

# Murrell Memorial Library Newsletter

MVC

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March, 2008

Volume 14 issue 7

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## Dates to Remember

- *Dr. Seuss Children's Party*  
March 5
- *Spring Break*  
March 10-14
- *St. Patrick's Day*  
March 15
- *Good Friday (No Classes)*  
March 21
- *Mad Hatter's Tea Party*  
March 25
- *Poet's Coffee House*  
March 26

## For Your Reading Pleasure

Come by and "Check Out"  
these new books.

*Cultural Amnesia*  
by Clive James

*Prozac on the Couch*  
by Jonathon Metzl

## For Your Viewing Pleasure New DVDs!

*Becoming Jane*

*La Vie En Rose*

*Michael Clayton*

*Elizabeth: The Golden Age*

*In the Valley of Elah*



## St. Patrick's Day While We're Away

Those of you who follow the luck of the Irish may have already noticed a certain shamrock toting, corned beef eating holiday occurs during Spring Break. St. Patrick's Day, normally celebrated on the 17th, will be recognized on the 15th this year since the 17th falls on Holy Monday. For those of you who know little more about this holiday than to wear green or get pinched, you may be surprised to learn that this began as a Catholic feast day. St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, converted many Irish to Catholicism and built churches and monasteries in the first century. Legend also has it that he drove the snakes out of Ireland, although no snakes were ever found in Ireland. The shamrock obtained its association with this day through stories that St. Patrick used its leaves to teach the Irish about the Holy Trinity. Immigrants to the United States brought the holiday into the mainstream and held the first St. Patrick's Day Parade in Boston in 1737.

Among some of the secular traditions observed on St. Patrick's day are the eating of corned beef and cabbage, the drinking of green beer, and the wearing of green clothes. The consumption of corned beef is so engrained with the holiday that Catholic bishops have, in the past, granted permission to Catholics to eat the meat when the holiday falls on a Friday, a no-meat observance day during Lent. In addition to all of these traditions, St. Patrick's Day is a chance to be "Irish for a day". If you are interested in learning more about this holiday, the Teacher Education Library has a lovely children's book displaying the history of St. Patrick and the legends behind this saint, aptly titled "St. Patrick's Day".



There are 14 shamrocks hidden in this newsletter. See if you can find them all!

## Women, Jazz and Space

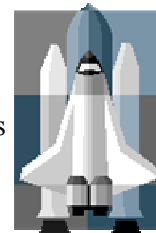
The Teacher Education Library will be celebrating Women's History Month with a *Women in Jazz* display.

Over in Murrell Library's display case you will find a commemoration of the 50th anni-



versary of Sputnik with displays, shuttle models, pictures and books. You will also find a cool diorama of our solar system thanks to the creative talents of our own Jill Phillips. The bulletin board near the entrance of the library pays

tribute to female astronauts with pictures of several important women and a timeline of women in space.





## J.K. Rowling Sues Fan Site Creator

Fan sites. We may not like to admit, but we have all been to one. Internet fan sites exist for practically every television show, comic book, actor, etc. You can not fully understand an episode of *Lost* without visiting a few sites that explain all the things you were too incompetent, or normal, to catch in one viewing. Without fan sites, a fan would not know how Lois Lane really felt about Superman. And how would a fan know that Johnny Depp was a pen salesman in his younger days if it were not found on a fan site.

These sites are often created without the knowledge or consent of the owners of the material discussed or the person honored. However, most do not complain as the sites offer a type of free advertising for the topic discussed. Until now.

The Harry Potter Lexicon is a website that covers everything Harry Potter. Like many Potter websites encyclopedias, dictionaries, and guides are featured to help fans enjoy the Potter experience to the fullest extent. This site, however, went a step further

than others and tried to publish the material found on the site in print form. Author J.K. Rowling quickly took offense and alleged that this was in violation of copyright law. Some argue that the guide is in compliance with fair use laws as it is not an adaptation, but rather a discussion of Rowling's works. Despite this argument, Rowling claims to have been betrayed by the author of the Lexicon and feels that the sales of her future book of a similar nature will be adversely affected. Perhaps more interesting than the ruling of this case, is the effect it may have on online fan sites. It could be argued that if Rowling loses, then copyright owners will be less accepting of fan sites and actively enforce restrictions on their creators. It could also be argued that if the courts find in favor of Rowling, then the law will restrict the content that can be placed on fan sites. Many claim that fans will lose either way. A life without fan sites might not be the end of the world; it may even boost productivity at work, but it will definitely leave some of us *Lost*.

## Libby the Librarian



Dear Libby,  
I was checking out your library "Women in Space" display and did not see many of my favorite women in space like Princess Leia, Bar-

barella, or Deanna Troi. This oversight is grossly unacceptable. You should really do more research before you put together a display such as

this.  
Space\_Geek34

Dear Geek,  
I agree with you wholeheartedly. I was not among those who created this inadequate display. It is as if they give no respect to the world outside of reality. Who is to say that Kathryn Sullivan is somehow more important than

Letters to Libby may or may not be fictionalized. Libby ,herself ,may or may not be real. And you, may or may not care..



flame throwing, awesome line quipping, reincarnating Ellen Ripley? No real astronaut has displayed such effectiveness at obliterating aliens. And all of the heavy gear that these astronauts wear are nothing compared to the tight, itchy, spandexy outfits Barbarella or Princess Leia have to endure. It is just really sad when fictional characters don't get the respect they deserve.  
Love, Libby



## Mad Hatter Tea Party

*Ladies. Are you a little tired of hanging out with the boys? Has the testosterone, basketball, and remnants of football and American Gladiators made you lose touch with the softer side of life? Are you in need of a little girl time? Then we have the cure. On March 25th, your Friendly Library Staff will treat you in the Coffee by the Book room with our annual Mad Hatter Tea Party. In addition*

*to serving different varieties of hot tea, we will have finger sandwiches, scones, cookies, muffins and other girly foods. We will also have a tea leaf psychic on hand to "read" your leaves and your future. Prizes will also be given out throughout the night, so drop by the library between 7pm and 9pm to join in a little female bonding and a lot of fun!*