



Communiqué

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Gulf Coast Libraries Participate in Summit on Rebuilding

Librarians and community leaders from Gulf Coast counties and parishes that lost library buildings met in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on November 28-30, to explore opportunities and share ideas for rebuilding. *Building Libraries, Building Community: A Summit on the Role of Public Libraries in Re-creating Community on the Gulf Coast* was hosted by the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) in partnership with the Mississippi Library Commission and the State Library of Louisiana.

Thirty-one public libraries were destroyed by the hurricanes in Louisiana and Mississippi. Many more remain closed or are operating with severe limitations.

This summit began a three-part rebuilding program for these public libraries. Following the Summit, libraries in these counties and parishes are now eligible for grants to assist in planning for new buildings. The Summit and planning grants are part of SOLINET's Gulf Coast Libraries Project, a three-year initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support public libraries damaged by hurricanes in Louisiana and Mississippi. In addition to support for planning new buildings, the Gulf Coast Libraries Project will provide temporary libraries and book/tech mobiles, technology, materials, and staffing in communities that lost libraries.

"Libraries play an essential role in any community. In restoring our public libraries, we also begin the painstaking process of restoring our communities," according to State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton of the State Library of Louisiana. Hamilton and several other SLOL staff attended the Summit.

Her statement is echoed in other counties and parishes. "Libraries add greatly to the quality of life and stability

of the communities," according to Cyndi Sellers, Library Board President in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

"The purpose of the Summit was to provide a framework and context for planning library buildings and services in recovering Gulf Coast communities, recognizing that these libraries are assets to their communities and critical resources for positive, sustainable community growth," according to Kate Nevins, Executive Director of SOLINET.

Community leaders and librarians in Louisiana attended from Calcasieu Parish, Cameron Parish, Jefferson Parish, New Orleans, Plaquemines Parish, St. Bernard Parish, St. Tammany Parish, Terrebonne Parish, Vermillion Parish and Washington Parish. Participants from Mississippi also represented Hancock County, Harrison County, Jackson-George Regional Library System and Long Beach Municipal Public Library.

Reports and recorded sessions from *Building Libraries, Building Community* will be available at SOLINET's Gulf Coast Libraries Recovery website in December.

SOLINET

The Southeastern Library Network, Inc. (SOLINET) is an Atlanta-based not-for-profit library cooperative serving the Southeastern United States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia).

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It's Good To Be Back

It's been a year and a half since **Communiqué** has been published. With this first "new" issue, we hope to continue to provide our readers with interesting, helpful information. In doing that, we would like your input with newsworthy items to include in the forthcoming issues. Send comments, questions or other musings to: Paulita Chartier, Communications Director, at pchartier@state.lib.la.us.



Viewpoint

IT has been a tough 18 months for the State of Louisiana. Extraordinary work has been done in extraordinary times, but even in the most difficult of circumstances, you have shown the world the importance of libraries. With the eyes of history upon us we proved our worth.

When evacuees had very few options to obtain critical information, public libraries provided a safe haven, a compassionate heart and a "one stop shop" to get that urgent information. With homes destroyed, power down in much of the state, sporadic communications, yet a critical need to locate information, public libraries and library staff stepped up, went beyond the call of duty and served as front line responders to offer a hand to those most in need. I commend all of you for the tremendous things you did for your fellow Louisianans. Your work reminds me of a Tracy Chapman quote "I've seen and met angels wearing the disguise of ordinary people living ordinary lives."

With your help and input, the Office of the State Library implemented its strategic plan July 1, 2005. Hurricane Katrina struck in August. I had to stop us in our tracks and amidst the financial strain the state was experiencing, had to work hard to ensure that we kept our existing funding. With a total travel, hiring and spending freeze, and many vacancies, we struggled to serve all of our clients without diminished quality of service. In fact, from the very first day we were able to come back into the building that was the message I got from my staff. They vowed to do what it took to continue to serve.

