

## Update from the Regional Administrator

### Budget Update

After a long dark cold winter, we are finally seeing the springtime sun, and it's much the same for libraries used to hearing bad news: There may be better news on the horizon. The House of Representatives released its budget for fiscal 2004 this week. Like Governor Romney's budget, their version leaves the six Regional Library Systems and the Library of Last Recourse level funded with 2003. Unlike the Governor's budget, the House version keeps the independence of the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners intact with an operations budget of \$891,182. The cut to State Aid to Public Libraries, \$491,000, is far less than predicted, leaving over \$7 million in the line item. There is a long way to go before we all know exactly what fiscal 2004 has in store, but after the Regions and so many member libraries already sustained cuts last year, this is heartening news. We are grateful to the legislators and other leaders who have demonstrated that they understand how important libraries are to the Commonwealth.

### Regional Staffing Update

As many of you have already heard, the Regional Services Office lost two key staffers this spring. Phil McNulty and Kerry Cronin both accepted new positions. We will miss them both personally and professionally, as they did so much to enhance Regional services. Please join us in congratulating Phil and Kerry and wishing them the best.

### Phil McNulty Accepts Position as Director of Milton Public Library

Phil McNulty, the Assistant Regional Administrator and the administrator of the Metro-Boston Library Network, has accepted the position of Library Director at the Milton Public Library. Many members have expressed how much they miss Phil, and we couldn't agree more! During his tenure here, Phil oversaw the selection and implementation of a new integrated library system for

the network. The Horizon system went live on July 2, 2002. This was a huge undertaking requiring countless hours of work from many people, and Phil calmly coordinated between them all. He assisted MBLN members with everything from pull lists to policy questions. He always took the time to mentor our Regional staff and helped all of us to be more effective. Prior to joining us in July 2000, Phil was the Director at Medway Public Library for twelve years, and before that he served as the head of Technical Services at the Winchester Public Library and head of Circulation at the Somerville Library. We know the town of Milton is very lucky to have him, and we wish him continued success.

### Kerry Cronin Accepts Position as Head of Reader and Information Services at BPL

While Kerry has a new job, we're happy that she's still here at the Boston Public Library. Kerry was promoted to be the Head of Reader and Information Services at Copley Square, and her new duties began April 7. This is a key supervisory Public Services position at the Library, and a wonderful opportunity for Kerry to share her passion and skill. (Continued on next page)

*Deirdre Brennan*  
Regional Program Administrator

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### Kerry Cronin, cont'd

Kerry has been our Regional Program Consultant for the last two years, responsible for developing and promoting the Continuing Education calendar. She also supported the Youth Services of Region libraries. She has worked closely with consultants from the other Regions to plan programs like the Statewide Summer Reading Program and to create new programs like the YSLed Institute. She did a lot of outreach to our school libraries, made many site visits and conducted training in using our databases and other services. It will truly be hard to fill her shoes. Prior to working in the Region, Kerry served six years at BPL, most recently as a Reference Librarian in Social Sciences, and before that as a children's librarian. Kerry's star is definitely on the rise, and we'll be proud to watch her career over the years.

**June 4**            **Excel: Advanced**  
2:00-5:00pm            BPL Training Room

**June 13**            **Circulation in Horizon**  
9:00am-12:00pm            BPL Training Room

**June 18**            **Access: Advanced**  
9:00am-5:00pm            BPL Training Room

**June 27**            **Registration and Searching in Horizon**  
9:00am-12:00pm            BPL Training Room

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### Registration for MLA Sponsored by the Region *MLA: April 30-May 2, Springfield, MA*

We have extended the deadline for registering with the Region office to attend the MLA Annual Conference in Springfield. If you notify us by Monday, April 28, the Region will pay your registration for any one, two or three of the three days, plus pay for your lunch. While transportation and lodging are not included, we will make every effort to match people for rides to and from the conference. This is part of our Continuing Education program for this year, and the Massachusetts Regional Library Systems are co-sponsoring one of the workshops at MLA as well:

***"The Experience Economy: Work is Theater and Every Business is a Stage"***- presented by Jim Gilmore  
Wednesday, April 30, 9:00am

Take advantage of this opportunity to attend many programs in one day, meet and network with colleagues from around the state, and stay on top of the news in MA libraries.

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### **Ideas from the Boston Arts...MFA Professional Day for Summer Reading Program, May 9, 2003**

This workshop is filling fast, but there is still space available. Contact us to register while you still can!

