

Oak Leaves

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 3, 2005

Judith McMahon 19 Years as Leader of Youth Services

It is with a mixture of sadness and gratitude that we say farewell to Youth Services Librarian Judith McMahon upon her retirement on February 28, 2005. Judy's departure leaves us with a big job to fill and very high standards to maintain, but our Library and those of us who have worked with her have been enriched by her professionalism and collegiality.

When Judy began as Head of our Youth Services Department in June 1986, our Library's total budget was \$1,877,000 and the entire book budget was only \$150,000. In her first six years Judy reported to six very different supervisors – Assistant Director Linda Elliott (who supervised all Department Heads), Director John Moorman, Acting Director Bill Goodfellow, Director Joy Kennedy, Acting Director Mary Lou Lowrey and finally, me. Amid these winds of change, Judy brought stability and effective advocacy to the Youth Services program and her tenure saw a dramatic increase in the size and



scope of our Youth Services program. Staffing levels, materials budgets and the physical size of the Department all grew during her nearly 19 years. Technology moved from such media as record albums, filmstrips, 16 mm films and slides to videocassettes, CDs and Internet connections. Summer Reading Program enrollment increased to record levels in 1992 and 2002, and Judy was chosen to serve on the Illinois Library Association Committee developing the IREAD Summer Reading Programs for the entire State during 1994-1997 and Chair during 1995-96. Judy's growing stature among her Children's Librarian colleagues earned recognition with a Rita A. Bert Award in 1994 and from the Illinois Library Association in 2002 with the Best Practice Award.

*Best wishes and Bon Voyage to
Judy for her Retirement and upcoming
Wedding!*

James Casey, Director

Cookie Exchange

Wow! What a great variety of cookies appeared the day of the cookie exchange. Not a single food group was left out. We had fruits and nuts, chocolate, powdered sugar, frosting and, of course, sprinkles. The air was filled with the smell of fresh baked cookies. Ooo's and Ah's were abundant as the cookies were placed around the table.



Thanks to Carol Biel, Peg Butcher, Julia Churchill, Carol Krueger, Brenda Fitzgerald, Mary Dunneback, Ramona Garcia, Cindy Kelly, Dawn Koegel, Judy McMahon, Mary Lynn Mysz, Linda Olsen, Mary Clare Sabio and Janet Orzech, the event was a tremendous success.

STAFF ASSOCIATION

The Holiday Party on December 3rd was a great success. There were miles of smiles and plenty of music to dance the night away. Be sure to check out the pictures on page 4.

New officers were elected for the year 2005—

President—Sarah Schroeder
Vice-President—Tom Kochinski
Treasurer—Janet Orzech

A great thank you goes out to the officers who served during 2004: John Mitchell, Rose Lozanski and Kathy Szott. More thanks to all the department representatives and volunteers throughout the year, too!

Happy New Year

As I stand on the precipice of a new age, the half century mark, I am certain that this is a substantial period of time because my vocabulary contains words no longer in use, such as album, neat and groovy. Cell phones now do what only Dick Tracy could; sophisticated computers fill your pocket, not the whole room; 45s and 78s have been replaced with MP3s; and HDTV is a far cry from the old black and white TV with rabbit ears.

Each year brings wondrous advances in both technology and medicine. Hopefully, this will be a banner year for you and your families and may we never cease to dream of peace on earth.

Oak Leaves Editor: Janet Orzech

Having Fun in the

“Diamonds are nothing more than chunks of coal that stuck to their jobs.”

Malcolm Stevenson Forbes



CONGRATULATIONS

Debbie Cocanig, Reference Services, worked hard over the summer applying for an Illinois State Library Grant. As a result, Queen of Peace High School was awarded \$4,000 for their library. The money will be used to purchase new books.

Locks of Love

Jamy Akin, Building Maintenance, recently donated a good portion of her hair to Locks of Love. This non-profit organization provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under age 18 suffering from medical hair loss.

Thank you for this wonderful example of selfless giving in the true holiday spirit.

Good News at the Horse Show

In November, my horse Boo Boo and I entered four events in the Student Horse Show competition at Fitzjoy Farm in Palos Park. We won ribbons in three of the four events—a third, fourth and sixth. I was most proud of the sixth place ribbon in the Western Horsemanship event, because Boo Boo (the youngest horse in the event—at 4 years old) had just learned the “pattern” the night before the competition and we were only able to practice it a few times.



The Western Horsemanship event requires the horse and rider to complete a pattern of different maneuvers as specified in a diagram of the arena. The pattern required the horse to walk in a straight line along the wall to a cone marker, then begin a jog (Western riding term for the trot), change

Continued on Page 3

Once upon a time . . .

I was down-hill skiing with some of my friends during the winter of ‘03-’04. This was my first time skiing and it took me some time to learn all the moves, but I eventually caught on and learned the ropes quite fast. I took my time, starting out on the hills with smoother slopes until I felt confident in my abilities, which took me the better half of the morning. At lunch, one of my friends in our group asked me if I wanted to go down the Black Diamond with him. The Black Diamond is the most difficult and steepest slope the park had to offer, recommended for advanced, experienced skiers only. Being the conservative, safety-first guy I am, I agreed to this challenge laid before me.

We proceeded up the ski lift to the top of this beast of a hill and remained at the crest for a few moments to enjoy the view and appreciate the anticipation of a run that could only end in certain disaster. Hoping my health insurance covered decapitation and disembowelment, I stepped forward, tucked down and allowed gravity and inertia to do its job as I practically free-fell down this 55° slope. Steadily I gained speed and deliberately made slow movements to avoid wiping out at the speed of sound. We continued downward faster and faster until, after a few minutes, the hill began to even out. As we approached the bottom of the hill, which abruptly ends with a stopping area of about 20 feet followed by a plastic fence and a creek, my friend made a sudden move from my right side to my left. Being the Olympic talent level skiers we were, the only way my friend knew how to stop was— to fall down. The only way I knew how to stop was to point both skis to the left and lean into my right leg. So we slid into the stopping area, still at top speed with space quickly running out. My friend initiated his stop, let his legs collapse under him and violently rolled and tumbled until his momentum ceased. He performed this graceful and intelligent maneuver right in front of me and to my left. He managed to eliminate my only method of stopping (turning to the left and leaning forward) because I would have to run my friend over as he lay in the snow. So, I made a split second choice and hoped for the best as I curled up tight and braced for impact. I slammed into the fence at the end of the run and both of my skis punched through, my boots broke free of the skis sending me somersaulting completely over the fence high into the air and straight into the creek, which luckily for me had frozen over. After laying on the hard solid ice for several moments to regain my wits and tense my muscles to feel for anything broken, I slowly got up. Looking around to find my bearings, I noticed a linear distance of about 15 feet from where my skis stuck into the fence to the imprint of where I landed, with no impact points in between the fence and the middle of the creek. I continued to look around to find my friend doubled over in pig-snorting laughter pointing at me, occasionally exclaiming “that was AWE-SOME!” Not sharing his humorous view of the situation, I pulled myself off the creek bank to retrieve my skis from the fence, proceeded over to my friend, grabbed him by the ankles and up-ended him onto the creek bed.



All in good humor, of course, for we now look back and still laugh at the incident. Names have been omitted to protect our dignity!

Anonymous

The area around Syracuse, New York is famous for having one of the highest levels of snowfall in the U.S.A. One morning in January, 1966, I woke up to find that school had been cancelled, but was asked by my parents to shovel the driveway. When I opened the garage door, I was greeted with a solid wall of snow. Snow drifts had gone over the roof of our house. I did, eventually, clean off the roof and driveway, but school was closed for a solid week and streets were shut down. Groceries were delivered by snow mobile for several days until the street could be plowed.

James Casey, Director

Snow

Out of 53 Surveys: Sledding / tobogganing (50)



Made a snowman (47)



Made snow angels (46)



Snowball fight (42)



Ice skating (41)



Christmas Caroling (38)



Made a snow fort / igloo (34)

Cut your own Christmas tree (19)



Sleigh ride (17)



Downhill skiing (13)



Cross country skiing (10)

Snow mobile riding (9)



Made a snow / ice sculpture (8)



Skeetching (7)

Ice fishing (3)



Snow shoeing (1)



In addition to the items listed on the survey a few extra items were written-in by the staff. Deborah and Laura recall that as a child they would walk across the mounds of shoveled snow on the way to school instead of using the sidewalk. I, too, remember doing that and the fun in knowing that the hill could collapse at any given moment. Don mentioned that he has played ice hockey in street shoes.

One person noted that they threw a snowball at a CTA bus in hopes of getting through an open window. I am speculating that all of us have tossed snowballs at just about everything—from inanimate objects to the occasional unfortunate critter that happened to cross our path. My guess is that little sisters everywhere are prime targets for older brothers.

Something that completely slipped my mind (thanks for reminding me) is the ritual of driving through the neighborhood to look at Christmas decorations. I am sure we all have a fond memory of the “coolest” looking house for miles around. Last year, we took the camcorder on that ride and it was a lot of fun to watch (and listen to) later. Mary Lynn noted that taking photos during snowy/icy days make awesome landscape pictures.



Harriet grew up in Louisiana and did not experience the joy of snow until she was 14. They got 2” and the town came to a halt. Most of her snowy adventures had to wait until she was 25 years old.