With your help and the tremendous things you accomplished during and after the storms, you showed lawmakers the critical role libraries play, we were able to maintain our funding and now have the possibility of expanding our funding in FY 07-08. But still, we are just starting to recover. While we have been able to fill some vacancies, we still have many more to fill. Though the hurricanes did set our overall timetable back considerably, the State Library has been able to meet two primary concerns from directors. First, we were able to offer more technology assistance, such as E-rate and after hours service, and second, we were able to conduct more training workshops this fall.

In the coming months, my goals are to continue to fill vacant staff positions, to find a new ILL system, and for our staff to get out into the field for hands on assistance and to host more regional training sessions. We would also like to add to our databases. And of course, we are still in need of more state aid so that Louisiana can meet the national average.

While the hurricanes have long since passed, their repercussions have not. We are just now able to begin to put ourselves back together. I am confident that through all of our hard work and determination, our rebuilding efforts will continue to move forward. In adversity, we have shown our resilience. We have been able to adapt to horrific situations and work one step at a time to overcome and rebuild what we have lost.



State Librarian

Calcasieu Parish Public Library Offers Free Digital Media to Cardholders

Cardholders for Calcasieu Parish Public Libraries can now enjoy the freedom to download titles to personal computers and supported portable devices. A collection of audio books, eBooks, music and video titles found at <http://calcasieu.lib.overdrive.com> can be downloaded to a computer and transferred to a portable device. Selected titles may be burned onto a CD.

According to CPPL Director Jeff Rippe, "With this step, the virtual library becomes real. The user doesn't have to leave the house or office to go to the library. The library goes to the user."

Calcasieu Parish Public Library purchased the service from OverDrive/Digital Library Reserve, Inc. Cardholders may check out three eBooks, audio books, music and videos on their own computers for 14 days.

Loretta Gharst, Computing and Collection Services Librarian, says, "This is an exciting opportunity for the Calcasieu Parish Public Library to expand the range of library services we offer and better meet the needs of busy patrons. Our Digital Library Collection gives our patrons 24/7 online access to eBooks, audio books, music and DVDs in the privacy of their own home and without the worry of materials becoming overdue. Another plus is that the library is able to expand our collection offerings without the space, handling and damage issues normally associated with audio and video media."

The new service can be enjoyed at home, at work or when traveling, but may not be downloaded on the computers in the library.



Melissa Hymel Named Among 25 Winners of The New York Times 2006 Librarian Awards

The New York Times announced today the names of the 25 winners of the 2006 New York Times Librarian Awards. Melissa K. Hymel, Library Director of the Pointe Coupee Parish Library in New Roads, was among the winners. Now in its sixth year, the program honors librarians from around the country who have provided outstanding public service and have had a strong and positive impact on their nominators. This year's winners represent 17 states, including Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and Washington.

"Thanks to the dedication of our exceptional librarians like Melissa Hymel, many of our libraries are back in business, serving the people of Louisiana," Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu said.

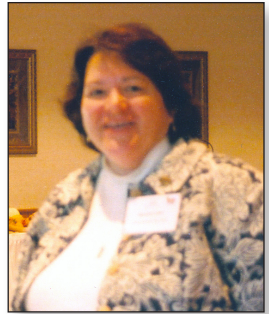
"This is a tremendous honor for Melissa," according to State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton. "She and her staff have worked very hard to help both the local patrons of the Pointe Coupee Library system as well as those who needed so much help during the hurricanes. We are all extremely proud of Melissa."

Included among the 25 winners for the first time are three academic librarians. In an expansion of the program, librarians working in college and university libraries were eligible to be nominated by college students, faculty and administrators. Nominations for the public librarian awards came from the general public. The Times received more than 1,300 nominations from 45 states this year.

The Times held a ceremony and reception in honor of the winners on Dec. 13 at which each winner was given \$2,500 and a commemorative plaque from The Times. A separate plaque featuring the winner's name and title was sent to the library where each winner works. Gail Collins, editorial page editor for The Times, was guest speaker at the ceremony.

