Claus. Tickets will be available starting December 6.

The current Youth Services program schedule is on the Internet (<http://www.lib.oak-lawn.il.us/ys/ys-prog.htm>). **Winter/Spring Program Booklets** will be available in mid-December. Registration for many winter programs begins Saturday January 3, 1998.

Summer Reading Statistics

A record number of books were read by patrons participating in Summer Reading programs, June 2 through mid-August. This year 1,535 children, up to eighth grade, read 37,903 books and 61 adults and young adults read and reviewed 405 books.

Participants were awarded prizes for reaching reading goals. Children earned certificates, buttons and a variety of food coupons donated by local businesses. Adults and young adults read 10 books to earn a fanny pack.

The Youth Services Department would like to thank Alexander's Restaurant, Arby's, Burger King, Haunted Trails, Hollywood Park, JR's Hot Dogs, Jump 'n Fun & PGN Entertainment, Jupiter Ice Cream Parlor, Little Caesar's, McDonalds, the Oak Lawn Park District, Pizza Hut, Premo's, Tenth Planet, Wendy's and White Castle for their generous donations.

NEXT YEAR: "Dive into Books"

Vada Szurgot:

A public face to never forget



Library staff and Board mourn the loss of Vada Szurgot, an exemplary employee who died August 17. Vada began her career at the library in June 1979 as a Financial Assistant. Later, she served the public face-to-face as Supervisor of the Interlibrary Loan Department.

Display Cases

Local talent and collections will be the feature in our Community Display Cases. Through the month of November, Harlow Lusk, master carver, will display several wood sculptures, first floor, and George Edward Partin, Jr. will exhibit photographs of St. Linus Church's stain glass windows, lower level. December offers a model train collection and more!

Individuals and local community groups may exhibit special collections, handicrafts, activities and creative works. Pick up an application at the General Information Booth. For more information, call Linda Olsen, Public Relations and Development Officer, 708-422-4990.

Meeting Room Applications

Non-profit community groups whose objectives are cultural, educational or civic in character are reminded to submit applications for meeting room use beginning Monday, December 15 for the period from January 1 to June 30.

Those who wish to use the rooms must pick up, complete and return the standard application form to the General Information Booth or mail, ATTN: Linda Olsen. Reservations will not be accepted via phone or fax. Rooms are scheduled first-come, first-served. The Board Policy Statement governing meeting room use is printed on the reverse of the room application.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Oak Lawn Public Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding library accessibility should call the Administration Office 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven working days prior to the event.

Director's Corner

Dr. James B. Casey

In many ways, 1997 has been a year of endings and beginnings at the library. While the deaths of Public Relations Coordinator Mary Nelson and Interlibrary Loan Unit Leader Vada Szurgot caused great sorrow and sense of loss, their dedication and professionalism serve as important examples for those of us who are determined to carry on their work.

During this year we moved to complete major remodeling, recarpeting and construction projects while setting up timetables to deal with other important capital improvements in the months to come. As we celebrate on November 2nd the formal opening of our new public meeting room and the Illinois Construction Grant which provided partial funding for that project, planning will be underway for replacement of our 25-year-old rooftop air conditioning units and leaky roof.

It was during 1997 that we looked back upon the successful implementation of most of the goals and objectives set forth in the Library's 1993 - 96 Long Range Plan, which included establishment of one of the finest arrays of electronic resources in Illinois, improvement of Youth Services Storyhours, Periodicals, Audio Visual and Public Meeting Room facilities, strengthening of the library's public relations and development programs and continuing to maintain excellence in our collections of books for research and pleasure reading.

In looking forward, the Library Board of Trustees, staff and concerned citizens joined to develop yet another ambitious Long Range Plan. This one will cover 1997 - 2000 and take the Library into the 21st Century. As with the plans of former decades, which brought our library from a one room "pigeon loft" facility staffed by volunteers to become one of the largest and most modern libraries in the State in less than 50 years, this plan is designed to press ever forward to discover how to serve you, our patrons, even better. Pick up a Long Range Plan booklet at any of the library's Community Information Centers.

