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Construction Grants Awarded to 18 Libraries

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners voted on Thursday, November 7th to award 18 General Construction Provisional Grants totaling \$36,499,449 to public libraries across the Commonwealth from the 2000-2001 Grant Round. Funding for these projects was authorized by Governor **Jane Swift** and the Legislature in August in an omnibus bond bill (S2271) that allowed for the expenditure of up to \$75 million for public library construction.

"We are very grateful to the Legislature and Governor for working to secure the funding to begin these library construction projects," said Commissioner **Joseph Hopkins**, MBLC Chairman. "These awards are subject to completion of local funding and signing a contract with the MBLC by November 7, 2003," he continued. The projects awarded were:

Ashby	Ashby Free Public Library	\$1,404,117
Ashland	Ashland Public Library	\$2,020,277
Berlin	Berlin Public Library	\$964,291
Boylston	Boylston Public Library	\$1,646,139
Canton	Canton Public Library	\$2,585,569
Dracut	Moses Greeley Parker Memorial Library	\$2,490,245
Lakeville	Lakeville Public Library	\$1,692,489
Leominster	Leominster Public Library	\$3,021,441
Lunenburg	Ritter Memorial Library	\$1,782,563
Maynard	Maynard Public Library	\$2,098,004
Mendon-Upton	Upton Town Library, Taft Public Library	\$4,763,010
Merrimac	Merrimac Public Library	\$1,673,741
Norfolk	Norfolk Public Library	\$2,048,218
North Adams	North Adams Public Library	\$1,691,370
Orange	Wheeler Memorial Library	\$1,720,653
Rochester	Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library	\$1,724,914
Rutland	Rutland Free Public Library	\$200,000
Watertown	Watertown Free Public Library	\$2,972,408
		\$36,449,449

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The Board of Library Commissioners is the agency of state government with the statutory authority and responsibility to organize, develop, coordinate, regulate and improve library services throughout the Commonwealth. The Board advises municipalities and library trustees on the operation and maintenance of public libraries, including construction and renovation. It administers state and federal grant programs for libraries and promotes cooperation among all types of libraries through regional library systems and automated resource sharing. It also works to ensure that all residents of the Commonwealth, regardless of their geographic location, social or economic status, age, level of physical or intellectual ability or cultural background, have access to essential new electronic information technologies and significant electronic databases.

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Robert F. Mooney, *Nantucket*

Robert C. Maier
Director

Maier Named Director



Robert Maier

Following a nationwide search, **Robert Maier**, MBLC Deputy Director and Head of Library Development, was unanimously appointed as the new Director of the Board by the Commissioners on

Thursday, October 3, 2002, during their regularly-scheduled Board meeting.

"It is a great pleasure to be able to announce the appointment of Robert Maier as our new director," said Commissioner **Joseph Hopkins**, Chairman. "Our Search Committee did an excellent job of screening candidates, and Mr. Maier's experience and in-depth knowledge of the library community within Massachusetts made him our unanimous choice."

For the past 11 years, Maier has been head of the Board's Library Development unit where he has been responsible for the planning, implementing and evaluating of both state and federal library grant programs, as well as the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program.

"I am well aware of the challenges that libraries face due to the recent loss of funding," said Maier. "I welcome the opportunity to lead the effort in turning these challenges into opportunities, by telling the stories of libraries, by finding new advocates for library services, and by planning so that libraries and our agency can continue providing the resources needed."

A graduate of Union College in Schenectady, New York, Maier also has his M.L.S. from the University of Rhode Island Graduate Library School. Prior to his work with the Board, Maier was the director of the Bedford, Massachusetts, Free Public Library, as well as working as a librarian in the Cranston, Rhode Island, Public Library System.

He is a member of the American Library Association, Massachusetts Library Association, New England Library Association and Beta Phi Mu.

Continued Budget Cuts Impact All Library Services

On Thursday, October 10, 2002, Governor **Jane Swift** used her executive powers to further reduce the FY2003 State Budget due to projections of a potential budget shortfall of \$300 by the end of the fiscal year. Although State Aid to Public Libraries and the State Aid to Regional Libraries and Library of Last Recourse were not affected by this cut, all of the funds administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) were greatly cut in both the FY2002 and FY2003 budgets.

In FY2001, the MBLC administered \$34,622,515 in state funds, while in FY2003 the agency is administering \$26,058,636. This is a 24.7 percent reduction over two fiscal years. "The effect of this reduction is to dismantle nearly all of the gains in library service achieved through implementation of

(continued on page 4)

Board Meeting Highlights



Commissioner **Joseph Hopkins**, Chairman, called the **September 12th** Board Meeting at the Duxbury Free Library to order and welcomed attendees. He then recognized **Theodore Flynn**, Chair of the Library Trustees, who welcomed the Board.

In his report, Commissioner Hopkins announced that he was appointing Commissioner **John Arnold** to serve as the Chair of the Board's Regional Library Systems and Library of Last Recourse Committee, and noted that the Committee will work on a collaborative effort to determine what statewide services the Library of Last Recourse will provide in the future.

In his report as Acting Director, **Robert Maier** announced that the Board has an opportunity to apply for a \$200,000 grant under the Staying Connected Grant Program, the final component of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's U.S. Library Program. The program offers state library agencies the opportunity to apply for *matching grants* up to the amount of eligible funds in four categories:

- Public Access Computer Upgrade or Replacement
- Broadband Connectivity Upgrade
- Training Sustainability
- Technical Support Sustainability

He also reported that all state agencies had received an e-mail message on August 29, 2002, informing them of the potential of an added 5 percent cut in budgets. He informed the Commissioners that this would amount to \$102,936 for the Board, and that he will recommend taking that reduction from the State Aid to Public Libraries account line.

Regarding the status of the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) reauthorization, Mr. Maier reported that Congress had not yet voted to reauthorize the act.

Lastly, he announced that **Rachel Devin** had been promoted to Administrative Coordinator for the Library Development Unit, and that the Administrative Assistant position should be filled shortly. He noted that both of these positions are federally funded.

Maureen Killoran, Head of Public Library Advisory and Government Liaison, in her Legislative Report informed the Commissioners that Representative **Mark Falzone** had continued his efforts to restore funding to the Library Telecommunications & Resource Sharing line item account, most recently through a deficiency budget, but was not successful.

Commissioner **John Arnold** presented the report of the Search Committee to the Board. He reported that 18 applications were received for the position of Director, and after careful review by the entire Search Committee; six semifinalists were selected and invited for interviews. Each semifinalist was also asked to prepare a one- to two-page response to a question dealing with their vision of what libraries may be like in another five years. He reported that prior to conducting interviews with the entire Search Committee meeting on September

4, 5 and 6, 2002, two semifinalists withdrew their applications, and the remaining four candidates were interviewed. Following an official vote; two candidates were selected for final interviews with the Board on Friday, September 27, 2002: **Robert C. Maier** and **Joyce C. Swonger**.

Beth Wade, Grants Manager, informed the Commissioners that there are currently seven vacant positions on the State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL). Three of these vacancies are unexpired terms vacated by individuals who resigned. The Board then approved the appointment of **Richard Poisson** (special library), **Gail Scanlon** (academic library), **Kim Charlson** (libraries serving those with disabilities), and **Joan Stern** (school library) to the State Advisory Council on Libraries for three-year terms expiring on September 30, 2005 and **Ann McLaughlin** (public library) and **William Edge** (library user) to one-year terms expiring on September 30, 2003, and also reappointed **James Sutton** (public library) for a three-year term expiring on September 30, 2005. Since no one applied from institutional libraries, this vacancy will be readvertised.

Patience Jackson, Library Building Consultant, presented a report outlining the current status of the 10 construction awards voted by the Board on June 7, 2001. She stated that the "milestone" to be achieved by these projects is, "The signing of a construction contract between the municipality and the general contractor." She informed the Commissioners that, despite all good-faith efforts and progress, four of the libraries, Blackstone, Gardner, Palmer and Sunderland, would not be able to meet the deadline to begin construction on September 7, 2002, and have requested 90-day extensions to December 7, 2002, that the Board then approved.

Acting Director Maier then distributed documentation on the final recommendations for use of the \$366,718 appropriated in FY2003 for the Telecommunications and Resource Sharing account (7000-9506) that was then approved by the Board.

In other actions, the Board approved the "FY2003 budget revision, filed on August 21, 2002, for the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System to reflect revisions in the Regional Budget," presented by **Carolyn Noah**, Administrator, that reduced its bottom line by \$428,670.

In another report, Acting Director Maier said that a *Statement on Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Library Commissioners and Regional Library Systems with Regard to Regional Reference Centers* had been developed by the Board's Committee on Regional Library Systems and Library of Last Recourse in consultation with the regional administrators. He relayed that the Committee was recommending that the Board adopt this statement (which they did) as the agency begins the regulatory process that will define minimum requirements for regional reference service and minimum funding levels for such services:

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Regional Library Systems and Library of Last Recourse
State Aid to Public Libraries
Statewide Services to Libraries and Library Users

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For further information contact David Gray at david.l.gray@state.ma.us or by calling 617-267-9400.