Registration is free; MFA Garage parking is \$10 for the whole day. For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.bpl.org/brls/news/MFA2003.htm>

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## Continuing Education

Any staff person from a member library in the Regional Library Systems can attend any workshop free of charge. Advance registration is required. To register, contact Garry Wong by phone at 617-859-2380, email at [gwong@bpl.org](mailto:gwong@bpl.org) or fax us at 617-267-0364.

### Upcoming Programs in May and June:

**May 2**            **Item in Horizon**  
9:00-10:30am            BPL Training Room

**May 7**            **Requests and Searching in Horizon**  
2:00-5:00pm            BPL Training Room

**May 9**            **Read! Think! Create!...Ideas from the Boston Arts**  
9:45am-5:00pm            Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

**May 16**            **Serials Checkin in Horizon**  
9:00am-10:30am            BPL Training Room

**May 21**            **PowerPoint**  
2:00-5:00pm            BPL Training Room

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### **Leadership Through Partnership: CLASP, New York City's Connecting Libraries and Classrooms Program**

Sponsored by YSLead Massachusetts,  
Presented at MLA Annual Conference

**Thursday, May 1, 2003 9:30-11:00 am**

Since its inception in 1991, New York City's CLASP project has recognized the importance of school/public library partnerships in the development of children's literacy skills. Originally funded by the DeWitt Wallace Reader's Digest Fund, CLASP includes three New York City library systems all of which work collaboratively with the New York City Board of Education and their local school districts to create activities geared toward elementary and middle school students. Due to the program's demonstrated success it is now included in the City of New York's annual operating budget. Additional benefits include increased student participation in the jointly run summer reading program, collaborative booklists, and an increase in librarian attendance at professional development opportunities.

Please join Margaret Tice, Coordinator of Children's Services for the New York Public Library, and Sandra Kennedy-Bright, Director of the Office of School Library Services/New York City Department of Education to learn more about CLASP's successes for school and public libraries.

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## **Database Updates**

### **netLibrary Renewal: eBooks Made Permanently Available**

The Boston Public Library is proud to announce that it has renewed its contract with netLibrary to keep the titles in our electronic book collection permanently.

The BPL collection will continue to be available to all libraries in the Regional Library Systems through their own netLibrary portal and search pages. Libraries will

still be able to obtain their own usage statistics, and can choose to purchase additional titles on their own.

Access for your patrons will not change. They can browse all books in your netLibrary collection for up to fifteen minutes without checking them out or needing to log in. If they wish to check out an eBook, they will simply need to log in with a user name and password of their own choosing, using any valid email address, and from then on, any time they log in, they will automatically be associated with all your library's holdings through the BPL.

3,296 titles were renewed in the permanent collection. These were selected by looking at popular demand, determined by aggregate statewide usage statistics for the life of our account, which was opened in February 2001. Titles that had been checked out at least 5 times were renewed. "Dusty" titles with fewer than 4 checkouts in the last two years were weeded from the collection. In addition to the renewed titles in our collection, over 3000 titles in the public domain are also still available to patrons.

If you need any assistance with your account, or would like a list of the titles we own, please contact Connie Dudgeon in the Region office at 617-859-2383, or [cdudgeon@bpl.org](mailto:cdudgeon@bpl.org).

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## **MBLC News**

### **Public Relations Campaign Underway**

*"Your Local Library Has Something for Everyone"*

During the month of April, in coordination with Legislative Breakfasts and MLA Legislative Day, 500,000 hand cards were distributed to all public libraries in the Regional Library Systems. The MBLC designed these cards to showcase the number of individuals who use libraries, and the many reasons they do. The message is to underscore the value of services

delivered to the public through libraries and the resources delivered by state and federal money channeled through the MBLC.

### **Regional Regulations Approved**

The Commissioners approved the proposed regulations for Regional Library Systems at their January 9 meeting. This concluded a process that included public hearings and testimony from libraries that began in November. This means that there was no change in the eligibility requirements for school libraries to join the regions. The other five Regions will also continue to contract with Massachusetts libraries to serve as Regional Reference Centers.

### **Leaky Pipes and Broken Windows: Disaster Preparedness for Libraries and Archives**

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners announces Leaky Pipes and Broken Windows: Disaster Preparedness for Libraries and Archives. This workshop will be offered at six locations statewide.