It has been said: "The future belongs to those who prepare for it." Our Library staff, Board, Friends, Foundation and Tax-payers have every reason to look forward with confidence and to the past with genuine satisfaction.

Library Board Members

President Robert Honkisz
Vice President Lee Stein
Secretary Shirley Barrett
Treasurer Patricia Roberts
Trustees..... Joann Buschbacher
Lois Gasteyer
Marian Sullivan

The library board meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room, lower level. Meetings are open to the public.



Marion Boyle (Oak Lawn) is caught browsing for the next book to add to the 1,000 she has read as a member of the CDM Club. A mystery lover, two of Marion's favorite authors are Ed McBain and William G. Tapply. Patrons high school age and up are invited to join the CDM Club and earn prizes while reading at their own pace. Stop by the Fiction Desk for more details!

What's New in Reader Services?

The Bestsellers Club or How the Library Can Make Your Life Easier: Beginning January 1998, you (Oak Lawn residents) can join the Bestsellers Club and automatically reserve copies of newly released books for three of your favorite authors. For example, as soon as we get pre-publication notice for a new book by John Grisham, your name will be put on the hold list if you have signed up for that author. Details and registration sheets will be available at the Fiction Desk after the holidays.

Don't forget our notebook of book reviews from the Summer Reading Program available for browsing at the Fiction Desk. Also take a look at our Book Chat bulletin board featuring author interviews and interesting tidbits about current fiction.



Oak Lawn Firefighter Anthony Padula hands out fire safety coloring books at a Storyhour during National Fire Prevention Week, October 5 - 11.

Sunday Opera Lectures

Would you like to hear vocal and musical selections and learn about the plot and composer of an upcoming opera performed at the Lyric Opera of Chicago? The library offers opera lectures presented by a member of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps without charge or registration, on a first-come, first-seated basis, in the lower level meeting rooms on select Sundays at 2 p.m.

- * LaBoheme November 9
- * Amistad November 30
- * Madama Butterfly December 7

A full schedule of opera lectures and a Companion of Audio Visual Materials are available at the library's Community Information Centers. This series is sponsored by the **Friends of the Library**.



Susan Baird, Patron Services Department Head, sits in front of the Oxfam display and drop-off site outside her office. She introduced the library to this program and has coordinated it over the last three years.

Save Your Holiday Stamps!

Many thanks to the generous patrons who continue to bring in canceled postage stamps. The library sends them to *Oxford Famine Relief*, an organization based in Oxford, England that packages and sells the stamps to collectors. Experts go through the stamps and if there are any of great value, they end up at Sotheby's auction! All proceeds go to helping the poor, starving and homeless worldwide, but especially to ravaged Africa.

We accept all kinds of stamps (U.S., worldwide, bulk mail, etc.). Please be careful not to tear off the perforations. With the upcoming holiday season, don't forget to save the gorgeous stamps you'll receive at home and work. An amazing number of businesses and organizations are already helping with this effort.

The library has two collection boxes, one located at the Circulation Desk and the other in front of the OXFAM display, first floor. A letter from OXFAM thanking library patrons for their participation is available at both drop off sites.



Lana Magnavite, Reference Associate pages through a Tornado scrapbook in the Local History section of the Reference Services Department, second floor.

Help Preserve Oak Lawn History

The Local History section of the Reference Department has six albums of news paper coverage of the April 1967 tornado including articles from the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Daily News, Chicago American, Southtown Economist, Oak Lawn Independent, The Reporter and other local papers. Some originals are missing

This is where we need your help. If you have any 1967 newspaper issue (mainly April through May 31) or scrap books on the Oak Lawn tornado, please contact William Goodfellow, Reference Services Department Head, 708-422-4990. We would be grateful for the opportunity to photocopy articles we need. Tornado anniversary articles are also welcome. Please help make our collection as complete as possible. These materials will continue to be of interest to residents, student and researchers for many years to come.

