National Library Legislative Day

On May 11-12 State Librarian and Archivist Jeanne Sugg, Vivian Wynn of Wynn Library Consulting and TLA President & Assistant State Librarian Jane Pinkston attended Library Legislative Day in Washington D.C. Here they pictures with Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker.

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President’s Point of View

On May 13 and 14, I joined over 400 librarians and library supporters in Washington, DC for the 34th annual National Library Legislative Day (NLLD). This was the first time I had ever attended NLLD, and I was unsure what to expect. I picked out my best business suit and comfortable shoes, and off I went!

The first day was Briefing Day at which all 400 of us learned about pending legislation concerning LSTA funding, E-government, E-rate, No Child Left Behind and the SKILLS Act, rural broadband, National Security Letters, and copyright. Our welcome packets included attention-grabbing statistics and economic facts about libraries which we were encouraged to share with our legislators. ALA Washington office officials shared the podium with officials from the Center for National Security Studies and the League of Women Voters.

Our Tennessee delegation consisted of our NLLD coordinator Vivian Wynn, State Librarian and Archivist Jeanne Sugg, library trustee Jonas Kisber, Ingram Books representative Valerie MacLeod, and myself. We were a small but mighty group! We attended “Tennessee Tuesday,” an event set aside each week for photo opportunities with Tennessee’s two senators, Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker. The next day we had approximately fifteen minute appointments in each of our legislators’ offices. We divided our delegation so we could see all of our legislators, one visit right after another.

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President’s Point of View con’t

We knew we could not possibly cover all the ALA-provided issues in the short time slots we had, so we prioritized. We personalized each meeting as best we could. If one of us had a special link to a legislator’s district, we used that to our advantage to get attention. Then we talked about LSTA funding and specific examples of how the federal program has helped libraries and Tennesseans succeed in our state. Secondly, we focused on E-rate and gave each legislator a list of each public library in the state benefitting from the program. Thirdly, we talked about copyright pertaining to Orphaned Works as that issue was up for a vote on the day after we were there. We discussed other issues as time permitted, eventually settling into a pattern of sharing key information while keeping the tone as conversational as possible.

It was a hectic day on the Hill. As we waited in line to get into legislative buildings, we were joined by hundreds of school kids, advocates for Alzheimer’s funding, a large group of realtors, police units from all over the U. S., and a wide variety of other people lobbying for their favorite cause. Some legislators were too busy to see us or kept one eye on the business of Congress, ready to jump up from our visit and go vote on the floor of the House or Senate on some bill or another. But I was struck at how attentive the aides to the legislators were to us. They all took notes, pondered our Issue Briefs, and seemed genuinely concerned with what we said.

All in all, the Tennessee Library Association’s participation in this annual event is definitely worthwhile. But we need more trustees and Friends and library users to round out the delegation. Let’s start now to find library supporters to take our next message to Washington!

--Jane Pinkston,
TLA President

From the Executive Director’s Desk

I’ve been experiencing difficulty with the laptop lately and, in fact, a “techie” is scheduled to come today to checkout the situation. Sometimes it responds to my “clicks” and sometimes it takes multiple “clicks” or it just doesn’t respond at all.

That’s similar to a segment of the TLA membership: sometimes you respond to TLA’s call for volunteers to maintain the work of the organization and sometimes you don’t. I wish there were a “techie” I could call to determine what would give TLA a higher response rate to the call for membership participation in the governance and activities of the association. But, alas, there isn’t such a person! ONLY YOU can change the response rate. TLA needs dedicated members who want this 106-year-old organization to continue to be a vital part of the library community in the State of Tennessee.

--Annelle R. Huggins,
TLA Executive Director
Lisa Meidl is the 2008 recipient of the Edwin S. Gleaves Scholarship. Currently finishing her first year in the UT School of Information Science program, Lisa is a Graduate Assistant at the University of Tennessee’s Center for Children’s and Young Adult Literature. In this capacity, Lisa is responsible for maintaining the Center’s examination collection as well as assisting faculty in organizing and implementing lecture programs and author visits. A UT SIS faculty member describes Lisa’s work this way, “She has exceeded the expectations of the job scope and impressed many of us who have had the pleasure of working with her.” Another librarian from UT Hodges Library describes Lisa this way: “She is fully engaged in the reading and scholarship of children’s and young adult literature as well as becoming familiar with the pragmatics of those who work with children learning to read.”