- ✓ Tuesday, May 6, 2003  
Leverett Library, Leverett, MA
- ✓ Tuesday, May 13, 2003  
Flint Memorial Library, North Reading, MA
- ✓ Thursday, May 22, 2003  
Milford Town Library, Milford, MA
- ✓ Thursday, May 29, 2003  
Agawam Public Library, Agawam, MA
- ✓ Tuesday, June 3, 2003  
Pembroke Public Library, Pembroke, MA
- ✓ Thursday, June 12, 2003  
Bedford Free Public Library, Bedford, MA

Please register by April 29, 2003.  
To register, either fax this form to:  
Attn: Rachel Devin. Fax: 617-421-9833

or email your name, library, and workshop location to:  
rachel.devin@state.ma.us  
(You will receive a confirmation if emailed.)

For further information, contact:

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall at (617) 267-9400 x 236 or  
(800) 952-7403 x 236 or  
e-mail: gregor.trinkaus-randall@state.ma.us

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### **MBLC Shows Support for Free Access to Law Libraries**

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, at their regularly-scheduled April Board Meeting, voted to show their support for continued free access to Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries.

In response to a proposal in the Governor's FY2004 budget to charge administrative fees, the Commissioners said,

"The Trial Court Law Libraries insure that all Massachusetts residents have access to the laws that govern them. Through the regional library systems, these specialized law libraries share their resources and expertise with the broader library community. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners believes that these libraries must remain free to the public and free to their resource sharing partners."

-David Gray

*Director of Communications and Public Relations, MBLC*

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## **MassAnswers: Reference Librarians Make House Calls**

Need to consult with a reference librarian? Now you need only hike as far as your computer. The Boston Public Library has joined with ten other Massachusetts regional reference centers to create the MassAnswers reference service. Ask your question any time of day, any day of the year, and you will have a professional reference librarian available to help you find an answer. MassAnswers uses software developed by the 24/7

Reference collaborative in California taps in to their network of reference librarians. The software lets you “chat” with a librarian and essentially “look over the shoulder” of your librarian to see what is on his or her computer screen. The internet chat features combine the immediacy of a phone call with the written precision of e-mail. The real excitement comes when the librarian begins to send you web pages that will help answer your question.

Not only can librarians show you the best ways to ferret information out of the internet, but they can show you the power of your Massachusetts library card to open up specialized journal and reference databases purchased by the Massachusetts library community.

BPL reference librarians will be answering questions for MassAnswers and the entire 24/7 Reference team for ten hours each week. This time commitment allows you to have your question answered at any time by a librarian serving this nationwide collaborative. Your librarian may be from Los Angeles or Burbank; Charlotte, North Carolina or Broward County, Florida. 24/7 Reference has recruited some of the best public libraries in the United States to participate in this exciting new service.

Boston is joined by Andover, Worcester, Bridgewater, Falmouth, Fitchburg, New Bedford, Quincy, Reading, Springfield, Wellesley and Worcester in forming MassAnswers. Look for the MassAnswers logo on the web pages of any of these libraries to access the service. Invite a reference librarian into your computer!

MassAnswers is initially funded through a federal Library Services and Technology Act grant administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

*Phil McNulty*

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## Announcements

### **Delivery Surveys: Have you completed yours?**

Reminder: Delivery surveys were mailed to all libraries to be returned by April 19. **Thanks!**

### **Summer Reading Update:**

All member libraries participating in the 2003 Summer Reading Program should have received all their program materials (posters, certificates, reading log, bookmarks, and wallet cards) from the Region office by now.

The Spring edition of “Bright Ideas,” the newsletter of the Summer Reading Program, is on its way to participating librarians with master copies of all the coupons from our statewide sponsors.

***JanWay promotional items ordered by your libraries should begin shipping out the week of May 19.***

***2004 Artwork*** is available on the web for your comment and review. ***We need all suggestions to the artists no later than Wednesday, April 30,*** so that they may begin making changes based on our comments for our Final Proofs.

Are you signed up for the Summer01 or Massyac discussion groups? Need help? Contact Connie Dudgeon in the Region office.

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### **The Research Revolution: Science and the Shaping of Modern Life**

--A Viewing and Discussion Program at the BPL

The 20<sup>th</sup> century has brought many amazing developments, but advances in science and technology have out-paced them all, transforming our daily lives. Discoveries made in university and industrial research labs can impact our lives in surprising ways. Join Dr. Alan Hankin from Emerson College, as he presents six thought provoking videos followed by lively discussion.