Janet Orzech, Administration

Staffing News



Katherine Swiatek, an Oak Lawn H.S. student, started on 12/6 as a Page in the Youth Services Department. She enjoys painting and reading.

Welcome

Mary Ryan, a Page in the Youth Services Department started on 11/16.

Jordan Williams, a Marist H.S. student, started on 12/6 as a Page in the Reference Department. She enjoys horseback riding, reading and writing, and would like to study psychology, pre-law and journalism.

“Nothing is so strong
as gentleness and
nothing is so gentle
as real strength.”

Ralph W. Sockman

Horse Show—continued

to a lope (Western riding term for the canter) and then come to a complete stop. Boo Boo did much better than I expected. Her main difficulty was in going from the walk to the jog—she wanted to skip it and just lope off into the wild blue yonder. She had a great four-legged complete stop right at the last cone. I have the other competitors to thank for blocking her escape route to the back of the arena, or she might have loped off track like she did in practice the night before.

Although we didn’t win anything in the Intermediate Western Pleasure group event, it was our very first exposure to a big crowd and flashing cameras. She did everything technically correct, but she was a little rattled by all the commotion and pretty much tuned me out in this event. We did pretty well in the Adult Walk/Trot and Open Pleasure for which we practiced a great deal. In all these group events, the horse and rider must perform to the commands given by the judge—walk, trot, reverse direction, etc. Competitors are evaluated on the overall “look” (the rider’s apparel, the horse’s tack and how you work together) as well as correct technical performance. For instance, in a Western jog, the horse is required to move very slowly in a “collected” manner and the rider must be almost motionless (smiling, of course) with correct body, leg, arm and hand positions. The rider’s cues to the horse should be as subtle as possible.

Boo Boo and I won’t be bored during the Winter months—we’ll be practicing for the next show.

Peg Butcher, Administration

Holiday Party



2004



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

MARCH 1, 2005

Community Survey Results

Approximately 500 patrons took time out of their busy schedules to fill out the Oak Lawn Public Library Community Survey that was published in the November/December 2004 Newsletter. As you can imagine, the comments ranged from absolutely gleaming compliments to nasty negative remarks, but for the most part it appears that the patrons of our library are a satisfied lot. 92.8% felt that our services were good to excellent with our collections rating 91.8% above average. In response to our level of computer resources question, 43.8% rated us above average but surprisingly 51.8% answered "Don't Know." This would imply that a significant number of patrons are still computer shy. Patrons rated our staff assistance 87.7% above average. The staff deserves a pat on the back for such remarkable support on the front lines. Thank you for taking such pride in this community's service.

Some comments and suggestions that you might find interesting:

"The library should be open 24-7."

"Why do we need those metal detectors at the door?"

"We'd like free pick up and delivery."

"We love the Oak Lawn Library and its employees!!! Thank you!"

You may want to read more about what the patrons of Oak Lawn think about us. Copies of the survey have been distributed throughout the building. If you would like a copy please see Janet Orzech in Administration.

READ— Poster Contest

Do you have a flair for photography? Art? Simply creative? Here is an opportunity for you to express your creative and reading self. National Library Week begins on April 10th. In an effort to promote Library Week from within the library we are sponsoring a READ Poster Contest. All library employees and substitutes are eligible. If you would like to view other similar projects go to: <http://govpubs.lib.umn.edu/forum/read2003.phtml>. Look for entry forms in the Staff Lounge.

Entries will be posted in a prominent area during National Library Week. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place winners will be determined by a panel of staff volunteers. Posters will be judged on the following three criteria: originality/creativity, design/color/quality, and general appeal. The 1st place poster will be re-printed poster size for distribution in the library. Other winning posters will be re-printed on ledger paper.

Rules: only 1 entry per person or group, poster must feature at least one person (or fictional character) AND at least one book/AV item in our collection, the word "READ" must appear somewhere on the poster in letters at least 3/4" tall, total image size must be approximately 6.5" x 10", poster must be accompanied by entry form and submitted (on paper or via electronic format) by 5:00 p.m. on March 25th. Entries that do not comply with all rules will be disqualified.



Staff Longevity Awards

30 Years

William Goodfellow

20 Years

Lorraine Grivakis

10 Years

Sharon DeYoung

5 Years

Barbara Knight

Megan Kowalski

Jessica Miller

Joanne Neff

Patricia Pollard

Kimberly Singraber

Reliable Substitute Awards

Georgene Kasput

Catherine Smitko

Mary O'Mara

Matt Nowak

Lynnette Hopwood

Susan Ainley

Oak Leaves Editor: Janet Orzech

"The more sand that has escaped from the hourglass of our life, the clearer we should see through it."

Jean Paul

Learned to Drive On:

1942 U.S. Army Truck	1984 Chevy Caprice
1949 Chevy	1985 Cavalier
1953 Cadillac	1986 Oldsmobile
1953 Plymouth	1990 Plymouth Acclaim
1955 Pink and grey Chevy Impala	1990 Plymouth Acclaim
1956 Chevy	1990 Plymouth Voyager
1958 Chevy Bel Aire	1991 Dodge Caravan
1959 Ford	1995 Dodge Mini Van
1959 Ford F150 Pick-up	1995 Ford Thunderbird
1960 Oldsmobile	2000 Saturn
1962 Baby blue Thunderbird	2000 Toyota Solara
1962 Ford	2002 Ford Windstar
1963 Nova	2002 Pontiac Grand Am
1964 Chevy Monte Carlo	Buick Skylark
1964 Pontiac Tempest	Chevy Astro
1965 Chevy Impala	Chevy Suburban
1965 Chevy Ventura	Dodge Charger
1967 Pontiac Firebird	Ford
1968 Pontiac Station wagon	Ford - stick shift
1971 Buick Skylark	Ford Escort
1973 AMC Hornet Hatchback	Ford Falcon
1973 Chevy Malibu	Ford Pinto
1975 Oldsmobile Cutlass	Ford station wagon
1978 Camero	Impala station wagon
	Plymouth
	Rambler station wagon
	School car 1966 compact



Dream Car:

1956 T-Bird or Bentley
 1958 Red Corvette
 1964 Mustang
 1967 Ford Mustang
 1967 Pontiac GTO (2)
 1968 Jaguar XKE
 2002 Pontiac Grand Am
 A Bright Red convertible
 Black BMW
 BMW
 Cadillac (2)
 forest green XJ12 Jaguar
 Hummer
 Jaguar (2)
 Jeff Gordon's NASCAR
 Lamborghini DiAblo
 Lexus (3)
 Lincoln Navigator
 Lincoln/Mercury-Chrysler
 Mercedes Benz (2)
 Nissan Altima
 Porsche
 Porsche Boxster
 Porsche Carrera SUV
 PT Cruiser
 Purple Viper
 Red Lexus convertible
 Triumph TR7 convertible
 VW Beetle - cream colored convertible

Every time I drive for long distances across the country going 65 miles an hour (usually more) I find my thoughts drifting to our forefathers traveling by covered wagon. It truly amazes me that anyone ever made it from the east coast to the west. It is exhausting sitting in the car for hours on end, I cannot imagine the relentless hours on a wagon or horse. How did they ford the rivers? How did they survive without the souvenir shops?

Of the 55 respondents to the survey the vast majority started driving at the age of 16 (22). 13 started at the age of 15, 6 at 14, 5 at 18, 4 at 13, 3 at 17 and one brave person at the age of 37. 39 of us took Driver's Education while 15 did not. Getting a driver's license is a nerve wracking experience for some —especially people like me who fail the first time around. To this day I think I should have passed just like the other 10 people who had to try again.

Those of you who have ever learned to drive a stick shift (manual transmission) know just how frustrating that can be. The first car I bought was a stick shift and as I attempted to drive across the city to school that day, I realized just how tough it was. The left hand turn from a complete stop on an uphill ramp proved to be quite scary! 25 of us have conquered this skill.

I had the distinct pleasure of accompanying my two children on their first driving experience. It is hard to tell who was more frightened, them or me. In commercials and movies the father is often portrayed as a tough driving instructor. Our survey showed that fathers (20 out of 55) took the most active role in the learning curve. Some people listed parents (5) which would make the number even higher. Moms took a back seat with 10 followed by friends with 8. Two each listed a brother, husband and school itself. One person drove with an aunt, one learned in the army and one person went to driving school.

When asked what their dream car was some listed a specific car, others responded as follows: any kind of SUV; any station wagon with auto locks, auto windows and air conditioning; anything over 4 cylinders, anything with a chauffeur; anything with lots of extras; I like minivans—one with a DVD player in the back seat for passengers; I love my brand new 1004 Chevy Aveo—dream would be for someone else to pay it off for me; one that lasts forever; one that never breaks down, one that never needs gas, repairs and maintenance—I'm practical; one that works and someone else paid for; the one I don't have to finance; too many nice cars and SUVs out there; no cars at all—only public transportation.

Janet Orzech, Administration

and their stories . . .