In addition to the graduate assistantship, Lisa has been a library volunteer at a local elementary school since 1999. Lisa plans to enter the field of school librarianship and working at the school library has given her valuable, hands-on experience. Lisa says she hopes to one day be employed in a school library and find “innovative ways to ‘snag’ students, especially those who are not naturally drawn to reading, into becoming lifetime readers...”

Louis Morgan won the James E. Ward Library Instruction Award. This award recognizes any member of TLA who participates in the planning, execution, or evaluation of a continuing program or special project of library instruction for an academic, school, public, or special library. Where the significant contributions of more than one person are involved, the award may be shared

Sallie Johnson, received the TLA Honor Award and Val Crook, received the Honorary Life Membership. The TLA Honor Award honors any person or group who has made a significant contribution to the furtherance of librarianship on a statewide or national level. The Honorary Membership Award recognizes an individual who has made significant, sustained contributions to librarianship in the state of Tennessee. The award is for an individual per se, not an individual representing the accomplishments of many
STARS FROM ANNUAL CONT'

Pictured from left to right: Nancy Renfro, Watauga Regional Library Director and 2008 Conference Planning Co-Chair; Nancy Pearl, author, NPR Spokesperson and Librarian Action Figure Model; Jane Pinkston, TLA President and Assistant State Librarian.

PLEASE NOTE: THE ABOVE LIST OF AWARD WINNERS WAS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR PHOTO AND BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION TO ARNOLDA@ETSU.EDU FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU.

Public Library Management Institute

Clockwise from top left: State Librarian and Archivist, Jeanne Sugg with graduate Wanza Taylor of the Bolivar-Hardeman County Public Library, and Secretary of State, Riley C. Darnell; Freda Reddick, W.G. Rhea Public Library (Paris); Cynthia Scott, Middleton Community Library; Lori Winningham, Pickett County Public Library; and Mary Cooper, Lebanon-Wilson County Public Library.... participate in a distance education class from SOLINET using a portable laptop lab. Judy Bond-McKissack, Chief Legal Counsel to Secretary of State Darnell - spoke on library law. The graduating class of the 2008 PLMI.
The Tennessee State Library and Archives proudly announces that twenty-two librarians from across the state graduated from the Public Library Management Institute (PLMI) on May 23, 2008. They completed a day program that included participation in week-long institutes at Austin Peay State University for three consecutive years and numerous continuing education workshops. The Tennessee State Library and Archives sponsors the PLMI, which is organized by Assistant State Librarian Jane Pinkston. Secretary of State Riley Darnell welcomed the class at the opening banquet on Sunday night before they embarked on a week full of learning, work and collaboration.

This year, librarians focused on establishing partnerships within their communities and marketing their libraries in a two-day seminar led by Sharon and Dan Wiseman of Illinois. Joy Bishop, Kathy Pagles, Ellie Morrow and Rosemary Baker of the Blount County Public Library provided great tips on fundraising. Tonya Hays-Martin and Alan Nellis from Fulton State Hospital Library in Missouri presented useful information about dealing with mentally ill patrons and introduced the Librarian411.org training website. Russell Palmer, a SOLINET trainer teaching from Atlanta via Centra distance education, told of the great resources found on Web Junction. Judy Bond-McKissack, Chief Legal Counsel to Secretary of State Darnell, spoke about current legal issues affecting libraries, and Lynette Sloan from the Fort Loudoun Regional Library demonstrated the new Tennessee Rural and Small Libraries Wiki. At the end of the week, State Librarian and Archivist Jeanne Sugg presented each participant with their well-earned Certified Public Library Manager certificates. Congratulations!

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Genny Carter
Public Relations & Data Coordinator
TSLA

TENNESSEE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY

TEL trainers, and those interested in becoming TEL trainers, mark your calendars now for the annual Tennessee Electronic Library (TEL) free Train-the-Trainer workshops, to be held at three Tennessee locations in late June.

There is so much more to TEL this year. Because of the addition of EBSCO’s Points of View Reference Center, NewsBank’s Tennessee Newspaper Collection, and LearningExpress, LLC’s LearningExpress Library, attendees will experience a full day of high-impact training from vendor representatives. Additionally, a trainer from Cengage Gale will provide new information about enhancements and expanded content provided by Gale resources.