Book Awards Honor Kunitz and Massachusetts Authors

It was a big night at the Worcester Public Library on Thursday, October 3rd, for the second annual Massachusetts Book Awards, a Program of the Massachusetts Center for the Book (MCB) that brought together writers and readers from across the Commonwealth.



Hosted by **Elia Marnik**, MCB Chair and a Commissioner with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the highlight of the evening was Worcester native and award-winning poet **Stanley Kunitz** reading his poem "The Testing Tree," prior to receiving the first Massachusetts Book Award for Lifetime Achievement.



MCB Lifetime Achievement winner Stanley Kunitz, left, signing "The Collected Poems" for Susan Bloom, Director of the Center for Study of Children's Literature at Simmons College, a judge for the Children's Literature category for this year's book awards.

Following an informative presentation about the Massachusetts Center for the Book and the book culture in Massachusetts by MBC Executive Director **Sharon Shaloo**, a judge from each category announced the winners.

Fiction: *Mystic River* by **Dennis Lehane**
Honors went to *The Bostonians* by **Carolyn Cooke**, *Eva Moves the Furniture* by **Margot Livesey** and *Yellow* by **Don Lee**.

Nonfiction: *The Imprisoned Guest*
by **Elisabeth Gitter**
Honors went to *Gracefully Insane* by **Alex Beam** and *Uphill Walkers* by **Madeleine Blais**.

Poetry: *Poems Seven* by **Alan Dugan**
Honors went to *Memoir of the Hawk* by **James Tate**, *Oubliette* by **Peter Richards** and *The Seven Ages* by **Louise Glück**.

Children's Literature: *Moonpie and Ivy*
by **Barbara O'Connor**
Honors went to *Mountain Pose* by **Nancy Hope Wilson** and *Rocks in His Head* by **Carol Otis Hurst**.

An affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, this year the MCB used the program to also highlight the National Book Festival that was held in Washington, DC, on Saturday, October 12th. (See story on Page 7.)

ARIS Q&A

Q. I am looking for a less labor intensive way to get a picture of how many reference questions my staff handles each year and whether the number is increasing or decreasing. What is the preferred methodology for sampling reference transactions?

A. The preferred sampling methodology is a quarterly one-week sample from which an estimate of the annual number of reference questions is derived. Each fiscal year, select one week each in the months of July, October, January and April during which the library staff in all departments count all the reference questions they receive (in person, by mail, phone, fax, e-mail, etc.). At the end of each of the four weeks, the library will have an actual count of the number of reference transactions for one week in each quarter of the fiscal year.

The annual estimate can be calculated at the end of the fiscal year by adding the four actual counts from the sample weeks and multiplying by 13. (Be sure to multiply by 13 weeks per quarter – not 12 months per fiscal year.)

Alternatively, to calculate an estimate during the fiscal year, multiply the actual count after each sample week by 13 and add it to the estimate for the previous quarter. By the end of the fiscal year you'll have the same estimated total as above.

This preferred sampling methodology was developed in consultation with Massachusetts library directors. The goal of this methodology is to provide a consistent, valid, labor-saving way for libraries to collect descriptive service information regardless of which season of the year is a particular library's busiest

Actual counts are always most descriptive but useful management information can be estimated from the preferred sampling method. For a brief fact sheet on this preferred methodology for sampling reference statistics, consult the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' Web site at the following address www.mlin.lib.ma.us/mblc/sadac/aris_index.shtml

Mary Litterst
Planning & Research Specialist

Statewide Databases to be Scaled Back

Since August when the FY2003 appropriation approved by the Massachusetts Legislature reduced the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioner's (MBLC) Library Telecommunications Account by more than \$3.5 million, the MBLC, in conjunction with the six Massachusetts regional library systems, has been working with The Gale Group, our statewide database vendor, to continue access to a core group of Gale databases.

Since one of the most valued benefits of regional membership is access to statewide, full text, commercial magazine and reference databases, the Board and the regions have made every effort to preserve as much of this core resource as possible.

However, due to the seriousness of these state budget cuts, the revised core package of Gale Group databases as of January 1, 2003, will be as follows:

General Reference Center Gold
Expanded Academic ASAP
General BusinessFile ASAP
Business & Company Profiles
Health Reference Center Academic
InfoTrac Student
InfoTrac Kids (Standard and Graphical)
InfoTrac Junior (Standard and Graphical)
Professional Collection
Biography Resource Center (with Marquis Who's Who)
Contemporary Literary Criticism Select

This means, that beginning January 1, 2003, the following Gale Group databases will no longer be available:

InfoTrac OneFile
Prompt
Contemporary Authors (as a standalone product; content is in Biography Resource Center)
Health and Wellness Resource Center
Business and Company Resource Center

Robert Maier, MBLC Director, says, "With the account that supports the contract for database licenses reduced 92 percent over the last two years to just \$355,451, the Board has made maintaining a core of databases its priority. We appreciate the support of the regional administrators in examining every possible combination of products to reach agreement on this core group."

"The databases remaining serve as the centerpiece of a coordinated statewide program that provides Internet access to electronic resources for libraries and leverages the purchasing power of Massachusetts libraries to license complementary databases," says **Marlene Sue Heroux**, MBLC Reference Information Systems Specialist. "It was our aim to achieve the broadest mix of information while ensuring stable access to content, long-term sustainability and mechanisms for expansion," she continued.

Subject areas covered include general periodicals and encyclopedias, scholarly and K-12 journals, health (especially consumer health and nursing), business periodicals and directories, national newspapers, literary criticism and biographies. The databases have a substantial percentage of full-text documents with images for users representing all age groups, from K-12 to college students and corporate researchers.

Kathi Maio, Assistant Director for Reference Services, Mildred F. Sawyer Library at Suffolk University, says "I thank you and your colleagues for all the work you must have put in to try to retain the best possible InfoTrac access for Massachusetts libraries, despite the devastating cuts."

Fast Facts

Hours @ Your Library™

During FY2001, Massachusetts public libraries were open 969,283 hours. Main libraries provided 79% of the hours open, branch libraries 20% and bookmobiles 1%.
Source: FY2002 ARIS

Budget Cuts (continued from page 1)

the Board's *Strategic Plan for the Future of Library Service in Massachusetts*," says **Robert Maier**, MBLC Director.

Individual libraries serve their customers by providing the best possible set of resources and services locally, but in the 21st century no library can "go it alone." The MBLC sees the state's role as providing the resources to meld the resources of our Commonwealth's individual libraries into what is in effect a single resource available to all residents when and where they need it. These residents are the real losers in these budget cuts.

AN ACCOUNT BY ACCOUNT IMPACT

Board of Library Commissioners Administration (7000-9101)

Since FY2001 this budget has been cut 18 percent while personnel costs have increased dramatically due to contract settlements. The full impact of these costs is an effective cut of 30 percent. The MBLC is among the most efficient and effective agencies of state government. In FY2003 administrative costs are estimated at 3.8 percent, the state-funded staff component will be reduced by 3 positions and the Agency lower subsidiaries only cover such fixed costs as rent, charge backs, and Board and staff program related travel.

Telecommunications for Resource Sharing (7000-9506)

This account has been cut 92 percent since FY2001 from \$4,420,235 to \$355,451. Originally created in 1988 to help equalize the burden of telecommunications costs for libraries that joined automated resource sharing networks, this account was expanded in the late '90s to provide specialized reference services to libraries and residents, license access to high quality electronic information resources, provide a rapid access service for libraries to request copies of journal articles for their users and to offset the costs of network membership and Internet access for nearly every public library in the Commonwealth. With these cuts

- Specialized reference centers for consumer health information, legal information and business information have been eliminated.
- The statewide reference center and the journal article clearinghouse at the Boston Public Library are now unfunded.
- Access to licensed databases has been reduced even though the Board has made this its first priority for funding (See Databases to be Scaled Back).
- Two programs of support for automated networks have been eliminated. The resulting loss of \$2,000,000 will have to be made up by the municipalities whose libraries are members. Network services include circulation control, placing reserves, managing customer accounts, an online catalog available in the library and on the Internet, Internet access for patrons in the library, and technical support for all of these services.

Regional Library Systems and the Library of Last Recourse (7000-9401)

Massachusetts libraries have been leaders in regionalization of services. The six regional library systems provide services to and support resource sharing among 1,700 public, academic, school and special libraries in the Commonwealth. Regional services include interlibrary loan, reference, delivery of materials between libraries, continuing education, technical assistance, database access, bookmobile services, cooperative purchasing programs and specialized collections of print and non-print materials. The MBLC also administers funds for the maintenance and development of collections and services of the research library at the Boston Public Library, which serves as Library of Last Recourse for all residents of the Commonwealth.

