

on the same page



news from the mississippi library commission

fall 2017

My Next Chapter

by Susan Cassagne, Executive Director
Mississippi Library Commission

Thinking of my forthcoming retirement makes me reflect on the last four years here at MLC. They seem like a brief moment in my nearly 65-year lifetime. I find myself reminiscing about the changes I've experienced during my time as your Executive Director. The thrill and anxiousness of a new job carried an overwhelming sense of responsibility, followed shortly by the sorrow of the loss of my sweet mother. The births of my precious granddaughters have assured me how much joy is yet to come as I watch them grow each day. Both sadness and joy accurately describe the emotions I feel right now. My sadness comes from the effects of plunging budget figures, as well as the realization that I may lose contact with some of the dear friends I've made along this journey. However, there is also joy and thankfulness for the wonderful community of librarians that have brought me treasured friendships. There is also great joy and satisfaction in the accomplishments we have made during this time.

When I finally decided what I wanted to be when I grew up, I ran with it. At the age of 42, I realized I wanted to dedicate myself to public service and found my calling by serving my community at the library. After starting my library career as a circulation clerk with the Pearl River County Library

System, I went on to complete my Master of Library and Information Science degree at USM, and soon accepted the position of Assistant Director. The opportunity to move to Natchez to lead the Judge Armstrong Library proved to be too powerful to resist. During that time, I was fortunate to serve two years as the President of the Mississippi Library Association. Fate once again intervened and led me to my time here as the Executive Director of the Mississippi Library Commission. What a thrill; what a responsibility; what an opportunity; what a close to a wonderful career!

The first section of my story took me from childhood through marriage and parenthood, and then on to an empty nest. Section two blessed me with a wonderful career in librarianship that has brought me opportunities I never could have imagined and friendships I will cherish always. As I begin the next section of my story, I can't wait to turn the page and see what life has instore. I hope to have pages filled with adventures with my husband, play dates with my grandchildren, and lots of reflection on my time of public service. And, yes, there will be library visits! Thank you all for your support!

MLC Welcomes Librarian of Congress

Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden, along with Congressman Gregg Harper, spent the day at MLC on Friday, August 18th. They read *Rainbow Fish* to children from the Mississippi School for the Deaf and participated in a fun craft project afterward. Congressman Harper presented a collection of books to MLC and introduced Dr. Hayden to a group of excited librarians from across Mississippi. Special thanks to Friends of Mississippi Libraries, Inc. for providing "Southern Snacks" for our special guests!





Unveiling Mississippi's new

Literary Map

at the Mississippi Book Festival

The Mississippi Center for the Book, located at the Mississippi Library Commission, was honored to have Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, present at the unveiling of the new Mississippi Literary Map, at the Mississippi Book Festival. The project was funded by a Bicentennial Grant through the Mississippi Humanities Council. Twenty-one Mississippi authors are represented on the map by a portrait created by noted Mississippi artist Ginger Williams Cook, known for her illustrative, whimsical portraits. Get your free copy of the map by visiting MLC.



WORDS ON WHEELS BOOKWAGON

First Regional Library is committed to creating young learners!



Since 2008, First Regional Library has provided the Words on Wheels BookWagon service, a mobile library outreach experience specifically targeted to preschool-age children in our five-county regional area. The BookWagon currently makes regular visits to 45+ sites, providing storytimes and early literacy activities for young children, as well as resources for check out, primarily by teachers and child care providers. The mobile library also visits special partner sites in their communities by request during the summer, after school, and on weekends.

The Words on Wheels BookWagon:

- Travels to area child care centers.
- The librarian then invites children and their teachers on board for a special storytime.
- Visitors may check out books and other library materials before the BookWagon rolls down the road to its next stop!

First Regional Library strongly believes that reading to young children early and often is the single most important thing that libraries, teachers, and parents can do to encourage lifelong learning. They especially hope the BookWagon will provide a unique opportunity to be exposed to books and reading to children who do not have the chance to visit their local library regularly.

Presently, Victoria Penny, FRL Early Childhood/Youth Services Coordinator, is the key staff person managing and implementing the BookWagon service. She drives the vehicle, schedules visits, plans and conducts storytimes, checks out materials, and maintains the collection. The BookWagon's home base is at FRL Headquarters in Hernando.

MLC at MLA

Each year the Mississippi Library Commission's Library Services Department participates in various programs at the annual Mississippi Library Association Conference. This year in Hattiesburg will be no different, especially when this year's theme is advocacy.

The first full day of the conference will host the Mississippi Library Commission's annual Librarianship 101 Reunion. Conference goers can come and reconnect with their fellow Librarianship 101 participants. They'll learn from MLC staff about how they can partake in random acts of advocacy with their current patrons. Attendees will discover how to reach those members of the community that aren't currently library users, and to connect with local funding authorities and legislators. This program takes place on Wednesday, October 18th from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

Shellie Zeigler and Mary Rodgers Beal with Talking Book Services will be discussing how their service isn't just for adults: it's for kids and young adults, too. Attendees will learn how school and public librarians can help their young patrons with visual, physical, or reading disabilities access the world of books. This program takes place Wednesday, October 18th from 9:30 am-10:30 am. Tracy Carr, Library Services Director, will be providing an ILL update during the Beehive Resource Sharing Update session. Statistics, information on system updates, and training will take place on Wednesday, October 18th from 10:30-11:30.