We had this 1976 station wagon that my husband really dressed up the looks of. We owned it for ten years and it had 40,000 miles on it. Never had a problem with it. We sold it to our friend and she sent us cards every year on how she loved the car. She owned it for another five years and then gave it to her son, who then took it to Florida and drove it all around there until it finally got tired and retired. That was some car. I still love that car now. It was baby blue with dark blue pin stripes on the side, that always looked like mint. What a beautiful car. I'm still hoping and wishing that Ford will come out again with a full size station wagon.

Jamie Akin, Building Services

Of course I passed the drivers education class at school but not before going over a curb and getting the car stuck in the mud. A Saturday class of four students had to be cancelled. There is no way that teacher wanted to see me again!



Patricia Pollard, Reference Services

Route 66 Raceway in Joliet, Illinois opened in 1998. I was working with the timing lights (Christmas Tree) installer and had the opportunity to be the very first person to drag my car (1983 Z-28 Camaro) down the track. I kept the time slip for prosperity.



Don Hocutt, Technical Services

Staffing News

Welcome

Steve Reyes started 2/1/05 as a full-time Senior Library Assistant in Patron Services/AV Unit.

On the Move

As of 1/10/05 Matt Nowak will be working in the Computer Center as a PT Library Assistant. He is a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago currently studying Chemistry. His interests include computers, forensics and creative endeavors.

He felt that the change would allow him to expand his knowledge of computer related subjects. He also wanted to broaden his work experience in a new environment. So far, he feels that the Computer Center has been a wonderful place to work and his fellow staff members are great people to work with. He is excited to see what is in store for him at the Computer Center.

"Every man is a damn fool for at least five minutes every day; wisdom consists in not exceeding the limit."

Elbert Hubbard

First Car:

1948 Hudson	1973 Ford Torino
1953 Buick straight 8	1973 VW Super Beetle
1955/1957 Chevy	1975 Oldsmobile Cutlas
1958 yellow and black Dodge w/cool fins (wish I had kept it)	1976 Chevy Nova
1959 Impala	1978 Camero- rusty and in need of repairs
1959 Pontiac Tempest	1982 Toyota Corolla
1961 Chevrolet	1986 Ford Mustang convertible
1962/1963 Chevrolet Impala	1986 Oldsmobile
1962 VW "Bug" - blue	1986 Toyota Tercel
1963/1965 Chevy Malibu	1989 Chevy Corsica
1964 Buick Skylark	1990 Acura Integra
1964 Chevy Impala Super Sport	1992 Toyota Camry
1965 Ford	1995 Buick Century
1965 Mustang	1996 Saturn Coupe
1965 Rambler Classic	1996 VW Jetta
1967 Ford	1998 Pontiac Grand Am
1967 Pontiac GTO	2000 Oldsmobile Auro GLS
1969 Chevy Nova	2000 Toyota Solara
1969 Dodge	2002 Pontiac Grand Am
1970 Chevelle	AMC Hornet Sedan
1970/1971/1972 Pinto	Dodge Polara
1973 Chevy Malibu	Toyota Corolla
	VW Beetle

STAFF ASSOCIATION

A Word From Madame President

Hello from the Staff Association! I just wanted to invite all SA members to plan for the following fabulously fun activities for the year.

Also, for anyone who is not a member, let Peggy Butcher know if you are interested in joining. There is a small monthly fee of \$2.00, which helps us to plan these wonderful staff events. Let the games begin!

- In **March**, we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day by providing Green River soda & green tea. Also, anyone who is interested can bring in something green to eat. No mold please!
- One morning in **April**, the SA will be providing bagels, donuts, and coffee for our very hard-working staff.
- In **May**, we will be celebrating that great American pastime, baseball. A hot dog day will get us in the mood for the season opener.
- Salad is good anytime of year, but especially in **June** along with our SA membership drive.
- **July** means hot weather and also our annual ice cream social. Yummy!
- We will again be having an off-site picnic in **August**. Get those water balloons ready!
- As the days get longer and the weather gets colder, the SA will be holding a chili-cook off in **September**. Get your judging spoons out and get ready to sample the best!
- **October** brings scary stories, black cats, and yummy treats!
- Soup will warm our insides in **November**, and our annual holiday party will be the grand finale at the library in **December**!

Special thanks goes out to Kathy O'Leary, Bill Goodfellow and Lana Magnavite. They put their heads together and sold some of Kathy's old books on e-bay. The venture was so successful they decided to donate \$200 to the Staff Association.

Thanks,
Sarah Schroeder, President

My son, David, should be heading back to the air base in North Carolina at the end of February. He has logged over 350 flight hours which will bring his total up to 850. He will be going back to the Middle East in June. C130 Pilots are on a rotation of 120 days overseas and 90 days stateside in order to give all qualified flight personnel an equal opportunity for amassing flight time and combat experience.

I am looking forward to hearing him talk about his experiences freely. Normally when he calls, he is limited on how much information he can divulge with regard to his missions. He normally uses the term "sandbox" for Iraq.

Thank you to all who donated supplies, candy, hand wipes, magazines, playing cards, etc. to the troops. They appreciate being remembered in this way.

Louise Pfeiffer, Periodicals

My daughter is moving to Michigan. I'm not too happy about it but they will be living with us until their new home is built.

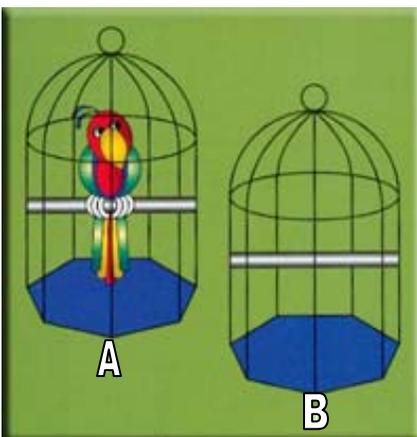
My grandson, Tommy, will be going in for surgery to get his legs straightened. He will be in a cast for six weeks on both legs. He will be our very own bionic man because they are using a steel plate in one leg. He is excited about the prospect of running and walking better even though he will still have to wear braces.

My son, Jim, remains well and is still a carpenter foreman but he has been working hard at his true love—music. He has produced three CDs where he sings, plays guitar and drums. If I say so myself the songs are pretty good even if they are a little heavy for my liking.

Jamy Akin, Building Services



Picture A shows Polly the parrot in her cage. Where's Polly gone in Picture B?



What is the next word in this sequence?

**REDDEN
SEAM
BLEW
HATRED
DENSE
AMBLE**

WHAT is the next word in this sequence! The first 17 letters are simply repeated in the same order.
At the bottom of the cage where there is a Polygon (Polly gone)!



DORMITORY

DIRTY ROOM

GEORGE BUSH

HE BUGS GORE

THE MORSE CODE

HERE COME DOTS

A DECIMAL POINT

I'M A DOT IN PLACE

ELEVEN PLUS TWO

TWELVE PLUS ONE



New Youth Services Department Head

Some of you may have noticed a familiar face lighting up the Youth Services Department. Jean Day, the new Department Head, has returned to Oak Lawn Library after a 9-year stint at Matteson Public Library. She worked here for 17 years starting in 1978.



When asked if things around here have changed, she said that we have a professional atmosphere and the staff are still wonderful, resourceful and service-oriented people. She also noted the expansion of computers and related resources.

Jean is looking forward to implementing some new programs. The "Every Child Ready to Read" initiative will focus on not only training parents

but using "leveling" (using 3 tiers of easy readers) to assist both parents and children in the selection process. She would like to explore adding more Young Adult activities, and helping to create an area where they can feel comfortable. Among the objectives of the Long Range Plan are plans to study the first floor space usage along with Patron Services. With the Summer Reading Program just around the corner Jean has also been coordinating efforts to show movies.

Jean is very happy to be here and was overwhelmed by the warm welcome she received from every department.

Welcome Back Jean!

Ex-Employee Now Trustee

Rich Gast, newest Trustee Elect, has returned to the Oak Lawn Public Library wearing a different hat. He left the library's employ in May of 2004 after 10 years of service to take a position at Calumet City Public Library. As a Trustee, his focus will shift from computer issues to those of serving the citizens of Oak Lawn. Trustees on the library board oversee the operations of the library with the indispensable cooperation and guidance of the Director.

On April 5th the people of Oak Lawn also re-elected both Joann Buschbach (3rd term) and Marian Sullivan (4th term). The other trustee candidate, Anthony R. Constantine, was defeated by a 1,135 margin.

Mr. Gast will have a perspective unlike other trustees because of his insider experience. Hopefully, this will be a valuable asset to the Board and great things will emerge from his successful campaign.

Congratulations Rich!

ILA

Continuing Education

For those of you who may be registering for upcoming ILA events during 2005, the library has received 12 discount coupons. The coupon entitles the bearer to the ILA member rate for all ILA continuing education programs.

These are available to all staff on a first-come first-served basis. The coupon must accompany registration forms to ensure discount. Please see Janet Orzech in Administration for further details.

FYI- CELL PHONE USERS



In a few weeks, cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sale calls. You may be charged for these calls depending on your service.

Call this number from your cell phone:

888-382-1222

It is the national DO NOT CALL list. It only takes a minute of your time. It blocks your number for 5 years.

Please pass this on to everyone you know who would like to be hassle free.

Oak Leaves Editor: Janet Orzech

"When you do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world."