Beginning in FY1998 when the regional library systems expanded their services to include school, academic and special libraries, regional budgets grew from \$7,685,458 to \$11,107,994 in FY2002 before the FY2003 reduction to \$8,464,401 (a 24 percent cut). From FY01 to FY03 funding for the Library of Last Recourse at the Boston Public Library has increased from \$5,922,762 to \$6,515,960, a 10 percent increase. (See Figure 1 below.)

Service reductions in the regional program include:

- Delivery service has been reduced with fewer libraries on daily routes. Patrons will wait 3 or 4 days for needed materials rather than 1 or 2 days.
- Database licenses for resources provided by regions in addition to those licensed statewide have been cut. Patrons will have access to fewer electronic resources in libraries and from home. Other cuts will follow in FY2003 and FY2004.
- In the Western Region no new materials will be purchased for distribution to libraries through the bookmobile. Patrons will have access to fewer of the books they most need in rural and poor communities in western Massachusetts.
- Continuing education opportunities for library staff are sharply curtailed. Customer service will decline as staff lack the skills needed to meet customer needs, especially for guidance in navigating the Internet to locate useful information and avoid sites that offer dubious information.

State Aid to Public Libraries (7000-9501)

Aid to public libraries was established in 1890 through an *Act to Promote the Establishment and Efficiency of Public Libraries* (codified as M.G.L., c.78, ss. 16-20). Through the State Aid Program, residents of Massachusetts are granted free borrowing privileges in all certified public libraries statewide. In FY2000, \$3,000,000 was added to the Library Incentive Grant and the Municipal Equalization Grant awards to bring State Aid up to \$9,899,804. This increase lasted for two years, FY2000 and FY2001. Last year, FY2002, the total appropriation was reduced to \$9,212,758, a 6.9 percent cut from FY2001. The FY2003 reduction to \$7,830,844 is a 20.9

percent cut from FY2001.

The resulting cut in State Aid to Public Libraries will have a far reaching effect.

- Fewer books, periodicals and books on tape will be purchased by public libraries for Massachusetts residents to borrow.
- Libraries will be open fewer hours and staffed with fewer librarians.
- Fewer story hours for children, and fewer Sunday hours during which homework assignments can be completed.

Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (7000-9402 and 7000-9406)

Access to library materials for the blind and visually impaired or those certified as unable to read normal print is provided by the Braille and Talking Book Library at the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown that serves eastern and western Massachusetts, and the Talking Book Library at the Worcester Public Library that provides services in central Massachusetts. State funds for these programs provide the necessary staff to provide service to 20,000 blind and physically handicapped readers statewide. The National Library Service of the Library of Congress provides Braille, talking books, and talking book readers free of charge to the two libraries.

From FY2001 to FY2003, the Perkins program was reduced from \$1,750,000 to \$1,578,515 and the Worcester program was reduced from \$342,550 to \$308,983. The impact of these reductions will be longer waiting time for patrons from the time they request materials until they receive them and fewer patrons served. Although an aggressive outreach campaign had been planned to increase the number of users of these services, with this reduction that plan could not be implemented.

100 Libraries to Receive Gates Computers

One Hundred Massachusetts public libraries, along with the regional library systems and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC), received \$1.7 million in late September from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to provide public libraries with computers, Internet access and technical training.

These grants are part of the Foundation's U.S. Library Program that works with public libraries to give low-income patrons access to computers, the Internet and digital information throughout the United States. "With this extraordinary gift from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to the people of Massachusetts we will be able to increase and update the number of computers in our public libraries and better meet the increased demand for public access to the Internet," said Governor **Jane Swift**.

"These grants will help the libraries receiving them meet the increasing need for access to computers and electronic information provided by libraries, especially for those who are least able to afford to own a

(continued on next page)

Fig. 1 Regional Library funding compared to LLR Funding

	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	% Change
Regional Library Systems	\$11,007,692	\$11,007,692	\$8,464,401	-24%
Library of Last Recourse	\$5,922,762	\$6,515,960	\$6,515,960	+10%

Gates Grants (continued from previous page)

computer and who stand to gain the most from having free access," said Commissioner **Joseph S. Hopkins**, MBLC Chairman.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (www.gatesfoundation.org) has committed \$250 million to public libraries nationwide to provide access to digital information. By the end of 2003, it expects to have provided 40,000 computers to nearly 10,000 libraries in all 50 states.

MUNICIPALITY	AWARD AMOUNT	LIBRARY BUILDING NAME	COMPUTERS AWARDED
Amherst	\$52,355.00	Jones Library, Inc.	4
		Munson Memorial Library	6
		North Amherst Library	4
Aquinnah	\$11,620.00	Aquinnah Public Library	2
Athol	\$16,895.00	Athol Public Library	4
Attleboro	\$16,895.00	Attleboro Public Library	4
Barnstable	\$10,220.00	Hyannis Public Library	4
Boston*	\$2,580.00	Boston Regional Library System	1
	\$2,580.00	Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners	1
Brockton	\$47,455.00	Brockton Public Library	6
		Brockton East Branch Library	4
		Brockton West Branch Library	4
Brookline	\$40,090.00	Brookline Public Library	6
		Coolidge Corner Branch Library	6
Buckland	\$4,854.00	Buckland Public Library	1
Cambridge	\$76,260.00	Cambridge Public Library-Main Library	6
		Central Square Branch Library	6
	\$34,920.00	Central Square Branch Library (Lab grant)	11
		O'Connell Branch Library	6
		Salvatore Valente Branch	6
Chelsea	\$22,005.00	Chelsea Public Library	6
Chicopee	\$28,350.00	Chicopee Public Library-Central Library	4
		Fairview Branch Library	4
		Griswold Memorial Library	4
Colrain	\$14,175.00	Colrain Public Library	4
Clarksburg	\$13,444.00	Clarksburg Town Library	4
Clinton	\$12,975.00	Bigelow Free Public Library	4
Danvers	\$2,580.00	Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System	1
Dennis	\$13,144.00	Dennis Public Library	4
Dudley	\$12,975.00	Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library	4
Everett	\$36,170.00	Parlin Memorial Library	6
		Shute Branch Library	6
		Millicent Library	4
Fairhaven	\$12,975.00	Fairhaven Public Library	6
Fall River	\$51,625.00	Fall River Public Library	6
Fall River cont.		East End Branch Library	3
		South Branch Library	3
Fitchburg	\$14,575.00	Fitchburg Public Library	4
Florida	\$8,059.00	Florida Free Library	2
Framingham	\$18,545.00	Framingham Public Library	4
Gardner	\$13,775.00	Levi Heywood Memorial Library	4
Gilbertville	\$8,390.00	Gilbertville Public Library	2
Gloucester	\$18,745.00	Gloucester Lyceum & Sawyer Free Library	4
Greenfield	\$13,720.00	Greenfield Public Library	4
Hadley	\$33,070.00	Goodwin Memorial Library	4
		North Hadley Branch Library	4
Hatfield	\$8,390.00	Hatfield Public Library	2
	\$2,580.00	Western Massachusetts Regional Library System Inc	1
Haverhill	\$22,055.00	Haverhill Public Library	6
Holyoke	\$20,535.00	Holyoke Public Library	6
Lakeville	\$2,580.00	Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Library System	1
Lawrence	\$40,460.00	Lawrence Public Library	6
		South Lawrence Branch Library	6
Leominster	\$18,495.00	Leominster Public Library	4
Leverett	\$20,185.00	Bradford M. Field Memorial Library	6
Lowell	\$36,270.00	Samuel S. Pollard Memorial Library	6
		Senior Center Branch	6
	\$35,070.00	Senior Center Branch (Lab grant)	11
Lynn	\$49,145.00	Lynn Public Library	6
		Houghton Branch Library	4
		Shute Memorial Library	6
		Nevins Memorial Library	4
Methuen	\$16,895.00	Carnegie Public Library	4
Montague	\$13,535.00	New Bedford Free Public Library	6
New Bedford	\$81,815.00	Casa Da Saudade	6
		Francis J. Lawler Branch	4
		Howland Green Library	4
		Wilks Branch Library	4
New Salem	\$11,510.00	New Salem Public Library	2
North Adams	\$13,286.84	North Adams Public Library	4
Northampton	\$13,775.00	Forbes Library	4
Northampton cont.	\$16,895.00	Lilly Library	4
Orange	\$14,175.00	Wheeler Memorial Library	4
Otis	\$7,979.00	Otis Public Library	2
Pelham	\$14,140.00	Pelham Library	4
Pittsfield	\$12,975.00	Berkshire Athenaeum	4
Provincetown	\$19,603.20	Provincetown Public Library	2
Revere	\$18,185.00	Revere Public Library	6
Salem	\$22,005.00	Salem Public Library	6
Shrewsbury	\$2,580.00	Central Massachusetts Regional Library System Inc	1
Shutesbury	\$8,160.00	M. N. Spear Memorial Library	2
Somerville	\$31,060.00	Somerville Public Library	6
		Gold Star Memorial (East) Branch	4
South Hadley	\$16,895.00	South Hadley Public Library	4
Southbridge	\$14,625.00	Jacob Edwards Library	4
Springfield	\$141,435.00	Springfield Library	6
	\$35,070.00	Springfield Library (Lab grant)	11
		Brightwood Branch Library	4
		East Forest Park Branch	6
		East Springfield Branch Library	4
		Forest Park Branch Library	6
		Indian Orchard Branch Library	4
		Liberty Branch Library	4
		Mason Square Branch Library	6
		Pine Point Branch Library	4
		Graves Memorial Library	4
Sunderland	\$14,644.00	Swampscott Public Library	4
Swampscott	\$12,975.00	Swampscott Public Library	4
Taunton	\$16,995.00	Taunton Public Library	4
Tewksbury	\$12,975.00	Tewksbury Public Library	4
Truro	\$7,590.00	Truro Public Library	2
Waltham	\$2,580.00	Metrowest Massachusetts Regional Lib. System, Inc.	1
Ware	\$12,975.00	Young Men's Library Association	4
Warwick	\$7,590.00	Warwick Free Public Library	2
Wellfleet	\$7,590.00	Wellfleet Public Library	2
Wendell	\$7,990.00	Wendell Free Library	2
West Springfield	\$17,005.00	West Springfield Public Library	4
Westfield	\$17,695.00	Westfield Athenaeum	4
Worcester	\$48,115.00	Worcester Free Public Library	6
	\$35,070.00	Worcester Free Public Library (Lab grant)	11
		Frances Perkins Branch Library at Greendale	4
		Great Brook Valley Branch Library	4
Yarmouth	\$30,008.00	South Yarmouth Library	4
		West Yarmouth Library	4
TOTAL	\$1,700,182.04		484

