

HCLS Lighthouse

Newsletter of the Harrison County Library System



June 1, 2000

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Summer Reading 2000



"On the Go with Books" is the theme of the 2000 Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Harrison County Library System and the Mississippi Library Commission. Children across the coast have been invited to participate in various programs, activities and contests related to our theme. Throughout the county, children will have the opportunity to explore the limitless horizons available to them through reading.

In addition to providing wholesome summer activities for coast children, our program also encourages good reading habits. Research shows that children who read consistently during the summer months show greater gains in reading and vocabulary development when they return to school in the fall. The Summer Reading Program is designed to attract children to our libraries and to promote the idea that reading is fun.

During June and July, each Harrison County Library will provide a variety of programs, activities and contests related to this year's theme. Some of the programs include Walter the Giant Storyteller, Joseph Harris and Magic that Mystifies, Terry Vandeventer the "Snake Man," Sand Art with Sharon Watkins, the Harrison County Petting Zoo, Fencing with Jonathon Carr, and NASA from Stennis Space Center. Activities and contests for the children include T-shirt

painting, a Yo-Yo contest, cake decorating, making "pinch-pots," sneaker decorating contest, a sock relay race, and a library scavenger hunt. As a special treat this summer, all of the children's librarians will appear as cast members in a live performance of *Minnie and Moo go to the Moon* by Denys Cazet. Minnie and Moo are the bovine stars of this hilarious story about two cows who decide one day that driving the farmer's tractor is a temptation they just cannot resist.



Throughout the summer reading program, children will keep a written log of the books they read. As a reward for being part of the "On the Go with Books" program, the children will each receive an award certificate and will be invited to an awards celebration where drawings will be held for special prizes donated by area businesses.

Registration for the summer reading program begins the first week of June. Information on registration, program dates and times, activities and contests may be obtained from each library, or by visiting the Harrison County Library System web site at www.harrison.lib.ms.us.

*Kathy McGovern, Children's Librarian
Gulfport Public Library*

Harrison County Library System

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Pass Christian Library Welcomes and Says Good-bye

In January of this year, the Harrison County Library system named John Batson Head Librarian of the Pass Christian Public Library.

Batson comes to Pass Christian from the Jackson-George Regional Library system, where he had served as the Reference Services Manager since 1997. Prior to that, he had managed the system's St. Martin branch library. Jackson-George recruited Batson from the Statesboro Regional Library in Georgia, where he served as Automation/Consultant Librarian for two years following his graduation from library school.

Batson has been active in both state and national library associations, including stints as chair of the Mississippi Library Association's Intellectual Freedom committee and as a member of the editorial board of the American Library Association's journal, *Reference and User Services Quarterly*. Batson has also given time to the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. He has served as a member of its Educational Services committee and is

a 1996 graduate of its Leadership Jackson County program.

"We are delighted to have a head librarian of John's caliber joining our system," said Harrison County system director Robert Lipscomb. "He is an active, experienced professional who will be a great asset for us."



Batson has almost 20 years of experience in libraries of all kinds. He earned his bachelor's in English from Tulane University, a master's in English from the Claremont Graduate School in California, and his master's in library and information science from Louisiana State University.

"I'm pleased to be joining the Harrison County Library system," said Batson. "It is one of the largest, busiest and most progressive systems in the state. I'm looking forward to being a part of this team."



After 21 years of service to the Pass Christian Library and the Harrison County Library System, Linda McArthur retired.

Linda came to work for the Pass Christian Library in May of 1979. On Friday, May 12th, she retired from the system. Linda plans to stay home with her husband, Pete, unless she can find him a job! A reception was held on Friday for Linda. Many friends dropped by to tell her goodbye. We will miss her, here at the Pass Library.