The Friends of Mississippi Libraries Inc. will join Big House Books to discuss their mission of getting books into the hands of incarcerated Mississippians. Big House Books is a non-profit organization based in Jackson, MS. Lacy Ellinwood, Library Development Director and Friends liaison, will be discussing how local Friends of the Library groups can support incarcerated Mississippians and ways to support Big House Books. This program is also hosting a book drive of new/gently used paperback books for Big House Books. These books will be sent to Mississippi prisoners. This program will be held on Wednesday, October 18th from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

We are looking forward to the 2017 Mississippi Library Association Conference "Tell Your Story" in Hattiesburg. Hope to see you there!

tellyourstory

MLA Annual Conference
October 17-20, 2017
Lake Terrace Convention Center
Hattiesburg, MS

Cutting libraries during a recession is like cutting hospitals during a plague.

~Eleanor Crumblehulme



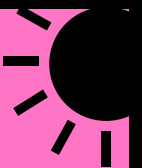
Solar Eclipse Watching at the Jane Blaine Brewer Memorial Library



Over 900 people came out on August 21st to the Jane Blaine Brewer Memorial Library in Mt. Olive to watch the solar eclipse. Library Branch Manager Martha Diehl worked tirelessly to make the event a success and she sure succeeded with the help of many volunteers. Where did you watch the eclipse?



You're Invited!



Join us as we bid farewell to Susan Cassagne, Executive Director of MLC, as she hits the road to retirement! Before she travels off into the sunset, let's show her how much we appreciate her years of service to libraries across Mississippi!

Monday, October 2, 2017 ~ 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Mississippi Library Commission

3881 Eastwood Drive

Jackson, Mississippi 39211

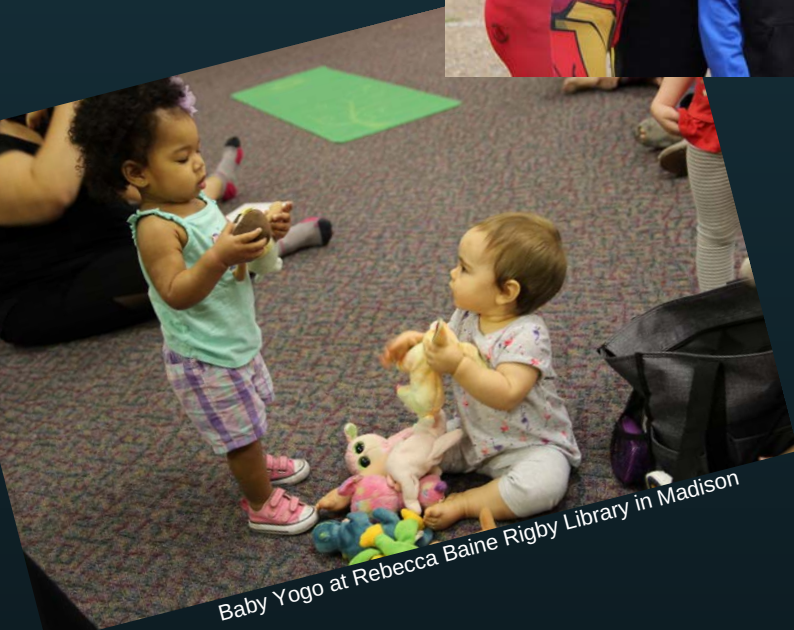
Please RSVP to Ethel Dunn at ethel@mlc.lib.ms.us

Build a Better World

2017 Summer Library Programs a tremendous success!

Libraries across Mississippi went all out this summer for the members of their communities. From Baby Yoga at Rebecca Baine Rigby Library in Madison, to Super Hero Parachutists at the Laurel-Jones County Library, this year's activities were filled with fun for all ages. Next year's theme promises to be just as much fun....**LIBRARIES ROCK!** We can imagine libraries filled with lots of music, dancing and fantastic programs. For more information about Summer Library Programs, contact MLC Senior Consultant Mac Buntin at mbuntin@mlc.lib.ms.us

