

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA

WILLIAM F. LAMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

January 12, 2015

10:30 AM

1. Roll call of members.
2. Acceptance or Revision of December 2014 minutes.
3. Financial report.
4. Director's report.
 - A. 2013 Audit
 - B. Patron Count
 - C. Program Counts
 - D. Exhibit
 - E. 2014 Statistical Report Summary
 - G. Passport
 - H. 2014 Public Sector Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas Award
5. Correspondence/Information Items.
 - A. E-mail from John Gaudin
 - B. Thank you note from Samuel J Spaulding.
 - C. Arkansas Democratic Gazette. 12/9/14.
 - D. 'Small Works' Artists Announced. 12/8/14.
 - E. Editorials, Crack In A Gem. 12/11/14.
 - F. NLR Mayor Says City To Prop Up Its Library. 12/17/14.
 - G. NLR Library To Revamp 2 Loans. 12/31/14.
 - H. My Town Hero: Librarian Creates Safe, Fun Learning Environment for Teens. THV 11. Staff, news source. 12/29/14.
 - I. NLR Lends A Hand to Insolvent Library
6. Committee reports.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Public comment.

Minutes of the Board of Trustees
William F. Laman Public Library

8 December 2014

The Board met in the board room at 10:30 AM. Those present were Mr. Ron Oliver, Chair; Mrs. Kay Alonzo; Ms. Esther Crawford; Ms. Hollie Lewis; Mrs. Shirley Lindsey; Mrs. Vicki Matthews; Mrs. Nancy White; and, Mrs. Mary Furlough, Interim Director. Jake Sandlin from the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette was in attendance.

On a motion by Mrs. White, second by Mrs. Lindsey, the Board unanimously accepted as printed the November minutes.

The November financial report was discussed. The amount paid on the bonds due in December, the end of year balance, and the amount estimated the library will have to begin 2015 were noted. The Board suggested that the bank CD of \$35,000 that is due to rollover soon should be liquidated and held as reserve in case of emergency need. The financial report was accepted as printed on a motion by Mrs. Alonzo, second by Ms. Crawford.

Director's Report:

The exhibits at both the Main library and Argenta have been well received and have had large numbers of viewers. Patron statistics have been higher this year, but part of that was most likely the early voting in October.

The programs at Main library have had good attendance numbers. The Veterans Day Ceremony had to be moved inside, but the attendance was good in spite of the weather. The Teen program attendance numbers have been excellent. Kyna has created activities and games tailored to the interests of her teens, and the programs have gone quite well. Argenta has had steady numbers.

Mrs. Furlough presented the Holiday schedule for 2015, and on a motion by Mrs. White, second by Ms. Lewis, the Board approved the schedule as printed.

The North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce awarded the Laman Library the Non-Profit Business of the Year Award on December 5th. The award was for the library's many contributions to the City of North Little Rock.

Correspondence/Information Items:

The Exhibit Proposal from the Argenta Arts Foundation was looked over and briefly discussed. The board decided that the Proposal needed to be looked at more thoroughly, and needed a lawyer's opinion before any final decision was made. A motion, made by Mrs. White, seconded by Mrs. Alonzo, that the Proposal be tabled until the January meeting was unanimously approved.

The Board agreed with Mrs. Furlough that the library will not have contracts with the media in 2015, but will issue information to advertise events as needed.

Unfinished/New Business:

New rates for the Municipal Health Benefit Fund will go into effect on January 1st, 2015. They will total \$176,000 per year for full-time staff, which is \$530 per person per month. Mrs. White and Mrs. Matthews will contact insurance brokers that they know to confer with Mrs. Furlough and offer alternatives to the Municipal Health if there are any. The library needs to see if we can get a better deal on prices than what we have at the moment.

On a motion by Mrs. Alonzo, second by Mrs. White, the Board went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. When the regular meeting resumed, on a motion by Mrs. White, second by Mrs. Lindsey, the Board indicated no action was taken at this time. The personnel matter will be revisited in January.

Two Sisters will be catering the staff holiday party on Friday, December 12th at 5:30 pm. The Board is providing this dinner/party for the staff.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Furlough
Secretary

William F. Laman Public Library
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2014

ASSETS

Current Assets		
CENTENNIAL BANK	\$	1,200,365.03
CASH ON HAND		555.00
PETTY CASH		200.00
CD-CENTENNIAL BANK		<u>34,867.10</u>
Total Current Assets		1,235,987.13
Property and Equipment		
Total Property and Equipment		0.00
Other Assets		
Total Other Assets		<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets	\$	<u><u>1,235,987.13</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$	18,692.86
FICA W/H PAYABLE		(3.65)
FEDERAL W/H PAYABLE		10,843.78
STATE W/H PAYABLE		3,418.74
PENSION PLAN PAYABLE		3,821.44
DEFERRED COMP PAYABLE		1,143.77
GARNISHMENT PAYABLE		190.16
SUSPENSE		<u>2,187.01</u>
Total Current Liabilities		40,294.10
Long-Term Liabilities		
Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities		40,294.10
Capital		
FUND EQUITY		2,175,344.19
Net Income		<u>(979,651.16)</u>
Total Capital		<u>1,195,693.03</u>
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	<u><u>1,235,987.13</u></u>

William F. Laman Public Library
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