To register for one of the sessions, please contact the Site Coordinator listed for the site you would like to attend. If you have additional questions, please contact Sue Maszaros at sue.maszaros@state.tn.us. Because of the large demand for limited seating, it is requested that each library send no more than one representative.

June 24, 2008: Pellissippi State Technical College Site Coordinator: Rick Bower, rbower@pstcc.edu 865-539-7106
June 25, 2008: Middle Tennessee State University, James E. Walker Library, (LIB) Room 264-A. Site Coordinator: Sharon Parente, sparente@mtsu.edu 615-898-2549
June 26, 2008: Jackson State Community College, McWherter Center (Bldg. 1 on map), Room 236 Site Coordinator: Sammy Chapman, chapman@lambuth.edu 731-425-3270
Oral History Workshop
with Dr. Stephen Sloan
Nashville Public Library
July 17, 2008, 10 AM – 2 PM
Free and open to the public
For more information, contact: Gwynn Thayer (615) 253-3469

Basics of Archives Workshop
July 9, 2008, time TBA (approximately 9 AM – 3 PM)
Chattanooga, Tennessee
For more information, contact: Mary Helms (423) 757-5448

The upcoming workshop, “Pioneer Land Grants, Traces, Roads, and Pioneer Stations in the Central Valley of the Cumberland River,” on Saturday, July 26, has proven so popular that few slots remain! There will be a panel discussion by noted authors and experts David Britton, Paul Clements, Doug Drake, Irene Griffey, Jack Masters, and Bill Puryear. This North Carolina land grant research started with Irene Griffey’s book, Earliest Tennessee Land Records & Earliest Tennessee Land History. Reservations are required, and there is very limited space remaining. Reservations can be made via e-mail to workshop.tsla@state.tn.us or by calling 615-741-2764.

—Genny Carter
Public Relations & Data Coordinator
TSLA

CIVIL WAR BOOK CLUB
The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area is partnering with Linebaugh Library and the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County to begin a Civil War book discussion group series that will focus on literature and biography. The group will hold sessions twice annually, in June and January.

“Between the Lines: Reading About the Civil War” will meet on Thursday evenings during the month of June 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Center, located at 225 West College Street in Murfreesboro.

June’s book discussion group will take an in-depth look at Charles Frazier’s Cold Mountain, a bestseller published in 1997. Each week will focus on a different theme related to the book:
June 5: Wartime Loyalty/Desertion
June 12: Women and the Home Front
June 19: Death, Destruction, and Violence
June 26: Memory and Literature

The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area receives funding from the National Park Service and is administered by the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University. Linebaugh Library, which sponsors several book groups, serves the citizens of Rutherford County through four branches. The Heritage Center is a joint venture between the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, Main Street: Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County, the City of Murfreesboro, and the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University. Additional support comes from the Rutherford County Government and State Farm Insurance.
For more information on “Between the Lines: Reading About the Civil War,” please call 217-8013 or send an e-mail to sgraham@mtsu.edu. The book discussion group series is free of charge.

~Patty Metcalf
pmetcalf@linebaugh.org
Linebaugh Public Library

Linebaugh Public Library announces the third year of its Bookends Summer Lecture Series, which aims to provide an in-depth exploration of contemporary literature for book discussion groups. This year's series will feature award-winning books that explore different cultures. The lectures, presented by Middle Tennessee State University English professors, will run from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in June and July in the Reading Room at Linebaugh Library. There will be time at the end of each session for questions and open discussion. This lecture series is made possible by funding from the Friends of Linebaugh Library.

· June 17 - Waiting by Ha Jin. Waiting is a story of the long-suffering love between a dutiful married doctor, Lin Kong, and an unmarried nurse, Manna Wu, whom he meets while working in a Chinese army hospital. A loophole in Chinese law will allow Lin to divorce his wife, without her consent, if they are separated for 18 years. The “waiting” for Lin's divorce is the focus of the story. 1999 National Book Award for Fiction. Discussion led by: Bob Petersen, a professor at MTSU since 1984, who is currently working on essays dealing with the contemporary American writer David Leavitt, British Victorian historian Elizabeth Strickland, and the development of the Victorian aquarium.