Super Hero Kick Off at Laurel-Jones County Library



Baby Yogo at Rebecca Baine Rigby Library in Madison



Duct Tape Crafts at Vicksburg-Warren County Library



"Unbuild It" at the Batesville Public Library



Adult art class at Southaven Public Library

Disaster Preparedness and Recovery

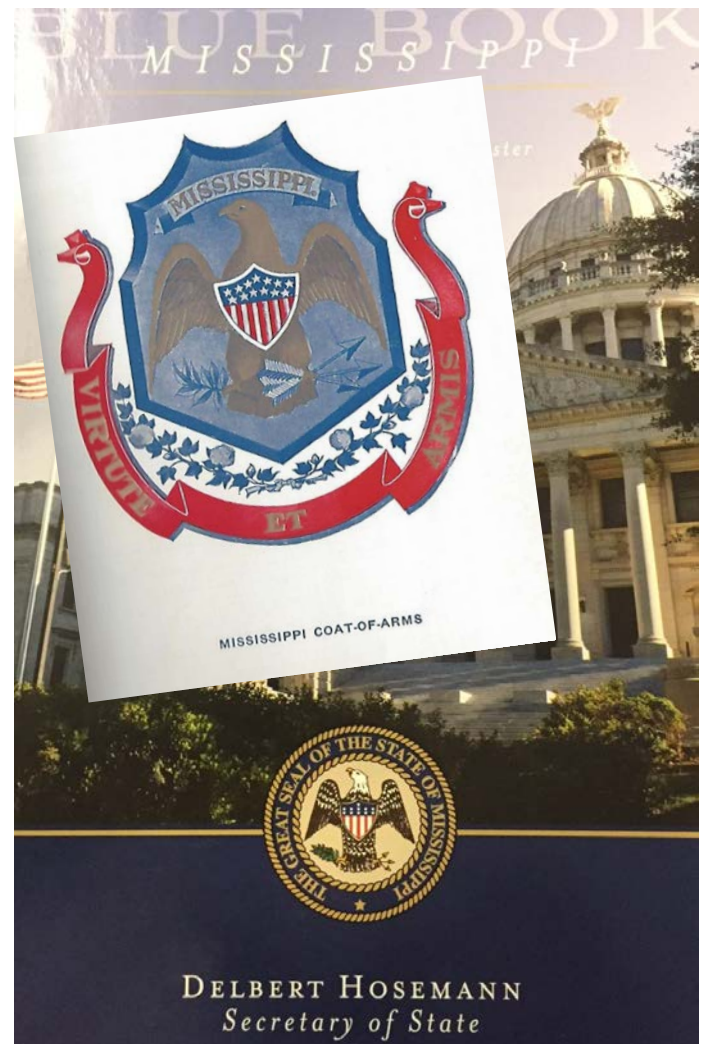


No one wants to think about facing a disaster, but right now the people of South Texas are trying to recover from Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma just ravaged the state of Florida. As we all know from the lessons we learned from Hurricane Katrina, it is critical to be prepared; to have a plan in place...just in case. ALA has some great information available for libraries that want to plan ahead. MLC also has books in our collection that offer some guidance. Be ready; plan ahead; be prepared!

<http://libguides.ala.org/disaster/home>

Blue Book of Mississippi

The Mississippi Secretary of State's Office has published the *Mississippi Official and Statistical Register* for over a century, but if you haven't heard of it by that name, you probably know it as the Blue Book. Blue Books are published every four years and contain voting data for all public elections. Need to know how many votes Supreme Court Judge Harvey McGehee got in November 1938? This is the only place to go for that information. Earlier publications have additional data, such as number of license tags issued per county and hunting regulations (including regulations for weasels and coots). MLC has Blue Books from 1896-current.



Position Announcement

Executive Director Mississippi Library Commission

The MLC Board of Commissioners seeks a dynamic leader to strengthen and enhance libraries and information resources for all Mississippians. The ideal candidate is a dedicated library advocate who possesses strong communication skills and has a proven track record of professional relationship development. The Board is looking for a skilled strategic planner to provide visionary, innovative and collaborative leadership for the agency and for Mississippi libraries. Successful candidates will excel in nurturing an organizational culture that values customer service, teamwork, diversity, creativity, and accountability. To find out more, including how to apply, visit Mississippi Personnel Board website.

MLC Calendar

September

18-20 Librarianship 101
26 Board of Commissioners Meeting

October

10 LSTA Workshop
17-20 MLA Conference in Hattiesburg

November

2-3 Director's Symposium
11 Veteran's Day - MLC Closed
14 Board of Commissioners Meeting
23 Thanksgiving - MLC Closed

About MLC

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www.mlc.lib.ms.us

Susan Cassagne, Executive Director

Board of Commissioners

Janet Armour, Tupelo

Jolee Hussey, Oxford

Ann Marsh, Brandon

Suzanne Poyner, Florence

Pamela Pridgen, Seminary

Connect with the Mississippi Library Commission



Susan Liles

Editor~*On the Same Page*

The Mississippi Library Commission was established in 1926 to ensure that all Mississippians have access to quality library services in order to achieve their greatest potential, participate in a global society, and enrich their daily lives.

MLC strives to strengthen and enhance library services for all Mississippians, while embracing the technology our users expect.

LIBRARY SERVICES bureau provides direct and indirect services to all of the state's libraries and citizens to improve access to a quality experience for all, including special populations.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES bureau provides support in financial and property management, human resources, technology services, and federal and state grant programs to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of libraries, government agencies and the citizens of Mississippi.