Revenues	Current Month		Year to Date	
	\$		\$	
Transfer from Paypal	0.00	0.00	66.16	0.00
PULASKI COUNTY MILLAGE	28,454.73	7.58	2,874,535.54	80.64
UNDISTRIBUTED FUNDS	0.00	0.00	9,760.00	0.27
UNDISTRIBUTED FUNDS/ARG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
STATE SALES TAX	0.00	0.00	156,707.77	4.40
STATE OF ARKANSAS AID	29,775.00	7.93	124,250.58	3.49
GRANTS - FEDERAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	2,350.00	0.07
GRANTS - MISC./ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAM/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FINES	4,876.43	1.30	30,962.40	0.87
FINES/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	1,678.33	0.05
MICROFILM/FICHE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MICROFILM/FICHE - ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COPIER	0.00	0.00	15,665.38	0.44
COPIER/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	506.93	0.01
ROOM RENTAL	0.00	0.00	4,345.15	0.12
PASSPORT INCOME	0.00	0.00	537.50	0.02
ENDOWMENT INCOME	0.00	0.00	26.50	0.00
FAX INCOME	0.00	0.00	8,081.45	0.23
FAX INCOME/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	307.00	0.01
EAR BUDS	0.00	0.00	1,174.00	0.03
PRINT COPY	0.00	0.00	716.25	0.02
PRINT COPY/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	143.70	0.00
GUEST CARDS	0.00	0.00	11,961.20	0.34
GUEST CARDS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	357.95	0.01
BOOK REFUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOK REFUND/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	19.00	0.00
LOST BOOKS	0.00	0.00	2,890.17	0.08
LOST BOOKS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	126.82	0.00
OUT OF COUNTY CARDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUNDRY INCOME	312,358.65	83.17	313,902.39	8.81
SUNDRY INCOME/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	276.15	0.01
COFFEE SHOP LEASE INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	773.95	0.02
DONATIONS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MEMORIALS	0.00	0.00	1,110.00	0.03
MEMORIALS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INTEREST-CENTENNIAL BANK	98.82	0.03	1,147.47	0.03
FLASH DRIVES -SALES	0.00	0.00	330.00	0.01
CD INTEREST	0.00	0.00	61.57	0.00
Total Revenues	375,563.63	100.00	3,564,771.31	100.00
Cost of Sales				
Total Cost of Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross Profit	375,563.63	100.00	3,564,771.31	100.00
Expenses				
EXPENSES	841.51	0.22	40,680.32	1.14
BINDERY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BINDERY/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUSIC CD'S - CHILDREN'S	0.00	0.00	38.56	0.00

For Management Purposes Only

William F. Laman Public Library
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

	Current Month		Year to Date	
BOOKS - ADULT	910.12	0.24	28,582.03	0.80
BOOKS - ADULT/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	21,816.66	0.61
BRANCH MATERIALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOKS - ADULT REFERENCE	0.00	0.00	2,327.54	0.07
BKS-ADULT REF./ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COPIERS	2,250.05	0.60	21,219.99	0.60
COPIERS/ARGENTA	324.42	0.09	2,519.33	0.07
BOOKS - CHILDRENS + REF	0.00	0.00	13,268.26	0.37
BKS-CHILDREN'S/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	14,135.36	0.40
MUSIC CD'S	0.00	0.00	1,648.32	0.05
AUDIO BOOKS	289.62	0.08	38,016.48	1.07
AUDIO BOOKS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	1,576.39	0.04
VIDEO - CHILDREN'S	0.00	0.00	721.65	0.02
VIDEO - CHILDREN'S/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	47.46	0.00
VIDEO	0.00	0.00	4,161.44	0.12
VIDEO/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	1,258.89	0.04
OCLC/AMIGOS	0.00	0.00	25,309.40	0.71
REFERENCE DATABASES	346.23	0.09	38,595.49	1.08
REF. DATABASES/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UPGRADE/REPLACEMENT	0.00	0.00	2,308.43	0.06
UPGRADE & REPLACEMENT/ARGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETINGS	0.00	0.00	45.00	0.00
CONT. ED-AM LIB A- /ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONTINUING ED - STAFF DEV	0.00	0.00	566.00	0.02
BRANCH STAFF DEVELOPMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HOME BOUND SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREDIT CARD FEES	0.00	0.00	1,821.73	0.05
BANK FEES	15.00	0.00	326.36	0.01
Finance Charges	0.00	0.00	197.26	0.01
Penalties	0.00	0.00	455.69	0.01
FUEL	0.00	0.00	161.94	0.00
FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT	0.00	0.00	130.49	0.00
FURN.& EQUIP./ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE-BLDG	0.00	0.00	14,400.00	0.40
INSURANCE-BLDG/ARG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE - AMER FAM LIFE	(1,473.20)	(0.39)	(3,850.95)	(0.11)
INSURANCE-AFLAC/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE - MUN HEA FUND	12,939.46	3.45	148,065.20	4.15
INSURANCE-MHBF/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	23,041.50	0.65
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.00	393.15	0.01
BLDG.IMPROVEMENTS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	586.49	0.02
MAINTENANCE - BUILDING	4,015.06	1.07	125,474.58	3.52
MAINT. BLDG/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	17,069.03	0.48
MAINTENANCE - LANDSCAPE	1,150.00	0.31	20,525.00	0.58
MAINT. LANDSCAPE/ARGENTA	590.33	0.16	4,722.64	0.13
MAINTENANCE - FURN & EQUI	0.00	0.00	3,846.68	0.11
MAINT. FURN. & EQUIP./ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.02
SUNDRY EXPENSE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUPPLIES - JANITORIAL	0.00	0.00	10,839.06	0.30
SUPPLIES - JANITORIAL/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	1,294.57	0.04
SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE	3,141.98	0.84	106,524.25	2.99
SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE/ARGENT	0.00	0.00	8,140.37	0.23
MICROFORMS	0.00	0.00	7,960.00	0.22
MICROFORMS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOND PAYMENT	689,488.31	183.59	1,109,017.99	31.11
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT/ARGENT	0.00	0.00	739,753.33	20.75
MISCELLANEOUS	270.94	0.07	4,147.52	0.12
MISCELLANEOUS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	154.77	0.00

For Management Purposes Only

William F. Laman Public Library
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

