Media Matters

A newsletter for people who care about Library Media programs.

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 1 AUGUST 2009

Perdue calls on teachers to take furloughs to fill $900 million hole

July 21, 2009, by Aaron Gould Sheinin Atlanta Journal Constitution

Public schools and Medicaid will face 3 percent cuts to their budgets, and teachers face the rare prospect of unpaid furloughs as state leaders move to fill a $900 million budget hole.

Gov. Sonny Perdue on Tuesday announced that he and top lawmakers have struck a deal that allows them to avoid a special legislative session and provides the governor flexibility to tackle the latest in a heartbreaking string of cuts.

Most agencies will face a 5 percent budget cut. Some will be higher; some lower, Perdue said. Every state employee, meanwhile, must take three furlough days before the end of the calendar year, he said.

These moves are anticipated to keep the state's 2010 spending levels equal to fiscal 2009, which ended June 30 and featured more than $2.8 billion in cuts from the year before. The reductions announced Tuesday will bring Georgia to a budget level nearly equal to that of 2005.

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The 2009 Exemplary Library Media Programs are:

Elementary: Marietta Center for Advanced Academics (Marietta City)

Harbins (Gwinnett) Finley Oaks (Fulton) Tritt (Cobb)

Middle: Long Cane (Troup)

High: Sprayberry (Cobb) Hillgrove (Cobb) Norcross (Gwinnett)

See page 12 for **Exceptional** programs and **Honorable Mentions**.

Liberty County Media Specialists with their favorite book!

1st row: Diana Anderson, Mona Phillips, Melissa Sands, Diana Clark, Miriam Hudson, Mary Lewis, Melissa Roberts, Jeff Staggs, and Jaime Rearley

2nd row (standing): Tory Baker, Roxanne Lee, Tara Griffin, Kay Williams, Elaine Walker, Kathy Webb, Sharon Dunham, and Cristina Dover

Each year the Liberty County Media Specialists take a group picture of the library media specialists with their favorite books. Each media center gets a poster sized copy and the poster is on display in each media center.

The Liberty County Media Specialists have an outstanding website on the school system's webpage. http://www.liberty.k12.ga.us/MediaPage/ and a blog located at: http://www.mediamatterslcss.blogspot.com/

The media specialists in Liberty County have been invited to be contributing authors to the blog and they are using the blog to showcase the school media programs.

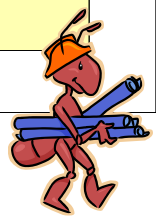
Laura Bush Foundation Grants

Pasadena, TX – The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries announced that 158 school libraries are being awarded $851,524 in grants for 2009. The schools receive grants of up to $6,000 to expand, update and diversify their library book collections.

The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries was founded in 2002 as a fund of The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region. Since its inception, the Laura Bush Foundation has awarded more than $6.2 million to 1,245 schools in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In addition to these yearly grants, the Foundation has also awarded more than $4.7 million to school libraries in the Gulf Coast region to rebuild their library book collections that were lost or destroyed by hurricanes or storms. The grant application process is administered by The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region with guidance from The Laura Bush Foundation's Advisory Committee. The grants are funded through generous donations to the endowment from individuals, corporations and foundations.

The mission of the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries is to support the education of our nation's children by providing funds to update, extend and diversify the book and print collections of America's school libraries. Further information is available at www.laurabushfoundation.org

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO BE BUSY; SO ARE THE ANTS. THE QUESTION IS: WHAT ARE WE BUSY ABOUT?
~THOREAU



Congratulations to these Georgia schools!

The New Schools@ Carver	Atlanta
Fitzhugh Lee School	Smyrna
Dunbar Elementary School	Atlanta
Oak Knoll Elementary	East Point
Whitefoord Elementary School	Atlanta
D. H. Stanton Elementary School	Atlanta
Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School	Atlanta
Grove Park Elementary	Atlanta
L. D. Clay Elementary School	Mableton
Capitol View Elementary	Atlanta
Maynard Holbrook Jackson High	Atlanta
Turner Middle School	Atlanta
Walter Leonard Parks Middle	Atlanta
Dalton Middle School	Dalton

These names were omitted from the May 2009 issue.