-George Washington Carver

FAME

On March 30th I was driving home when I saw some big lights across the park, pointed at a house. I went over to investigate and found that they were shooting a movie there. It's called "IL MARE," although the name may be changed to "THE LAKE HOUSE" or something else. It was being shot all over the Chicago area, including Riverside, near where I live. It stars Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock, and I got to watch a scene in which he comes up to her front door and she lets him onto her porch. They shot it several times with a crane behind and above Keanu, and apparently the scene continues into her house. Although that was the night of a recent thunderstorm, a snow truck had been brought in to blow snow onto her lawn and shrubs. The movie is supposed to come out next February, and if you see the scene on her porch where he's wearing a parka and she's wearing a jersey with orange sleeves ~ that's the scene I watched.



Tom Kochinski, Youth Services

Graduation

Mr. Ronald E. Hopwood, Sr. and Mrs. Harriet H. O'Malley proudly announce the graduation of their daughter, Katherine Lynnette Hopwood from Dominican University with a master's degree in Library Science on May 7, 2005. Lynnette is a substitute with Reader's Advisory Services and also works at the Audio Visual and Circulation desks.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Harriet O'Malley, Patron Services Dept.

I hesitated to ask such thought provoking questions on this month's survey but my curiosity compelled me. The Summer Reading Program theme gave me the idea and I wondered if, as adults, we thought of anyone as heroes. I am pleased to report that we still share the notion that some people are bigger than life, that some people don't take things lying down, and some people see a reason to stand up for what they believe in. We may not always agree with them but we value their ability to withstand the storm and never falter. Thanks for the affirmation.

Janet Orzech

Childhood role models and Heroes

- ★ My Parents.
- ★ Mom—She overcame insurmountable odds and obstacles to raise four WONDERFUL daughters (I'm her favorite).
- ★ The Pope—Catholic schools made me!
- ★ My father, Leonard Harrison Hooker, because I never saw him mistreat a person or do anything wrong.
- ★ As a child, Jim Henson (creator of the Muppets, filmmaker, artist) was my hero. And as an adult, he's one of the reasons I decided to go back to school for art. The man seemed to be made up entirely of astounding visuals and creativity instead of flesh and bone, which is why it was especially shocking to me when he died suddenly. I really hope to experience even a fraction of his creative output in my lifetime—possibly as an intern at the Jim Henson Company.
- ★ Sherry Lewis—Lambchops rocks!
- ★ Ray Raynor—the oldest "child" on TV.
- ★ My father—He seemed so smart and capable of doing anything and everything.
- ★ Grandfather—Traveled around the world as a merchant marine from Ireland, worked a cattle ranch in South America, self-educated, a hallmark grandpa.
- ★ The Athletic Director at OLCBS, Mr. John Lewis, took me under his wing and helped me join track, wrestling and (even though I was only 127 pounds) football. He was a marine and influenced my decision to join the USMC upon graduation.
- ★ My 3rd grade teacher for being such a wonderful, patient, encouraging teacher who let me be her helper as I got older so I wouldn't have to go to study hall.
- ★ My grade school Physical Education teacher inspired me to pursue a career in teaching. He always encouraged us to do our best.
- ★ Padre Pio of Pietrelcina—Like St. Francis of Assisi, he suffered the stigmata and spent his entire life in prayer for the salvation of souls. "Far be it from me to glory except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Gal 6:14) He was utterly humble.
- ★ My mother was both my hero and a great role model. My mom, a widow, always made sure that we (5 children) were always taken care of, both physically, emotionally and spiritually.
- ★ My Girl Scout Leader.
- ★ Elvis—Loved his music and movies.

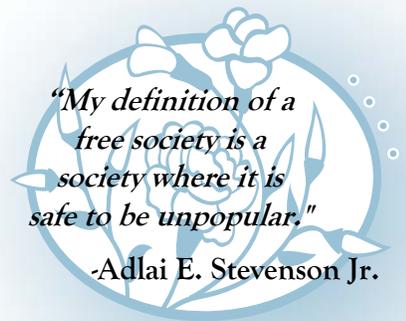
Childhood Cartoon Heroes

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| • Peanuts | • Teenage Mutant | • Popeye |
| • Baroness (G.I. Joe) | • Ninja Turtles | • Mighty Mouse |
| • Tom & Jerry | • Underdog (3) | • Foghorn |
| • Donald Duck | • Rocky & Bullwinkle | • Road Runner |
| • Batman | • Green Hornet | • Tweety |
| • Wonder Woman | • Wolverine | |

And Tomorrow . . .

Heroes for a lifetime

- ★ My mother—She is so forgiving.
- ★ Any police officer, fire fighter, EMT, military serviceman, or even someone who's just a regular person who stands up for what is right and tries to make the world a better place to live in is a hero in my book.
- ★ Jesus Christ—Because He never ever lets me down.
- ★ I guess my friends are my heroes. They all have really amazing qualities that I admire and strive to incorporate into my own life.
- ★ Michael Moore—Not many people are brave enough to share extreme views, especially if they're unpopular.
- ★ The late Pope John Paul II—He was so humble.
- ★ Anyone who fights for the underdog (no pun intended). People who try to improve life for the less fortunate with little or no compensation.
- ★ George Bush—I believe he is an honest, sincere man that has overcome personal defects and will be remembered as a great president of the 21st century.
- ★ My parents—For all their sacrifices and support through it ALL with me and my two sisters.
- ★ As an adult I realize how special my Aunt Martha was. I now see her as the role model of the perfect "Auntie." She has shown me, by her example, how to be the perfect Auntie to all "little ones."
- ★ The men and women who have sacrificed their time and lives in Iraq to protect what we, as Americans, cherish the most—our freedom.
- ★ Cyrano De Bergerac—Poet, swordsman, scientist, playwright, musician, philosopher, and musketeer (courageous, witty, eloquent, honorable, and heroic).
- ★ Christopher Reeves—He turned his tragedy around to set an example and touched so many lives.
- ★ John and Robert Kennedy—Because of their belief in a better world for all people. It was an era of hopes and dreams.
- ★ My parents.
- ★ J.R.R. Tolkien—He is an inspiration to all writers and poets.
- ★ My best friend Jay—She gives her time, money, and lots of energy towards living a good life and helping others.
- ★ Martha Stuart—I hope that she emerges bigger and better from her troubles.
- ★ The Lord Jesus Christ—I knew of Him since I was very small, but not until I was in my early 20's did I realize that only Jesus Christ's work (He suffered, died and rose again) could save me (my soul) from sin and hell. On that day when I realized I could not do anything to get to heaven but to trust by faith that what Jesus did many years ago—was my salvation. I realized that day that Christ paid what I could not—a debt for my sin. So, I trusted Jesus Christ for my salvation (a home eternally with God). I now have the peace and hope, that when I die I will be in heaven, because of my hero Jesus Christ! The best is yet to come.



Luck of the Irish

After a delay of over 7 years, I finally went back to Ireland to continue my genealogy pursuits. This time I parked myself in the National Library and spent hours and hours looking at parish records. The records dated as far back as the 1790s and fortunately were in English and Latin. I found a baptismal record for my great grandfather which listed his parents' names. One more generation back!!!! It was thrilling to find these names.

I also saw something in Ireland which I had never seen before... SNOW. On the train trip back to Dublin from County Kerry, I saw lovely fields covered with a couple inches of beautiful white snow.

Europe is very expensive now for Americans. Our dollar isn't doing well at all and everything is quite expensive. However, I am sure glad I went back to the 'ole sod!!

Kathy O'Leary, Reference Services Dept.

Wedding Bells



I would like to announce my engagement to Chirayu (He was born in India). We plan to get married in June of 2006.

I have also earned an AAS (Associate of Applied Science) in Interior Design from Harrington College of Design (Chicago). I intend on continuing to get my Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2006 and hopefully on towards a master's degree to become an architect.

Ashley Woodin, Patron Services

4.F	8.T	12.T	16.T	20.T
3.F	7.T	11.T	15.T	19.T or F
2.F	6.F	10.T	14.F	18.F
1.T	5.F	9.F	13.F	17.F

Trivia Answer Key:

STAFF ASSOCIATION

Art Shows

I was fortunate enough to have a drawing included in the annual Skyway Art Competition again this year. This very small juried show featured art from eight local community colleges. My drawing was one of three works accepted from Moraine Valley and was on display



during March at the Robert F. DeCaprio Art Gallery.

I have also been included in this year's Moraine Valley Student Art Show. They have chosen this self-portrait oil painting. The show runs April 11th through May 3rd.

Jessica Miller,
Administration Dept.



Hello from the Staff Association!

May is time for Hot Dog Day! Yea! Mark your calendars for Friday, May 27th. The Staff Association will be providing hot dogs and soda. We will need volunteers to bring in side dishes and also to help with set-up, clean-up and other stuff. Please contact Sarah, Tom, or Janet if you are interested in helping. There will be a short meeting for volunteers a couple of weeks before the big day. A sign-up sheet will be put up in the staff lounge for those who want to bring in extra goodies.

Also, we have a date set for our annual Staff Association picnic. It will be Sunday, August 7th from 10am - whenever, at the Swallow Cliff Woods Grove #1 at Rt. 83, west of Mannheim (Rt. 45), in Palos Park. We will print out maps when the time comes near. Start planning for a fabulous, fun-filled day of food, games, and (hopefully) good weather.