	Current Month		Year to Date	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	1,644.30	0.44	22,445.00	0.63
PAYROLL TAXES - ESD	0.00	0.00	2,358.37	0.07
SALES/USE TAX	0.00	0.00	3,797.86	0.11
PAYROLL TAXES EXP	6,504.40	1.73	111,753.78	3.13
PAYROLL TAXES- EXP/ARGENTA	171.68	0.05	2,230.37	0.06
HUMAN RESOURCES	0.00	0.00	1,319.65	0.04
HUMAN RESOURCES/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	493.81	0.01
PENSION PLAN	4,631.21	1.23	71,162.72	2.00
PENSION PLAN/ARGENTA	143.10	0.04	1,858.56	0.05
DEF COMP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HEALTH CLINIC	0.00	0.00	6,226.72	0.17
PERIODICALS	0.00	0.00	7,262.67	0.20
PERIODICALS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADULT SUMMER READING	0.00	0.00	270.63	0.01
ADULT SUMMER READING/ARGEN	0.00	0.00	1,086.44	0.03
POSTAGE	0.00	0.00	4,757.00	0.13
POSTAGE/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAMS-LAMANPALOOZA	0.00	0.00	12,902.18	0.36
PROGRAMS - ADULT	2,640.00	0.70	55,909.19	1.57
PROGRAMS-ADULT/ARGENTA	40.00	0.01	16,232.82	0.46
ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION	4,445.00	1.18	90,356.66	2.53
ADV.& PROMOTION/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	184.45	0.01
PROGRAMS - CHILDREN	0.00	0.00	7,960.79	0.22
PROGRAMS-CHILDREN/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	3,020.96	0.08
GAMING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GAMING-ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGES - FULL	63,912.90	17.02	1,049,782.35	29.45
SALARIES & WAGES-FULL/ARGEN	6,783.30	1.81	92,789.51	2.60
SALARIES & WAGES - PART	15,783.62	4.20	141,389.02	3.97
SALARIES & WAGE-PART/ARGENT	2,486.76	0.66	41,781.10	1.17
SALARIES & WAGES - GARN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGES-GARN./ARGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Temporary Help	0.00	0.00	1,863.05	0.05
SUPPLIES - OFFICE	661.28	0.18	15,167.19	0.43
SUPPLIES-OFFICE/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	1,537.66	0.04
SUPPLIES- TECH SERVICES	554.10	0.15	2,775.98	0.08
DATA LINE	2,452.78	0.65	11,782.54	0.33
DATA LINE/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	3,068.89	0.09
UTILITIES - ELECTRIC	7,003.59	1.86	93,556.97	2.62
UTILITIES-ELECTRIC/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	19,863.95	0.56
CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE	460.78	0.12	8,117.89	0.23
UTILITIES - GAS	928.08	0.25	8,182.61	0.23
UTILITIES - GAS/ARGENTA	233.93	0.06	3,321.35	0.09
UTILITIES - WATER	1,277.73	0.34	17,764.90	0.50
UTILITIES-WATER/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	2,163.23	0.06
WORKMEN'S COMP.	0.00	0.00	1,282.00	0.04
WORKMEN'S COMP./ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UNDISTRIBUTED FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	<u>837,858.37</u>	<u>223.09</u>	<u>4,544,422.47</u>	<u>127.48</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ (462,294.74)</u>	<u>(123.09)</u>	<u>\$ (979,651.16)</u>	<u>(27.48)</u>

For Management Purposes Only

Service Account & Endowment Fund
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2014

ASSETS

Current Assets		
SERVICE ACCOUNT-CENTENNIAL	\$	75,315.24
ENDOWMENT FUND - CENTENNIAL		5,250.60
		<u>80,565.84</u>
Total Current Assets		80,565.84
Property and Equipment		
		<u>0.00</u>
Total Property and Equipment		0.00
Other Assets		
		<u>0.00</u>
Total Other Assets		0.00
Total Assets	\$	<u><u>80,565.84</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities		
		<u>0.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities		0.00
Long-Term Liabilities		
		<u>0.00</u>
Total Long-Term Liabilities		0.00
Total Liabilities		0.00
Capital		
FUND EQUITY	\$	39,044.52
Net Income		41,521.32
		<u>80,565.84</u>
Total Capital		80,565.84
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	<u><u>80,565.84</u></u>

Service Account & Endowment Fund
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

	Current Month		Year to Date	
Revenues				
STATE OF ARKANSAS AID	\$ 0.00	0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00
GRANTS - FEDERAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GRANTS - MISC.- ARGENTA BRANC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FINES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FINES-ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MICROFILM/FICHE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MICROFILM/FICHE ARGENTA BRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COPIER	0.00	0.00	1,575.00	1.62
COPIER-ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROOM RENTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PASSPORT INCOME	3,055.00	94.24	91,543.30	94.01
DONATED BOOK SALES	180.00	5.55	3,723.56	3.82
BOOK BAGS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOK REFUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOK REFUND-ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LOST BOOKS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LOST BOOKS-ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OUT OF COUNTY CARDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUNDRY INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUNDRY INCOME-ARGENTA BRAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DONATIONS-ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MEMORIALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MEMORIALS-ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TICKET SALES/TALES	0.00	0.00	480.00	0.49
INTEREST - CD'S	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INTEREST-BANK OF AMERICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INTEREST-CENTENNIAL	6.72	0.21	57.24	0.06
INTEREST-USBANK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues	<u>3,241.72</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>97,379.10</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Cost of Sales				
Total Cost of Sales	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Gross Profit	<u>3,241.72</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>97,379.10</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Expenses				
EXPENSES	594.07	18.33	594.07	0.61
SERVICE ACCOUNT EXPENSE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ENDOWMENT FUND EXPENSE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BINDERY/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOKS - ADULT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOKS - ADULT/ARGENTA BRANC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BRANCH MATERIALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOOKS - ADULT REFERENCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BKS-ADULT REF./ARGENTA BRAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COPIERS	0.00	0.00	424.72	0.44
BOOKS - CHILDRENS + REF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BKS-CHILDREN'S/ARGENTA BRAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUSIC CD'S	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUSIC CD'S/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AUDIO BOOKS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AUDIO BOOKS/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

For Management Purposes Only

Service Account & Endowment Fund
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

	Current Month		Year to Date	
VIDEO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
VIDEO/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OCLC/AMIGOS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
REFERENCE DATABASES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
REF. DATABASES/ARGENTA BRAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UPGRADE/REPLACEMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UPGRADE/REPLACEMENT/ARGENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Library Association Meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONT. ED-AM LIB A- /ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONTINUING ED - STAFF DEV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONT.ED-STAFF DEV/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	0.00	0.00	44,215.27	45.41
CREDIT CARD FEES	0.00	0.00	1,782.69	1.83
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS	0.00	0.00	219.06	0.22
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FURN.&EQUIP./ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BANK FEES	132.81	4.10	177.81	0.18
INSURANCE - AMER FAM LIFE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE-AFLAC/ARGENTA BR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE - UNUM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE - MUN HEA FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSURANCE-MHBF/ARGENTA BRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BLDG.IMPROVEMENTS/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINTENANCE - BUILDING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINT. BLDG/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINTENANCE - LANDSCAPE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINT. LANDSCAPE/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINTENANCE - FURN & EQUI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MAINT. FURN. & EQUIP./ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INTERNET ACCESS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INTERNET ACCESS/ARGENTA BRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUPPLIES - JANITORIAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUPPLIES - JANITORIAL/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE-BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MICROFORMS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MICROFORMS/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	81.87	2.53	81.87	0.08
MISCELLANEOUS/ARGENTA BRAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEGAL SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PAYROLL TAXES - ESD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PAYROLL TAXES - FICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PAYROLL TAXES- FICA/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HUMAN RESOURCES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PENSION PLAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PENSION PLAN/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PERIODICALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PERIODICALS/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
POSTAGE	0.00	0.00	1,074.79	1.10
POSTAGE/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAMS - ADULT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAMS-ADULT/ARGENTA BRA	0.00	0.00	3,493.57	3.59
ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADV.& PROMOTION/ARGENTA BR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAMS - CHILDREN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROGRAMS-CHILDREN/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