*Sally James, Children's Librarian
Pass Christian Library*



Storytime at the Orange Grove Library

As Daddy came into the house from work one Wednesday night, the twins, Kimmey and Sammey, ran to him squealing--"Oh Daddy, Oh Daddy! Guess what happened at story time with Ms. Oki this morning." Scooping the twins into his arms, Daddy gave a kiss to each and replied--"What happened?" "We saw a spaceship", the twins said with wonder in their voices. Sammey continued, "And there was a man out in space in a space suit---and he was reading a book! And there was this little space creature riding on a book! Oh, Daddy, it was so funny." "Well, then we came to this pretty park", Kimmey continued. "The sun was shining and we saw an alligator! Reading a book! Daddy can alligators read?" Before her Daddy could answer, Kimmey continued, "Do you know what was flying in the sky? Books!! And they had wings." The twins giggled together, then said,

"Come to story time with us--Ms. Oki is so much fun!"

Well, this scene could have happened at any home in the OG area this time last year. Helen Donohoe's Gifted Class from N. Gulfport 7th & 8th Grade School spent approximately 2 weeks at the Orange Grove Library painting a mural on the wall of the auditorium. Twelve to fifteen young people came after school, on weekends, and during class time to draw out the mural and then paint it. This dedicated group of young people and their teacher did such a wonderful job. The staff and patrons at OG want to thank them for using their talent in this way. The space scene, with its beautiful sky, and the park with the huge tree, the sun, clouds, flowers, little



animals, and an alligator (reading a book?) make a wonderful setting for story time. Our thanks also to the parents of these young people who often brought and picked them up. The principal of the N. Gulfport 7th & 8th Grade School, Mr. Bobby Jones, gave them permission to use several class periods to work on this project. The Orange Grove Library thanks him for allowing us to have these talented young people work with us to make the library a more interesting place to be.

Come
up
and
see
our
wall!



*Gwen Farned, Branch Head
Orange Grove Library*

Visitors to the Orange Grove "Sticks" Library

We, at Orange Grove Public Library, realize that those of you who live and work in the downtown and "city" areas of Biloxi and Gulfport think of those of us who live and work in the northern areas as being in "the sticks". Yes, Orange Grove is called a small branch library located in "the sticks", but the staff thinks you can also call Orange Grove Branch Library "cosmopolitan".

For the past six months we have enjoyed the visits of six young men visiting the U.S. from the Czech Republic. Two of them spoke and understood enough English so that we were able to communicate in a very sketchy way. As they came in to use the computers to send and receive e-mail from back home, we

discovered that in May they would be leaving for Alaska to climb Mount McKinley. (We are hoping to receive a postcard!) We also realized that one of the young men, Martin Fic, had a problem. He needed to change his departure date from June to September and was having difficulty communicating with Austrian Airlines. We were able to call the airline, get his departure date changed, and have the schedule faxed to OG for him. Before the group left for Alaska, Martin, who is a graphic artist in the Czech Republic, made a beautiful bouquet of origami flowers for the library. The day of our open house during National Library Week, Martin brought in his still warm homemade bread. We miss these smiling polite young men.

Continuing our world travels, for three weeks in June, the OG staff will enjoy having a young woman from Paris, France with us. For the past three years, Venessa Brouard has visited Gwen and volunteered at OG. During her visits we have enjoyed French food, learned to speak a few French words and a little bit about French customs. (Did you know that V. C. Andrews' books are very popular in France?) In exchange, we have taught her about American libraries ("bibliotheque" en Francais).

Who knows what our next country will be! A bientôt! ("So long" in French-- Sorry, don't know any Czech)

*Gwen Farned, Branch Head
Orange Grove Library*

Open House

On Sunday, April 8, the Pass Christian Branch Library hosted an open house reception to celebrate National Library Week. Put on by the Friends of the Pass Christian Library, the reception was very well attended and a good time was had by all. Pictured with Director Robert Lipscomb is Mr. John Batson, the new head librarian of the Pass Christian Library, Mr. Virgil Harris, President of the Friends of the Pass Christian Library and Mrs. Deborah Dawkins, State Senator.