"We are very happy for this opportunity to celebrate librarians from across the country, whose enormous contributions sometimes go unrecognized," said Alyse Myers, senior vice president, chief marketing officer, The New York Times Media Group. "This year, we are also delighted to extend the Librarian Awards to aca-

ademic librarians, who serve their college communities with the same devotion as the public librarians whose work we have hon-



ored since 2001. All librarians fill a vital role in our society – they are the people who bring together communities in the pursuit of knowledge. In doing so, they remind us that education and civic engagement are critical components of a thriving democracy. We applaud this year's winners and the work they do every day."

Live Oak Library Reopens In Waggaman

Jefferson Parish Library announced that the Live Oak Library at 125 Acadia Drive, Waggaman, LA, was reopened November 20, 2006. The reopening ceremony and ribbon cutting held on December 5 featured local dignitaries and public recognition of gift donations to the library. Refreshments were provided by the Waggaman Civic Association.

Because of storm damage, the library had been closed since Katrina. The damage necessitated building the Live Oak children's collection back from scratch, which remains a work in process. Re-carpeting of the library has been completed and some furniture has been replaced. Though there are still improvements to be made, the Jefferson Parish Library administration felt that Live

Oak Library has been sufficiently revitalized to permit the return of valuable services to the Waggaman community without further delay, while the library continues to "build back better."

Visitors will immediately notice a customer-oriented interim layout and an expanded number of public access computers, more than double those available pre-Katrina. An exciting new feature is the addition of a DVD section. Soon, wireless Internet service will be added as well as other design improvements to enhance the user's experience.

We welcome you to stop by the renewed Live Oak Library and check things out!

Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



SLOL Hosts Fall Administrative Librarians Conference

The State Library of Louisiana hosted the Fall Administrative Librarians Conference on November 16 and 17 in Port Allen. The conference provided an opportunity for the state's library staff to network with other librarians and to create an action plan for their own libraries. Attended by the state's parish library administrators, the conference included several programs.

"Mission Possible: Sustaining Public Access Computing at Your Library" was a workshop on the Rural Library Sustainability Project, which is funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This particular program focused on sustaining public access computing and addressed challenges typically identified as obstacles to that goal. "Mission Possible" was a pilot for workshops that will be presented at various locations throughout the state at later dates, which will be on a smaller scale than the one at conference.

Attorney Greg Guidry, Chairman of Onebane Law Firm, also gave an extensive presentation on Labor and Personnel law, covering important information on effective employment practices as well as recent developments. Guidry heads the Labor & Employment Law Section and Practice Group for the Onebane Law Firm. A nationally recognized attorney in his field, he has been selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2006 and 2007 listings of *Best Lawyers in America*, in the labor and employment field.

SLOL Wins National Keppel Award

The Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data, a cooperative program of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS), presented the Keppel Award to Dorothy White, Senior Consultant of Library Development of the State Library of Louisiana.

The Keppel Award is an annual award given to State Library agencies that

have excelled in the completeness, promptness, and high quality of the local public library data that they collect, edit, and submit annually to NCES. The national public library data, including individual library data and State Library summaries, is made available by NCES from its web site <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/sla.html>. Summary tables are also published annually in hard copy under the title, *Public Libraries in the U.S.*

Communiqué is a bi-monthly publication of the State Library of Louisiana to provide information to Louisiana libraries and people with an interest in libraries. Inquiries, subscription information or requests on obtaining large print or audiocassette versions should be directed to the Communications Section.

Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu

Department of Culture,
Recreation & Tourism
Angèle Davis, Secretary

State Library of Louisiana
Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian

Paulita Chartier,
Communications Director

State Library of Louisiana
Communications Section
701 N. 4th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Phone: (225) 342-9713
Fax: (225) 219-4804
www.state.lib.la.us

The State Library of Louisiana is one of our state's greatest resources for research information, government documents, genealogical data, books in Braille, audiobooks and more.

The State Library's mission is to build an informed, literate and democratic society by ensuring access to informational, cultural and recreational resources, especially those resources unique to Louisiana.