For Management Purposes Only

Service Account & Endowment Fund
Income Statement
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2014

	Current Month		Year to Date	
SALARIES & WAGES - FULL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGES-FULL/ARGEN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGES - PART	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGE-PART/ARGENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGES - GARN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SALARIES & WAGES-GARN./ARGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUPPLIES - OFFICE	0.00	0.00	3,793.93	3.90
SUPPLIES-OFFICE/ARGENTA BRAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TELEPHONE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TELEPHONE/ARGENTA BRANCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES - ELECTRIC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES-ELECTRIC/ARGENTA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES - GAS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES - GAS/ARGENTA BRANC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES - WATER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES-WATER/ARGENTA BRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WORKMEN'S COMP.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WORKMEN'S COMP./ARGENTA BR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total Expenses	808.75	24.95	55,857.78	57.36
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net Income	\$ 2,432.97	75.05	\$ 41,521.32	42.64
	<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>	

For Management Purposes Only

Comparison of Item Circulation by Collection

2010 - 2014

Library Collection	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
CD Music	11,526	12,682	11,992	10,186	7,080
CD-Book	14,106	14,910	13,860	13,049	11,950
Childrens Board Book	794	1,045	1,579	2,834	3,445
Childrens CD-Book	1,820	1,733	1,519	1,155	1,125
Childrens DVD	17,855	17,174	14,277	13,030	11,264
Childrens Easy	29,837	31,794	29,246	27,476	24,759
Childrens Fiction	12,228	11,797	10,295	9,537	9,326
Childrens Graphic Novel	2,842	2,365	2,445	2,150	2,403
Childrens Large Print	87	80	95	72	92
Childrens Music	1,110	1,468	1,164	1,088	882
Childrens Non-Fiction	13,041	13,183	11,382	11,157	10,206
Childrens Paperback - Easy	1,822	2,219	1,974	1,588	1,149
Childrens Paperback - Juvenile	6,232	5,639	4,683	4,722	4,265
Childrens Parent Child Collection	471	485	367	320	171
Childrens Purple Line	4,147	3,404	2,802	2,497	2,469
Childrens Step-Up Collection	1,114	982	1,015	1,087	1,089
DVD	23,029	25,619	28,816	27,028	24,253
Fiction	32,861	29,519	26,238	22,753	22,338
Graphic Novel	2,818	2,427	2,939	2,330	2,178
Large Print	14,411	14,550	14,685	13,098	12,335
Non Fiction	25,344	23,754	21,993	19,087	17,168
Teen DVD	0	0	3,341	3,937	4,003
Teen Fiction	0	0	1,266	1,027	1,403
Teen Graphic Novel	0	0	1,651	1,812	1,533
Teen Non-Fiction	0	0	172	137	149
Teen Paperback	0	0	833	913	602
TOTALS	217,495	216,829	210,629	194,070	177,637

Public Services Statistics

January - December 2014

	Main	Argenta	Totals
Patrons			
Number of Registered Patrons	38,128	1,501	39,629
Number of Active Patrons in 2014	8,911	1,305	9,330
Number of Expired Patrons	24,272	639	24,911
Patrons added in 2014	7,368	576	7,944

Circulation			
Check Outs (including renewals)	183,891	17,956	201,847
Unique Items Checked Out	60,361	6,339	66,700
Holds Placed	7,806	1,168	8,974

ORS - Out Reach Services (Homebound)			
Items Circulated for Homebound	3,033		3,033
Patron Visits - Homebound	529		529
Active Homebound Patrons (12/31/14)	34		34

Circulation by Patron Category			
Adult	130,335	13,191	143,526
Juvenile	33,056	3,077	36,133
Homebound	3,526	59	3,585
NLR Employees	27	0	27
Teacher	126	0	126
Non-Resident - Adult	75	0	75
Non-Resident - Juvenile	3	0	3
Gateway - Adult	1,684	9	1,693
Gateway - Juvenile	91	8	99
Staff	7,533	1,146	8,679
Teen	7,433	463	7,896
E-Patron Cards	2	3	5
TOTALS	183,891	17,956	201,847

Public Questions			
General Questions	266,278	6,452	272,730

Entrance Door Counts			
Door Counts	332,052	58,566	390,618

William F. Laman Public Library System

Daily / Hourly Circulation

January - December 2014

Main Library

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Totals
9am - 10am		1402	1498	1653	1301	1193	1380	8427
10am - 11am		2146	2668	2606	2164	1980	2689	14253
11am - 12pm		2922	3805	3168	2788	2544	3030	18257
12pm - 1pm		3515	2666	2724	2280	2353	3606	17144
1pm - 2pm	1620	2761	3728	2958	3068	3102	3918	21155
2pm - 3pm	1929	3050	3069	3104	2828	2645	4102	20727
3pm - 4pm	1858	3382	3915	3277	2728	3596	3716	22472
4pm - 5pm	1704	3760	3573	3319	3447	3617	3635	23055
5pm - 6pm		3239	3047	3090	2765			12141
6pm - 7pm		2579	2402	2268	2265			9514
7pm - 8pm		1640	1478	1520	1510			6148
8pm - 9pm		582	603	516	506			2207
Totals	7111	30978	32452	30203	27650	21030	26076	175500

Argenta Branch

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Totals
9am - 10am								0
10am - 11am		342	279	198	197	220	429	1665
11am - 12pm		363	383	270	427	187	585	2215
12pm - 1pm		370	319	312	309	342	492	2144
1pm - 2pm		391	330	256	276	299	343	1895
2pm - 3pm		308	368	329	297	318	321	1941
3pm - 4pm		416	293	304	490	361	349	2213
4pm - 5pm		431	442	441	423	354	390	2481
5pm - 6pm		462	456	380	331	380	308	2317
6pm - 7pm								0
7pm - 8pm								0
8pm - 9pm								0
Totals	0	3083	2870	2490	2750	2461	3217	16871