Congratulations Retirees!

Mary Ann Shepherd: Whitesville Road Elementary/ Troup County

O.P. Cooper: Carrollton City Schools

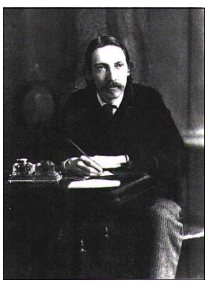
Debra C. Atkins: Unity Elementary/ Meriwether County

Deborah Touchton: Bibb County

Teachers of the Year

Alicia Macbeth Jacobs	Fernbank Elementary/DeKalb
Sandy Hudgins	Annie Belle Clark Primary/Tift County
Barbara Bondari	Northeast Campus: Tift County HS/Tift County
Julie Richardson	Jones Middle/Gwinnett
Megann Williams	Adamsville ES/Atlanta City
Jennifer McCrary	Cotton Indian Elementary/Henry County
Susan Klodnicki	Dodgen Middle School/Cobb
Marla Buro	Cheatham Hill Elementary/Cobb

Tommy Tatum's name was misspelled in the May issue.
My apologies!



The best things in life are nearest; breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of right just before you. Then do not grasp at the stars, but do life's plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things in life. ~ Robert Louis Stevenson

The state funded SAT Online Prep Course returns for 2009-2010!

Packets will arrive in high schools between August 10 and 20th. How many students at your high school are working in SAT Online? Have you created your educator account?

www.satonlinecourseschool.com

GaDOE contact: Georgia McSwain gmcswain@doe.k12.ga.us

Wow! Do you know about TransACT?

Did you know that the Georgia Department of Education provides every district in the state with a free TransACT subscription?

TransACT provides parent notices in multiple languages to help school districts comply with complex federal parent communication mandates! It is simple to use and it supports the mission of our schools.

Through the use of the legally-reviewed documents and guidance in the online TransACT Parent Notification collections, districts can comply with the US DOE laws and regulations, including NCLB, IDEA 2004, Title I, III, IX, X, FERPA and others.

This service has been available for Georgia educators for several years, but a tool is useless if no one knows how to use it or is not aware that we have this wonderful resource.

There have been face to face trainings with ESOL Coordinators and district personnel. Now Library Media Specialists know about it and can spread the word to their faculty and staff! Tell your ESOL teacher, the counselors, everyone at the next faculty meeting!

If you are an educator in Georgia you can log-on and access your TransACT subscription at:

www.transact.com/login.htm

ONLINE DEGREES FROM UNIVERSITIES YOU TRUST:

The University System of Georgia announces fully online graduate teacher education opportunities. Students in online programs benefit from a highly interactive setting that promotes leadership, collegiality, and communication skills. Campuses are accepting applications for Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters now!

MED in Instructional Technology.

Georgia Southern University offers a fully online program that leads to a Master of Education (MED) in Instructional Technology.

The program operates two tracks. One track is designed for individuals who seek certification as school library media specialists while the other track is a non-certification track designed for individuals who want to work in PreK-12, higher education, or business and industry in an instructional technology position. In addition, this program is dedicated to supporting faculty members who seek creative ways to use computers and other technologies for instruction.

The MED Program in Instructional Technology meets all Georgia Professional Standards Commission requirements and fully subscribes to the curriculum protocols established by the Association for Educational Communications and Technology.

Link to Admissions Application for MED in Instructional Technology:

http://www.gacollege411.org/applications/USG_Common_App_MAT_MED/apply.html?application_id=3650

Ed.S. in Teaching and Learning with a track in Exemplary Teaching.

The Exemplary Teaching Track of the Education Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree in Teaching and Learning is an advanced degree that prepares educators to meet the teaching standards within the Georgia Framework for Teaching at the Exemplary Level. Teachers in the program come from a range of classroom settings and subject areas.

