Pioneer Library System Cuts the Ribbon on New Southwest Oklahoma City Library

The Pioneer Library System and the City of Oklahoma City hosted dozens of local business and community leaders, lawmakers and library personnel at an official ribbon cutting for the Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library Dec. 2. The library, located at the corner of 134th Street and South Pennsylvania Avenue, is due to open in early January and is the 10th facility in the Pioneer Library System, which provides library services in Cleveland, McClain and Pottawatomie counties.

Ward 5 City Councilman David Greenwell cut the ribbon as representatives from the library system, the PLS Board of Trustees and the PLS Foundation Board assisted. The library features more than 57,000 items in its collection inside the 19,000 square-foot building, funded by tax funds raised in the 1990s through the MAPS 1 Project. It is the only library in the City of Oklahoma City not operated by the Metropolitan Library System.

PLS already has a strong presence in the community, presenting Summer Reading Program events and other programs through outreach efforts at the Earlywine Park Family YMCA the previous two summers. “We know the importance of being a strong partner in the community,” said Branch Manager Aiden Street. “We have staff dedicated to building relationships and strengthening partnerships with the local schools, families and the businesses in the Southwest Oklahoma City area.” The ribbon cutting preceded the Pioneer Library System’s annual Partners in Progress luncheon, where library and community leaders spoke about the positives from the new facility and the benefits of libraries in general.

For more information on the new library, or any of the programs and services offered through the Pioneer Library System, go online to www.justsoyouknow.us.
Happy Holidays!!!

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Now that the holidays are over, conference planning is in full swing. Actually the planning part is almost over. We are into the finalization stage: finalizing the speakers, the food, the rooms, etc. So much goes into putting on the Oklahoma Library Association conference. After appointing committee chairs and committees, the President sort of sits back and lets it all take place. We have no shortage of enthusiastic people to guide this organization.

We will have something for everyone who attends in Norman, Oklahoma at the Embassy Suites Hotel on March 28th – 30th. The rooms at the Embassy Suites are fabulous, will hold several people, and you get a free breakfast and happy hour for everyone staying in the room!

To give you a sneak peek, our banquet speaker is Will Manley. He currently writes the “Manley Arts” column in Booklist and the “Will’s World” column every month in the ALA’s American Libraries Magazine. Manley is also a popular speaker at library conferences and staff development days.

Our keynote speaker on Thursday morning is Jason Young. He left Southwest Airlines to launch his own consulting practice to focus on corporate training and development services specializing in leadership, customer service and team building. I feel these two speakers will get our conference off to an amazing start. Mark your calendar and watch for registration information soon.

We also have two upcoming workshops in January and February. Link to http://ola.oklibs.org/ for more information.

Now, I have to go start my Christmas shopping. (I wrote this on December 13th)

Please contact me with questions and comments.

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New Southwest Oklahoma City Library,

Anne Masters, Director of the Pioneer Library System, speaks at the ribbon cutting for the new Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library.

Mary Sherman (center), former Director of the Pioneer Library System, speaks with Andy Peters, Associate Director for Technology, and Peggy Cook, Purcell Public Library Branch Manager and McClain County Coordinator for PLS, at the ribbon cutting for the new Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library Dec. 2.

Banners produced by the Pioneer Library System’s Public Information Office greeted guests at the ribbon cutting for the Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library, the newest PLS facility. The banners featured PLS staff members as well as key members of the team involved in designing and building the library.

Article by:
Christian Potts · Staff Writer, Public Information Office · Pioneer Library System · (405) 701-2670 · cpotts@pls.lib.ok.us
Public Library Division Workshop to Hear About Continuous Improvement Model

Are you looking for a fresh approach to customer service issues? PLD will be hosting a workshop on January 11th in Stillwater that will do just that. Join us as Jaime Prothro from the Wichita Public Library explains the continuous improvement model adopted by her library and their Customer Service Initiatives.

Find out more about these Customer Service Initiatives and work with other librarians to apply new methodologies to current customer service issues. This workshop will appeal to all public librarians who either work with the public or assist with setting policy and procedures.

Registration is now open at the OLA store. Lunch is included with the cost of registration, and the workshop is worth .53 CEUs.

For more information about the workshop contact Mike Hull at michael.hull@wplibs.com, or by phone at 580-323-0974.