Digital Resources Usage

January-December 2014

Downloadable eBooks and Audiobooks

	OverDrive	Axis360	Freegal	Hoopla
Registered Patrons	4,029	225	332	467
Titles/Files Accessed (checkouts)	15,979	375	9,111	3,252
Available eBook Titles	3,692	1,450		
Available eAudio Titles	3,017			
Available Streaming Music Titles			1,000,000+	186,727
Available Streaming Audiobook Titles				13,510
Available Streaming Video Titles				6,232

Databases (Laman Library Subscriptions)

	Sessions	Searches	2014 Cost	
Grolier Online	2,971	1,799	\$3,085.00	
ProQuest - Hist News - NYT	520	520	\$6,075.00	
HeritageQuest	5,406	16,933	\$1,650.00	
Arkansas Historical Sanborn Maps	23	1,906	\$650.00	
NewspaperARCHIVE	107	620	\$5,000.00	
Ancestry.com		44,060	\$1,175.00	
CultureGrams Online	10	156	\$2,509.00	
U.S. Statistical Abstracts	6	6	\$685.00	
Gale - Arkansas Legal Forms	285	285	\$4,300.00	
Gale - Testing and Education Ref Ctr	414	86	\$3,620.00	
EBSCO - Auto Repair	37	61	\$3,407.00	
EBSCO Masterfile Premier	459	1,549	State Library	
EBSCO Newspaper Source	420	1,438	State Library	
EBSCO Academic Search Elite	366	1,300	State Library	
World Book Online	179	154	\$750.00	
Novelist Plus	615	1,835	\$1,996.00	
Novelist Plus K-8	146	546	\$1,996.00	
Freegal Music		9,111	\$7,300.00	

Digital Resources Usage

January-December 2014

Downloadable eBooks and Audiobooks

	OverDrive	Axis360	Freegal	Hoopla	Zinio
Registered Patrons	4,029	225	332	467	453
Titles/Files Accessed (checkouts)	15,979	375	9,111	3,252	5,596
Available eBook Titles	3,692	1,450			171
Available eAudio Titles	3,017				
Available Streaming Music Titles			1,000,000+	186,727	
Available Streaming Audiobook Titles				13,510	
Available Streaming Video Titles				6,232	

Databases (Laman Library Subscriptions)

	Sessions	Searches	2014 Cost	Cost per Search
Grolier Online	2,971	1,799	\$3,085.00	\$1.71
ProQuest - Hist News - NYT	520	520	\$6,075.00	\$11.68
HeritageQuest	5,406	16,933	\$1,650.00	\$0.10
Arkansas Historical Sanborn Maps	23	1,906	\$650.00	\$0.34
NewspaperARCHIVE	107	620	\$5,000.00	\$8.06
Ancestry.com		44,060	\$1,175.00	\$0.03
CultureGrams Online	10	156	\$2,509.00	\$16.08
U.S. Statistical Abstracts	6	6	\$685.00	\$114.17
Gale - Arkansas Legal Forms	285	285	\$4,300.00	\$15.09
Gale - Testing and Education Ref Ctr	414	86	\$3,620.00	\$42.09
EBSCO - Auto Repair	37	61	\$3,407.00	\$55.85
EBSCO Masterfile Premier	459	1,549	State Library	
EBSCO Newspaper Source	420	1,438	State Library	
EBSCO Academic Search Elite	366	1,300	State Library	
World Book Online	179	154	\$750.00	\$4.87
Novelist Plus	615	1,835	\$1,996.00	\$1.09
Novelist Plus K-8	146	546	\$1,996.00	\$3.66
Freegal Music		9,111	\$7,300.00	\$0.80

Passport

The U.S. Department of State Passport Services, Passport Application Acceptance Program renewed the Library as an acceptance facility for 2015. All eight agents' certifications have been renewed.

The library accepted 3,432 passports in 2014 more passport in than any other year. The library was a one of seven libraries in the US that was asked take part in a pilot program were customers were asked to respond to a survey designed to understand customer preferences about services at acceptance facilities. Two things that showed up as being important to customs were photo services and walk-in availability. We do both already.

2014 Public Sector Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas Award

The Argenta Branch of the William F. Laman Public Library was awarded the Public Sector Award for "Excellence In Preservation Through Rehabilitation" by the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas Friday evening January 9, 2015 at it 2014 Awards program. Mary Furlough, Interim Director accepted the award on behalf of the library system. Representatives from Allison Architects and a CBM Construction Company, INC. were also present at the program.

Happy
Holidays

Happy
Holidays

To the working
And Home Libraries

Wishing you a

Very Merry
Christmas,

and a

Happy New
Year!

Thank you for
your service!

You are
Appreciated!
From
Spaulding

Mary Furlough

From: Debra Wood
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2015 11:15 AM
To: nhamilton@nlr.ar.gov
Cc: Mary Furlough
Subject: Addendum to previous message...

Hi Nathan,

In the list I sent you regarding the exhibits, please note I have just received word that the Mid-America Arts Alliance has secured funding for us that will cover the exhibit cost and shipping for "Step Right Up" (about the history of the circus). In my other message, I mentioned that they were also securing funding for the Prohibition exhibit. So we will now be getting both of those exhibitions at no cost other than the deposit already paid on the circus exhibit. The Prohibition exhibit had no deposit, as it is an "NEH on the Road" exhibit. Those have a flat rate of \$1,000 for the exhibit and \$1,000 for shipping. The National Endowment for the Humanities pays anything in excess of those costs. However, we will be getting that at zero cost to us.

