



SHORTGRASS CLIPPINGS

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Congratulations to the Medicine Hat Library Board and Staff!

During the Alberta Library Trustee Association's Annual Meeting at this year's Alberta Library Conference, the Medicine Hat Library Board was awarded the **ALTA Award of Excellence**. This award signifies the Board's commitment to the provision of excellent library service to the community of Medicine Hat as well as a dedication to meeting the community's future information needs.

One of the Board's dedicated trustees, Anne Bernhardt, was also the recipient of the **Honorary Life Membership Award**. Anne who began as a trustee in 1997, has participated in the organization of many events over the years and has shown great leadership in her desire to place the spotlight on libraries as key community organizations. Her dedication has also extended to her commitment as a Board trustee on the Shortgrass Library System Board for a period of seven years.

The Medicine Hat Library Board was also selected to receive the **Lois Hole Award**, created to honour the love Lois Hole possessed for public libraries. This particular award will provide the Board with \$250 for the purchase of books to enhance of the MHPL collection.

At the Alberta Association of Library Technicians (AALT) Conference held in late May, Michelle Groth, Youth Outreach Coordinator at MHPL, was presented with the **Merle Harris Award** for her contribution to young adult literacy and the creation of "Teens Initiating Change—Together And Committed" Group. The TIC-TAC Group assists Michelle in developing the youth collection at the library and she, in turn, helps the group with her ability to develop successful library programming for youths.

The ALTA Award of Excellence, Honorary Life Membership Award and the Merle Harris Award were presented at Medicine Hat City Council Chambers by Donna Campbell, ALTA President, on Monday, June 19th, and a reception at the library followed.

We certainly do not have to look far beyond Southeastern Alberta in our quest for heroes. Congratulations to all you for helping to make libraries shine!

Welcome to Carrie Timmermans, the new SLS Training and Consulting Librarian!

Carrie will start working with us on July 4, 2006, and will focus on staff and patron training along with assisting and consulting wherever necessary. SLS was able to hire Carrie with the Special Library Grants we received for 2006 and 2007.

"Finally SLS will be able to direct more time and effort towards training staff and patrons in how to use the on-line catalogue and the electronic databases, plus search strategies", noted Bob Batchelder.

Carrie hails from the Victoria Public Library where she has spent the last five years working as a Public Services Librarian.

QUEST for HEROES

Summer Reading Program 2006 Performer Schedule

July 10 at 2pm and July 11 at 10:30am and 2pm - MHPL

July 12 at 10:30am - Rolling Hills

July 12 at 2pm - Acoma

July 13 at 10:30am - Bassano

July 13 at 2pm - Rosemary

July 17 at 10:30am - Tilley

July 17 at 2pm - Brooks

July 19 at 10:30am - Graham

July 19 at 2pm - RedCliff

July 25 at 11:30am - Bow Island

July 25 at 2:30pm - Foremost





Don't forget the following dates!

LIBRARY QUOTE FOR THIS ISSUE

- June 28 **Annual System Barbeque** Shortgrass System HQ, 5-7pm
- Sept 18 **Shortgrass Library System Library Managers' Meeting**
- October **Canadian Library Month** "Lifelong Libraries – Discover Us"
www.thealertlibrary.ab.ca, www.cla.ca
- Oct 18-20 **NetSpeed 2006** Edmonton The Alberta Library's tech conference
<http://www.thealbertalibrary.ab.ca/viewChannel.asp?channelID=142>
- Oct 27 **Annual Pumpkin Festival** - Foremost Municipal Library, for more info contact
forlib@shortgrass-lib.ab.ca
- Oct 30 **Prairie Rose School Division Library Professional Learning Community meeting**
- Nov 27 **Shortgrass Member Libraries & SLS Professional Development Day** - Medicine Hat Public Library - 9am to 4pm

There's nothing to match curling up with a good book when there's a repair job to be done around the house. — Joe RYAN

Alberta Libraries to be Celebrated During Canadian Library Month

This October Alberta's Libraries will be featured in a special eight page newspaper supplement to be distributed in daily and weekly papers province wide. This exciting initiative, being spearheaded by The Alberta Library, will showcase several library stories including some of our own in the Shortgrass Library System. Medicine Hat Public Library's solar energy heating project, Graham Community Library's service to the Suffield military base, adult literacy at the Bassano Memorial Library and the impact of SuperNet throughout our system will all be featured.



Check out these websites!

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| Laws for Landlords in Alberta | http://landlord.landlordandtenant.org |
| Laws for Tenants in Alberta | http://tenant.landlordsandtenant.org |
| Real Estate Council of Alberta | http://www.reca.ca/consumer_information/default.htm |
| Alberta's Residential Tenancies Act | http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/R17P1.cfm |
| Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation | http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/flash.html |

Dynix Tips and Tricks

- ◇ Want to move between your checkout and checkin screens quickly, just use the **.C** prompt.
- ◇ Use the **.O** (Checkin Options) prompt in Checkin if you need to:
 - A) Change the checkin function to "Book Drop" - the checkin date automatically reverts to the last date your library was open,
 - B) Reset the checkin date - this is especially useful if your library unexpectedly closes. The checkin date should be changed to the last date your library was open,
 - C) Exempt fines at checkin - useful if an item is overdue but you do not want the library user to be charged a fine.
- ◇ Ever forgotten where a specific function is within Dynix, just use the **.S** prompt to bring up all relevant headings. For example if you are looking for all Dynix menu items that pertain to "Inventory", use **.S**, type "Inventory" and all of the Dynix menu options containing this word will appear.
- ◇ The **.S** prompt is also useful if you want to search for library items from within the Checkout screen or a library user's record.
- ◇ You can also search for an item while having the option of putting it on hold from with a library user's record by using the **.H** prompt.

Serving Southeastern Alberta residents in partnership with member municipalities, their public libraries, and school systems' libraries:
 Bassano, Bow Island, Brooks, County of Forty Mile, County of Newell, Cypress County, Foremost, Graham (Ralston), Medicine Hat, Redcliff, Rainier (Alcoma), Rolling Hills, Rosemary, Tilley
 Medicine Hat School District No. 76, and Prairie Rose School Division No. 8