Architectural Pride

The Pride-Chaneyville Branch Library was selected for inclusion in the *Library Journal's* architectural issue, which will be published in 2007.



People & Places

State Library of Louisiana

The following have been newly appointed to the State Library of Louisiana Board of Commissioners:

Blaise Sonnier is a former member of the Lafayette public library board and is presently serving as Chairperson of the Building Committee that is guiding the implementation of the building program.

Tania Tetlow, from New Orleans, is the former chair of the New Orleans public library board and is currently the president of the NOPL foundation.

Evelyn Valore is a retired high school librarian from Shreveport, Louisiana. She was also the Education Coordinator for Cable in the Classroom for Time Warner Cable in Shreveport.

Glenna Kramer's term expired 7/31/06. Ms. Kramer is from Franklin, LA and is a member of the St. Mary Library Board of Control.

Bethany Ryder has been appointed as the Associate State Librarian of the State Library of Louisiana. Ms. Ryder holds a Masters of Library and Information Science from LSU. Her most recent position was Director of the Natchitoches Parish Public Library.

Lisa Rickards is the State Library's new Business Manager. Ms. Rickards comes from Louisiana Housing Finance Authority. She has experience in purchasing, grants and contracts.

Paulita Chartier joined the State Library of Louisiana as the Communications Director, bringing more than 20 years experience in media and public relations to this position. Ms. Chartier holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from LSU. Prior to joining the State Library, Ms. Chartier founded DoubleLab Productions in Lake Charles, where she helped clients direct their messages to respective target markets.

Bonnie Bart has been named Library Specialist 3, Reader Advisor in the Section for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Ms. Bart worked at New Orleans

Delgado Community College library prior to coming to Baton Rouge.

Alison Foster has assumed the title of Confidential Executive Assistant to the State Librarian, as well continuing to serve as the Human Resources Liaison.

Elizabeth Hecker Perkins left the State Library of Louisiana to move to Panama with her family. Ms. Perkins worked for the State Library of Louisiana for 10 years, serving as Coordinator of Special Services for the past 6 years. As Coordinator of Special Services, Ms. Perkins oversaw the operations of Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Louisiana Voices, and the AudioVisual Resource Center.

Margaret C. Harrison has been named as the Coordinator of Outreach Services, replacing Elizabeth Perkins. Ms. Harrison was the Head of Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped since May 2003. Prior to this, she was a reference librarian at the State Library of Louisiana and a reference librarian and instructor at Louisiana State University. Ms. Harrison will administer SBPH and Louisiana Voices and do outreach work with special populations for the State Library of Louisiana. She will also be Louisiana's designated contact person for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and the Jones Foundation.

Charles Richardson retired with more than 36 years of service to the State of Louisiana. Mr. Richardson supervised the Materials and Machines section of the State Library of Louisiana's Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for the past several years

Around the State

R. Brantley Cagle, Jr., former head of government documents at the Frazar Memorial Library and professor of library science at McNeese State University has retired after 39 years of service. Cagle has played an active role in the Louisiana Advisory Council for State Documents Depository Program, Louisiana Federal Depository Library Council and has served on numerous boards and advisory counsels. Also from McNeese, **Janet Woolman** former reference librarian

and head of serials has accepted a university administration position as director of research services. **Paul Drake** is the new ILL librarian. **Jessica Hutchings** is now head of reference. **Debbie Johnson-Houston** and **Rebecca Troy-Horton** are new reference librarians.

The ALA Relief Fund provided the **Erath Middle School Library** \$3,288 to rebuild its biographies section that was flooded in a tidal surge. \$1,100 was provided to replace the roof on the **Pleasant Hill Branch of the Sabine Parish Library System**. Amesbury Public Library, MA., raised \$3,400 for its adopted **Lakeshore Library**, Jefferson Parish. University of Rochester raised more than \$5,000 for **Southern Univ. at New Orleans**. Scottsdale Public Library, AZ raised more than \$1600 for the **New Orleans Public Library**. The Waukegan Public Library, Illinois, donated "Gertie," a bookmobile, to the **Jefferson Parish Library**.