Thanks,
Miss Sarah, President

Staffing News

Welcome

On the Move

Kyle Taylor, moved from Periodicals to a Library Assistant Position in the Computer Center effective 4/16/05.



Brett Butcher, Substitute Library Assistant, Reference Services, joined the library staff on 2/23/05.

Jean Day, Head of Youth Services, started 3/1/05 (see page 1).



This trivia quiz is entirely true/false. See how many of the questions you can answer correctly - you have done extremely well if you are right on more than 15 of them. Have fun!



in love with the one played by Jodie Foster.

7. The character Jack is played by Leonardo DiCaprio in the 1997 movie Titanic.

8. In the Japanese animated movie Vampire Hunter D, the "D" turns out to stand for Dracula.

9. At the end of The Crying Game, the character played by Forest Whitaker helps an IRA volunteer escape from prison.

10. In the movie Ed Wood, the character by that name is played by Johnny Depp.

11. Searching for Bobby Fischer is based on a true story.

12. In the 1998 movie Godzilla, 2 attempts are made to lure the monster by using fish.

13. In Kiss the Girls, the character played by Morgan Freeman is killed in an explosion caused by gas & the discharge of his firearm.

14. There is a scene in the movie Restoration where the character played by Robert Downey Jr. touches a live man's brain.

15. The mastermind in The Usual Suspects turns out to be the character played by Kevin Spacey.

16. A treasure map is found to be tattooed on a pirate's skull in Cutthroat Island.

17. It is mentioned at the end of Animal House that the character played by John Belushi goes on to become an attorney for the ACLU.

18. The movie Blade Runner is based on the book Tomorrow's End, by Robert Heinlein.

19. The character played by John Travolta is an FBI agent in Face/Off.

20. Sidney Poitier's famous line "they call me Mister Tibbs" became the name of the sequel to In the Heat of the Night.

1. Bubba's last words to Forrest Gump in the movie by that name are "I wanna go home."
2. Tim Allen does the voice of Woody in the movie Toy Story.
3. Cuba Gooding Jr. plays the role of Malcolm X in the movie by that name.
4. Sharon Stone was the Serial Mom in the movie by that name.
5. It is suggested that Ike & Tina might get back together at the end of the movie What's Love Got To Do With It?
6. In the 1994 movie Junior, Schwarzenegger's character falls



(Answer Key on Page 3.)

RUIZ, MARITZA
 REF
 1292 (0)
 NE



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

JULY 1, 2005

Wi-Fi Days of Summer

If news of the library's addition of wireless Internet access has not yet reached you, well here it is. Final preparations took place early last month and patrons (staff too) are now able to access the internet without "plugging in" just about anywhere in the library. Those fortunate enough to have laptops or other devices equipped with a wireless card can *surf the web* without staff intervention.

In the event that you are not familiar with wireless, access please pick up a brochure at one of our service desks. In the simplest terms it is similar to using a cordless phone. There are limitations to the distance the available signal will travel. Dr. Casey said that he was able to get a decent signal from the Village Green tables near the north end of the library. For those experiencing technical difficulties, a troubleshooting page is also available (on paper and on our website).

Since our wireless access is not a part of the regular public network, printing is not available. Those wishing to print will need to use the computer center, youth services computers or their home printer. Some sites will be filtered to protect younger and more sensitive users. Those needing unfiltered internet access will have to use the computer center computers.

Linda Olsen, Public Relations Officer, will promote this new service in September in coordination with back-to-school efforts. The library wanted some time to iron out kinks prior to making a big splash with the media.

Horse Show Competition



On June 19th Peg Butcher (Administration) and her horse, Boo Boo Bandit, competed in five events at the Open Horse Show at Francis Field Fairgrounds in New Lennox. This was the first time they attended a competition away from their home barn at Fitzjoy Farm in Palos Park. Although the competition was tough with 18 to 28 competitors, they won three ribbons. Peg and Boo were awarded two fifth place ribbons and one sixth place ribbon.



Daily Exercise Suggestions —

from:

www.health-fitness-tips.com

Park and Walk

Whenever you have an errand, park your car as far away as you can handle and walk to the store.



At the mall, park at the farthest end and walk the length of the mall. Use every opportunity to walk. At the end of the day, it all adds up to better fitness.

Crunch in Bed

Before you even get out of bed in the morning, do 10 stomach crunches



while lying flat on your mattress. Increase daily by one until you get up to 100. Think you'll never get there? Try it. You may eventually have to set your clock to wake up 15 minutes earlier, a small price to pay for a flatter stomach.

Oak Leaves Editor: Janet Orzech

"Where large sums of money are concerned, it is advisable to trust nobody."

-Agatha Christie

Staff Survey

Thanks for the tremendous response to the great outdoors survey. I am so grateful to find out that I am not alone in foolish camping mishaps and animal encounters. Although I never came face-to-face with a bear I did come within arm's (or should I say teeth) reach of a shark while snorkeling off the coast of Florida. Sure glad he wasn't hungry.

My daughter and I were also hit by the night marauders commonly known as raccoons. They opened our cooler and partied (rather loudly) all night on frozen bacon, steak and hamburger.

Oddly enough the strangest event happened at home. My son, about 12 at the time, told me there was a squirrel in his room. I was certain that he was joking. The chaos that ensued was much like the scene in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. We finally trapped it in a toy basket using a net made out of a coat hanger.

Janet Orzech

	Never	1-5	A lot
S'mores	2	15	27
Hiking	4	14	24
Camping*	6	22	15
Fishing	9	19	13
Canoeing/kayak	20	20	4
Bird watching	29	13	2
Rock climbing	30	12	1
Hunting	38	4	1
Rafting	32	12	0

*Tents-19, Campers-12, Under the stars-3

I came face to face with a buffalo while backpacking in Yellowstone National Park. We had just hiked up a gentle slope (I happened to be in front) and as I reached the crest and headed down, there he was. We basically just looked at each other. They are really HUGE animals!!

Jean Day, Youth Services

Many years ago we visited Canada and my husband decided that he did not want to stay there overnight. We had left Park Forest at 5:00 a.m. and we ended up in Finger Lakes, New York at 1:00 a.m. the next day. This was the first time we had used this tent. We figured out how to put the tent up and then collapsed. Why did we do this? I can't remember now, but I will never do that again!

Julia Churchill, Patron Services

My sister and I camped a lot with our parents in tents. We actually did two camping trips in which you had to hike to get to your camping spot.

Jennifer Lechert, Reference

The most memorable outdoor adventure I experienced was a four-day raft trip down the Green River from the Gates of Lodore to Dinosaur National Park on the Colorado/Utah border. We floated the river by day and slept under the stars at night. And what a marvelous sight that was! There are so many more stars visible in the unpopulated wilderness than can be seen here in Chicago. The whole sky was filled with pinpoints of light.

Sections of the river were peaceful, allowing us to drink in the sight of canyons and wildlife as we floated by. Then we would enter a series of rapids which provided excitement. There were some tense moments. Once the raft hit a rock and swung completely around. I had to reach across and grab my nine-year-old son by the belt loops to keep him from falling overboard while I held on to the rope next to me.

This trip was a great combination of rafting, camping and family togetherness. I would love to do it again.

Mary Lynn Mysz, Patron Services

Once while out in a canoe we encountered a beautiful swan. We proceeded to tell the swan it was pretty. At that moment the swan charged towards us as fast as it could. I think it wanted to kill us! We paddled out of there like we were escaping the devil himself.

Kaye Barham, Periodicals

I lived in a Train Station converted into a house on the top of a gently sloping hill. At the bottom, about a half a mile away, were the train tracks that I played around often as a second grader. In the south we were raised to fear snakes. One day I encountered the biggest snake I'd ever seen lying motionlessly in the short Alabama grass sunning itself. I was paralyzed with fear. Fortunately, after about 20 minutes, my Aunt looked in my direction and immediately surmised my plight. She came down and tried to stone the snake but it slithered away leaving both of us unharmed.

Don Hocutt, Technical Services

Besides deer and snakes, I have encountered raccoons rummaging around in the cooler at our campsite and they stole our meat. The little bandits—Ha ha ha.

Joanne Neff, Administration

While camping in Lolo, Montana, a bear raided and knocked over a huge garbage dumpster then walked right through our campsite.

Peg Butcher, Administration

Adventures

We forgot to seal our tent and then there was a rainstorm (bad one). The tent sunk into the ground in about 1 foot of water. Now I hate camping!

Mathew Nowak, Computer Center

We received a "there's a bear in your car" greeting from fellow campers upon returning from a day of hiking in the Smokies. A minute later we reached our site and saw this was no campground joke. There was a bear in our backseat enjoying s'more ingredients. Some shouting got the intruder out and no damage was done. Thinking the tent was the next target we decided to spend the night in the car. Big mistake! The bear had no interest in a tent without food, but did come back several times to the car that night, peered in the windows, pounded on the doors, and tried (unsuccessfully) to join us in the backseat for more chocolate and marshmallows. The next day we alerted rangers and moved to the other side of the mountain!

Verlyn Biere, Reference

I like the outdoors, but am not much of an outdoorsy type. Drives, long long walks and super-easy hiking (definitely not backpacking) are my kinds of activities. The most strenuous, but well-worth it, was climbing to the top of Diamond Head on Oahu. We picked the wrong time of day and I thought I would melt! The view was spectacular.