The University System of Georgia's Valdosta State University is the degree-granting institution collaborating with North Georgia College and State University for the delivery of the program. Top graduate faculty from each school teach the courses. This 9-course, 27 hour, online Ed.S. program can be completed in three to four consecutive semesters - about 12 to 16 months - with a full-time enrollment. Courses are offered on a continuous basis allowing for part-time enrollment. No campus visits are required to complete the program.

Link to Admissions Application for Ed. S. in Exemplary Teaching:

http://www.gacollege411.org/applications/USG_Common_App_MAT_MED/apply.html?application_id=3646

The University System of Georgia offers an exciting, online opportunity for career changers who are interested in entering the teaching profession and who possess the prerequisite educational background in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or a related field.

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Secondary Math and Science http://te.colstate.edu/mat_math_science.asp is an online degree offered cooperatively by five institutions:

Columbus State University Georgia Southern University

Kennesaw State University University of West Georgia

Valdosta State University

The schools listed above are all fully accredited institutions in the University System of Georgia.

Teacher certification options available through this degree include

Mathematics Biology Chemistry Physics

Earth/Space Science at the secondary level (i.e., certification in grades 6-12).

This innovative degree program combines online coursework with practicum experiences in both middle and secondary schools and leads to initial certification at the T-5 level. All coursework and assignments are completed online.

Don't want a degree, but interested in taking online courses to prepare for additional certifications or endorsements?

Visit http://www.georgiaonmyline.org for more information.

The lovely Sandy Bowie (Coweta County) in her Library Media Center.

*Thanks to **Doug Johnson** and **Linworth Publishing** for permission to reprint Doug's article "No Principal Left Behind" from his **Head for the Edge** column, March 2003.*

Doug has 10 tips for the school Library Media Specialist to help inform and educate your school administrator about good school libraries and the positive impact they can have on students. We left off in February 2009 with Tip #6.

Tip #7: Do not whine.

You are not going to want to hear this, but there is a little riddle that goes around administrative circles: What is the difference between a puppy and a teacher? The puppy stops whining when you let it in the door.

What exactly is whining and how does it differ from constructive communication efforts? Robert Moran in his book *Never Confuse a Memo with Reality* (Harper, 1994) says it best: "Never go to your boss with a problem without a solution. You are paid to think, not to whine."

I know it feels good to just let it all out sometimes about things that really can't be changed. But listening to that sort of venting is what your spouse, your mom or your cat is there for.

GALILEO
An Initiative of the University System of Georgia

GALILEO Training Right at Your Desk

Training opportunities scheduled this year can help you learn about GALILEO and some of the great databases available, in addition to preparing you to train teachers, students, or others how to use the great resources your school already has access to.

Here are a few of the benefits to signing up for GALILEO training:

- The training sessions are offered online so no travel times or funds are required.
- Topics cover a wide range of resources designed for all grade levels.
- For most you will just need a computer with internal or external speakers. (Some vendor training requires a phone for audio.)
- Connecting to online classes is easy. You'll receive instructions a couple of days before the class.
- Most K-12 oriented sessions are scheduled at 3:30 when busy media specialists are more likely to be able to attend.

Certificates of participation are sent to everyone who attends a class.

A summary of the classes offered in August is listed below. Sessions for the fall will be added soon. For dates and times and to register for a class, visit

http://www.usg.edu/galileo/help/library/training/.

- What's in GALILEO for Elementary/Middle/High School—Separate sessions for each level will be offered several times.
- Journals and Magazines Abound in GALILEO—Learn how to find and use your online magazines
- SIRS Issues Researcher and SIRS Discoverer—Separate sessions. High schoolers should check out the updated Issues Researcher for cool tools.
- Encyclopaedia Britannica—Separate sessions for different levels

GALILEO at the Reference Desk—Content in GALILEO that lends itself to quick reference

If you have any questions or need more information, please use GALILEO's Contact Us feature or contact OIIT Customer Services at helpdesk@usg.edu

Nutrition News for Elementary Schools

June 2009:

The Georgia Department of Education's School Nutrition Program is pleased to provide new resources to your elementary school's library media center. These new resources include eight children's books *and* an easy-to-assemble bookshelf. Both of these resources are designed to serve as educational tools for display in the media center. We hope these new materials will enhance your students' reading, vocabulary, and language skills as they are introduced to healthier eating and lifestyles.