· June 24 - The Echo Maker by Richard Powers. This novel addresses the question of how we know who we really are. Mark, who repairs machinery at a meat-processing plant, suffers a head injury that prevents him from recognizing his sister Karin; he believes that she is a look-alike sent to spy on him. Karin, who is dealing with problems in her own life, sends a desperate plea to a neurologist whose popular books have suddenly come under critical attack, causing fissures in his public persona and his seemingly perfect marriage. 2006 National Book Award for Fiction. Discussion led by: Lee Casson, who holds an M.A. in English with a focus in 20th Century American literature and who has taught at MTSU since 1996.

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July 1 - The Brief Wonderous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz. A grotesquely overweight Dominican-American teenager named Oscar dreams of becoming the next J.R.R. Tolkien and believes that a long-standing family curse is thwarting his efforts to find love and happiness. Lonely, loveless, and living almost completely inside his own head, Oscar is a “ghetto nerd” whose multiple obsessions include comic books, fantasy fiction, and supremely unobtainable women. 2008 National Book Critics Circle Award, 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Discussion led by Clifton Kaiser, who has taught English composition and literature at MTSU since 1998 and who teaches high school English at Battle Ground Academy in Franklin.

July 8 - Brother I'm Dying by Edwidge Danticat. In a deeply personal memoir, Danticat describes her relationships with the two men closest to her – her father and his brother Joseph, a charismatic pastor with whom she lived after her parents emigrated from Haiti to the U.S. – in a poignant story of family, love, grief, tragedy, hope, and triumph. 2008 National Books Critics Circle Award for Autobiography. Discussion led by Newtona (Tina) Johnson, an associate professor at MTSU who has published and presented scholarly papers on Edwidge Danticat’s works. Johnson teaches courses in Postcolonial and British Commonwealth literature, the African Diaspora, and Women’s Studies.

July 15 - The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie. Exploring Indian identity, both self and tribal, Alexie tells the semiautobiographical story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Junior leaves his troubled school on the reservation to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Meeting his old classmates on the basketball court, Junior grapples with questions about what constitutes one’s community, identity, and tribe. 2007 National Book Award for Young People’s Literature. Discussion led by Ellen Donovan, who specializes in Children’s and Adolescent Literature at MTSU.

July 22 - The Inheritance of Loss by Kiran Desai. This stunning novel is set in mid-1980s India, on the cusp of the Nepalese movement for an independent state. In a crumbling house in the remote northeastern Himalayas, an embittered, elderly judge finds his peaceful retirement turned upside down by the arrival of his orphaned granddaughter, Sai, but their world – and Sai’s romance with her handsome Nepali tutor – is threatened by a Nepalese insurgency. 2006 Man Booker Prize, 2006 National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction. Discussion led by Karen Alea Ford, adjunct teacher of English composition, who published the book For Which He Stands, a biography of a medical officer in the Bay of Pigs operation in Cuba.

July 29 - Tree of Smoke by Denis Johnson. The story of Skip Sands – spy in training, engaged in psychological operations against the Vietcong – and the disasters that befall him thanks to his famous uncle, a war hero known in intelligence circles simply as the Colonel. It’s also the story of the Houston brothers, Bill and James, young men who drift out of the Arizona desert into a war in which the line between disinformation and delusion has blurred. 2007 National Book Award for Fiction. Discussion led by Jimmie E. Cain Jr., a member of the English faculty since 1996, whose recent publications include essays on Thomas Pynchon, Charles Bukowski, Bram Stoker, and Terrence Malick.
Linebaugh Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Linebaugh Public Library, in partnership with the League for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, now offers services for the deaf and hard of hearing. A sign language interpreter is available at Linebaugh Public Library each Wednesday from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. to assist with: interpreting phone calls, help interpreting documents, help on computers, help finding information in the library, help finding local resources. Other services provided by the library include: access to IP-Relay on public Internet computers and captioned movies and other DVD video recordings. These additional services are available during all normal library hours. For more information, please contact the Linebaugh Reference Department at 615-893-4131 ext. 117 or email pmetcalf@linebaugh.org.

--Jerianne Thompson
Collection Development Coordinator
Linebaugh Public Library System
615-893-4131, ext. 121

“Books to Movies” program with Actors McKinnon, Dwyer & A&E Attorney, Wright

After Catherine Marshall wrote the book, Christy, a movie was later made of the story based on her grandmother’s experiences as a teacher in the real-life community of Del Rio, Tennessee.