* This is in addition to the \$339,250 grant for 158 computers that the Boston Public Library and its branches received in October 2000.

Preservation Inquirer

Encouraging Preservation Awareness in Children

All too often, sticky covers and scribbled, torn pages are prominent features of children's library books. Yet these problems can be kept to a minimum through simple instructions and positive reinforcement aimed at the library's youngest users. Children's librarians encounter a wide variety of book handling habits. One of their goals should be to devise ways to impart good book handling skills by using all contacts with children as opportunities to demonstrate and foster their proper care. Children typically ignore unattractive or overly worn books. Therefore, if books can be kept in good condition through careful handling, reading will be encouraged, and the library's budget will benefit as popular titles won't need to be replaced as frequently.

Preservation education can begin at a very early age, as children are introduced to picture books. Even young children can be reminded to wash their hands before handling books, keep books away from pets, food and liquids, and to put them away so that they don't get lost. Children can be shown how to turn pages, not by lifting with their thumbs from the lower edge of the page near the binding, but by carefully lifting the lower right corner or fore-edge of each page, and by using the palm of the hand to help turn the page.

Combine practice page turning with other skills that children learn. Story hours provide good opportunities to do this. Ask the children to sit in a circle. Give them books and ask them to "read along." As they are reading, take note, and remind them how to turn pages properly and praise them for doing so. If a child leafs rapidly through a book and doesn't seem to have given it much attention, ask that s/he look through the book again and try to find a particular picture.

To build an awareness of some of the misfortunes that befall library books, keep a small collection of damaged books and show the children signs of careless and improper handling—torn, dirty or scribbled pages, or a dog's chew marks. Ask the children (and their parents) not to repair the book themselves but to report it so that the book can be repaired properly with special materials. Ensure that this will be done by reacting to reported damage with understanding and humor, rather than with disapproval. Also, remind young users to keep their books in a place where they are protected and easily found when it is time to return them.

Older children may also be made aware that library organization is related to the care of and access to materials. When children are about third grade they may be given formal instruction in use of on-line catalogs. Younger children can be introduced to the special arrangement of their library by helping them find all the works of a given author, by seeking authors whose names begin with a particular letter of the alphabet, or by arranging titles in alphabetical order. To prevent books from being misshelved or badly shelved, ask children to place books that they have used on the tops

(continued on page 11)

John Curtis Free Library Opens in Hanover

Under perfect fall skies, **Roberta Stannard**, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the John Curtis Free Library in Hanover, welcomed an enthusiastic crowd on Sunday, October 20, 2002, to a Ribbon



MBLC Commissioner Deborah Hill Bornheimer speaking at the John Curtis Free Library Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Hanover. Others taking part included (from left to right) Lorraine Welsh, library director; Patricia Pervane, library trustee; Peter Johnson, library trustee; Roberta Stannard, library trustee; State Rep. Robert Nyman, and Joseph DiSabato, building committee chairman.

Cutting Ceremony for the new library addition. "I am so very excited and pleased at what we have created," she said, in welcoming everyone and thanking many of those present for all they had done to make the new facility a reality.

Also taking part was State Representative **Robert Nyman** of Hanover who said, "This is a very special day for all the people of Hanover; especially to those of us who grew up here, to be able to provide this wonderful facility as a legacy for our children, that not only is a superb up-to-date library, but one that also maintains the integrity, character and beauty of our town center."

In her remarks, MBLC Commissioner **Deborah Hill Bornheimer**, recounted her recent experience in meeting a librarian from one of the Royal libraries in England who commented on the wonderful way in which American's give to their

local libraries. "This beautiful John Curtis Free Library is a palace," she said, "and I want to welcome it to the wonderful array of library building that we have in the Commonwealth. This is a great day for all of you."



The new Agawam Public Library and sculpture.

A Big Day in Agawam

The Agawam Public Library held a Grand Opening and Dedication Ceremony on Thursday, October 17th that was the grand finale in the library's renovation and expansion project. The project has tripled the size of the library from 15,000 square feet to just over 36,000. The building now includes a separate Children's Room that is located in what was the "old" library, a reference area with computer labs, two meeting rooms and separate area for young adults.

Agawam Mayor **Richard Cohen** officially welcomed guests and thanked the many state and city officials, town residents and library staff who made the project possible. **Gary Shannon**, president of the Agawam Center Library Association served as Master of Ceremonies, and **Judith Clini**, Acting Library Director, made remarks about some of the innovations in the new building. Also in attendance were Commissioner **Joseph S. Hopkins**, MBLC Chairman, and architects **Kenneth Best** and **Jim Glen** from Best Joslin Architects.

A life size bronze sculpture, *Story Time*, by Gary Price Studios was unveiled at the entrance to the library, and the ceremony also included the dedication of the Children's Room to the memory of **Jeanne Hofmann**. Hofmann dedicated the last 30 years of her life to working with children at the library, and was serving as Acting Library Director at the time of her death.



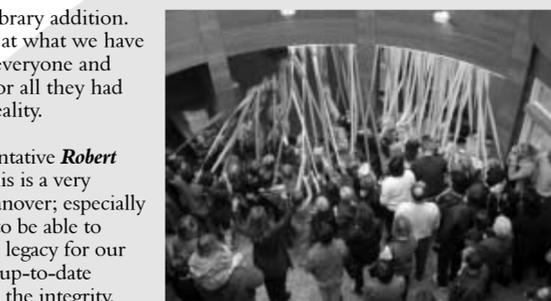
Dignitaries who took part in the Rowley Public Library groundbreaking included, from left to right, Dick Fowler, Clerk of the Works; Rick Lammare, General Contractor; Linda Smiley, Architect; Tim Young, President of the Friends of the Library; Jon Johnson, Chair of the Library Building Committee; Anne Larsen, MBLC Associate Library Building Consultant; Julie Bernier, Library Director; Deborah Hill Bornheimer, MBLC Commissioner; Maura Mastrogiovanni, Chair of the Board of Trustees; State Rep. Harriett Stanley; Dionne Levasseur, Rowley Board of Selectmen, and State Sen. Bruce Tarr.

Rowley Breaks Ground on \$3 Million Library

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Rowley Public Library on Thursday, September 26th attracted more than 100 residents and more than a few dignitaries. After a rousing rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the Pine Grove School Pep Band, the crowd heard remarks from State Rep. **Harriett Stanley**, State Sen. **Bruce Tarr** and Commissioner **Deborah Hill Bornheimer** from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The local voice was provided by Rowley Selectman **Dionne Levasseur**, Library Director **Julie Bernier**, Trustee Chair **Maura Mastrogiovanni** and Building Committee Chair **Jon Johnson**.

After the crew donned hard-hats and shoveled vigorously to symbolically start construction of a new library adjacent to the Town Hall in the town's historic district. Friends of the Library President **Timothy Young** made closing remarks and the crowd enjoyed home-baked pastries, lemonade and coffee.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS



Children of Hanover pulled down the steamers into the new children's library at the John Curtis Free Library in Hanover as part of the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Check Out & Tune In with Mix98.5 @ Your Library

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) sponsored a teen library event at the Swampscott Public Library on Thursday, October 17th as part of national Teen Read Week. The event, *Check Out and Tune In with Mix98.5 @ Your Library*, featured Mix deejay **Erin O'Malley** and an array of games, prizes and refreshments.