You may recall prior mailings you received from us, such as *A Bad Case of Stripes*, *The Monster Who Ate My Peas,* and *The Organ Wise Guys Kit*. We hope that you have been able to utilize and promote these items with your faculty.

In this mailing, your media center is receiving **two** separate boxes. One box contains eight titles: *Apple Pie 4th of July, Fast Food, Germs Make Me Sick, How Do Dinosaurs Eat Their Food, I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato, Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!, Germs* and *The Seven Silly Eaters*. We have enclosed a print out of the MARC records for all eight titles.

The other box contains the bookshelf (with assembly instructions). We hope you will consider creating a "Nutrition Nook" or other designated area specifically designed to display these and future resources that we plan to provide for your students and faculty.

We hope that using these resources and involving the school nutrition manager, teachers, parents, and volunteers will provide a multi-disciplinary approach to teaching health and nutrition related topics through reading. Please enjoy!

Nancy Rice, Director
School Nutrition Program

Please make sure your Nutrition materials are cataloged and intact (for example: the Organ Wise guys should not be used as "decorations" for your Library Media Center). Elementary Library Media Centers have been the fortunate recipients of many hundreds of dollars of materials over the past few years. Those items should be cataloged, promoted, and used by your classroom teachers.

Georgia Center for the Book (from their website)

The Georgia Center for the Book is the state affiliate of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

The Center, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2008, was chartered in early 1998 with the DeKalb County Public Library serving as its host and sponsor. The Center's mission is the support of libraries, literary programs and literature, particularly Georgia's rich literary heritage. In 2007, the Center received the prestigious Boorstein Award from the Center for the Book in Washington in recognition of its innovative literary programming and literacy efforts.

The Center partners with many statewide organizations including the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, the University of Georgia Press, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Agnes Scott College, Emory University, the Writers Institute at Georgia Perimeter College, Georgia Public Library Service, Georgia Humanities Council, Project WET at the Department of Natural Resources, DeKalb History Center, the Margaret Mitchell House and many others.

The Georgia Center for the Book has become the largest non-profit literary presenting organization in the Southeast and one of the largest in the nation. Its many free programs reached nearly 90,000 people around the state in 2008. The Center helped create and remains a major sponsor of the AJC Decatur Book Festival that draws 60,000 people to the city every Labor Day weekend.

William W. Starr, a native of Atlanta, has been executive director of the Georgia Center for the Book since 2003. Joe Davich, a native of West Virginia, has been the GCB assistant since 2006, and the advisory council includes 22 distinguished authors, educators, librarians, journalists, scholars and publishers.

http://www.georgiacenterforthebook.org/index.php

The Georgia Center for the Book is working on a Georgia Literacy map. Their website has a listing of "Books All Georgians Should Read", student competitions, the Georgia Literary Festival, and more.

Furloughs Continued from Page 1

But, as Perdue pointed out, an additional 1 million people live in the state today as compared to four years ago.

"We have to live in the reality of the moment," Perdue said during a news conference from his Gold Dome office. "These steps are necessary and prudent to make sure we keep our commitment to Georgia taxpayers and allow us to give the most services to our citizens through the money we're able to obtain."

The decision to furlough teachers and cut K-12 budgets is likely to generate push back for Perdue and state leaders. Even Perdue said he is not sure he has the legal authority to order teachers to take unpaid leave. While teachers are technically state employees, they work under contracts with local districts.

Still, furloughing teachers provides a boost to the state shortfall: budget officials estimate that every day the state's teachers are not paid saves $33 million.

Local districts were still absorbing the news Tuesday afternoon and were not sure how they would proceed.

"We'll consider the best options for our district and our schools," Susan Hale, communications director for Futon County School System, said. "We don't have a solution yet."

But Cherokee County Schools will begin furloughs next week, Superintendent Frank Petruzielo said. "I've already sent something out to our principals telling them to get hold of the teachers they thought were going to be there on Monday and Tuesday and tell them they've got two more days off."