I've hiked all through Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks, and the Garden of the Gods Park in the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois. While driving down a remote country road in Pennsylvania we got quite a shock when an eagle swooped down and landed just a short way in front of us. That thing was absolutely huge! In Yellowstone National Park a black bear (mama bear) jumped up against our car and looked through the window at us. She was escorting her 2 cubs across the road. Luckily, she only looked at us before lumbering off into the woods. Walking along a path near Argonne National Laboratory I did meet up with a fawn standing near a small pond—it was so pretty. Other animals I've seen from a distance—a grizzly bear, herds of elk, bison, mountain goats, moose, coyote, fox, deer, vultures, roadrunners— to name a few.

Beth Walsh, Reference

My husband, daughter and I went to Mississippi Palisades State Park with our pop-up camper. We inadvertently left our M&M cookies in the screen gazebo and during the night a raccoon came and ate most of them!

Janet Goetz, Technical Services

I am not a camper. The only time I camped "under the stars" was decades ago as a girl scout. The worst part was getting out of the sleeping bag in the morning to discover I had slept with a BIG spider!

Deborah Cocanig, Reference

When I was in Goose Bay, Labrador, my husband and I walked down the ski slope and stopped to rest. He had been stationed there for a year without me. Since we were finally alone, he grabbed me in a passionate embrace and kissed me. When we broke, I looked behind us and there was a huge bear eating berries from a bush. We sat still until the bear moved off and then, we got out of there.

Harriet O'Malley, Reader's Advisory

While hiking I came upon a deer, a buck, and he did not budge. He stared me down until I left. I later realized that he was watching the females nearby at the lake. Don't let anyone tell you that animals are more afraid of you!

Anonymous

★ ★ ★
"Never work just for
money or for power.
They won't save your soul
or help you sleep at night"

★ ★ ★
-Marian Wright Edelman

Staff Survey

Looks like the staff here enjoy camping, hiking and making s'mores. The two people who have not experienced s'mores should do so before another summer goes by. You don't know what you're missing!

Lower on the list were rock climbing and rafting. This is no surprise with Illinois being flat for the most part. White water rafting as well as rock climbing are much more popular in mountainous areas. Hunting is not something everyone is willing to try but we have a few that do enjoy that sport.



Notations for hiking indicated some serious mileage. Four people listed 10 or less miles and three said they had gone between 10 and 20 miles. Two people have gone 50 miles and one hardy individual went 150 miles.

As for biggest fish, we all know how this story goes — the fish grows with each telling. On the lighter side of comments: no bigger than a sardine, a minnow, a crab, and soooo big. One said "If they're big enough to keep they're big enough to eat, yum!" Among the big catch were: an 8" catfish, a 1 pound bass, a 24" fish out of Lake Michigan and an unknown 32" fish.





Congratulations Graduates

Oak Lawn Community High School

Laura Trotta
Laura Dee
Allison Arnold
Izabel Gronski

Richards High School

Holly Swaim
Hilary Sifling

Mother McAuley High School

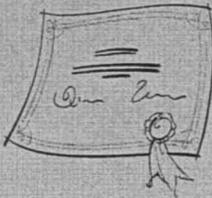
Jill Kempczynski

Laura Trotta will study math and secondary education at St. Xavier.

Allison Arnold will study nursing at St. Xavier.

Izabel Gronski, who received a scholarship to Northwestern, plans to study International Relations.

Holly Swaim will be studying architecture and dance at Moraine Valley.



Staff Association Update—

June 21st was the all staff Salad Day and SA Membership Drive! Staff brought in their favorite salads to share and Staff Association provided yummy bread and pop. There was also an all staff raffle. Winners of Food for Thought gift certificates were: Peg Butcher, Kay Gibson, Tom Kochinski, Marlene Gilbert and Pat Pollard.

July will bring us the annual SA Ice Cream Social. The specific date will be announced later in the month, but get ready for lots of ice cream and toppings! Mmm, mmm, good! Great eats for a hot, summer day!

Plus, don't forget the annual Staff Association picnic at Swallow Cliff Woods on August 7th from 11am till whenever. There will be food, games, and as always, lots of fun! SA will provide pop and condiments, so just bring your grillin' goodies, a side to share, and get ready for fun in the sun! Please contact Barb Knight if you have further questions.

Sarah Schroeder
Staff Association President

STAFF ASSOCIATION

Staffing News

Welcome

Su-Lin Battersby started 5/18 as a Receptionist in Administration.

Colleen Sheil started 5/16 as Administrative Assistant in Publications.



Jacqueline Zink started 5/3 as a Substitute Page for the Reference Department.

Lisa Hagar started 5/3 as a Page in Periodicals. She is an Oak Lawn H.S. student and enjoys music, art and shopping.



Judy Sandberg started 6/1 as a Substitute receptionist in Administration. She is a student at St. Xavier in the Renaissance Program studying arts and literature. She interests include plants, book clubs, crafts and Native American spirituality.



GiGgles

Bumper Stickers:

If you are psychic—think "honk"

"Criminal lawyer" is a redundancy

Circular definition: see definition, circular

Give me ambiguity or give me something else

Ok, who put a "stop payment" on my reality check

Santa's elves are just a bunch of subordinate Clauses

Everyone has a photographic memory—Some don't have film

I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges



Enlightenment:

Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

Some days you are the bug; some days you are the windscreen.

Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side and a dark side and it holds the universe together.



Want to check your area for the cheapest gas prices? This website does a nightly survey:
<http://autos.msn.com/partners/sponsorpage.aspx?page=gas&src=msn>1=6599>

Oak Leaves

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

SEPTEMBER 1, 2005

Annual Picnic

On Sunday, August 7th, we had a great picnic at Swallow Cliff Woods. The day was hot but the grove had big trees and lots of shade. We had the use of a shelter too.

A great big thank you to everyone who donated prizes and helped out. Barbara Knight and I had lots of helpers. Special thanks to Barbara and her family – they know how to throw a



great party! Youth Services donated “treat bags” with food coupons and other neat stuff and all who attended got one. We enjoyed a game of egg toss and water balloons. We gave out prizes for our guessing games and riddles and some people played bean bags and Frisbee. Julia Churchill put together a “Name that Tune” game and everyone had fun trying to guess the titles and artists. Everyone

brought a dish to share and boy was that good!

The best part of the day was the special raffle we held to help the troops. People donated prizes and we collected \$31. Louise Pfeiffer will take this money and use it for postage and other necessities. She will ship it to her son to share with those he is stationed with. The soldiers truly appreciate it—thank you.

Thanks again to everyone who came to the picnic, helped carry, cleaned up, donated prizes and made the day so much fun!

Janet Goetz, Technical Services



Jules Verne Right Again. . .

In his 1875 science fiction classic **20,000 Leagues Under The Sea**, Jules Verne writes about an under-sea hunting expedition using a very unique form of bullet - a Leyden ball: “...the balls sent by this gun are not ordinary balls, but little cases of glass. These glass cases are covered with a case of steel, and weighted with a pellet of lead; they are real Leyden bottles, into which the electricity is forced to a very high tension. With the slightest shock they are discharged, and the animal, however strong it may be, falls dead.”

In the novel, the Leyden ball is carried by a special rifle that uses air pressure to fire. “One of the Nautilus men gave me a simple gun, the butt end of which, made of steel, hollow in the centre, was rather large. It served as a reservoir for compressed air, which a valve, worked by a spring, allowed to escape into a metal tube. A box of projectiles in a groove in the thickness of the butt end contained about twenty of these electric balls, which, by means of a spring, were forced into the barrel of the gun. As soon as one shot was fired, another was ready.”

Under the auspices of Homeland Security, Lynntech of College Station, Texas, is developing a non-

Continued on Page 2.

Oak Leaves Editor: Janet Orzech

Reading Reflections...

*"In every community
there is work to be done.
In every nation, there are
wounds to heal. In every
heart there is the power to
do it."*

-Marianne Williamson

Jules Verne

Continued from Page 1

lethal projectile that can be fired from a shotgun. On impact, the Lynntech device sticks to the target and delivers an 80,000-volt shock for 7 seconds, using a pulsed delivery similar to that used by Tasers. Further shocks can be triggered via remote control.

The Leyden jar is a cylindrical container made of a dielectric (an insulator, like glass) with a layer of metal foil on the inside and outside. With the outside surface grounded, a charge is applied to the inside surface. This gives the outside an equal but opposite charge. When the outside and inside surfaces are connected by a conductor, the stored electrical energy is discharged. It was the world's first working capacitor.



The Leyden jar was first discovered by Ewald Georg von Kleist, a German inventor. However, Pieter van Musschenbroek of the University of Leyden discovered the Leyden jar independently in 1746 and the name remains.

Tattoo Article

Julia Churchill, AV Librarian, was featured in the Daily Southtown on Sunday, August 28th. The article entitled "Do You Tattoo?" explores the tattoo industry and the people that choose to adorn their body with permanent art.

Even though I have always loved books, I have only written to an author four times to tell them how much I liked their work. I was absolutely THRILLED when I got personal letters back from the three authors in England, at least one of whom was in her 80's. (Some of you will recognize her name: Miss Read.) Those three letters are among my treasures. Oddly enough, it was only the author living in America that did not reply.