Carver Branch Library of East Baton Rouge Parish has won the American Institute of Architects Rose Award for outstanding design.

Ouachita Parish Public Library, Monroe, LA, was awarded the 2006 Book Wholesalers Inc. Summer Reading Program Grant, \$3,000.

Twelve year board member **John Carnahan** of the East Baton Rouge Board of Control stepped down in June 2006. During his tenure he was involved in three tax referendums raising funds for new facilities, increased hours of service, an automated catalog and computer system, computers and online access. President and CEO of the Baton Rouge Area

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Remembrances

Longtime supervisor of school libraries for the Orleans Parish School Board, **Evelyn G. Peters**, passed away at 93 years of age. She was a long time member of ALA and president of LLA in 1952.

Frances Locke Winters, acquisitions librarian from 1948-1984 at the Louisiana Tech University recently, passed away.



Job Openings

Audubon Regional Library Library Director Clinton, Louisiana

The Board of Trustees of the Audubon Regional Library seeks a librarian as director of its three branches and bookmobile. The library serves a population of approximately 36,000 and has an annual budget approximately \$380,000.

Applicant must have an MLIS from an ALA accredited library program. Additional qualifications include the ability to provide strong leadership and management, develop and administer the annual budget and work and communicate effectively with all library stakeholders. Knowledge of and experience with grant writing is required.

Salary includes benefits (hospitalization, retirement and FICA). The library is an Equal Opportunity employer. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Resumes may be submitted by January 10, 2007.

Aline Woodside, Board of Trustees, P.O. Box 515, Jackson LA 70748, 225-683-3416

Systems Administration Librarian Livingston Parish Library Livingston, LA

MLIS Degree from an ALA accredited university preferred. Library experience or comparable experience, demonstrated knowledge of computers, networks, library automated systems, emerging technologies, and MS Windows operating systems. Excellent oral and written communication skills.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Send resume and references to: Allen Cunningham, Director; Livingston Parish Library; P. O. Box 397; 13986 Florida BLVD; Livingston, LA 70754; acunning@state.lib.la.us; (225-686-2436)

Adult Services/Public Relations Librarian Terrebonne Parish Library System

Salary: \$29,000 to \$33,000; Closing Date: January 15, 2007, must have MLIS or bachelor's degree in public relations; experience in use of computers and database technology; excellent writing and organizational skills; must be public service oriented with good communication skills.

Employee applications can be obtained and returned to any library branch or the Main Library at 151 Civic Center Blvd., Houma, LA 70360

New Orleans Public Library

Must have Master's from an ALA- accredited program and minimum of five years of pro-

fessional librarian experience in an administrative capacity, preferably in a multi-unit urban system. Salary range is \$100,000 to \$130,000, plus a full benefits package. Starting salary negotiable, depending on experience. Visit www.DubberlyGarcia.com for more information.

For first consideration by the Board, please submit a letter of interest and résumé by February 09, 2007 to Dubberly Garcia Associates, Inc. at 4288 Glengary Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30342. To be considered for a meeting with NOPL Directors at ALA Midwinter in Seattle, please provide your materials not later than January 12, 2007. Inquiries are also welcome. Contact June Garcia at 303-757- 7420.

NOPL is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Associate Dean for User Services Howard-Tilton Memorial Library Tulane University New Orleans, Louisiana

MLS from an ALA-accredited program; minimum five year's experience in increasingly responsible academic library management positions; record of leadership, accomplishment, and innovation in library access and user services; a record of effectively using technology to support service innovation; knowledge of current trends in scholarly communication, information technologies, library science, and higher education; a consistent record of contributions to the library profession; excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Desired: Experience managing an academic library reference or circulation department; professional experience in an ARL library; record of leadership in professional library organizations.

The selection process will begin immediately and continue until a candidate is chosen. To apply, send a letter of application, c.v., and contact information for three professional references via e-mail to Andrea Bacino, abacino@tulane.edu or mail to: Andrea Bacino; Tulane University; Howard-Tilton Memorial Library; 7001 Freret St. 2nd floor; New Orleans LA 70118

Tulane University is an AA/EO Employee.