Swampscott residents, Hannah Gogel and Nikeki Escalada (left to right) get ready to spin the Mix prize wheel with Mix deejay Erin O'Malley, while Library Director Alyce Deveau and student Sonya Goronodsky look on. Students won books, tee shirts and CDs as part of the prize wheel at the Swampscott teen library event.

"We want to thank the Swampscott Public Library and Mix radio for taking part in this event," said MBLC Commissioner **Em Claire Knowles**, chair of MBLC's Public Relations Committee. "Through their efforts, we were able to once again demonstrate to teens the importance and enjoyment of reading and the library."

This event was part of the MBLC's continuing public awareness campaign that included television advertising this fall and a partnership with Mix radio.



State Senator Stephen Brewer with the Teen Advisory Board members who planned the Remembrance Day Ceremonies at the Monson Free Library.

Monson Honors Sept. 11th Heroes

The Monson Free Library through the Teen Advisory Board held a Remembrance Day Ceremony on September 11, 2002 at the library. The teens worked with the Board of Selectmen, State Senator **Steven M. Brewer** and other local officials to honor those who died in the attacks on America last year.

The outdoor ceremony attracted approximately 125 people who witnessed the presentation of citations to eight community members who volunteered in the rescue attempts at Ground Zero and two who were called to active duty.

Members of the library's Teen Advisory Board and the high school chorus led the community in song and the ceremony concluded with the playing of taps. Following the program, everyone adjourned to the library's community room for refreshments, a slide show of the World Trade Center/Ground Zero and an exhibit of the library's collection including poems and reflections submitted by members of the community. According to **Kathleen Norbut**, Library Teen Coordinator, the teens stated that they, "were glad to have done this at the library, it was very important to us."



MBLC Director of Communications David Gray and Executive Director of the Massachusetts Center for the Book Sharon Shaloo at the Massachusetts booth in the Pavilion of the States at the National Book Festival.

Massachusetts Participates in National Book Festival

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Massachusetts Center for the Book were part of the 50 states and territories that exhibited in the Pavilion of the States at the National Book Festival in Washington, DC, on Saturday, October 12th.

This celebration of books and the joy of reading was sponsored by the Library of Congress and First Lady **Laura Bush**. This year more than 70 award-winning and nationally known authors, illustrators and storytellers were on hand for readings, book signings and performances for the thousands who attended. Representing Massachusetts at the event were MBLC Commissioners **Elia Marnik** and **Edward Bertorelli**, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Center for the Book **Sharon Shaloo**, and MBLC Director of Communications **David Gray**.

Peabody Checks Out... "The Crucible"

The Peabody Institute Library in Peabody conducted a city-wide reading program this fall, based on the play, *The Crucible* by **Arthur Miller**. Events were held from through November and included a historical lecture, book discussion groups throughout the city, a televised panel discussion, as well as art, poetry and essay contests for children and young adults; a re-enactment for children and a staged reading of the play.

Peabody Mayor Michael Bonfanti taking part in reading *The Crucible*.

Residents Turn Out to 'Raise the Roof' in Chicopee

With music provided by the Chicopee High School Band, a large crowd gathered on a beautiful fall evening under a tent on Front Street in Chicopee to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new \$6.4 million Emily L. Partyka Central Branch of the Chicopee Public Library.



Henry Bazan, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Chicopee Public Library, left, with Patience Jackson, MBLC Building Consultant, and Richard Kos, Mayor of Chicopee, right, at the groundbreaking ceremony.

"This project began to take shape in 1995," said **Betty Moylan**, Co-chair of the "Raise the Roof" Campaign for the new Chicopee library, as she welcomed the large crowd and thanked the many volunteers, patrons, benefactors, library staff, and state officials for their help in bringing this "dream" to fruition.

William Wagner, President of the Chicopee Savings Bank, said, "All of us are proud to be able to help in giving Chicopee a library that will stand the test of time."

Named after a major benefactor, Emily L. Partyka, her nephew **John Partyka** described how the Partyka's had both grown up in Chicopee, raised a family and managed a successful business. When his uncle was approached by the "Raise the Roof" committee, he immediately thought of his wife, Emily, said his nephew. "It was her love of books, reading and organizational skills which helped to shape who she is," he said.

In closing the ceremony, Chicopee Mayor **Richard Kos** said, "A library speaks volumes about a community...and I want to thank all of you for the city in working to make this happen."



Dignitaries from Chicopee break ground with Emily Partyka (fourth from left) for the new library being built in her honor.

Fitchburg State Dedicates Library to Benefactor Gallucci-Cirio

In ceremonies held on September 5, 2002, Fitchburg State College named its library in honor of **Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio**, a 1938 graduate and longtime benefactor of the college.

A resident of Phoenix, Gallucci-Cirio has made a series of gifts to Fitchburg State, including, most recently, a \$1 million donation—the largest gift in the college's history and one of the largest donations ever received by a Massachusetts state college. A gift she made two years ago spurred the creation of the Center for Italian Culture that is housed in the same building as the library. This most recent gift is being used to create an endowment to support a variety of programs in Italian language and culture and in Western civilization. It was given in memory of Gallucci-Cirio's brother, **Joseph L. Gallucci**, and her husband, **Henry A. Cirio**.

"I was and I still am extraordinarily proud to be an Italian-American," said Gallucci-Cirio. "Not to know what happened before you were born is to remain perpetually a child."



Mrs. Amelia Gallucci-Cirio pulls the cover off the sign dedicating and naming the library, the Elia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library at Fitchburg State College.

Sacco & Vanzetti Recognized

The 75th anniversary of the executions of **Nicola Sacco** and **Bartolomeo Vanzetti** at the Charlestown State Prison was commemorated with a special exhibit, "The Sacco Vanzetti Case: Beyond the Courtroom," at the Boston Public Library (BPL) from September 30th through October 12th.

The BPL houses a rare collection of research materials on Sacco and Vanzetti. Photographs, the death masks and crematory ashes of both men, letters, the papers of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee and defense attorney Fred Moore, as well as books, pamphlets, documents, and manuscripts make up the BPL collection assembled by **Aldino Feliciani**, the treasurer of the Defense Committee.

A conference about the legal legacy of the Sacco-Vanzetti case included presentations by former Governor **Michael Dukakis** and U.S. Representative **William Delahunt**, a screening of newly edited footage of the Sacco Vanzetti funeral, and the unveiling of a new Web site that will make much of the important historic material about the case available on line for the first time.



Bartolomeo Vanzetti and Nicola Sacco

Board Highlights (continued from page 2)

The Board of Library Commissioners designates regional reference centers, and establishes standards of eligibility, minimum funding, minimum numbers of centers and minimum services to be provided.

The Regional Library System and Regional Reference Center(s) agree to any additional services and the annual funding level based on the plan of service and annual budget.

The Regional Library System may issue a request for proposal to eligible libraries within the region and may recommend a change in designation of Regional Reference Center(s).

The Board of Library Commissioners may change the designation of a Regional Reference Center and may develop a transition plan in consultation with all parties.

Acting Director Maier then presented the proposed regulations relating to the Regional Library Systems. He informed the Commissioners that proposed regulations relating to the Regional Reference and Research Centers have become necessary as competing visions of the program's value and future have reached a critical point, where they now threaten the enormous advances made in providing equity of access to all residents. He relayed that the proposed regulations:

guarantee basic equity among the regions with regard to a statutorily mandated program by defining a minimum level of service,

protect public access to the collections and services of our major libraries,

respond to geographic and demographic realities and variations from region to region,

provide a per capita funding mechanism for the program which is consistent with the regional and library of last recourse funding formulas,

provide for regional flexibility and changes in the nature of reference services by specifically providing for and encouraging unique regional reference services beyond the minimum and by setting minimum funding levels which stimulate the development of additional services through reallocation of certain funds currently committed to meeting minimum requirements.

Following discussion the Board approved "the release of the proposed regulations relating to Regional Library Systems for formal review."

After lunch, the meeting reconvened to discuss the Board's FY2003 Legislative Agenda. Among the challenges and opportunities are:

Challenges:

Most of the Board's line items have been drastically reduced.

Current state revenues and general economic conditions make clear that across the board restoration is not likely.

The regions and library of last recourse line item presents continuing funding equity concerns that the Board's best

efforts over several years have been unable to correct.

The agency is seriously marginalized given an administrative budget reduced to the point that it is now more than 50 percent federally funded.

Making the impact of the budget cuts real to the end user.

Opportunities:

Stressing cooperation and collaboration, work to develop new working relationships with key stakeholders, especially in regard to the regions and library of last recourse. The Board Committee on Regions and the Library of Last Recourse is ready to take the lead in this effort.

Use the story of the impact of the budget cuts to capture a bigger group of energized supporters.

Work to address funding for technology programs either through a bond bill or through a supplemental budget for the Telecommunications and Resource Sharing account (9506).

Look for ways to build in support for our administrative budget, either directly or through bond funded administrative funds.

