

# HCLS Lighthouse

Newsletter of the Harrison County Library System



May 15, 2004

Volume 4, Issue 2

## *A Good Year for the Harrison County Library System*

This past year (2003) has been a year of growth and continued development for the library system. With the completion of the Margaret Sherry Library addition, we have added 7,500 square feet of space to our physical plant. Even with the closure of the Margaret Sherry Branch for more than four months for construction, our total circulation for the year was 717,465 items (which included 1,943 interlibrary loans from outside the system)! This works out to approximately 3.7 items per capita for Harrison County. We had a total of 559,339 visits to our libraries and attendance at our children's programs was 31,747 for the year. More than 19,000 people attended our adult programs and we successfully answered 235,916 reference questions.

Our current active list of borrowers is 98,180, which is approximately 50 percent of our countywide population. We also continue to expect growth in computer usage at all of our libraries. In 2003 we recorded 98,488

computer sessions at our nine libraries. This was an increase of one percent and, when you consider that one of our main branches was closed for four months, any increase is impressive.

We also managed to add 19,389 items to our collections last year. After subtracting our withdrawals ( i.e., 13,602 items) we ended the year with a total material's count of 301,635. This represents approximately 5000 items more than the year before.

Obviously, in spite of the slowing economy, worsening world situation and lower than expected state tax revenue, your library system managed to continue to provide the citizens of Harrison County with high quality service. This is made possible primarily by a very dedicated staff and the continued support of the community.

*Robert Lipscomb,  
Library Director*

## *Meet Our New Librarians*

### *Carol Thompson*

Carol is our new Pass Christian Head Librarian and we are very lucky to have her join our staff. Carol has years of experience as a reference librarian, library science instructor and library director. Carol has come to us from Illinois, where she was an adjunct faculty member and taught library technology at the College of Dupage in Glen Ellyn. Carol was also the director of the Bellwood Public Library in Bellwood, Illinois. We wish her success with her new position and look forward to her professional contributions in the future.



### *Jamie Bounds*

Jamie is our new Margaret Sherry Branch Manager and grew up in Harrison County. In fact, Jamie was a page in the Biloxi Library when she was in high school. We were also very lucky to find someone with the qualifications Jamie has to fill this position. Jamie has both a Master's in Library and Information Science, and a M.A. in History. She has had experience as an archivist, librarian, and independent researcher. Jamie is young and is just starting her career and we look forward to working with her over the years.



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### Harrison County Library System

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*DATELINE@MLC*

The Gulfport Public Library hosted the first program in the Third Annual Mississippi Library Commission's Town Meetings, entitled *Dateline@MLC*. The Town Meeting programs address a wide variety of contemporary issues in a casual, entertaining, and education forum. The instructional methods including skits, panel discussions, games, lectures, group activities, and question and answer sessions and covered such topics as customer service, MLC services, Public Relations, medical reference tools, and library fashion tips. The attendees from Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, and George counties enjoyed an informative program, as well as a chance to visit with the MLC presenters and tour the Gulfport Library.

*Celia Barrett, Head Librarian  
Gulfport Public Library*

Biloxi Head Librarian, Charline Longino served as master of ceremonies. The Invocation was given by Father Wayne Ray of St. John's Episcopal Church, and the Benediction was given by Reverend James W. Haynes: Minister of single and senior adults at First Baptist Biloxi.



The ceremony was well attended as about one hundred people were there for the speeches, and another two hundred or so came and went during the reception.



A Gulf Coast theme was used for the reception. There was everything from a lighted dock, to French bread in the shape of a

crab. Karen Harris, who was assisted by Louise Slote, and Vicky Trochesset, catered the reception. The food was excellent, and everyone had a wonderful time. Devondra Leperi did the artwork.

Everyone had an opportunity to take a good look at their new library. It was a proud moment for the staff: Felica Watkins, Carrie Bellais, Rachel Roberts, Lucienne Gautier, and Kathy Sparkman, who have worked so hard, but also for the patrons who are very happy with their new library.



*Kathy Sparkman, Former Branch Manager  
Margaret Sherry Library*

*Margaret S. Sherry Memorial Library Dedication*



On January 16, 2004, the Margaret Sherry Library held a Grand Re-opening/Re-dedication ceremony at the library on Popp's Ferry Road.



Among the speakers were Mayor A.J. Holloway; County Supervisor Connie Rocko; Mississippi Library Commission consultant, Melissa Wright; Robert Lipscomb, Harrison County Library System Directory; and Kathy Sparkman, Margaret Sherry Library branch manager.

*Pass Christian Boys and Girls Show Their Appreciation*

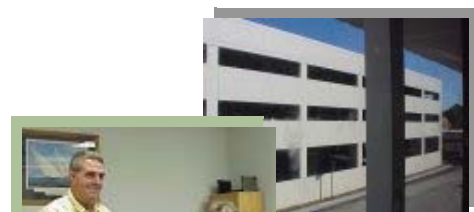
Young adult students from the Pass Christian Unit of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast, along with Marilyn Twyner, Program Director, celebrated National Boys and Girls Club Week by presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to

the Pass Christian Public Library.