For the movie to be made from the book, Marshall’s second husband, Leonard LeSourd, pursued the vision for a movie. Eventually, that vision came to reality...right here in Blount County, Tennessee, where film-makers produced Christy the Movie, a two-hour made-for-television movie. Subsequent episodes were then made of the TV series of Christy, starring Kelly Martin and featuring numerous other actors, including the well-known Maryville native, Bruce McKinnon.

“Books to Movies” will be presented as a program at the Blount County Public Library on Monday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m. The program will explore the multiple layers of steps which occur in the process of creating a movie based upon the plot of a book.

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Then, as follow-up to this “Books to Movies” program, the community is invited to the library the next night to view the movie, *October Sky*, based on the biography, *The Rocket Boys*, by Homer Hickam. The movie, *October Sky*, will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3.

One of the three speakers for the June 2nd program will be David Dwyer who plays a character in the movie, *October Sky*. A well-known actor who lives in Maryville with his family, Dwyer will speak about his experiences as an actor in numerous roles and films.

Bruce McKinnon will also be one of the speakers, and he will share tidbits of experiences from acting in the Christy television series as well as experiences of performances in other movies and roles from throughout his acting career.

A third presenter for the program, “Books to Movies” on June 2 will be another Maryville native, Charles Wright, who is the attorney for Arts & Entertainment (A&E) television. While McKinnon and Dwyer will discuss the art of acting, Wright will draw excerpts from his career as an attorney to present information about the legal process of making the transition from a book to a movie.

For the book-to-movie process to occur, someone has to have a vision (or a mission) to believe that a movie would make a great vehicle for the re-telling of a book’s story. Then numerous steps happen, including seeking and establishing legal rights. A script must be prepared that plays well on the big screen, funding must be raised, the “managerial” staff (producer, director, etc.) must be in place, auditions and casting must happen, actors are selected and prepare for roles…and ultimately filming begins.

Responding to interview questions, McKinnon, Dwyer and Wright shared memorable moments in their careers in entertainment:

McKinnon answered a question about the making of the movie, *Christy*: “The most memorable moment was that I was living in Los Angeles at the time, and when I was selected to be cast in a show that was to be filmed 25 miles from where I grew up...wow!”

Dwyer (about the making of the movie *October Sky*): “*October Sky*--What a beautiful, simple story, a story that needed to be told and was told well. This was one of the first films I worked as a true local. Slept in my own bed every night and could be there for my wife and kids when I was not scheduled for work. Great cast, great script and I got to meet and talk extensively with the [book, *Rocket Boys*] author, Homer Hickam.”

Wright: “My happiest experiences at A&E have involved working with documentary filmmakers. Generally, documentarians are driven to tell stories that they consider to be of importance to society. They are impassioned about their work. I’ve been involved in various ways with the business and legal aspects of a number of television ‘movies of the week’ adapted from books, including the 2000 version of *The Great Gatsby* starring Mira Sorvino, Toby Stephens and Paul Rudd; the 2002 remake of *Lathe of Heaven* (based on the sci-fi novel by Ursula K. LeGuin), and the weekly series *Nero Wolf* (based on the series of novels by Rex Stout).”

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About the reason for their choice of the entertainment field as a career, all three friends made interesting responses, even injecting a bit of humor:

McKinnon: “I remember when I was in my early 20’s, I had a summer job parking cars at Silver Dollar City (now Dollywood), and it was in the middle of directing a car when I decided to be an actor. I think it might have been heatstroke. I was going to UT at the time and tried out for the ‘summer company’. If I got in and got a good response, I would continue...I got in and I felt I had found my calling”. An early honor for McKinnon was being accepted at the hard-to-get-into Neighborhood Playhouse in New York and “being a student of the late Sanford Meisner, one of the greatest acting teachers ever”.

Dwyer’s choice of acting came as “a realization that I didn’t want to get up every day and do or expect the same thing. Another clue was when a supervisor told me not to sing so loud because I was drowning out the equipment.” As for honors and awards, Dwyer says it is an honor for him to have “just recognition from another human being that I have somehow touched their life in a positive way”.