Cherokee teachers will take two furlough days next week — when they'd normally be planning for the coming school year - and another day in November. Petruzielo said Cherokee County will also lose $4.8 million in funding.

Perdue, perhaps sensing the delicate nature of the school cuts, had a conference call with local superintendents from around the state Tuesday to break the news and explain the seriousness of the situation.

"They're all very appreciative of the heads up and are understanding of where we are," Perdue said.

State Schools Superintendent Kathy Cox seconded that notion. "It saddens me that our economic situation is so dire that further reductions to education funding must be made, but I appreciate that the governor and Legislature have done everything they can to cut education less than other areas," Cox said in a statement.

Still, she said, implementing the cuts will be difficult."I will be working with local superintendents so we can minimize the impact these budget reductions will have on student achievement," she said.

Meanwhile, other agencies must begin to scramble for deeper cuts. Only the Department of Mental Health will be held harmless as the agency operates under an agreement with the Justice Department to correct deficiencies in mental health hospitals.

Every other agency must assume a 5 percent cut but produce plans for dealing with a 4 percent, 6 percent or 8 percent cut.

Dealing with the crisis in this fashion, Perdue said, allows him and staff to be precise in their cuts and not make across the board decisions. All of this is being done with the hope, but without certainty, that these cuts are the last."That's not to say we won't have to go deeper," Perdue said. "This train is not going to go down forever, and predicting when it's going to reach the bottom of the hill is not an exact science and it's not a pretty art."

2009 Exceptional Library Media Programs

Elementary: **Eastside** (Cobb County) **Northwood (**Fulton)
International Studies Charter School (Dougherty County)

Middle: **Huntington** (Houston) **Hopewell** (Fulton) **Heard** (Heard)

High **Glynn Academy** (Glynn) **Collins Hill** (Gwinnett)

Honorable Mention:

Matilda Harris Elementary (Camden)

Pleasant Grove Elementary (Whitfield) **Shelton Elementary** (Paulding)

Bridging These Truths

Brenda Stanley is a Critical Care nurse at Emory Hospital. She has created, along with artist Jay Montgomery, a poster entitled 'Bridging these Truths'. This poster is about major sociopolitical events and people that helped shape America's significant history.

This poster will be distributed to middle and high schools in the Atlanta metro systems and it symbolizes the efforts of those who built 'bridges' from George Washington to Harriet Tubman; from Susan B. Anthony to Dr. King, the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), NAWSA (National American Women Suffrage Association), and many more.

The poster symbolizes the relevance of the Declaration of Independence and the signing of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts. It shows how the past connects to the present and impacts the future. It also shows how connected we all are as Americans and that regardless of our individuality and differences we can still come together as "One People." Most importantly, it is an awe-inspiring message to our youth that they can become whatever they aspire to be in America regardless of race, culture, heritage, and gender because of our unalienable rights and the freedoms and opportunities to do so.

Brenda Stanley

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205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.

In Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Mary Jean Sloan. The memorial service for Mary Jean, who passed away on June 26, was held on July 21, 2009

Mary Jean had been a moving force in the school library field for over five decades. Most of her library/media career was spent in Cobb County Schools at Eastvalley Elementary School. She served in numerous capacities in many organizations, but she was the 1985-86 President of the Georgia Library Media Department (now Association). In addition, she served as Membership Director for GAIT for more than a decade. She was also the recipient of the Walter S. Bell Distinguished Service Award and two-time recipient of the GAIT Distinguished Service Award.

During Mary Jean's term of office as President of GLMD, she appointed the committee which formed the first Georgia Council of Media Organizations' steering committee.

Memorials may be sent to the Goen-Sloan Scholarship, c/o GAIT, P.O. Box 793,
Rex, Georgia 30273

GLMA Summer Institute Macon June 22 and 23

A lot of effort went into the planning and implementation of this event. Lynn Strickland, Cindy Thompson, Susan Grigsby and many others invested long hours and a lot of passion for their profession into this two day learning and working meeting.