Although not on the agenda, the Board took up the issue of additional cuts to the budget as Acting Director Maier had mentioned early in the meeting and voted to "authorize the \$102,936 mandated reduction by the Executive Office for Administration and Finance to be taken in the Board's State Aid to Public Libraries account (7000-9501) because it would have the least impact on library programs statewide by spreading the cut among the 330 municipalities that traditionally apply for and receive State Aid to Public Libraries. The cut thus applied would amount to 1.5 percent on average and range from \$25 to \$7,500 depending on the municipality involved."



Upon calling the **October 3rd** meeting of the Board to order at Anna Maria College in Paxton, Commissioner **Joseph Hopkins**, Chairman, introduced **Joan Kuklinski**, Administrator of Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing, Inc., (C/W MARS) who welcomed everyone.

In his report, Chairman Hopkins announced that representatives of the Board and regional library systems met with State Representative **John Rogers**, Chairman of the House Ways & Means Committee, on October 1st to present the Board's case for increased regional funding and technology services.

Mr. Hopkins also announced that the Board would be considering its FY2003 Legislative Agenda at its November Board meeting, and that he, along with **Patience Jackson**, MBLC Building Consultant, and **David Gray**, MBLC Director of Communications, had attended the Chicopee groundbreaking on October 1st (see Library Happenings on page 7).

Acting Director **Robert Maier** in his report went over various upcoming events, the announcement of the Gates Foundation Grants (see Gates Foundation on page 4),

upcoming public hearings on the proposed Regional Library System Regulations, and that staff and the regional administrators were still meeting to work out the severity of cuts to the various databases contracted by the Board. He passed out a budget narrative that outlined the effect of the FY2003 State Budget on the services of the Board, as well as a copy of the Board's updated brochure.

Following approval of the September Board Meeting Minutes, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of **Robert C. Maier** as Director. In making the announcement, Chairman Hopkins thanked all of the members of the Search Committee, as well as the patience of the Board staff during the past few months of transition.

In other actions, **Sunny Vandermark**, Administrator of the Metrowest Massachusetts Regional Library System, and **Gregory Pronevitz**, Administrator of the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System, both presented their FY2003 budget revisions that outlined how they were going to absorb the 24 percent cut that each region had received. And, in a final action, Mr. Maier presented a "revised amount and due date for applications in the Networks Connections for Libraries program" for the FY2003 State Grant Round Program and Budget. All three items were approved.

There were three reports to the Board: 1) a Review of the Requirements for the FY2003 State Aid to Public Libraries Program by **Anne Meringolo**, State Aid Specialist; 2) a Presentation of the Preliminary Overall Library Services & Technology Act Budget for FY2004 by **Robert Maier**, Director, and 3) a Report on C/W MARS by **Joan Kuklinski**, Network Administrator, who noted that this is their 20th year of operation.

The meeting ended with Commissioner Hopkins announcing changes to the Board's Standing Committees and Commissioners giving updates on their recent activities.

Trustee Forum

Q: I recently became a new library trustee and would like to know what library associations there are in Massachusetts?

Massachusetts Library Trustees Association

In service to public libraries since 1952, a goal of the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association (MLTA) is to "foster excellence in public library service within the Commonwealth." The MLTA works toward this by providing continuing education opportunities for trustees; encouraging trustees to become advocates for public library service, and by promoting the enactment of legislation and funding favorable to public library services. Current and former trustees, librarians, friends of the library and anyone with a sincere interest in Massachusetts libraries may join. Only current trustees and former trustees may vote on MLTA business. MLTA publishes a newsletter 4 times per year.

Massachusetts Library Trustees Association
P. O. Box 271, South Easton, MA 02375
www.masslib.org/mlta/index.html

(continued on next page)

Trustee Forum (continued from page 8)

Massachusetts Library Association

The Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) is the state association advocating for excellence in library service throughout the Commonwealth. MLA promotes library service standards and legislative initiatives; provides opportunities for career growth and support, and seeks a strong and representative membership. MLA strives to uphold the rights, promote the responsibilities and encourage the professional development of media specialists and librarians, and works to safeguard the rights of library users, libraries and librarians in matters of intellectual freedom. MLA sponsors an annual conference and workshops for continuing education.

Massachusetts Library Association
14 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA 01930
Office: 978-282-0415
Fax: 978-282-1304
www.masslib.org

Massachusetts Friends of Libraries

The Massachusetts Friends of Libraries, Inc., (MFOL) founded in 1992. The organization has "a network for sharing information, to help in forming and nurturing Friends of Library groups, and to boost the image and services of our libraries." MFOL cooperates with national, state and regional organizations in pursuit of the best possible library and information services for all patrons. They work to create a network for information and technical assistance to local Friends' groups, sponsor fundraisers, workshops and roundtables. MFOL produces a membership directory of Friends groups and distributes periodic newsletters.

Massachusetts Friends of Libraries
73 School Street, South Hadley, MA 01075
www.masslib.org/mfol/index.html

New England Library Association

Chartered in 1963, the New England Library Association (NELA) is a regional organization whose membership represents a wide range of library-related interests. Its objectives are to initiate, plan and support regional activities; encourage the exchange of ideas; cooperate with regional and national agencies having related interests, and stimulate library-related research. NELA membership includes a subscription to the NELA newsletter; membership rates at conferences, special workshops, symposia and programs throughout the area and other benefits.

New England Library Association
14 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA 01930
Office: 978-282-0787
Fax: 978-282-1304
www.nelib.org

American Library Trustee Association

The American Library Trustee Association (ALTA) is the American Library Association (ALA) division concerned with the interests of trusteeship. However, other groups such as the Public Library Association, Library Administration and Management Association and many others provide cooperative support.

American Library Association
50 East Huron St., Chicago, Ill 60611
www.ala.org

The USA Patriot Act

Librarians all over the country have voiced confusion about the scope and impact of the USA PATRIOT Act (PL 107-56) passed by Congress and signed into law in the wake of September 11th. They have also expressed concern over the confidentiality of their patron records and the potential for abuse by overzealous government agencies.

Reading suggestions are provided at the end of this column, and an excellent survey of the various issues is in the October 1, 2002, issue of *Library Journal*.

What Does the Patriot Act Do?

The Patriot Act synchronizes and expands federal law enforcement's ability to find out about telephone and electronic communications, and its ability to obtain "tangible things" such as documents and records. Library circulation records, interlibrary loan requests, use of public computers for the Internet, e-mail or chat could be subpoenaed.

Different laws and procedures exist for tracking communications depending on the medium (e.g., phone lines, cable, Internet, wireless). The Patriot Act brings some consistency to law enforcement's ability to obtain both non-content information, such as who contacted whom and when (phone number called, e-mail address or IP address), and the actual content of the communications. Pre-existing laws were also amended so that in certain circumstances federal judges can authorize search warrants all across the country, where previously they were subject to regional jurisdictional boundaries.

Sections 215/218 of the Act are most germane to the issuance of a search warrant or subpoena for library records. These sections of the Patriot Act expand the scope of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA). Section 218 says that surveillance and searches now may be justified on the basis that foreign intelligence gathering is "a significant purpose", where it formerly was "the purpose". Section 215 allows FBI personnel to obtain search orders on library records, "to protect against international terrorism or clandestine intelligence activities, provided that such investigation of a United States person is not conducted solely upon the basis of activities protected by the first amendment to the Constitution."

Does the patron confidentiality clause in the Mass General Laws offer any refuge?

Chapter 78: Section 7 of the General Laws says "that part of the records of a public library which reveals the identity and intellectual pursuits of a person using such library shall not be a public record". Even before the Patriot Act, a subpoena from a Massachusetts Court would have required a public library to release records, though in some circumstances libraries may have been inclined to challenge the court order. A subpoena or search warrant under the Patriot Act specifically supersedes state confidentiality laws. The Act contains language to immunize librarians against civil suits if personal information is provided.

Preparation

Libraries should position themselves to respond to requests for their records in a logical, principled fashion.

1. Identify a staff person responsible for privacy issues, establish clear lines of communication to that person, and train staff.
2. Identify legal counsel for the library and talk to them about your concerns.
3. Have an approved privacy policy in place.
4. Perform a "privacy audit" and limit the amount of personal identification information that is kept in library records to that which is absolutely necessary. Automated networks should consider how long circulation records on particular titles are kept, and once purged, how completely they have been removed from the system.

Since the large automated networks in Massachusetts (OCLN, NOBLE, Minuteman) store circulation transactions for their members and act as de facto ISP's (Internet Service Providers), networks should do their own privacy audit and develop system-wide policies and procedures.

When the FBI shows up at your library:

1. The front-line library staff person contacted should immediately locate the appropriate administrator or designated privacy contact.
2. Make sure that the officer is indeed from the FBI. Local and state officials cannot administer search warrants under the Patriot Act. Other federal subpoenas, such as administrative subpoenas, do not necessarily have the same force or urgency.
3. Ask for time to consult counsel before you comply with the request. You may not be given it; however you should still ask. The Freedom to Read Foundation offers legal counsel if you do not have access to your own (1-800-545-2433, ext. 4223).
4. Provide the information that has been requested yourself; to protect the rights of those not subject to the search, don't have the FBI search through records. Do not turn over a whole database if the request is for records on a particular individual.