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Hear any good family stories lately? December is always a popular time of year to spend with family and friends, swap stories, and talk about days gone by. As we move into the New Year, take note of what you have heard or experienced and use this as motivation to interview the ones you love.

Recording family stories does not have to be an event centered on the holidays. Actually, anytime is a good time to sit around with a recording device and ask those close to you questions about family history, legend, lore, and traditions. Getting started is easy by following some of these simple steps:

1. Pinpoint interviewees
   Make a list of people to talk to, including parents and grandparents or close family friends. Everyone may have a different take on a story and tell multiple versions. We all remember events differently.

2. Develop questions
   Use your knowledge as a springboard in developing open ended questions. Examples include: Tell me about how you met your wife? What can you tell me about the snowstorm of 1952? How do you make your gingerbread men?

3. Find a recording device
   You do not need an expensive recording device to capture family stories. Today, many cell phones have great recording apps you can download. If you plan on depositing your stories into a library or archive, make sure you record, at a minimum, in .wav format. If it is for personal use, a compressed format should work just fine.

4. Make copies and share
   What good is it if you are the only one with the recordings? You can always add family photographs into the mix and create a slideshow paired with your interview audio. Of course, you can also burn the audio to CDs and send out to all family members to enjoy.

All too often when capturing oral history interviews, we are told... “We wish you were able to speak to so-and-so. They had so many great memories.” Take advantage of your time with family. Plan to record their memories soon, so you will always be able to hear those voices of the ones close to you now and into the future.

—Tanya Finchum & Juliana Nykolaiszyn
Oklahoma Oral History Research Program
OSU Library
Software: Review of Task Managers

As the New Year rolls around I have been thinking about all the things I needed to finish in 2011 that are fast becoming projects for 2012. I’ve recently started trying some different methods for managing my to-do list. Ever since I got my first PDA, a Cassiopeia, in 2002 I’ve been obsessed with electronic management of my tasks. I quickly moved to the Palm and discovered the joy of having my list synced between my desktop and mobile device. Unfortunately a few years ago my poor Palm couldn’t keep up with Vista and its battery stopped holding a charge. After a few months in cell phone purgatory my partner, Hugh, bought me an iPhone. Smartphone Nirvana, right? Well, almost. I soon discovered Outlook Tasks don’t really work with the iPhone, so my hunt began.

My first try was Remember the Milk (RTM). It’s important to say that I am a Google Calendar user and I chose RTM because it integrates with Google Calendar. Remember the Milk functions as advertised and is quite a bit more than just a personal to-do list. You can create priorities, categories and shared lists. Lists can be made public. Of course if you share a list others can make changes and even delete the list. You can set due dates, create categories and make notes. RTM is web based and while it is viewable in your Google Calendar it doesn’t truly sync in your calendar. To use RTM with your mobile device requires downloading an app, which is available for iPhone and Android. Unfortunately the free version only allows updating with the web once in a 24 hour period. In fact I found the app so restrictive I started using RTM in the Safari mobile browser. Unfortunately RTM isn’t set up as a mobile site and it was difficult to navigate. There is a pro version of the app according to the site, but I was unable to figure out how much it costs.

The Reminders app that comes installed on the iPhone 4S was my next attempt at answering my need for a quality to-do list application. The app allows you to create different lists and does allow setting due dates. Just as the app’s name implies it can be set to alert the user when a task is due. Tasks can be prioritized and set to repeat. It does not have a web or desktop based counterpart and is only available for the iPhone. I thought it would work since I am rarely without my phone, but the lack of a desktop/web version made the app feel very limiting. I couldn’t seem to fit it into my work flow. Reminders functions exactly as advertised and was extremely reliable.

In my frustration over finding a quality task manager, while driving to visit my parents I asked the previously mentioned Hugh to “download anything in the app store that is free and claims to work with Google Calendar.” As I drove he downloaded three different apps. After I tried them I settled on GoTasks. It has absolutely everything I want and there are even features I haven’t tried yet. You can set due dates, create lists, categories, priorities, multiple accounts, and notes. Using the app is wonderfully easy. You can pinch to add a new task, double click/tap to view details and tap and hold for the menu. You’ll receive badges and notifications. And there is no limitation on syncing. When you open the app it automatically checks for updates. Did I mention the app is free? Happily it is also available for Android devices.