Hope I am getting this to you in time. I just found out myself. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,
Debra

Debra S. Wood

Exhibits and Events Manager

William F. Laman Public Library

2801 Orange Street

North Little Rock, AR 72114

Office: 501.771.1995 extension 105

debra.wood@lamanlibrary.org

**Media Report
Board of Trustees
1/12/15**

Print

- | | Date |
|---|-------------|
| • Arkansas Democratic Gazette
Library's '15 exhibits stay on calendar | 12/9 |
| • Arkansas Democratic Gazette
Editorial - Cracks in a gem | 12/11 |
| • Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
NLR mayor says city to prop up its libraries | 12/17 |
| • Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
NLR library to revamp 2 loans | 12/31 |

TV

- | | |
|--|-------|
| • Fox – 16
Morning Show Interview
Live At Laman and Healthcare Enrollment Event | 12/9 |
| • KARK
New story
NLR Library Employees Facing Layoffs | 12/22 |
| • THV
News story
My Town Hero:
Librarian creates safe, fun learning environment for teens | 12/29 |

Internet/Blog

- | | |
|--|------|
| • Eye Candy Blog
2015 'Small Works' artists announced | 12/8 |
|--|------|

2015 'Small Works' artists announced

Eye Candy Blog

Leslie Newell Peacock (12/8)

Forty works by 29 artists were accepted into the 28th annual 2015 "Small Works on Paper" touring exhibition, the Arkansas Arts Council announced today. The complete list is here. There were eight purchase award winners: J.P. Bell of Fayetteville; Warren Criswell of Benton; Dennis McCann of Maumelle; Jennifer D. Perren of Mabelvale; Megan Snoddy of Jacksonville; Dan Snow of Springdale, and Jon Shannon Rogers and Byron Taylor of Little Rock.

The show will open Jan. 3 at the William F. Laman Library, 2801 Orange St., the first of 10 stops it will make in 2015. There will be a reception for the artists from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Jan. 9 at the library. The show runs through Jan. 27 there.

Juror for the show was Eleana Del Rio, owner of the Koplín Del Rio Gallery in Culver City, Calif. Del Rio also was juror for the Arkansas Arts Center's Delta Exhibition in 2008, and the gallery represents Huge Works on Paper artist David Bailin.

Library's '15 exhibits stay on calendar

NLR system obligated to host displays despite budget crunch, director says

Jake Sandlin (12/9) - Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Five national traveling exhibits will still make stops in 2015 at William F. Laman Library in North Little Rock as scheduled, despite budgetary cutbacks in staff, hours and programs already underway at the library's two locations, the library's board of trustees was told Monday.

The William F. Laman Public Library System is contractually obligated to go ahead with the scheduled exhibits because those are set 12-18 months ahead of time. Otherwise, the library system would lose its deposits and be charged to relocate the items, interim Director Mary Furlough told the board. Such exhibits, available for free to library visitors, can cost the library thousands of dollars in rental fees to schedule.

The board also plans to consider at its January meeting a proposal by the Argenta Arts Foundation to let that group underwrite such high-quality exhibits so those can continue in the future. Library administrators announced less than three weeks ago that financial stress in the library system would mean cancellation of all of the scheduled national exhibits in 2015 in favor of showcasing local artists' works. A reduction in library hours took effect Dec. 1, and 11 staff members are to lose their jobs Jan. 1.

An income statement given to the board Monday showed the public library system's total revenue through the year's first 11 months to be \$516,815 less than its expenses. The exhibits for 2015 will be: "Mail Call," from the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, Feb. 7-April 19; "The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases from a State Hospital Attic," April 24-June 6; "Spirited: Prohibition in America," June 16-Aug. 11; "Step Right Up: Behind the Scenes of the Circus Big Top (1890-1965)," Sept. 1-Oct. 20; and "Infamy: December 7, 1941," a photographic exhibit from the National World War II Museum in New Orleans about the Pearl Harbor attack, Oct. 30-Dec. 7. There will also be the Arkansas Arts Council's "Small Works on Paper" exhibit Jan. 3-27, featuring original works by Arkansas artists, but that is funded by the Arkansas Art Center, Furlough said.

"We will still have all of them next year because the contracts are done so far out," Furlough said after the meeting. "We found out we are locked into them, and we're past the date to change it. If we canceled, we would also have to pay for storage and shipping until they could go somewhere else." The exhibits to continue will only be at the main library at 2801 Orange St. Other exhibits planned at the

smaller gallery area at the Argenta Branch at 420 Main St., are still canceled, Furlough said. The branch opened in April and didn't yet have a long-term exhibition schedule.

The exhibit halls through November have drawn 13,599 visitors at the main library and 15,700 at the Argenta branch in downtown, according to a chart given to the board Monday. The libraries have had 365,371 patrons total through the first 11 months this year. "Two or three" exhibits have been scheduled for the main library in 2016 already, Furlough told the board, but she wants to cancel those, instead of waiting to see if finances improve over the next year. Furlough became interim director when longtime Executive Director Jeff Baskin was diagnosed in July with an advanced stage of cancer. Baskin died Sept. 9.

"We need to get those canceled," Furlough said. "I want to cancel and be done with it." Keeping "high-quality" national exhibits available to Laman patrons is the goal of a proposal by the nonprofit Argenta Arts Foundation, Furlough told the board. The summarized proposal contained conditions, including being a one-year contract and the library hosting private viewings for sponsors, to which board members weren't immediately agreeable. The proposal was tabled until next month's meeting.

"Some of it is good, and some I am opposed to," said board member Nancy White, who also suggested a subcommittee to consider the idea of giving up total control of the exhibits. "I'm a little leery of people coming in from outside [the library system]."

EDITORIALS

Cracks in a gem

One (not so fine) day at the library (12/11)

A library can be a lot like a favorite fishing hole. Everybody has his own—and sees no reason to noise it about. Why have to share it with a whole crowd? Some things are discussed only among friends, and then only in a whisper. As if you were in a library. So when a friend recommended a book the other day, we thought we'd mosey on over to the Laman Library in North Little Rock, a gem of a peach of a find of a library.

We've been moseying on over there for years, and so apparently have a lot of you. The paper reported just the other day that the library system had 365,000-plus people visit it so far this year. Three-hundred and sixty-five thousand. Folks, that's more than the total number of deer hunters (right at 300,000) who are expected to hunt in Arkansas this season. When you're sprinting ahead of deer hunting in Arkansas, you're doing something right.

The pros who've run the Laman Library all these years have been doing a lot of things right. That crew includes the late and sorely missed Jeff Baskin, the visionary who led the library for most of three decades. When he died over the summer, some of us thought, well, of course there'd be some changes. But not this much change.

The news came in November: The money owed to buy and renovate the beautiful Argenta branch of the library—an ornate old post office building that's as expensive as it is lovely has put the library's finances in a bind. So much so that some of the staff are being let go. And the library's hours have been cut back. That \$10,000 writer's fellowship? It's gone. And, until this week, all exhibits were canceled.