Reference Services Librarian / Instruction Coordinator Howard-Tilton Memorial Library Tulane University

The Howard-Tilton Memorial Library seeks a creative, dynamic librarian to serve as a member of the Reference Services department and coordinator of instructional services.

Requirements: ALA accredited MLS; professional experience in reference and instruction in an academic library; potential for leadership in a collaborative setting; positive attitude and effective communication and teaching skills; enthusiasm for an innovative and changing environment; interest in online

instructional methods and tools. (The individual will be expected to develop expertise in emerging technologies and lead and/or participate in innovative library projects.)

Tulane University is an AAU/Carnegie Research I institution with its main campus located in picturesque uptown New Orleans. The Howard-Tilton Memorial Library is the university's main library, which is an ARL research collection supporting programs in the humanities, social sciences, and the sciences. Recently, the library has been reorganizing, building its collections, and developing an architectural plan for expanded library facilities. These changes make for an exciting time to work at the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library. (See: <http://library.tulane.edu>)

Review Of Applications will begin immediately, and continue until the position is filled. Qualified candidates submit a letter of application, resume, and the names of three professional references, to:

Howard-Tilton Memorial Library; Attn Andrea Bacino ; Tulane University; 7001 Freret St; New Orleans, LA 70118

Tulane University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity employer. Female, minority and handicapped candidates, as well as veterans of the Vietnam era are encouraged to apply.

Science Librarian Earl K. Long Library University of New Orleans

The University of New Orleans' Earl K. Long Library is seeking a dynamic and energetic librarian to serve as the Science Librarian.

ALA-accredited master's degree in library science; demonstrated teaching ability; strong communication and interpersonal skills; familiarity with information technology and research tools in an academic library environment, including web-based instructional technology; ability to work collegially and productively with diverse groups in an urban academic setting; ability to adapt to rapidly changing technologies and environments.

Salary and Rank: This is a tenure-track 12-month academic faculty position at the Assistant Librarian rank. Salary: \$35,000.

Applications may be submitted by mail to the address below, or electronically to: nmukherj@uno.edu. Applications should include a cover letter addressing position qualifications, a complete and current vitae, and contact information (including telephone and email addresses) for three professional references.

Ms. Norma Mukherjee, Assistant to the Dean Earl K. Long Library University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA 70148.

UNO is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action employer.



East Baton Rouge Library Receives The Big Read Grant

The National Endowment for the Arts has awarded the East Baton Rouge Parish Library a \$20,000 grant for *The Big Read: One Book/One Community* program. The Library is one of

72 organization selected through a competitive grants process to receive funding which supports Big Read programs between January and June 2007. This grant will ensure that sufficient books and other materials are readily available throughout the nine parish area served by the Baton Rouge Area Chamber.

"With the Big Read we want to get everyone in a community - from high school kids and office workers to public officials and senior citizens - reading a great book together," said NEA Chairman Dana Gioia.

The Big Read: One Book/One Community program is sponsored by The Big Read, the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, and the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, who have partnered with libraries, school systems, religious and community organizations, and

key leaders of industry and commerce throughout the nine-parish area to implement this comprehensive program. The selected novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, was chosen for its wide appeal and social relevance.

Reading Discussion Groups will meet at libraries (including the State Library of Louisiana), bookstores, coffee shops and cafes, businesses, churches, schools, clubs, and homes over a concentrated period of time. Reading and Discussion Leaders are being trained to guide conversation on key themes of *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

This program will extend over nine parishes: Ascension, East Feliciana, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana, and will include public programs and lively discussions for a wide range of readers and interest, from middle school age students through retirees.

For more information and for businesses and organizations who wish to partner with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library and the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, contact Mary Stein at (225) 231-3700 or mstein@ebr.lib.la.us.