So get ready to ring in the New Year with a satisfyingly organized to-do list. And it is absolutely okay to remind yourself to eat lunch with friends or watch a fun movie. Just a couple more items to check off that list…

Nicole Sump-Crethar
Digital Services Librarian
Oklahoma State University
Meet the New Supervisors at Stillwater Public Library

The Stillwater Public Library is pleased to announce two new supervisors, Nikole Kelty, Children’s Services Librarian and Scott Freeman, Adult Services Librarian:

My name is Nikole Kelty and I am the new Children’s Librarian for Stillwater Public Library. I graduated from Oklahoma State University in 2004 with my master’s degree in Library Media Specialist. I have been dreaming of a library job since middle school and have been an avid reader since I was very young. Previously, I have been a Language Arts/English teacher for 6th through 9th grades for Stillwater Middle School and Hennessey High School in Oklahoma. I had always taken a great interest in what my students were reading and often read everything I could on the young adult level. In fact, I prefer children’s literature above anything else although I will read pretty much everything. My favorite genre is realistic fiction and I am constantly reading several books at once. You will often find a book in my car, at my desk, on my nightstand, and sometimes, even in my kitchen! I love to bake, scrapbook, and organize. I love crafting-type projects and creating fun displays although I wouldn’t consider myself artistic.

I am Scott Freeman and I have worked for the Stillwater Public Library since September of 2009 and recently moved into the Adult Services Librarian position. Prior to working at the library, I spent 20 years as a minister throughout the Southwest. I was born and raised in Arkansas (Go Hogs!) and received my bachelor’s degree from the University of Arkansas in Philosophy. I also have a Master’s Degree in Theology and my MLIS from the University of Oklahoma.

I am an avid reader and my favorite part of the job is being able to provide reader’s advisory for our patrons. I host a monthly event, called Buzzworthy Bistro, where I share the most noteworthy new titles being released that month. I am also the contact person for the Oklahoma Virtual Library, a consortium for downloadable books, audios and music.

My free time is spent with my wife and three daughters. My interests include reading, movies and running.

Lynda Reynolds, Director
Stillwater Public Library

Photos courtesy of Stacy Delano, Stillwater Public Library
School Librarians: Consider Joining State Reading Councils

I have served in the field of elementary education since 1981 and in the library science field since 1993. I currently serve almost 800 students in three 2nd-5th grade school libraries in Northwest Oklahoma. I joined the Oklahoma Reading Council (ORA) and International Reading Association (IRA) in 1990 when I was working toward my Master's in Reading Specialist degree due to the excellent reading journal membership options and council support in my area. I have remained an active member (helped set up a charter council as president in 1995 and am currently serving as council president for Northwest Reading Council) for most of the same reasons. For basic IRA and ORA membership options as well as council dues, I pay less than $100 and receive priceless benefits. Does this take away from my membership in Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) or my division of Oklahoma School Librarians (OKSL, formerly OASLMS)? No, I believe that it enhances professional development and networking opportunities in my career and furthers my efforts as a school librarian to represent my professional state library organizations.

Join the Team!

School librarians need to demonstrate that they are invested as part of the educational team of a school. School librarians can assist students in exploring genre in their reading experiences as well as in recognizing the characteristics of specific genre. We can promote authors to be sure that our students are aware of a variety of authors including our own Oklahoma authors that include Bill Wallace and Anna Myers. Developing lessons and providing guidance to students on various reading strategies assist teachers in achieving reading progress goals for students. Just as it “takes a village”, it also takes a team to achieve educational success.

Lead the way!

School librarians need to provide leadership to their school communities through literacy and technology. We have the opportunity to provide programs on current and best practices in reading, literacy, and technology applications in education. As president this year, I use a few minutes of the business meeting to offer a “Tech Tip” where I share a web site or other edtech information. Recently I shared “WordStash,” which is a free vocabulary-building site that I think would be an excellent tool for developing mastery of academic and content vocabulary. With participation in a local reading council, school librarians can to offer their expertise in reading and technology to area educators.