Read? Read? I'm a librarian—I don't have time to read!

If I do check a book out, however, it is almost always a cook book — mostly dessert cookbooks. I do have a list of books I'd like to read when I retire. There are mostly science fiction, history and mystery books on that list.

Debbie Co-

Staff Favorites:

- A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens
- A Time for Dancing, Davida Hurwin
- Atlas Shrugged, Ayn Rand (2)
- The Bible (2)
- Confessions of an Heiress, Paris Hilton
- Crime and Punishment, Fyodor Dostoevsky
- The Dean's Watch, Elizabeth Goudge
- Door Into Summer, Robert Heinlein
- East of Eden, John Steinbeck
- The Fountainhead, Ayn Rand
- Gone with the Wind, Margaret Mitchell
- Harry Potter, J.K. Rowling
- The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
- Little Women, Louisa Mae Alcott
- Love is Eternal, Irving Stone
- Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen
- The Source, James Michener
- Steamboat Gothic, Frances Parkinson Keyes
- The Thorn Birds, Colleen McCullough
- The Two Towers, J.R.R. Tolkein
- The Vampire Lestat, Anne Rice
- The World Almanac (current year)
- To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
- White Noise, Don DeLillo

Favorite Genre:

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Mystery (6) | Adventure (1) | Metaphysical (1) |
| Biography (4) | Children's | Romance (1) |
| History (3) | Historical Novel (1) | Science Fiction (1) |
| Drama (2) | Horror (1) | Travel (1) |
| Fantasy (2) | Inspirational (1) | Unusual (1) |

My mother met Mrs. Keyes (pronounced Kies) at her home and got a personally autographed copy of "Madam Castel's Lodger." I read it at age 12 and was hooked on anything by her. She lived in my home town in Louisiana in her retirement years and still wrote. She died on a cruise in 1972.

Susan got me started on mysteries which I love. I haven't stopped since.

Harriet O'Malley, Patron Services

My mother and father are both avid readers. It was my mother who got me started reading both D.E. Stevenson and Angela Thirkell. We used to visit different libraries together so that we could read as many of their books as possible. We had a great time reading and discussing those books.

Favorite Authors:

Adventure

Chuck Palahniuk
Douglas Coupland
Jules Verne
G. Bruce Knecht

Children's

Beverly Cleary
J.K. Rowling
A.A. Milne
Julie Campbell

Crafts

Better Homes & Gardens

Drama

William Shakespeare
Anton Checkhov
Jane Austen
Carol Sheilds

Fantasy

J.K. Rowling (2)
J.R.R. Tolkein (3)
Andrew Lang

History

Thomas Cahill
Martin Gilbert
Bryce Courtenay
Paul Fussell
Barbara Tuchman

Historical Novel

Ann Rinaldi
Anita Shreve
Simon Elegant
Willa Cather

How To

Cook: Michael Rulman

Mystery

Patricia Cornwell
James Patterson
Lilian Jackson Braun
Janet Evanovich
Deborah Adams
Patricia Cornwell
Sue Grafton
J.D. Robb
M.C. Beaton
Agatha Christie (3)
Nancy Bell
Donna Andrews
Dana Cameron
Laura Childs
Mary Daheim
Jill Churchill
Joanne Fluke
Caroline Graham
Lea Wait
Jo Dereske
Peter Tremayne
Wilkie Collins
P.D. James

Horror

Anne Rice

Romance

Suzanne Brockmann
Lori Foster
Sherrilyn Kenyon
D.E. Stevenson
Angela Thirkell
Charlotte Brontë

Science

Charles Darwin

Science Fiction

J.R.R. Tolkein
Ray Bradbury (2)
Isaac Asimov
Michael Crichton

Thriller

Dean Koontz (2)
John Saul
Stephen King

Travel

Mark Twain
Bill Bryson

True Crime

Anne Rice

Western

Tony Hillerman

"You cannot make yourself feel something you do not feel, but you can make yourself do right in spite of your feelings."

-Pearl S. Buck

Chicago Magazine

Jenny DeVivo, Substitute Library Associate in Youth Services, will be featured in the September issue of Chicago Magazine. The article focuses on the history of Catholics in Chicago. Jenny will be one of the main individuals interviewed for this piece.

Be sure to check it out!



Family News

I am proud to announce that I am going to be a grandmother again — 4th time. My son James, the proud father, has gone back to his foreman job. Although he is restricted from heights, still has headaches and has difficulty sleeping it has not stopped his interest in music. He is in the process of getting copyrights for his four CDs. He writes the lyrics, sings and plays the instruments too.

My daughter is enjoying her new home in Michigan. The forest surrounds them and beautiful humming birds are often flying around. Little Tommy's legs are working great with braces for support and balance and his other health problems are getting better too.

My husband, Tom, and I are in the process of buying a new cottage in Shadow Lakes located in Wilmington, Illinois. We miss getting away on the weekends.

Tom, my husband, has been taking a class that will prepare him to get a

Pumpkin Seed Recipe



For those of you who like chewing on pumpkin seeds, the following recipes will come in handy during the next month or so. Enjoy!

Oven Method

Preheat oven to 250°. Wash and clean pulp off seeds and place in a bowl. Melt 1-2 Tbsp. of butter. Slowly add to seeds while stirring. Sprinkle with salt or other spices. Spread out evenly in baking dish or cookie sheet. Place in the oven. Check and stir them often. Remove when crisp and golden. Cool before eating.

Microwave Method

Rinse seeds, then pat seeds dry with paper towels. Melt 2 Tbsp. butter in 2-quart rectangular microwave dish (on high for about 30 seconds). Stir in seeds to coat and spread out seeds evenly in dish. Microwave on high 7-8 minutes or until toasted, stirring every 2 minutes. Salt or season, cool, eat!

Get Out the Vote!

A Staff Association

meeting will take place during the September 9th Staff In-Service Day. At that time a ballot will be passed out to all SA members.

Members will be asked to vote on the following issues: an increase in gift amounts for staff leaving employment, wedding, birth of first child, illness, and death. We will also be asking for input on issues regarding this year's holiday party, which will be held in-house on December 9th.

Please return your ballot to Janet Orzech (in Administration) by September 16th.

Thanks,

Staffing News

Welcome

Sylvia Skucha was hired as a Substitute Page in Periodicals on 6/14 and shortly after (7/25) took a part-time Page position in Pa-

Jeffrey Lein was hired as a part-time Page in Patron Services, Circulation/AV unit on 7/19. He is a student at St. Xavier University and enjoys writing along with creative and

If you are a science fiction nut, you may find some great stuff on technovelgy.com. This site explores the inventions and ideas of science fiction writers and matches them to real life technology. Also included on the site: Glossary of Science Fiction Technology terms; lists by category, alphabet or year; science fiction in the news; inventions by author; and much more. Want to learn about "heliodisplays"?



Help me Obiwan Kenobi—you're my only hope.



Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he cannot wait to stick his head out the window in the wind?



Trivia.....

- The only bird that can fly backwards—hummingbird.
- The only animal besides humans that can get sunburn—pig.
- Average number of people airborne over the U.S. any given hour— 61,000.
- They have square watermelons in Japan—they stack better.
- The first pocket calculator made by Texas Instruments sold for an average price of \$150 in 1971.

Fractured Phrases —

- Immature around the breathing apparatus
- Initial items at the beginning
- To be maintained in the total eclipse
- Confront the tune
- Face the music
- Kept in the dark
- First things first
- Green around the gills



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

NOVEMBER 1, 2005

In-Service Day Highlights



This year's In-Service Day was not only instructional but fun. The staff pooled its own resources to provide instruction on computers, first-aid, departmental issues and other library training. In addition, volunteers provided insight to topics not commonly found on the in-service agenda such as: Drawing Basics (Jessica Miller); Sign Language (Miche'le Freese); Copier Troubleshooting (Louise Pfeiffer); Macrame Hangers (Harriet O'Malley); Dancing (Jenny DeVivo); Car Care (Joanne Neff's husband Bob); and Stained Glass (Janet Orzech).

Continued on Page 3

ILA Librarian of the Year 2005

Our very own Dr. Casey was chosen to receive the ILA Librarian of the year award this year. The award was presented at the ILA Conference in Peoria on October 13th. Pat Roberts (Board President), Marian Sullivan (Trustee), Rich Gast (Trustee) and Diane Casey (Jim's wife) were present to witness this event. Ms. Roberts called the following day to be sure that the staff knew that Dr. Casey acknowledged his staff and board as the foundation of a successful library.



At the October 18th Board Meeting the Board and Staff showed their support by presenting our own token gift, a tiffany style desk lamp and an engraved plate that reads "ILA 2005."

CONGRATULATIONS!

Cookie Exchange December 16th

Would you like to have an awesome assortment of cookies for the holidays without all the fuss? The idea behind a "Cookie Exchange" is to bake a batch or two of your favorite cookies and share them with others who do the same. We will set the cookies out and you will have an opportunity to take a few cookies from each plate. You will have a great variety of cookies without having to go through all the hassle of making each recipe yourself.