Oh, no, not the exhibits. Some of us enjoyed the Carroll Cloar show over the summer, not to mention the one of rare Beatles photographs. Unfortunately for the library's already overwhelmed bookkeepers (if fortunately for the rest of us), the already scheduled exhibitions will continue through next year. Because deposits would be lost otherwise. (Subjects still on the library's schedule of exhibits: Prohibition in America this coming summer, then, in the following winter, an exhibition of photographs from the

World War II Museum in New Orleans about Pearl Harbor.) But what many of us enjoy most about Laman is the people who work there.

Remember your old librarian from school? The formidable one with her hair in a bun and the solemn glare on her face who shushed anybody who dared clear his throat? She would have retired, circa 1978. What a contrast with the librarians at Laman: They ask what you're reading, and ask you to tell them how you liked the book you're checking out when you bring it back. Someday, remind us to tell you about the time when the girl of the house asked for a teen-angst book written years ago by a writer few people have heard of. The young lady behind the counter took us straight to the darned book a hundred feet away. Without any need to consult a database or computer file. She knew the William F. Laman Library like her own living room.

We thought about all that while sitting in one of the library's offices Tuesday afternoon talking with those who've been running the numbers. *You think these people at the library are your friends?* Asks Chris Thompson, an assistant director at Laman. *Okay, but they're our family.* She spends part of her day helping the soon-to-be unemployed at the library find work. The interim director who took over after Mr. Baskin died, Mary Furlough, said the library has cut cleaning contracts, expenses for IT contracts, and even some databases for research in an effort to save money. Now the library will be closed Sundays, too. All because that lovely Argenta building won't be paid off till 2023.

What a mess. Or as the chairman of the library's board, Ron Oliver, told the newspaper a few weeks ago: "I think the good news is it appears we have the money to pay everything. The bad news is we don't have much left after that. It appears to me too much was spent on the downtown branch. We've been running into problems with that old building. They kept telling us that we'd run into heating and air-conditioning problems that we didn't anticipate. It's been constantly something over there."

If there's a bit of good news—and only a bit—it's that the Argenta Arts Foundation, bless it, has offered to help with a proposal to keep the exhibits going. The library's board is looking over the proposal and its conditions.

So once again, for the umpteenth time, we walked out of the Laman Library with a pile of books under our arm. Only this time not with such a spring in our step. In a few weeks, come January 1st, almost a dozen employees in that building will be holding other jobs. Or be at home. And on Sundays, the tables and chairs upstairs in the fiction section will be empty. The folks running the place don't see any better options for now, and there may not be any. At least not for years. Note to self: Check to make sure we don't owe any overdue fees at Laman. It'd be a shame if we were even a small part of the problem.

NLR mayor says city to prop up its libraries

Jake Sandlin (12/17) - Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

With its public libraries in financial difficulty, North Little Rock's city government will start lending assistance to the William F. Laman Library System to save on library expenses and maintain its programs, Mayor Joe Smith said Tuesday. Smith met with library personnel Friday to examine what assistance the city could provide to help the library with its problems and keep many programs alive. The library doesn't receive operations funding from the city and is also independent of the Central Arkansas Library System based in Little Rock.

We're going to help them through figuring out their cash-flow issue," Smith said. "Right now, we're looking at the financial stability of the library and trying to do a two- to five-year plan so we can see what we can do. We're going to try to treat the library as if it were a quasi-city department." Late last month, library administrators announced that because of budgetary concerns they needed to reduce

hours at both the main library, 2801 Orange St., and the Argenta Branch, 420 Main St., effective Dec. 1. They also announced the elimination of 11 staff positions starting Jan. 1 and the end of many programs and exhibits in 2015 and 2016.

Five national exhibits for next year at the main Laman Library's exhibit hall, it was announced last week, would have to be retained because of contractual obligations and prepaid deposits. However, on Monday, the library canceled "Infamy: Dec. 7, 1941", a photographic exhibition about the Pearl Harbor attack, set to be rented from the National World War II Museum in New Orleans and scheduled for Oct. 30-Dec. 7. It was set to be the year's fifth and final exhibit. No national exhibits will be held at the Argenta branch next year. All of 2016's planned exhibits have been canceled for both libraries.

The "Infamy" exhibit costs \$3,000 in rental fees with half of that cost due at its reservation, according to exhibition contracts released Tuesday by the library. Because the cancellation is almost a year in advance, the library could retain its deposit if the exhibit can be scheduled elsewhere. The contract was signed May 6 by former Laman Library Director Jeff Baskin, who died in September. Under an arrangement with North Little Rock, the city finance department, maintenance staff and city attorney's office can assist the library system to prevent it from needing to outsource the type of work they provide.

"There are so many things we can do for the library that won't cost anything," Smith said. "We feel very confident that the library will be able to maintain most all of their programs with the city's support." Also, the city — or more specifically, the mayor — will now serve as the Laman Library System's spokesman. Media questions Tuesday were referred to the mayor's office. "We felt like it would be in good partnership and be best for one person to speak to the media, instead of five of us," Smith said. "That would be me."

The mayor also said he wants to examine a restructuring of bonds used to finance the purchase and construction of the former post office building that was renovated into the Argenta Branch library in an effort to help with the library's cash-flow problem. The branch opened in April. Interim Director Mary Furlough and board of trustees Chairman Ron Oliver said last month that much of the financial difficulties are attributed to the \$3.5 million Argenta Branch that was costly to renovate. The 83-year-old building also has had some unexpected costs for maintenance.

The library has about \$680,000 in monthly bond payments, two on the Argenta branch and one on the main branch, with the latter debt to be retired in 2017. The library makes its payments to the North Little Rock Public Building Authority, which was used to acquire the loans. Smith said he expects to meet with the library board after a restructuring.

"I think we can make it all happen," Smith said. "I think we can save them a tremendous amount of money." Those savings won't be seen fast enough to save the 11 lost jobs or return the library to full hours anytime soon, he said. "What they've done, we will continue that for the next quarter," he said. "At least until I get everything worked out on the cash flow, then we could be looking at the possibility of adding people or adding hours or adding programs. Everything is going in the right direction. Laman Library is something for us to be proud of and that's not going to change."



The Argenta Branch of the William F. Laman Library System is shown in this March file photo. North Little Rock's libraries are facing financial problems, and Mayor Joe Smith said he would like to look at the possibility of restructuring bonds used to buy and renovate the Argenta Branch building.