New Electronic Resource Researches Colleges & Careers

The Reference Services Department has added a new electronic product to its collection...ExPAN software for High Schools. Created by The College Board ExPAN is designed to assist students and parents in locating important information needed when planning for college. A user's manual is available at the Reference Desk second floor.

Using the College Info. Area, it is possible to search for a college based on criteria important to the student. For example you may specify geographic area, enrollment, a particular major, admission requirements, financial aid, etc. and be presented with information on colleges and universities matching the desired profile.

The Fund Finder module lets you search for scholarships, grants, fellowships internships and loans that match your education level, talents and background.

The Career Area lets you explore careers that fit your interests and abilities, an outlines the training and course work needed. Three databases deal with general occupations, military occupations and guide to popular college majors.

Dollhouse Auction Winner



Linda Stearns (Oak Lawn) happily claims the dollhouse she won by placing a \$777.77 bid. Pictured with Linda is her daughter, Gail Stearns (left) and the Hawley quadruplets -- Kaitlin, Joseph, Steven and Lucas. The estate of St. Linus school teacher Carol Jean Doctor donated the dollhouse to the library to be auctioned so that children's books may be purchased in her memory.

NEWSLETTER is a publication of the **Oak Lawn Public Library**

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Editor Linda Olsen

Director Dr. James Casey

The library is accessible to the disabled.

Friends Announce Winter Trips

Enjoy great cultural excursions without the hassle of traffic and parking!

Don't miss your last chance to see **Renoir's Portraits: Impressions of an Age** on Sunday, January 4 at the Art Institute of Chicago. The bus will leave the library at 12:30 p.m. The cost of the trip (transportation and admission) will be \$25 for members and \$27 for others. Recorded Audio Tour headsets will be available at the museum for an additional fee, \$4.

A night of drama and beautiful arias are guaranteed if you see **The Pearl Fishers** Tuesday, February 17 at the Chicago Lyric Opera. Georges Bizet's masterpiece, set in ancient Ceylon, will be performed in French with projected English titles. The bus will leave the library at 6 p.m. The cost of the trip (transportation and reserved seats) will be \$46 for members and \$48 for others. Get a sneak preview of **The Pearl Fishers** at an opera lecture Sunday, January 25 at 2 p.m.

Registration for both trips begins with an in-person sign up 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 12 in the library's first floor lobby, near the Raymond Avenue entrance. If tickets remain, you may register by calling Genevieve Sobanski, trip chair, 708-598-7971, after 4 p.m.

Friends Discussion Groups

The Friends of the Library sponsor two discussion groups that meet once a month September through May at 1 p.m. in the lower level Conference Room. Material is available in advance at the library and everyone is welcome to join.

Short Story Discussion, 2nd Wednesday

* November 12 - "Free Radio" by Salman Rushdie

* December 10 - "A Rose for Emily" by William Faulkner

Novel Discussion, 4th Wednesday

* November 19 - "The Pearl" by John Steinbeck (week early)

* December - No meeting

For additional information, call Beth Baird, 708-422-4933.

Friends Gifts to the Library

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library have generously decided to support two projects that exceed the library's budget. The first is a one-time microfilming of local history records. This will help preserve precious originals from further decomposition due to handling. They will also support a one-year trial period of leasing audio books for Homebound residents.

Over the years the Friends have enhanced library materials and services by spending tens of thousands of dollars on programming, audio books, special collections and furnishings using monies collected from the annual and ongoing book sales. The library is grateful to have such generous Friends and patrons who buy books and magazines from the book sales!

HOURS

Monday through Thursday.... 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday and Saturday..... 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday*..... 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

* Closed Sundays from Memorial Day to Labor Day

Oak Lawn Public Library
9427 Raymond Avenue
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

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Newsletter Distribution

The library *Newsletter* is mailed to 60453 zip codes postal patrons. The schedule is a day or two prior to January 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, September 1 and November 1. Those who do not receive their copies within a few days of these dates should report this to their local post office.

Postal Patron
Oak Lawn, IL 60453