Building Community

Working and talking with educators outside of my district provides me with different perspectives as I work to address similar issues at my school sites. These networking opportunities provide me with personal contact resources as I strive to make decisions that will positively affect my patrons. Even basic membership in IRA provides the newspaper/glossy magazine “Reading Today” which features literacy issues with articles by literacy leaders, such as Stephen Krashen, as well as book and reading promotions.

Our reading council also works to develop a presence in our communities as we participate in annual projects. One project provides books for babies at a local hospital and another provides audiobooks to area nursing homes. These projects show that we value and promote reading at all ages.
School librarians, Con’t.

Professional Development

The four council meetings each year offer interesting programs on a variety of literacy issues. Most recently, Donna Bigbee and Judith Ticer demonstrated interactive books and provided tips for best practices in reading classrooms. In November, a team of educators in my council will lead a discussion and share experiences centering on the Daily 5 and Daily CAFÉ developed by the Two Sisters, Gail Moser Boushey and Joan Moser. We have posted several links on our Facebook group page to assist our members who are interested in utilizing this structure of reading in their classrooms.

ORA also offers an annual conference the first Saturday in March. I have had the opportunity to hear great speakers in the world of reading and literacy including last year’s Brian Cleary. This year’s conference features Valerie Ellery with a presentation on “Creating Strategic Readers.”

I highly recommend that school librarians join OLA and OKSL. Additionally, I value my membership in my local reading council and would like to encourage other school librarians to consider joining a reading council. Take a look at ORA http://oklahomareadingassociation.org/

Connie Wise

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Four Oklahoma Tribal Websites
Cheyenne & Arapaho, Delaware, Kiowa, and Modoc

This continues a series of columns that reviews the websites of Oklahoma’s tribal governments. For earlier reviews see March/April, 2011, and September/October, 2011. I have listed the major features of these websites, but have not tried to list all features. The sections for “Government,” “Culture,” and “History” especially contain more information that I list here. I have also noted what I personally consider to be the highlights of each website.

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes
www.c-a-tribes.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEBSITE: the biographies of the four tribal members of the Hall of Fame, which includes their photos and accounts of their achievements. They were mighty athletes. Having their award-winning tribal newspaper here is another highlight.

Culture – Historic photos, a directory of tribal artists, and biographies of tribal members who belong to the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

Government – Tribal constitution, a tribal voter registration form, their fee schedule for such actions as marriages, petitions for guardianship and probate petitions, audits, resolutions, and executive branch announcements.

Programs – Education, health, care for elders, food distribution, child welfare, doing business with the tribe, the tribe’s EPA, economic development programs.

Tribal Newspaper – 2011 issues of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune. Also includes a link to earlier issues from 2009 to 2010.

Events
Contact – Download a directory that includes phone numbers by names and tribal programs.

Newsroom – Press releases for the 2011 and the current year.

The Delaware Nation
www.delawarenation.com

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEBSITE: Chief Holton’s blog is interesting since it contains such information as a history of Captain Black Beaver, a Delaware scout, hunter and trapper, explorer of southwestern U.S., captain of a Native American army unit during the Mexican/American War, and scout for the U.S. Army during the Civil War. Having their tribal newspaper here is another highlight.
Oklahoma Web Pages, Con’t.

**Departments** – Information about the services of tribal departments. Some of information it includes is an application for assistance with diabetic supplies, regulations for housing assistance, information about their Economic Development Authority’s programs, and their education assistance programs.

**Administration** – Their current Executive Committee.

**Businesses** – Includes their gift shop and casino.

**News** – News notices, calendar of events, press releases, and their tribal newsletter from October 2010 forward.

**Delaware Nation’s History** – Chronology, short history, current facts, and a video about their history.

**Contact** – Includes an employment application form.

**Social Media** – Links to an online discussion forum for tribal members, and Chief Kerry Holton’s blog.

**Kiowa Tribe**  
[www.kiowatribe.org](http://www.kiowatribe.org)

**HIGHLIGHTS OF WEBSITE:** The list of Kiowa organizations; I hope that they post more information about each of them. Having their tribal newspaper here is another highlight.

**Government** – Tribal Constitution, minutes of their Business Committee meetings.

**Commerce** – Information about their FASTRANS public transportation system for tribal members and others, how to get a Kiowa license tag.