There are two sessions left in this special program series funded by grants from the American Library Association, National Video Resources, and the National Science Foundation.

These sessions are free and open to the public. Please pre-register by calling 617-536-5400 extension 2371.

Times: 7:00-8:45 pm

Location: Mezzanine Conference Room

Thursday, May 1      Global Warming  
Thursday, May 22     The Atomic Age

A special thanks to Jim Baille of BPL's General Reference department for bringing this project to fruition. His dedication in developing the content, seeking funding, and making it available to the general public is commendable. BPL librarians of his caliber are an outstanding resource to regional members.

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### National Archives in Waltham Offers Genealogical Workshops

Waltham, MA... The National Archives-Northeast Region is offering free genealogical workshops during the spring of 2003.

Most of the workshops are beginner level (B), although a few are aimed at all levels of researcher (A), and one is intermediate (I). Participants will learn what they need to know in order to locate records as well as what one might expect to find in the records.

The workshops will be offered at the Regional Archives building, located at 380 Trapelo Road in Waltham, MA according to the following schedule. Workshops marked with an asterisk (\*) are followed by an optional behind the scenes tour of the archives.

- ✓ April 10, 6:30 PM      Revolutionary War Records: Sources for documenting soldiers other than the traditional Pension and Military records (A)
- ✓ April 15, 2:00 PM\*  
Naturalization and Passenger Arrival Records (I)
- ✓ April 22, 2:00 PM\*      The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly in Electronic Resources (B)

- ✓ April 24, 6:30 PM      Canadian Border Crossings: The "St. Albans" records, 1895-1954 (A)
- ✓ May 6, 2:00 PM\*      Census I, 1790-1870 (B)
- ✓ May 15, 6:30 PM      Census III, 1930 (B)
- ✓ May 20, 2:00 PM\*      Census II, 1880-1920 (B)
- ✓ May 29, 6:30 PM  
Census, Naturalization, & Passenger Lists (B)
- ✓ June 3, 2:00 PM\*      Beyond the Census: Local History Resources in Federal Records (A)
- ✓ June 12, 6:30 PM      Beyond the Census: Local History Resources in Federal Records (A)
- ✓ June 17, 2:00 PM\*  
Naturalization and Passenger Arrival Records (I)
- ✓ June 26, 6:30 PM  
Census I, 1790-1870 (B)

Workshop and tour space is limited to 20 participants. Call (866) 406-2379 to register and for more details. There is no fee.

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### Celebrating History: Anniversaries to Educate, Promote and Preserve History

This is the theme of the Sixth Annual Community Forum on Historical Records, to be held on May 9, 2003 at Merrimack College in North Andover. Organized Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin, Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board, and the Essex National Heritage Commission the forum will examine practical ways that public and private businesses, municipalities, and non-profit organizations can use historical records and archival materials to celebrate their histories, anniversaries and other commemorative activities.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Bill Jackson, senior archivist of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company. Mr. Jackson will share his experiences and the role of archives in the planning and development of

the Company's centennial anniversary celebration that began in July 2002. The program offers a selection of nine breakout sessions including: 1) Celebrating the History of Businesses & Institutions; 2) Publications: Researching, Writing & Publishing History; 3) Marketing & Publicity: Promoting Celebrating History; 4) Cities and Towns on Parade; 5) Public Agencies: Resources for Celebrating History; 6) Exhibits: A Sensory Means of Celebrating History; 7) Libraries and Museums: Resources for Celebrating History; 8) Why and How to Document Anniversaries: Beyond the Mug and T-shirt! 9) Time Capsules: Burying the Past.

The Forum is expected to attract over 250 users of historical records from around the state, including archivists, historians, librarians, educators, genealogists and scholars. It is supported in part by 53 exhibitors and cosponsors. The cost of the event is \$20.00 and includes lunch and refreshments.

For more information visit the MHRAB website at <http://www.state.ma.us/sec/arc/arcaac/aacintro.htm> or call Bill Milhomme.

Bill Milhomme, Field Archivist  
Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory  
Board  
Massachusetts Archives  
220 Morrissey Blvd.  
Boston, MA 02135  
617.727.2816 x 257

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## Positions Open

### Library Technology Consultant, Central MA Regional Library System

The Central MA Regional Library System (CMRLS) seeks an innovative, energetic librarian to join our management team. Works with 250 multitype members to help them achieve their technology goals. Includes technology training; responding to requests for advice and database access support; and keeping abreast of library technology developments in key areas, including

library automation systems, cataloging and MARC records, digitization, bibliographic databases, networking, and the "next new thing."