Book Review

Masterpiece is most likely going to be my favorite book of the summer. Elise Broach brings us into the lives of two families, humans and beetles. James Pompaday is a boy who longs to be understood and praised for his own interests and talents. Marvin is a beetle who longs for friendship and adventures outside of his own beetle life. A pen and ink set magically brings them together when Marvin discovers that he is quite an artist and draws a picture for James on his birthday. This one event unleashes a series of lies because James's family instantly believes that he drew this unbelievable drawing which is compared to the work of the great Albrecht Durer. Marvin and James both find themselves heavily involved in a scheme to recover a set of lost works of art by the famous artist. I love books that showcase characters who are rarely seen as heroes. Broach paints a story of friendship, love, dealing with divorce, longing for approval, and reaching for your dreams. One of my favorite lines was "A great friendship is like a great work of art. It took time and attention, and a spark of something that was impossible to describe. It was a happy, lucky accident, finding some kindred part of yourself in a total stranger." I highly recommend this great find.

The reading level of the book is around 5.3, but I would say that it could be for grades 4-8.

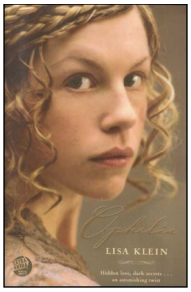
Andy Plemmons
David C. Barrow Elementary
Athens

Have a favorite book like Andy?
Write a review and send it in.

Send to: jserrite@doe.k12.ga.us

Georgia Peach Award for Teen Readers Nominee

***Ophelia: A Novel* by Lisa Klein**



In this re-imagining of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, it is Ophelia who takes center stage. A motherless girl, she grows up at Elsinore Castle to become the queen's most trusted lady-in-waiting. She catches the attention of Prince Hamlet, and their love blossoms in secret. But bloody deeds soon turn Denmark into a place of madness, and ultimately, Ophelia must choose between her love for Hamlet and her own life.

Buffy Hamilton, Media Specialist extraordinaire and technology guru, is in her Library Media Center in Cherokee County, but talking and presenting to the GLMA Leadership Institute in Macon. Fabulous job Buffy!

Is this you? Let me know.

August 2009

Georgia Department of Education

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Herman Melville born: 1819-1891
2 Birthday of James Baldwin: 1924-1987	*3* Christopher Columbus sets sail: 1492	*4* Percy Shelley born 1792-1822	*5* Conrad Aiken's birthday: 1889-1973	*6* Alfred, Lord Tennyson born: 1809-1892	*7* Who was Ralph Bunche: 1904-1971?	*8* Birthday of Sara Teasdale: 1884-1933
9 Birthday of Jose Aruego and Seymour Simon	*10* Who is Edmund Jennings Randolph?	*11* Birthday of Joanna Cole: 1944	*12* Thomas Edison invents the phonograph: 1877. Where was Edison born?	*13* The Berlin Wall is started: 1961. When did it come down?	*14* 1935 - U S Social Security Act passes	*15* Sir Walter Scott born: 1771-1832
16 Beatrice Schenk DeRegniers born: 1914	*17* Birthday of Myra Cohn Livingston: 1926	*18* Paula Danziger was born in 1944. What books has she written?	*19* Who is Philo T. Farnsworth?	*20* Benjamin Harrison born: 1833-1901. Who was he?	*21* Birthday of Count Basie: 1904-1984 Hawaii becomes the 50th state: 1959	*22* Ray Bradbury born: 1920-
23 Edgar Lee Masters born: 1869-1950	*24* Why is Shirley Hufstedler significant?	*25* Ivan the Terrible born: 1530. How old was he when he became a czar?	*26* What is the 19th Amendment?	*27* 1928 - Kellogg-Briand Pact, outlawing war, signed by sixty nations.	*28* 1565 - St. Augustine Fl. established. The oldest surviving European settlement in the U.S.	*29* Oliver Wendell Holmes born: 1809
30 Donald Crews born: 1938	*31* 1803:Lewis and Clark start their expedition from Pittsburgh at 11 A.M.					

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts. ~Eleanor Roosevelt