Under the principle of "exigent circumstances", federal authorities should not need to seize and remove computers from the library building, since the equipment is under the control of the library, not a terrorist and the information is not likely to be destroyed. Nevertheless, they may want to take some computers or other equipment with them.

Are Libraries being "Served"?

Some subpoenas and search warrants under the Patriot Act come with a gag order automatically attached. Libraries are unable to tell anybody that they have provided information to the FBI. Library staff is only able to talk to library administration and to counsel. Therefore, no one has any idea how frequently libraries are being asked for records. This lack of oversight has become a major concern for Congress, as well as organizations that work to protect civil liberties.

Electronic Privacy Information Center:

www.epic.org/privacy/terrorism/usapatriot/
ALA Web sites: USA Patriot Act:
www.ala.org/alaorg/oif/usapatriotlibrary.html
Q&A on Privacy & Confidentiality:
www.ala.org/alaorg/oif/privacyqanda.html
Library Records Matrix by Mary Minow:
www.llrx.com/features/libraryrecords.htm

Paul Kissman
Library Information Systems Specialist

Sign up for US Patriot Act
Teleconference, Dec. 11, on page 12.

Trouble in the Meeting Room: Wakefield's Story

Why me? That's what I asked myself, and what the police chief asked himself, and what the residents of Wakefield wanted to know. Why did a white supremacist group pick our suburban library as the site for their meeting on September 14th?

The answer, it turns out, was simply *location*. Located at the intersection of two major highways, Wakefield is easy to get to. Further probing yielded the explanation that we're quiet, suburban, and, yes, mostly vanilla.

Originally booked as the Emigration Party ("...to educate those in the community about the cost and the negative effect of immigration. Why people move out of areas and what can be done to preserve the European culture..."), the meeting was to feature the Pontifex Maximus of the Illinois-based World Church of the Creator (WCOTC), the Rev. **Matthew Hale**.

One did not have to spend much time on their Web site to be horrified at the prospect of having such a divisive, hateful message delivered within one's library. My knee-jerk reflex was to grasp for any means possible to prevent it. Fortunately, Wakefield has an exceptionally good Town Counsel, **Tom Mullen**, who saved me from myself. Patiently asking and answering question after question, Mullen concluded that we had no choice other than to uphold WCOTC's First Amendment right to free speech.

Both the Board of Library Trustees and the Board of Selectmen saw it the same way. What might have appeared to be the first decision point for town officials – whether or not to let this group speak – was really not a matter of choice at all. It was a matter of law. It helped to reread the First Amendment and note multiple hits on *speech*, *assembly*, maybe even *religion*.

It also helped to know that the WCOTC typically meets in libraries because they are quite familiar with their rights. A bit of research turned up an article about the library of Schaumburg, Illinois, that denied Hale the use of its meeting room because their meeting would have been disruptive to library operations. WCOTC sued; and the library settled when it became evident that the judge saw the First Amendment as the overriding issue. It would be illogical, then, for Wakefield to take a losing position, pay a penalty and have to accommodate the WCOTC after all.

The extent of the disruption, however, would be no small matter, and this was the crux of a very real decision point. A number of anarchist and communist groups track the WCOTC, and often show up to protest wherever Hale speaks. The protestors are at least as problematic as the racists. In Wakefield's case, for example, the simple fact that the library is located beside a post office – a federal building, and therefore a potential target to anarchists – became a complicating factor. Police Chief **Stephen Doherty** briefed the Library Trustees and the Board of Selectmen in an Executive Session. He showed a videotape of encounters between the WCOTC and protestors outside the Wallingford, Connecticut, library, and talked about

law enforcement intelligence on the anarchists. He spoke about the security measures he considered appropriate to ensure public safety, which included sweeping the library for bombs. One of Chief Doherty's concerns was the ease with which people could hide weapons in the building and retrieve them. No metal detector would protect against that.

It became evident that security could not be ensured for a 1 p.m. meeting in a building open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It also became evident that the best strategy would be to search and secure the building after closing Friday night, then restrict entry to only those attending the event in the meeting room on Saturday.

There was an obvious paradox in making the library available to the WCOTC and unavailable to the taxpayers of Wakefield. In making this decision, the Trustees could not take refuge in a Constitutional imperative that trumped all other issues. But the prospect of an angry mob dispersed over three stories, intermingled with hapless patrons, made for a compelling argument, and the possibility of an injury or simply having the building trashed, suggested that a principled stand for public access might be cold comfort the day after.

So how does it happen that a community can be "forced" to close its library to its patrons and incur \$32,000 in law enforcement expenses to ensure that someone they don't welcome can deliver a message they don't want to hear? Who is to blame? Shouldn't the costs be borne by the WCOTC? Ask a lawyer enough questions, and one begins to understand how the law frames the issue.

Should we have had some rule to prevent this?

Libraries can regulate the time and manner in which their rooms are used. To some extent, they can regulate who uses them if their restrictions are not discriminatory (library use only, government departments only, not-for-profit groups only). They cannot discriminate against a group because they don't agree with its mission and they cannot regulate the content of the speech that takes place within them. To have a policy that is anything other than *content neutral* would be illegal.

Was the meeting room booked under false pretenses?

Not really. We book meeting rooms for ad hoc groups all the time. Most recently, a group booked the same room to discuss issues surrounding a local skateboard park. Groups often invite outside speakers, and all we require is that meetings be open to the public without charge and that no goods or services be sold or exchanged.

What about the separation of church and state?

This is not an issue here. It would be illegal to discriminate against a group because of their religious or political affiliation.

What about the fact that the person who booked the room wasn't a Wakefield resident?

This is a requirement that some libraries impose, and Wakefield will probably adopt some variation, albeit reluctantly. However, it would not necessarily have prevented this event, as the WCOTC has had local



Riot police stand guard outside Beebe Memorial Library.

Photo courtesy of Beebe Memorial Library.

sponsors in many of the communities it visits and claims to have two in Wakefield.

Wakefield takes 800 annual bookings for meeting rooms. Many of the groups that use the rooms are regional hobby groups – from the Buxton Begonia Society to the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (middle aged motorcyclists) – whose program planners may rotate annually. Others are regional service organizations – the North Suburban Family Network or the Autism Support Center – headquartered outside of town. In any case, we've never required that the person making the room booking be a resident. All meetings are open to the public, and we've never assumed that Wakefield didn't have something to learn from out-of-towners good enough to share. Up to this point, not being too bureaucratic brought us lots of diversity in our meeting room activities, and lots of good will.

How can the WCOTC be allowed to speak if it necessitates closing the library?

Someone booked a room and invited the WCOTC to speak. That was pretty much the end of their responsibility. The Trustees closed the library because of concern about the protestors. The courts would take a dim view of denying the WCOTC their right to speak because we expected protestors. Hecklers don't get a license to prevent free speech.

So what's a library to do? In a perfect world, the WCOTC would say their piece, people of good will would be neither turned away nor tarnished, and everyone's principles would be intact at the end of the day. The real world experience is considerably messier, and comes with a bill that averages about \$30,000.

After decades of doing business without incident, the Trustees are eyeing a revised Meeting Room Policy that goes on for five pages with an accompanying four-page booking form. We are intensely interested in each group's pedigree, where they've been and who their friends are. We will be responsible for nothing and reserve the right to do anything. We'll be taking names and making lists, while striving to fulfill a role the community tells us is a high service priority – Town Commons, center for public discourse.

Shouldn't the WCOTC have to pay the \$32,000 for security?

In our country, the government is responsible for upholding our civil liberties. When Dr. Martin Luther King spoke in Alabama, the disruption and the expenses were considerable, but the responsibility to maintain the peace was the government's.

Sharon Gilley, Director
Lucius Beebe Memorial Library, Wakefield

EZ Home Access to Statewide and Regional Databases

Is your library having trouble finding seats for all those patrons who want to surf the Internet, conduct research and read e-mail from your overworked workstations? Are you tired of having your library look like a waiting room? Then, spread the news about the library that never closes! It's a virtual



library: your home page. Let your patrons know they can read full-text magazines, reference books, newspapers and articles from their favorite magazines before

they even hit the newsstands.

It's now easier to do and irresistible! Right from your library's home page, patrons can now have streamlined access to all of the statewide and regionally licensed electronic resources. Before, a remote patron had to key in their barcode number for each and every statewide and regional database that they wanted to search. Now a patron only needs to key in their barcode number once, and the authentication that takes place on the Massachusetts Library Information Network (MLIN) server recognizes their barcode number and what library the patron is associated with. Click and the person gets a list of all the regional and statewide databases licensed on their behalf by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) and their regional library system. They click on the database they want to use and they are in. No more repeating barcode numbers. And coming soon, the list will be arranged by broad subject headings to help the searcher decide on the right database for their needs!