**Education** – Higher education assistance, training programs, job placement, and vocational training.

**Health** – Community Health Representative Program, injury prevention program, teen suicide prevention program, and alcohol and drug abuse prevention program.

**Services** – There are many links here, includes child care, transportation, tribal job listings, tribal enrollment.

**Cultural** – Includes a list of Kiowa organizations, such as the Black Leggings and War Mothers. The list currently doesn’t link to more information, but may in the future.

**Media** – Information about the weekly Kiowa Voices Radio Show, and the Kiowa newsletters for 2011.

**Contact** – Phone numbers for tribal programs.
Oklahoma Webpages, con’t.

Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma
www.modoctribe.net

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEBSITE:
From “History/Photos”: in 1873 their Chief, Captain Jack, and five of his warriors became the only Native Americans to be tried by a military commission for war crimes. Their fate may have been decided before the trial: a gallows was built before the trial. Four of them were hanged, two received life sentences. After the trial the surviving Modocs were eventually loaded into railroad cars and eventually taken to Baxter Springs in southeast Kansas. From there they were taken just across the Oklahoma border to the Quapaw Agency. The other highlight of this website is the information about their bison range.

Tribal Services – Includes children and family services, educational services, housing services, and more.
Tribal Offices – Directory of offices.
Bison Range – The Modoc operate their own bison range in northeast Oklahoma with about 130 bison living there. The tribe sells their meat.
Administration/Staff – Directory of tribal staff.
History/Photos – A detailed history of the Modocs from their ancestral homeland along the California/Oregon border to their removal to Oklahoma.
Links – Includes a link to the Modoc cemetery, including names and dates.
News and Events – Includes a list of currently unknown Modocs tribal members that their government is trying to locate.
This collection of stories was originally published mostly during Oklahoma’s centennial year in newspapers. Dary, an emeritus journalism professor at the University of Oklahoma, revised and expanded many of them, as well as adding several more. The historical anecdotes include many brief biographies of Oklahoma notables, beginning with early nineteenth century forays into what was then called the Crosstimbers and moving forward through the mid-twentieth century. It includes stories of Oklahomans who pioneered, broke or kept the law, and entertained the nation. The brief vignettes are arranged by topic and offer an easy-reading summary of the highlights of state history. It would be an excellent addition to any school library, as well as public and academic institutions.

Michele Seikel,
Cataloger and Associate Professor
Oklahoma State University
Landau, Herbert B. *Winning Library Grants: A Game Plan*. ALA,

This slim volume (176 pp. including index) provides an exhaustive manual on grant writing for libraries. From decision trees and matrices to sample forms and proposals, author Landau, a successful grantsman in both the library and government contracting fields, provides a step-by-step approach to comprehensive strategy and practical application. Concise advice and a current bibliography, including online references, are excellent. From first-timers to experienced grant writers, there is something for everyone provided. Highly recommended for all libraries, *Winning Library Grants* is a great reference.

*Valerie Kimble, Librarian/Selector, Pioneer Library System,*
Technical Services Roundtable Workshop Informs on Changes in Dewey

Several Oklahoma cataloging staff traveled to Stillwater on October 28 for TSRT’s annual workshop. Each year, usually in late October, OLA’s Technical Services Roundtable sponsors a workshop on some aspect of technical services. This year the topic was on the changes with the new Dewey Decimal Classification Index (DDC23) that was published in May.

Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins from Metropolitan Library System was the primary presenter for the workshop, but she was assisted by Parker Atkins from Oklahoma City University on the use of WebDewey. This was a very practical workshop and the timing was great. Most of us had received the new print edition by late summer so we had already become somewhat familiar with it. Not only did this workshop give attendees a summary of the changes occurring with this edition, but it also allowed a significant amount of time to practice some hands-on exercises in working with DDC23. Also, the fact that attendees did the exercises in groups allowed for good interaction with each other and gave them a chance to get to know other librarians in the state who have the same types of jobs that they do. As an attendee, I benefited from this workshop and have already used some things that I learned there.

Thanks to Pauline and Parker for presenting a wonderful workshop! If you were unable to attend this year’s workshop, be thinking about plans to attend OLA Conference programs and next year’s workshop.