The students and the Club recognized the library for their valuable contribution to the Club's programming. Students of all ages have utilized the library and its materials to support reading and book discussions. As Head Librarian, I have had the opportunity to complete evening story hours for some of the students. They are very knowledgeable about books and they are always eager to show their reading skills. During our last story hour, I shared the reading of *Green Eggs and Ham* with one of the younger students. We are also looking forward to the student's participation in our Summer Reading Program, *Step To The Beat! READ*.

We appreciate this recognition from the Boys and Girls Club of Pass Christian. All of the library staff members are looking forward to continuing our programming with community partners.

*Carol Thompson, Head Librarian  
Pass Christian Public Library*



*More Patron Parking at Gulfport*

Thanks to the generosity of the Coast Transit Authority, along with the Harrison County Board of Supervisors, and the City of Gulfport, there is now more parking available to Gulfport Public Library patrons. Recently, Kevin Coggin, CTA Director, presented employee passes for the new parking garage to Head Librarian Celia Barrett. This will free up much needed patron parking just in time for the Summer Reading Program. Thanks to all involved!!!

*Celia Barrett, Head Librarian  
Gulfport Public Library*

## Summer Reading Program

To encourage your child to read this summer, the libraries of the Harrison County Library System and the Mississippi Library Commission are sponsoring a Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is "Step to the Beat... READ!!" Each child that registers will receive a reading log to record the books that they read over the summer months. Children not yet able to read may keep a record of the books read aloud to them. When the program is finished, those who have read a minimum of 10 picture books or 3 chapter books, will receive a certificate.



In addition to the reading logs, the libraries will have a variety of activities for the children of their community. Activities vary by library, including: Storytimes, Magic with Irwin Royes!, Meeting the Biloxi Fire and Police Department, Arts & Crafts, and Ballet, to name a few.

Registration begins June 1st. Please check with your local library for more information.

*Melissa Saucier, Asst. Systems Admin*

## Congratulations to our West Biloxi Manager

Double kudos are in order for Mrs. Deborah Lundy, our West Biloxi Branch Manager. Not only has she just successfully completed the Chamber of Commerce's "Gulf Coast Leadership Program", but she has also received news that she will be receiving a "Reading America" grant. This grant will provide \$5,000 for developing a library-based book and film discussion presentation for teenagers and adults that is primarily designed to foster greater intergenerational understanding. Congratulations Deborah on a job well done!



*Robert Lipscomb, Library Director*

## Poetry Winners

The D'Iberville Public Library celebrated National Library Week with Special Programming for the community of D'Iberville. There was a Library Storytime for pre-school and elementary students with a puppet show. A poetry contest was held as well, a first time event. I think that we have some very talented young people in the community.

And the winners are:

### 1st Place High School Division

"Library here, Library There"  
Ashleigh Tickell, Age 15, 9th Grade

Library here,  
Library There  
Libraries everywhere

a book near  
a book far

read a book in car  
read to see  
read to believe...

don't go slow  
let your mind grow  
from a seed  
to a rose



### 1st Place Elementary Division

"My trip To The Library"  
Jimmy Hines, Age 11  
St. Martin North Elementary School

My trip To The Library  
Each nook and crannie  
is filled with books,  
books, belonging to no one.  
Everyone can borrow them,  
but must replace them,  
when they are done!

There are so many  
choices sometimes it's hard to decide,  
Should I get the one called "voices"  
With something simple  
as next time.  
I flip a coin to see.  
And it seems that this  
time, I'll be bringing  
Voices home with me...

Other winners were Torey Krause, and Andrew Thorne both of St. Martin North Elementary School.

A special thanks goes to Mrs. Melanie Randolph, Mrs. Janice Seymour, Nell Bird, & other special teachers that made this poetry contest such a success.

*Missy Lucas, Children & Youth Services  
D'Iberville Library*

## Margaret Sherry Poetry Contest Winners!

Here at the Margaret Sherry Library, we had a Young Adult Poetry Contest and the winners are:



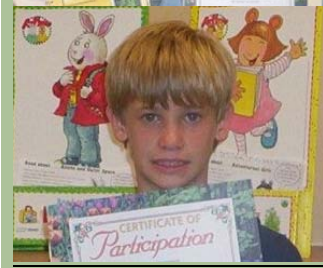
Rachel & Alison Beeson



Angela Weems



Kristine & Kathryn Winter



Taylor Manser

All winners received a writing journal, cool bookmarks and pens to keep on writing those great poems! Congratulations!

*Rachel Roberts, Children & Youth Services  
Margaret Sherry Library*

# Harrison County Library System

Administrative Offices  
1300 21st Avenue  
Gulfport, MS 39501

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Fax: 228-863-7433

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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 39540-3750  
(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) 868-7149  
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: May 29th-May 31st for Memorial Day Holidays, Monday July 5th for Independence Day, September 4th-September 6th for Labor Day Holidays