Wright: “My parents were very interested in theater and music...and active in the Maryville Community Playhouse...I particularly recall observing stage hands outside the [Knoxville] Civic Auditorium as they ‘loaded in’ the scenery and equipment for road shows of plays and musicals—I do remember wondering about the off-stage world to which audiences seldom have access.”

For Wright, “The most rewarding experience of my life as a television executive was being production counsel on A&E Network’s in-house production of a two-hour special on the life and career of composer/lyricist Irving Berlin for the nightly series “Biography”...Working hand-in-glove with the head of the Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization (which represents the Irving Berlin estate), I obtained music and photo rights and arranged interview commitments from Berlin’s three daughters. The program...was a rich evocation of a Golden Age of American song. Our show (which premiered on Christmas night 1997 and was subsequently distributed on home video) played a significant part in the recent revival of interest in Berlin’s work.”

The three friends have all lived in places other than Blount County, but all three return “home” as often as possible.

Starship Adventure @ Your Library Offers Summer Reading for Children

“Starship Adventure @ Your Library”: will kick off the Children’s Summer Reading Program on Saturday, June 7, at the Blount County Public Library. Children of all ages (but especially ages from birth up through fifth grade) are invited to sign up, read books and receive prizes during weekly drawings. In addition, children will be able to explore a wide selection of exciting and fun events related to outer space.

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Starship Adventure con’t

To introduce the space theme story time at 10:30 a.m., Jasper, the Rooster (mascot of the Tennessee Valley Fair) will make a story time appearance in the Children’s Library.

From 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., Saturday’s events will also include

♣ Cosmic Costume Party (Wear your best space-themed costume, such as aliens, astronauts, moon men, stars, robots, etc.)
♣ Cosmic Crafts and Spacey Games
♣ Face-painting with Faces Gone Wild.
♣ Milky Way Café (out-of-this-world tasty treats at noon)
♣ Blast from the Past music extravaganza with lively music fun for everyone with a visit from Pistol Creek’s Catch of the Day musicians.

Throughout June and July, other space-themed events will feature special programs that will include

♣ Saturday, June 14, 2:00 p.m., “Solar System Show” with Paul Lewis of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Outreach Program, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
♣ Saturday, June 21, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., “Skating with the Stars” field trip at the Smoky Mountain Skate Center where children and parents can enjoy roller skating and refreshments. Children ages 12 and under may sign up at the Children’s Library Check-Out Desk from June 15-20 to receive a FREE ticket.
♣ Thursday through Sunday, June 19 - 22, “Edible Book Contest exhibits,” in the Main Gallery. A first, second and third prize ($100, $50, & $25) will be given in each of the following categories: (a) Juvenile (8-12 years old); (b) Young Adult / Teens (13 – 19 years old); (c) Adult (20+ years old). Special prizes of $100 will also be awarded for Creativity, Humor, Judges’ Choice, and Viewer’s Choice.

Tuesday, June 17: All Edible Book Contest entry forms must be received at the library by June 17. Entry forms are available at the Blount County Public Library or on the library’s web site, www.blountlibrary.org, under Programs.

Thursday, June 19 (3:00 pm – 6:30 pm): All entries must be received at the library between 3:00 pm and 6:30 pm. Judging will take place that evening. Entries will be exhibited in the Main Gallery of the library through Sunday, June 22.

Sunday, June 22, 3:00 pm: The Award Presentation. 13 cash prizes will be awarded, with first, second and third prizes of $100, $50 & $25 in the categories of Juvenile (ages 8-12 years old), Young Adult / Teens (13-19 years old), and Adult (20+ years old), PLUS special prizes of $100 each for Creativity, Humor, Judges’ Choice and Viewers’ Choice. Entries in a fifth category, Professional, will not be eligible for cash awards, but entrants may have their business cards or names displayed with the entry. The decision of the judges is final. Cash prizes are supplied by the Friends of the Blount County Library. The awards ceremony will occur in the Main Gallery of the Library.