Linda Pye
Head, Technical Services
Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Spring Break, Anyone???

Where do Oklahoma librarians go for Spring break? Well, this year, all of the cool ones are going to the Embassy Suites in Norman – for OLA, of course!

The Local Arrangements Committee is hard at work planning fun activities, and the Embassy Suites is more than ready to host us. Accommodations are new and beautiful, all featuring deluxe two room suites with 2 Queen size beds and a pull out sofa. Separate bedrooms and living areas ensure that you'll have plenty of space to relax, hang with your librarian friends or catch up on email at the well-lit work desk.

Microwave and mini-fridge are in each room for snacks, and a made-to-order breakfast available for all who stay – not your average continental breakfast – served in the lush open-air atrium. To help you unwind at the end of your conference day, the Managers Happy Hour provides light bar snacks and complimentary drinks.

All of this – and more – is included in a room price of $139.00. Need to save money? Cozy up with up to 4 of your closest friends. So, start making your plans now for an OLA Conference not to be forgotten. And, remember, what happens in Norman stays in Norman….

Caroline Dulworth

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Pioneer Library System selects participants in inaugural IMPACT PLS leadership team

The Pioneer Library System has named the class for its inaugural session of the IMPACT PLS leadership group. The six staff members selected for the first IMPACT PLS class are: Nelson Dent, Norman Public Library; Jackie Kropp, Moore Public Library; Jennifer Marshall, Pioneer Service Center; Lenore St. John, Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library, Mary Sims, Shawnee Public Library; and Shaye White, Pioneer Library System Virtual Library. The six IMPACT PLS members were selected from a large group of applicants employed by the system. The leadership program’s objectives are to identify and sharpen leadership techniques as well as develop a network of peers for participants. The group will meet monthly through May. In addition to monthly sessions and assignments, each participant will commit to an additional four hours where they will work with a partner on identified activities to increase their knowledge of PLS, including visits to various departments or library branches, or attendance at book discussions or meetings of the PLS Board of Trustees.

Plans are for a new IMPACT PLS class to be selected each year for meetings and programming that will begin each fall. Committee members who selected the first IMPACT PLS class and its programming are: Cathy Adams, Noble Public Library; Karen Bays, Shawnee Public Library; Phil Clark, Norman Public Library; Peggy Cook, Purcell Public Library; Theresa Dickson, Pioneer Library System; Susan Grossman, Pioneer Library System; Alicia Smith, Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library; Aiden Street, Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library; Lisa Wells, Pioneer Library System; and Louise Whitaker, Pioneer Library System.

Photo: Members of the first Impact PLS class are: seated, from left, Shaye White, Nelson Dent and Lenore St. John. Standing, from left, are Jennifer Marshall, Mary Sims and Jackie Kropp.

Christian Potts
Staff Writer, Public Information Office
Pioneer Library System
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Wii Wii Wii All the Way to the Library!

It’s 3:30 on a Friday and the school bus has just left the Chickasaw Regional (Public) Library System (CRLS) parking lot. Six giggling middle schoolers enter the library, backpacks in hand and smiles on their faces. Perhaps it’s the fact that the weekend has arrived for these teens. But ask a “regular” and most likely the answer will be, “It’s Wii Time!”

CRLS began hosting Friday teen events after receiving two Wii stations and components from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Bird Health Sciences Library. The National Library of Medicine awarded a grant for this project with CRLS and Norman Public Schools. The numbers have grown for this event as word has circulated throughout the community.

Today, the room is filled with 16 kids (7 from high school, 6 from middle school and 3 homeschooled students) as they gear up for some friendly competition. Those who arrived by car have now entered the building and while snacking on popcorn and pizza rolls, the groups have formed and the play begins.

“I love to play Wii but I don’t have someone to play with at home so I came to the library to play with my friends,” said Jantzen Faulkner, 16.

CRLS Youth Services Director Shawn Brown realized how valuable using the library as a meeting place was when the various age groups began to mingle. “I didn’t know if both middle school and high school students would mesh well together but more and more kids are attending,” said Shawn. “We started with Wii but we have also ventured into some board games the students wish to play.”