Summit

continued

gia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia) and the Caribbean. A membership network of libraries and other information organizations, SOLINET works in collaboration with many partners, from local to international, to provide leadership for cooperative action, improve access to information, and enable members to effectively anticipate and address the region's needs for education, economic development, and improved quality of life. www.SOLINET.net

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to reduce inequities and improve lives around the world. In developing countries, it focuses on improving health, reducing extreme poverty, and increasing access to technology in public libraries. In the United States, the foundation seeks to ensure that all people have access to a great education and to technology in public libraries. In its local region, it focuses on improving the lives of low-income families. Based in Seattle, the foundation is led by CEO Patty Stonesifer and Co-chairs William H. Gates Sr., Bill Gates, and Melinda French Gates. More information is available at www.gates-foundation.org.

Rapides Parish Library Wins \$100,000 Grant

The Rapides Parish Library's Preschool Outreach Plus is the recipient of a \$100,000 grant by Capital One Financial Corporation. "We had an exhaustive review of the number of people served and the effect it has on literacy," according to Wayne Denley, Central Louisiana area president for Capital One. "The library has such a good program. This should be a model for the rest of the country," he added. This grant will allow the library's program to expand its impact on small children as well as teach others to develop their own preschool outreach programs.

"Back in 1997, the staff at Rapides Parish Library in Alexandria began to realize that there had to be a better way

to improve literacy for very young children. The story times were poorly attended and not many children were being brought to the library. Clearly, something had to be done," said Steve Rogge, Library Director. "A commitment was made to build a strong outreach program that would reach preschoolers in Head Start and other child development centers."

Rapides Parish Library developed Preschool Outreach Plus, a unique outreach service that has been phenomenally successful. It began with serving 19 child development centers, and has grown to 64 centers as of July 2006. The program reaches about 3,000 students. More than 65,000 items were used by the centers in 2005.

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Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism
P. O. Box 131
Baton Rouge, LA 70821 - 0131



People & Places continued

Chamber of Commerce, **Stephen Moret**, will fill the vacancy.

Two board members of the Webster Parish Library are retiring. **Eugene Eason**, who has served as vice president of the board for 31 years and **Jessye Lewis**, on the board for 22 years. **Flo Session** and **Nelwyn Terrell** are new board members.

Lauren Campo was promoted from circulation supervisor to branch manager at the St. Charles Parish East Regional Library, Destrehan. She has worked for the library since 1999. Campo, a recipient of the 2006-07 Mary Moore Mitchell Scholarship, is currently working toward her MLIS from LSU. **Joyce Lococo**, who has worked with the library since 1996, was promoted from library technical assistant to circulation supervisor.

Elizabeth Kahn was hired as the first librarian at the Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy of the Jefferson Parish public school system. Kahn

was previously a librarian in the Orleans Parish school system for 22 years.

Hans Rasmussen is the new special collections cataloger at the Hill Memorial Library, LSU. He received his MA in History from LSU and BA in history from McNeese. **Alice Daugherty**, information literacy librarian, published "Motivating Online Information Literacy Students," in the Academic Exchange Quarterly (Winter 2005). **LSU Libraries** were awarded a \$400,000 grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents for "Louisiana Historical Newspapers: Preservation and Access," a project in partnership with McNeese State University and LSU-Shreveport.

Beate Kukainis, head of technical services is the primary investigator for the BORSF grant funding \$65,000 worth of Latin American and Caribbean studies materials for the Edith Garland Dupre Library, University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

Jerome Cummings has accepted a position with the Lafayette Parish Library System.

Lila Jefferson is the new acquisitions librarian at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Mary McCorkle is the new assistant director for collection services at Prescott Memorial Library, Louisiana Tech University.

Georgia Chadwick was promoted to associate director of the Law Library of Louisiana, a position formerly held by **Catherine Lemann** who became director of the Alaska State Law Library. **Miriam Childs** was promoted to head of technical services. **Katie Nachod**, former government documents librarian at the Tulane Law School Library is the new reference-electronic resources librarian. **Charles Gaudin**, who previously worked for the Jefferson Parish Public Library and Northwestern Louisiana State University, is the new law librarian in the technical services department.