Robert Lipscomb, Director



MLC Visit

On February 25 the Mississippi Library Commission visited the Gulfport Library. Pictured with the Harrison County Library Director, Mr. Robert Lipscomb is Mr. Hester Plauche, Dr. Glenda Segars, Mrs. Frances Coleman and Mrs. Jo Anne Reid, all members of the Mississippi Library Commission. Also pictured are: Ms. Nancy Sneed, Mrs. Betsy Wineki, Ms. Mary Buchanan and Mrs. Gerry Morgan, all members of the Harrison County Library Board of Trustees. The purpose of the visit was to be briefed on the status of the Gulfport Library and to tour the facility. A small reception was also held for the members of the Commission which included light refreshments.

Robert Lipscomb, Director



Congratulations Staff

Murella Powell

Wednesday, May 26, in celebration of National Historic Preservation Week, the city of Biloxi named Murella Powell "Historian of the Year." This is the second time Murella has been the recipient of the award, the first time being in 1983.

Deborah Lundy

On May 13, 2000, Deborah Lundy was awarded her Master's degree in Business Administration from William Carey College on the Coast.

Jerry Sellier was promoted to Head of Circulation at the Pass Christian Library. She fills the position opened by Linda McArthur's retirement.

Genealogy Consolidation

In order to provide better service to patrons, the genealogy collection of the Gulfport Public Library was joined with the collection at the Biloxi Library. The consolidation of the Harrison County Library System genealogy and local history, started earlier this year, is now complete. The grand opening of the collection in a larger area of the Biloxi Library on April 13, was a great success. Many city and county officials attended. Murella Powell, encourages everyone to visit the collection and get acquainted with the resources available. Gulfport retained their census on microfilm and a large collection of Family Tree Maker's Family Archives CD-ROMs.

Harrison County Library System

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Libraries and Their Hours

Biloxi Public Library
139 Lameuse Street
Biloxi, MS 39530-4298
(228) 374-0330 FAX 374-0375
Mon-Thu 9:00—8:00
Fri & Sat 9:00—5:00

D'Iberville Public Library
10391 Auto Mall Parkway
D'Iberville, MS 39532-3750
(228) 392-2279 FAX 396-9573
Mon & Tue 9:00—8:00
Wed - Sat 9:00—5:00

Division Street Study Center
595 Division Street
Biloxi, MS 39530-2303
(228) 435-2435
Mon-Fri 3:30—7:30
Sat 1:00—5:00
Summer Hours: 1:00—5:00

Gulfport Public Library
1300 21st Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39501-2081
(228) 863-6411 FAX 868-8413
Mon-Thu 9:00—8:00
Fri & Sat 9:00—5:00

Isiah Fredericks Study Center
3312 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Gulfport, MS 39501
(228) 868-1268
Mon - Thu 2:30—7:00
Fri 2:30—5:30
Summer Hours
Mon - Fri 9:00—5:00

**Margaret S. Sherry
Memorial Library**
2141 Popp's Ferry Road
Biloxi, MS 39532-4251
(228) 388-1633 FAX 388-0920
Mon & Tue 9:00—8:00
Wed - Sat 9:00—5:00

Orange Grove Public Library
12031 Mobile Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39503-3175
(228) 832-6924 FAX 832-6926
Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00—5:00
Tue, Thu 9:00—8:00
Sat 9:00—5:00

Pass Christian Public Library
111 Hiern Avenue
Pass Christian, MS 39571-4311
(228) 452-4596 FAX 452-3247
Mon-Thu 8:00—6:00
Fri 8:00—5:00
Sat 9:00—5:00

West Biloxi Public Library
2047 Pass Road
Biloxi, MS 39531-3125
(228) 388-5696 FAX 388-5652
Mon-Wed 9:00—8:00
Thu - Sat 9:00—5:00

Holiday Hours : All Libraries will be closed, Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day