Shawn has also seen a mentorship develop as students plan outside activities after the library closes. In addition, several attendees have chosen to help tutor students after school at the library’s Homework Help Club. “It thrills me to watch these kids as they give back to their community. They look out for each other like family,” said Shawn. (con’t. On page 3)

Photos: Top: Joseph Cowser decorates the Christmas Tree; Below: Charlotte, May, Navneet Sing, Aditi Verma and Cherlyn Snow play Wii. Photos courtesy of Gail Currier.
Wii Wii, Con’t

A male teen sneaks out of the room and is found decorating the youth area Christmas tree. These young library patrons have taken ownership and pride in the library and have made CRLS their own. “I had never been to the library until this year,” said Joseph Cowser, 13. “I really didn’t know what to expect and thought it would be boring and not for me at all. I have to admit, I was wrong!” Joseph hasn’t missed a week since he began.

Navneet Singh, age 16, has become another familiar face at CRLS as she attends Wii Fridays, Teen Book Club and assists with the Homework Help Club two days a week. “First of all, I love to read and that is the main reason I go to the library,” said Navneet. “But the Homework Club is allowing me to give back to the library and to also help students with schoolwork.” Navneet said they are currently reading *A Christmas Carol* for the teen book club.

CRLS took the success of the Wii program to its branch libraries and had the teens from each community compete in a system-wide Wii gaming tournament. “The parents of the teens were so thankful and supportive,” said Love County Branch Manager Niki Powell. “They are asking for more!”

CRLS plans to host additional programs throughout the Library System because of its continued popularity. “The children are willing and able to do anything to help make our library fun,” said Shawn Brown.

“The library will be closing in 15 minutes,” has just come across the intercom. The teen room is full of laughter and most do not want the “party” to end.

“Can we have a lock-in at the library and play the Wii all night,” asks 12-year old Cameron Currier. With a friendly smile, Shawn says, “Sure, let us check into it!”

For information on teen and additional library programming, visit CRLS at 601 Railway Express, Ardmore, OK or call 580-223-3164 or toll free 888-520-8103.

Gail Currier
Director of Marketing/ Publicity,
Chickasaw Regional (Public) Library System

Photo: Joseph Cowser, Cameron Currier and Navneet Singh play Wii at the library.
(Photo courtesy of Gail Currier)
A Day of RDA at Conference

The TSRT Roundtable will be sponsoring 3 workshops on RDA, the new cataloging rules, at the OLA Annual Conference. Nannette Naught, a member of the Joint Steering Committee for RDA, will be coming to talk about the RDA Toolkit used to access the rules. June Abbas from the University of Oklahoma will be presenting an introduction to FRBR and RDA, along with an update on the status of the implementation process. Janet Ahrberg from Oklahoma State University will present on the topic of training copy catalogers to use the new cataloging rules.

Please come and join us at the 2012 Annual Conference for a whole day of information on one of the biggest changes to hit cataloging in years and find out what you need to know to make sure your library is ready. These RDA sessions are planned to take place on Day One of the conference, Thursday, March 28th.

Join us again on Friday, March 29th for additional Technical Services sessions on the subjects of Library of Congress classification, presented by Linda West from Northeastern State University, and on Library of Congress genre headings by Michele Seikel from Oklahoma State University. No matter which day you come to conference, you can learn a lot about cataloging!

Sarah Simpson, Chair
Technical Services Round Table
Save the Date!

The next Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People will be held October 25, 2012 at the Tom Steed Community Learning Center on the Rose State College campus in Midwest City, OK. Presenters will be the talented team of Betsy and Ted Lewin, who will talk about their individual and collaborative projects, and award winning, young adult author Alex Flinn.

You’ll find more information about Alex, Ted and Betsy at the 2012 Festival page - [http://ola.oklibs.org/organization/committees/festivalhome/festival-of-books-2012.htm](http://ola.oklibs.org/organization/committees/festivalhome/festival-of-books-2012.htm). Additional registration information and advance book order forms will be added to the site as soon as they become available.