Another benefit of this new authentication is that when your patrons search the Info Trac databases from home, they'll see their library's name across the top of the screen. So they'll remember how important their local library is. The usage from home will be recorded on the Info Trac usage statistics for their local library, so librarians won't have to guesstimate the total usage of the Info Trac databases by their patrons. Libraries request a usage report according to the time of day to see when their usage is heaviest.

If you haven't yet implemented this option, call your regional office for details.

Marlene Sue Heroux
Reference Information Systems Specialist

At Your Service

Have you read any good books about managing a Friends organization lately? You might be surprised to know that quite a few publications have been produced in recent years for and about Friends groups. Volunteers support groups are becoming increasingly important to the success of non-profit institutions. As a result there is a growing need for information on topics such as managing a Friends group, conducting fund-raising campaigns, and building community support. The titles listed below,

which are available from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners Professional Library, have been particularly popular with librarians and friends in recent years.

The following titles provide basic information on how to manage a Friends group successfully:

Friends of the Libraries Sourcebook, 3rd edition. Edited by Sandy Dolnick. c1996 (021.7 F)

Organizing Friends Groups: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians. By Mark Herring. c1993 (021.7 H)

These books offer guidance on building political support in the local community:

Getting Political: An Action Guide for Librarians and Library Supporters. By Anne M. Turner. c1996 (021.8 T)

Saving Your Library: A Guide to Getting, Using and Keeping the Power You Need. By Sally Gardner Reed. c1992 (021.8 R)

Vote Yes for Libraries: A Guide to Winning Ballot Measure Campaigns for Library Funding. By Alice M. Turner. c2000 (021.8 T)

Many books have been written on library fund-raising, some of the more popular are:

Becoming a Fundraiser: The Principles and Practice of Library Development, 2nd edition. By Victoria Steele and Stephen Elder. c2000 (025.1 S)

The Funding Game: Rules for Public Library Advocacy. By Mary Anne Craft. c1999 (025.1 C)

Fundraising for the Small Public Library: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians By James Swan. c1990 (025.1 S)

Legacies for Libraries: A Practical Guide to Planned Giving By Amy Sherman Smith and Matthew D. Lehrer. c2000 (025.1 S)

Brian Donoghue
Reference Librarian

Preservation Inquirer (continued from page 5)

of the shelving units or on special tables. When shelved, books should be shelved upright (or flat, if very large) and not too tightly packed on the shelves. This will allow volumes to be removed easily without pulling and tearing the spine caps.

Also stress, that large, heavy books must be given special treatment. Tell children such volumes might hurt their fingers or fall on their toes, and that the books themselves can be damaged if they fall to the floor. Encourage children to ask for help in transferring big books to a table. Other large-format books, which are oddly shaped or have fold-out or pop-up pages, can be allowed to circulate, but the librarian might wish to tie them closed with a length of brightly colored heavy-gauge yarn to help prevent damage should they be dropped, and to remind a young user that this book needs careful treatment. To minimize exposure to the elements and other potential hazards, encourage children to transport all books in bags or backpacks. Distribute plastic bags, printed with the library or school logo and a preservation message about keeping books dry during inclement weather. Place magazines into paper envelopes to minimize damage to fragile paper covers. To help preclude such habits as turning down corners, placing the book face down or using pencils or other damaging items to hold the place, make free and attractive bookmarks available at all times

The general environment of a library also affects care of the collections. If the library is kept neat and clean, this prompts young users to take responsibility for helping to keep it that way. Most children enjoy their library experiences; a general sense of pride in their library and a sense of ownership carry over to good treatment of library materials.

Andrea Rolich, Preservation Librarian
Memorial Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison

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Construction Grants (continued from page 1)

In addition, the Board also approved an updated waiting list for receipt of General Construction Grants totaling \$41,431,967 to the following 41 public libraries to be awarded a grant in the following order as future funding becomes available:

1	Wellesley	Wellesley Free Library	\$3,182,773
2	New Salem	New Salem Public Library	\$286,530
3	North Brookfield	Haston Free Public Library	\$1,257,173
4	Middleton	Flint Public Library	\$2,390,053
5	Great Barrington	Mason Public Library	\$1,407,052
6	Amesbury	Amesbury Public Library	\$2,494,352
7	Needham	Needham Free Public Library	\$3,043,503
8	Oak Bluffs	Oak Bluffs Public Library	\$1,590,646
9	Mattapoisett	Mattapoisett Free Public Library	\$1,575,662
10	Georgetown	Georgetown Peabody Library	\$1,644,694
11	Northborough	Northborough Free Library	\$2,171,949
12	Montague	Montague Public Libraries/Carnegie Library	\$1,810,018
13	Seekonk	Seekonk Public Library	\$3,031,130
14	Harvard	Harvard Public Library	\$2,492,232
15	Braintree	Thayer Public Library	\$200,000
16	Framingham	Framingham Public Library	\$1,654,493
17	Boxborough	Albert Sargent Memorial Library	\$1,588,634
18	Revere	Revere Public Library	\$2,581,232
19	Douglas	Simon Fairfield Public Library	\$1,778,970
20	Charlton	Charlton Public Library	\$2,413,314
21	Barnstable	Marstons Mills Public Library	\$1,733,557
22	Northampton	Lilly Library	\$1,104,000
			\$41,431,967

Board Meetings

MBLC Board Meeting

Thursday, December 5, 2002, 10 am
Board of Library Commissioners
648 Beacon Street, Boston

MBLC Board Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2003, 10 am
Simmons College
300 The Fenway, Boston

Teleconference

Safeguarding Our Patrons' Privacy:

What Every Librarian Needs to Know
about the USA PATRIOT Act & Related
Anti-Terrorism Measures
December 11, 2002, 12:00-3:00 pm
Suffolk University Law School
120 Tremont St. Boston
Registration: Elizabeth McKenzie at:
emckenzi@acad.suffolk.edu

MLAA Scholarships

The Massachusetts Library Aid Association (MLAA) has announced a Scholarship Program to subsidize special training in library and information science for librarians and library staff presently employed in libraries serving a population of 30,000 or under, says **Nancy Hayes Clune**, president.

Eligible applicants must currently be employed in a Massachusetts public library and have an annual salary not to exceed \$30,000. Grants may be used to improve staff skills and be relevant to courses or training programs applicable to public library service. Amounts vary but do not exceed \$500. Additional funds for travel may be requested for a round trip commute of 80 miles or more. Individuals may receive up to three MLAA grants.

Application deadlines are:

Spring 2003 term December 13, 2002
Summer 2003 term May 23, 2003
Fall 2003 term August 22, 2003

For information or forms contact:

*Shelley Quezada, MLAA Staff Liaison,
Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners
648 Beacon St, Boston, MA 02215
617-267-9400 shelley.quezada@state.ma.us*

Board to Develop Online Disaster Planning Tool

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover announced in October that it had received a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS) to work in partnership with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) to develop and disseminate an online training tool to help libraries write disaster plans. The partners will also develop a training curriculum for smaller libraries and museums entitled "Steal This Disaster Plan." This three-year project also has support from the National Center for Preservation Training and Technology.

"Every library and museum needs to have a disaster plan in place," says **Ann Russell**, Executive Director of NEDCC. "Unfortunately, the reality is that many institutions have not taken the time to create one. With this new online tool, the NEDCC hopes to make the process simpler and more accessible for institutions, especially smaller ones."

"NEDCC will work with MBLC to simplify the process of writing a disaster plan by creating a fill-in-the-blank model that libraries can then file electronically with MBLC," says **Gregor Trinkaus-Randall**, MBLC Preservation Specialist. This important preservation tool will be field-tested and refined, and the final product will be presented through a series of statewide workshops. "Steal This Disaster Plan" will ultimately have a national impact, as it will be mounted on NEDCC's Web site.

For 30 years, NEDCC has met the evolving needs of the library and museum communities in its region. A nonprofit regional conservation center, it performs paper conservation, book conservation, preservation microfilming and duplication of photographic materials.

Tufts' Tisch Library Receives IMLS Federal Grant

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the federal agency that supports the nation's museums and libraries, announced on September 24, 2002, that it has awarded the Tufts University Digital Collections and Archives at the Tisch Library in Medford a National Leadership Grant in the amount of \$212,035.

In this two-year demonstration project, *Boston Streets: Mapping Directory Data*, the library will digitize 11 Boston city directories from 1865 to 1955 to incorporate contextual information about geographic locations featured in digital images of photographs using a geographic information system; the result will be a rich resource of visual information with associated spatial and other data.

People who seek information about a place, especially information about visual images of that place, should be able to retrieve relevant specific and contextual information. The *Boston Streets: Mapping Directory Data* project seeks to demonstrate that organizing all types of informational content around geographic location makes it possible to make connections between a place and contextual information about that place without significantly expanding the process of data organization. The project will demonstrate that it is possible to organize data by spatial location and then link this data to many other pieces of data that share the same location without having to extensively catalog them by subject, name or other subjective terminology.

Tufts is one of only 15 institutions nationally to be awarded grants in the category of Research and Demonstration in the 2002 funding cycle.



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