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Starship Adventure con’t

♦ Saturday, June 28, 11:00 a.m., “Magician, Scott Humston”, in the Sharon Lawson Meeting Room.
♦ Friday, July 4, the library will be closed in honor of Independence Day.
♦ Monday, July 7, 6:30 p.m., “Mad Science”, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
♦ Saturday, July 12, 11:00 a.m., “Heritage Planetarium Field Trip” is limited to 67 people; therefore, sign up is required from July 7-11 at the Children’s Library Check-Out Desk where tickets will be issued at sign up. On the day of the field trip, families should meet at the planetarium for the special space program.
♦ Saturday, July 19, 11:00 a.m., “Go Wild!” puppets, magic and more …with Sandi Schulte who will offer fun entertainment in the Sharon Lawson Room.
♦ Wednesday, July 23, 1:00 p.m., “Rocket Ride to Reading”, with Magician, Bruce Amato, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
♦ Saturday, July 26, 11:00 a.m., “Planet Earth Animals”, presented by the Knoxville Zoomobile in the Sharon Lawson Room.

Free and open to the public, the programs are at the Blount County Public Library, located at 508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville. Prizes will be provided by the Friends of the Blount County Public Library.

For further information about other library programs or services, call the library at 982-0981 or visit the Web site at www.blountlibrary.org.

To print a one-page monthly calendar of events at the library, go to the library Web site at www.blountlibrary.org, click on “Programs and Events” and then click on “Click here to view the monthly calendar of events in printable format” or sign up to receive a monthly calendar by email by scrolling down and clicking on libnews@blounttn.org and putting “subscribe” in the subject line.

--Joan VanSickle Sloan
Community Outreach Coordinator
Blount County Public Library
Laurel Best will be resigning as the director of Linebaugh Public Library System on June 12. Best has accepted the position of director of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library system in Huntsville, Ala., where she will begin working on July 14. Assistant Director Rita Shacklett has been named as the interim director while a search is conducted for Best’s replacement. Best has been the LPLS director since 1995; in that time, LPLS has grown from a 2-branch system to 4 branches and a bookmobile. Under her leadership, LPLS won the 2006 Giant Step Award from School Library Journal, and she received the 2008 Nashville Business Journal Impact Award. She also organized the Linebaugh Library Foundation and launched a $36 million capital campaign.

Christa Hardy has been appointed to a thesis/dissertation fellowship in the James E. Walker Library at MTSU through the end of the calendar year. Christa received her MLS from the University of Alabama and is currently a dissertation stage candidate for the Ph.D. at the University of Illinois, Urbana/Champaign. Her responsibilities at the Walker Library will include reference, library instruction, and collection development. In addition, she will contribute to campus diversity initiatives and devote significant time to the completion of her dissertation.

The fellowship program at MTSU is part of University’s program to enhance diversity in research, teaching, and service through the recruitment of underrepresented minority students from across the country who are completing graduate research. Individuals wishing to know more about this program should contact William Black at the Walker Library (615-898-2772; wblack@mtsu.edu).

Sue Maszaros has accepted an appointment as Special Projects Coordinator at TSLA with primary responsibilities for TEL and its support.

Sue began her work at TSLA in 2001 in the Public Services Section. She transferred to Technical Services as a copy cataloger in 2002, where she was recently promoted to Digital Documents Coordinator. She has earned an M.S. in Library and Information Science from Drexel University and a B.S. in English with a minor in Writing from MTSU.

You will quickly discover her skills in almost every area of the library field. Sue brings her knowledge of information technology, project development, Web 2.0 technologies, and a strong vision for the future of TEL and other projects. Libraries of Tennessee will continue to benefit from the exceptionally dedicated professionals who have and will continue to make TEL more widely known and used. Welcome Sue as she begins her work with the Planning & Development Staff on May 27.

Pat Grossman leaves this position to become the Director of the Obion County Public Library. We congratulate Pat on this opportunity and will retain every phone number possible to contact her, but we wish her the best as she goes to her "dream job" in Union City. Send her off with many good wishes and welcome Sue to her new position.

The purpose of the Tennessee Library Association is to “promote the establishment, maintenance and support of adequate library services for all people of the state; to cooperate with public and private agencies with related interests of the membership of the Association.” In order to accomplish these goals, TLA supports continuing education opportunities for its members, especially at its annual spring meeting. TLA works with the State Library and Archives to develop state-wide holdings, databases, and coordinated networks involving all types of libraries and information science centers, and effective and efficient resource sharing initiatives. The Association also initiates and supports legislation promoting library development and monitors legislation that might threaten Tennessee Library Association to be an organization that makes a difference for you, for Tennessee Librarians, for Tennessee Libraries, and for the citizens of Tennessee.