The festival is a biennial event sponsored by OLA and made possible with support from the Robert S. Kerr Foundation, Inc. Contact Shari Clifton, [shari-clifton@ouhsc.edu](mailto:shari-clifton@ouhsc.edu), or Adrienne Butler, [abutler@oltm.oil.state.ok.us](mailto:abutler@oltm.oil.state.ok.us), if you have any questions about the Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People. We’re looking forward to seeing you there!
Ebooks are the Next ‘Big Deal’

The recent holiday season saw a surge in the sales of ebooks and ebook readers. In big proud font, Amazon stated on their website that the Kindle Fire is their number one selling gift item, and they have also been very open about the fact that they are selling it at a loss to gain market share. It is a diabolical plan on the part of Amazon, and there are long term impacts for both libraries and library users.

As libraries, we have been concerned about the move to electronic information in part because we are losing ownership. The paradigm has shifted from one of ownership to one of leasing. More often than not, if we cancel our subscription, we lose access to the content. Major ebook contracts, such as the one many public libraries have with Overdrive, are turning into the next ‘Big Deal.’ The ‘Big Deal’ had its start in the academic world of journals. Libraries were very excited when publishers first offered deep discounts on large journal packages or ‘Big Deals’ as they came to be called. The major downside was that libraries were locked into those contracts. They could not reduce the amount of titles and lower the subscription cost without large penalties. It became as expensive to cancel titles as it was to keep them.

Ebooks are starting to create a similar situation. The major vendor for ebooks in public libraries is Overdrive. Many public libraries have purchased access to thousands or tens of thousands of titles through Overdrive. If the libraries were to ever cancel their contract due to budget constraints or to switch to another vendor, they would also lose access to all of those titles. Reminiscent of the aforementioned Big Deals, libraries are “locked in.” Damned if you do, damned if you don’t.

Library users are also facing the same situation with their purchased content. If a customer purchases an ebook from either Barnes and Noble or Amazon, they cannot give away the title or resell it after they have read it. They do not truly own the content. This is nothing new, and many users are aware of this fact. However, they are also caught in the ‘Big Deal.’ If someone buys a Kindle and purchases several titles, they cannot later decide to buy a Nook and transfer their titles or vice versa. To access their titles, they have to continue to purchase Kindles or a device on which they can load a Kindle app. This is a whole new take on customer loyalty. It is now understandable why selling the Kindle at a loss is a sustainable business practice. Add in the music and videos people are now more likely to buy from Amazon since it is so easy to buy things from Amazon on the Kindle, and it has become a very profitable practice.

Locking users into a device also locks them into the IOS which the device uses. This brings about concerns of intellectual freedom. The control of information is in the hands of the IOS. Apple is very good example. All applications for iThings have to be approved by Apple before being listed in their app store. Like Amazon with their ebook format, Apple’s music content also has a proprietary format limiting it to Apple devices or apps. This gives them a large level of control regarding what can and cannot be done on their devices.
E-Books, con’t.

Even Google and Yahoo have joined the control issue. Google has removed some terms from their search autofill function, and Yahoo has removed some controversial topics from their list of trending topics. Is it censorship? They are not removing the content itself, just easy access to it.

There are ways around these restrictions on mobile devices, some are even legal, but they require a certain level of tech savviness that many users do not have or are just too lazy to use. While Android is more open with their platform and app store on most of their tablets and phones, Android devices do flirt with intellectual property issues due in part to the fact that Android allows manufacturers to customize the IOS. As with any seemingly good thing, there is a drawback.

Amazon has a strong measure of control over what is allowed on the Kindle devices. The Kindles use a proprietary ebook format, AZW. Kindle owners are then unable to access many of the free ebooks available on the internet which are usually in the more common ePUB format. Some files can be converted to the AZW format, but again, this takes a certain level of tech savviness.

Customization is not limited to ebook formats. Both the Kindle and the Nook use a customized version of Android. Android is much more open to app development than Apple; however, the Kindle and Nook direct you to their very own app store rather than the more open Android app store. The Nook does allow you to sideload apps not available through their store. To sideload an app, the user needs to download the app to a computer, hook their Nook to the computer, and transfer the app to the Nook. Not something the everyday user will even know is possible, let alone know how to accomplish.

What does all this mean for libraries? It means that libraries must be very active in educating themselves, their users, and the industry. Amazon responded to pressure from their user base to make PDFs available on the Kindle. Penguin responded to pressure to replace Kindle formatted books on Overdrive. It remains to be seen how long that will last. The point is that libraries and their users can effect change. We simply need a leader willing to step up and move us forward.

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