ALA-accredited MLS required. Five years professional library work including some Internet training skills, bibliographic database use, and office-PC experience or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Starting salary DOQ (normally Step 1); range \$45,832 – \$65,330. Excellent benefits. See also [www.cmrls.org/jobs.html](http://www.cmrls.org/jobs.html). Send cover letter, resume, and names of three references to: CMRLS Search, 8 Flagg Rd., Shrewsbury, MA 01545. Electronic applications preferred: <mailto:mboyda@cmrls.org>. Position open until filled, but applications will be reviewed beginning May 30, 2003.

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### Director, Lilly Library

Lilly Library seeks a creative, energetic, and service-oriented Library Director (opening July 1, 2003). Lilly Library is the public library for the villages of Florence and Leeds within the City of Northampton (pop. 29,000), with a collection of over 20,000 volumes, an annual circulation of over 86,000, and a very active schedule of programs for children and adults. The Director trains and leads a staff of 3.65 FTE in developing the collection and programming of the library, pursuing grants and other supplemental funding, and providing reference and reader's advisory assistance to patrons. The Director also develops and manages the library's budget and works closely with the Board of Trustees, the Friends of Lilly Library, the member libraries of the Citywide Library Service Committee, municipal government, and other local organizations and agencies to bring library services to the entire community. The successful candidate should have at least two years of library administration experience, an MLS from an ALA-accredited school, confidence with technology and electronic resources, and the ability to manage the details of library operations while keeping an eye on the big picture. Experience with library construction projects is highly desirable, as Lilly Library is on the waiting list for a state public library

construction grant. Starting salary \$40,000-\$42,000 depending on qualifications and a generous benefit package including City medical insurance, vacation, sick leave, and optional 403(b) retirement savings plan. Interested candidates should send resume and substantive cover letter to Holly Hargraves at 194 North Maple Street, Florence, MA 01062; or email to hharg@valinet.com. First preference will be given to applications received by May 9, 2003.

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### **Library Assistant - Children's Services - Part-Time June - August**

The Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge, Massachusetts, is looking for a temporary part-time Children's Services Assistant.

The Children's Services Assistant will work with the Children's Librarian to plan and present a variety of programs and services, especially activities with school-age children participating in the busy summer reading club.

Responsibilities: Public service at children's desk, assist patrons with questions and computer searches, answer reference questions, encourage and guide children's reading, and present some children's programs, such as story hours, craft classes, and summer outreach activities.

Required qualifications: Interest in children and children's literature and some library or early childhood experience. Excellent customer service skills; computer literacy; ability to assist patrons and retrieve and shelve books; strong interpersonal and oral communication skills. Prefer some college education and one to two years' library experience.

Twenty-five - thirty hours per week including one evening per week. No weekends during the summer. Salary range \$7.09- \$13.00 per hour depending on qualifications. No benefits. Temporary position through August, 2003.

Ideal position for college student or M.L.S. candidate!!

Please send resume by May 10th to:  
Jacob Edwards Library  
236 Main St.  
Southbridge, MA 01550  
Or email to:  
rurell@cwmars.org

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### **Boston Public Library**

For positions open at the Boston Public Library, visit their Web site: <http://www.bpl.org/www/jobopps.html>

### **To Apply For All Boston Public Library Positions:**

To be considered for current or future openings, please send letter of application, resume and references to: Director of Human Resources, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116. FAX. (617) 266-4673. Or apply in person at the Human Resources Office. 3rd floor. City of Boston residency is a requisite.

*Boston Public Library is an Equal Opportunity /Affirmative Action Employer Committed to Cultural Diversity.*

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## **Contact the Region**

Here is a listing of Regional staff and how to reach us:

Web site: [www.bpl.org/brls](http://www.bpl.org/brls)

General email inquiries: [brl@bpl.org](mailto:brl@bpl.org)

Tel: 617-859-2380 Fax: 617-267-0364

**Regional Administrator:** Deirdre Brennan  
**Coordinator of Reference Services:** Susan Godlewski

**Electronic Resource Librarian:** Joe Fisher

**MBLN Bibliographer:** Ken Pristash

**Administrative Assistants:**

Connie Dudgeon and  
Garry Wong