In order for this to go smoothly we will need to know how many

people would like to participate. For each cookie you bake, you will get a cookie in return! If we have 20 participants you would need to make about 60 cookies. You will find a sign-up sheet in the Staff Lounge. Please write in the type of cookie you will make so we won't have any duplicates.

Sign up by December 7th.

Oak Leaves Editor: Janet Orzech

Sports Fever . . .

"Nobody in the game of football should be called a genius. A genius is somebody like Norman Einstein."

-Joe Theismann
(Former quarterback)

STAFF ASSOCIATION

The Staff Association will be providing pumpkin and apple pie slices for all Staff Association members on Tuesday, November 15th. Take a break and enjoy a yummy treat!



Also, on the 15th, the Staff Association will be hosting *Soup Day* from Noon-3pm. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the staff lounge to bring in your favorite soup to share with staff.

Sarah Schroeder,
President

Stage Debut

On Monday, October 10th, I made my stage debut at Queen of Peace High School. Each year we have a "Faculty Assembly" where the teachers basically make fools of themselves in front of the students. This year we did a parody of "So You Think You Can Dance". I was one of the judges—of course I was none other than "Marion the Librarian". Look out Meryll Streep—here I come!

Debbie Cocanig, Reference Services



Fans:

		Attend games —		
		Regularly	Now and then	Never
White Sox	22	6	25	9
Cubs	14	4	14	10
Both !	7		5	7
Bears	16	3	3	24
Blackhawks	4		6	16
Bulls	10	1	9	15
Fire	2		4	18



Going to Game 1 of the ALCS! Oh Yeah!
GO WHITE SOX!

Jamie Quintavalle, Computer Center

Both (White Sox and Bears) are the best teams in the NFL and MLB!

Miles Nowak, Patron Services

In 1992 the Northwestern Wildcats went to the Rose Bowl. I went to the football welcome home rally with my NU football helmet on.

The ALL BIG-Ten running back for NU, Darnell Autry, was speaking to the media and said "Coach Barnett said if we went to the Rose Bowl folks would be in purple madness and just look at this guy with the NU helmet on". Every TV camera from Chicago had me on their newscast and I had my 15 minutes of fame. Several students at NU told my daughter "Tracy, we saw your dad on TV!" and some of my friends were astounded when they saw my smiling face on the news. GO CATS!



Don Hocutt, Technical Services

I was in Ireland in 1990 when Ireland came in 2nd for the World Cup Games. We waited several hours to cheer the team on its triumphant return to Dublin. It was very exciting being in Dublin when the games were being played in Rome. The whole country stopped working to watch the games on television. We even watched the games on the library's TV. It was quite a fun time.



Kathy O'Leary, Reference Services

Just as important than if you attend (*Who can afford it?*) is if you watch or listen to the games!

Anne Curran, Reader's Advisory

Mark Buehrle, White Sox Pitcher, moved in three houses down from the kids I nanny for.

Lynnette Hopwood, Patron Services

I went to a Sox game shortly after their new stadium was built and the steep incline of the seats made me dizzy. I'd rather watch the game on TV.

Peg Butcher, Administration

Other teams mentioned:

Browns
Cavs & Indians
Richard's Bulldogs
Wolves
NU Wildcats
MVP United Chicago
Blast
High School Teams
(more accessible)

In Spring 1983, my sister asked if we wanted to buy \$3 tickets for a game in September when it was scheduled to be a promotion night for her company. We bought 20 tickets for what turned out to be "clinch night." What a great time!

Mary Dunneback, Reference Services

Watching Joe Nowinski do the "Little Teapot" dance to Queen's "We Will Rock You."

Kyle Taylor, Computer Center

Long long time ago when I was a Girl Scout, we went on a "field trip" to a White Sox game. Some player hit a home run and the baseball hit my friend sitting next to me! She was ok, but the paramedics checked her out. Afterwards, she got to meet the ball player!

Deborah Cocanig, Reference Services

When my daughter and son won a 3 point contest and the play-offs were at the Bull's game.

Patricia Lerner, Reference Services



I attended *Disco Demolition Night* for a double header at Comiskey Park for 99¢. You bring in a 45 rpm record for a seat. After the first game Steve Dahl gathered all the 45's and blew them up.

Pieces were flying like saucers. The fans proceeded to run onto the field and light it on fire. Needless to say, me and my friends quickly ran out before the riot police came in.

Sharon Murphy, Patron Services

Browns fans sitting in the "dog pound" or bleachers used to be called the "cheap seat elite" before the days of the dog pound (1985-90s). Back in the 1970's one could buy tickets for Indians games in bleacher seats for only \$.50. Bleacher tickets for Browns games were \$.50.

James Casey, Director

In-Service Day Highlights Cont.

Special thanks to Linda Olsen (Co-Chair), who took charge in the absence of Peg Butcher who was out with a broken arm during the planning stages, and the rest of the In-Service Committee (Al Fournier, Michele Freese, Louise Pfeiffer, Lorraine Grivakis, Marlene Gamboney and Janet Orzech) for putting together such a great educational as well as social event.



"I went to a fight the other night and a hockey game broke out."

-Rodney Dangerfield

Staffing News

On the Move

Kaye Barham moved from Periodicals to take a Part-time Administrative Assistant position in Administration as of 9/19. Due to a busy school schedule she opted for a position that would require less hours.

Donna Buckley has taken a Full-time Senior Administrative Assistant position in Administration as of 9/19.

I have taken this Full-time Senior Library Assistant position in Patron Services, Circulation/Av Unit (as of 10/1) because I wanted to be more financially sound especially now that my son is going to college in a few years. It is also a step in the right direction: to learn more, to progress further and to be a little more involved in keeping the library running smoothly. The library has always been an important part of my life. I love books, music, and films. I always try to do my best and to be in public service gives me a lot of satisfaction. I've gotten to know all the employees well and I feel very comfortable here. I am glad to be in such a friendly environment day in and day out. I'm happy that I was selected for the position and glad to continue working with everyone. My best wishes go out to all of you!

Dawn Koegel, Patron Services

More Staffing News on Page 4

Staffing News

Welcome

Patricia Lerner started on 10/3 as a Part-time Page in the Reference Services Department and she enjoys crafts and gardening.

Colleen Wynne started on 8/15 as a Substitute Library Assistant in the Reference Department.



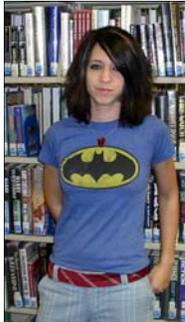
Maria Zabawa started on 8/17 as a Part-time Page in the Youth Services Department. She is a music education student at St. Xavier University and enjoys singing and playing piano.

Courtney Woodin started on 9/12 as a Part-time Page for Patron Services in the Readers' Advisory Unit. She is an American School student, enjoys music, and plays the drums.



Bonnie Wedster started on 8/12 as a Page in the Reference Department. She is a student at Moraine Valley. She likes to make music, plays piano and guitar and also enjoys crafts.

Todd Suhs started on 10/17 as a Part-time Page in the Reference Services Department. He attends Moraine Valley and enjoys music and art.



Angeline Nalepa started on 10/3 as a Part-time Page in the Reference Services Department. I'm in band (Oak Lawn Community High School) and the news editor of the school paper. I am easily excited by little things like puppets and bubbles. Perhaps that is what makes me unique. Besides music and cheap thrills I enjoy being with friends.

Angeline Nalepa, Reference Services

Mary Jo Ryan started on 10/10 as a Part-time Page in the Patron Services Department. She is a Marist student who enjoys cross country skiing and plans to go into physical therapy or community health.



Rusimir Derdemez started on 10/10 as a Part-time Technical Maintenance Assistant in the Technical Services Department. He is studying to be a computer/electronics control technician and enjoys watching movies and listening to music.



Why didn't the dog want to play football?
It was a boxer.



Fishing terms.....

Catch and Release—A conservation motion that happens most often right before the local Fish and Game officer pulls over a boat that has caught over it's limit.

Hook—(1) A curved piece of metal used to catch fish. (2) A clever advertisement to entice a fisherman to spend his life savings on a new rod and reel. (3) The punch administered by said fisherman's wife after he spends their life savings.

Lure—An object that is semi-enticing to fish, but will drive an angler into such a frenzy that he will charge his credit card to the limit before exiting the tackle shop.

Reel—A weighted object that causes a rod to sink quickly when dropped overboard.

School—A grouping in which fish are taught to avoid your \$29.99 lures and hold out for spam instead.

Tackle Box—A box shaped alarmingly like your comprehensive first aid kit. Only a tackle box contains many sharp objects, so that when you reach in the wrong box blindly to get a Band Aid, you soon find that you need more than one.

Sherlock Holmes and Watson were on a camping and hiking trip. They had gone to bed and were lying there looking up at the sky. Holmes said, "Watson, look up what do you see?" "Well, I see thousands of stars." "And what does that mean to you?" "Well, I guess it means we will have another nice day tomorrow. What does it mean to you, Holmes?" "To me, it means someone has stolen our tent."



A guy took his girlfriend to her first football game. Afterward he asked her how she liked the game.

"I liked it, but I couldn't understand why they were killing each other for 25 cents," she said. "What do you mean?" he asked. "Well, everyone kept yelling, 'get the quarter back!'"