NLR library to revamp 2 loans

City Hall-led effort pares \$624,716 in payments over 2 years

Jake Sandlin (12/31) - Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

A restructuring of two loans for the Argenta Branch Library will put back nearly \$625,000 over the next two years into the financially troubled William F. Laman Public Library System under an agreement library trustees and North Little Rock city officials worked out in a special meeting Tuesday.

The new loan structure, if formally approved as expected by Centennial Bank, city officials said, would have the North Little Rock Public Building Authority pay interest-only annual payments due Thursday and Jan. 1, 2016. The difference of \$312,358 in each of the new payments in 2015 and 2016 — \$624,716 over the two years — is to go back into the library's operations, Mayor Joe Smith said, providing the independent public library system with additional cash on hand.

The city also will request that two bond payments, both due Jan. 1, 2023, be extended to 2025, which would eliminate balloon payments in 2023 of \$282,610 and \$922,381 on the two loans, respectively. The extended two years would add \$38,208 to the payments for the charged interest over the two additional years, city Finance Director Karen Scott said. The library pays the loan amount to the city's Public Building Authority, which obtained the loans and then pays the bank. A separate loan for the system's main library to be paid off in 2017 remains unchanged.

The city also will help the library by providing assistance from the city attorney's office, Finance Department and maintenance to save the library system from spending money to hire those professional services, Smith said. "This is to help you manage some of your expenses with some of our people," said Smith, who led the joint special meeting of the Public Building Authority and the Laman Library board of trustees that also was attended by several city administrators, bond counsel and a Centennial Bank representative. "We think we can save you a tremendous amount of money in 2015."

In November, library system officials announced 11 staff members would be laid off, effective Thursday. The library also reduced hours, beginning Dec. 1, at both the main library, 2801 Orange St.,

and the Argenta Branch, 420 Main St. Cutbacks also include at least a temporary cancellation of several public programs, of the annual Laman Library Writers Fellowship Grant and of some national touring exhibits the library system regularly hosts, which are free to the public. At Tuesday's meeting, the seven trustees unanimously voted to approve a request for the Public Building Authority to restructure the loans in such a way that payments for the next two years would be interest-only instead of also paying on the principal.

The Public Building Authority's two present members, with member Randy Johnson absent, then voted to ask Centennial Bank to restructure the loan and an amended request for the two-year extension. Smith said earlier in the meeting that the bank had informally agreed to rework the loans.

"I think a big thank you is in order," trustee Esther Crawford said when the library board adjourned. The financial hit for the library system, administrators have said, comes from two loans for \$782,500 and \$2,717,500 taken out in December 2012 for the purchase and renovation of the former downtown post office to convert it into the Argenta Branch. The branch opened in April. The principal balances on those loans are \$718,434 and \$2,478,808. The original annual payments are \$98,260.33 and \$316,139.98. The restructured payments are to lower those payments to \$31,395.61 and \$70,646.68, Scott said.

After the November announcement, some library trustees asked Smith how the city could help, the mayor said. The Laman library system is independent of the Central Arkansas Library System, based in Little Rock, and doesn't receive operating funds from North Little Rock for its \$3.2 million budget. "They're part of our family," Smith said after Tuesday's meeting at the library system's Main Branch about the city's relationship with its only public libraries. "They need our strength and our assets, which are our people, our professional staff."

The mayor added that there are "not really" any "catches" to the plan, but that all checks written by the library will now require a signature from him, Scott or Danny Bradley, the mayor's chief of staff. "All checks out of the library will be signed by two people," including a delegated library system official, Smith explained to the trustees. "This is not because we don't trust anybody. If we can see all of the invoices and expenditures, we can see what the expenses are and what the checks are for, so we have a better handle on the expenses. We will use our management expertise and help y'all come in under budget."

"The mayor's office and the city are not trying to take over the management of the library," Smith said at another point. "We will not be here to look over your shoulder." The changes won't save the 11 jobs or bring back the former hours of the libraries, Smith said, adding that additional cuts aren't planned.

"I know the rumor's getting started that we called this meeting because we were going to fire everybody," Smith said. "Nothing is going to change. All we're doing is tightening out belts. And we're going to make this work. "I think by midyear we're going to have a pretty good idea in our opinion of where you are and what your future looks like," he said. "We'll help you to make a five-year plan."

Trustee Nancy White told the mayor that the library "is not beyond fundraising" if needed to help restore some programs, but that the board appreciated the city's assistance. "We're looking forward to this relationship," Smith said in reply. "I don't know how the city and the library grew so far apart over the years. This is a shining star for North Little Rock. But we've got to keep that line of communication open."

My Town Hero: Librarian creates safe, fun learning environment for teens

Page 1 of 3

My Town Hero: Librarian creates safe, fun learning environment for teens



Tonight's My Town Hero has truly gone above and beyond to create a safe and fun learning environment for teens in North Little Rock.

THV 11 Staff, news source 9:06 a.m. CST December 29, 2014

My Town Hero: Librarian creates safe, fun learning environment for teens

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (KTHV) - Tonight's My Town Hero has truly gone above and beyond to create a safe and fun learning environment for teens in North Little Rock.

Through her creativity and imagination she's captured both their hearts and minds. It's an after school experience like no other. "It's like everything has life up here."

To Tyron Robinson and his friends, the teen center is one of the most exciting and innovative areas in the Laman Library. "Like whenever the Hunger Games came out, we actually recreated a lot safer version of it right outside with cool prizes and such," said Stacie Nellis.

From Hunger Games, to Pokemon Monopoly, to quilt making, Kyna Hockenberry makes every effort to capture their attention.

"I'm a huge nerd, so I want them to be a nerd too, so I kind of embrace all of the things they're into," said Hockenberry. ..Like books, movies, and video games.

"It just gives them a positive outlook on what a library is and we're not just dusty old books anymore we offer a whole lot," said Hockenberry.

Stacie Nellis, now a college student, comes back to visit every now and then, but says Kyna made her experience at the teen center exciting and memorable.

"Everytime a new movie based on a book comes out she tries to make some kind of activity around it," said Nellis.

And behind every activity, there's a lesson.

"It's like we have fun while we learning," said Tyron.

And when she isn't thinking of creative games, Kyna's busy helping with resumes, scholarship applications and providing ACT prep courses. She also brings in a diverse group of career professionals to speak to the students.

"I just want to make sure that all them know they're capable of anything they dream of."

Her passion to help kids succeed, hasn't gone unnoticed. In the eyes of these teens, Kyna is more than just a hero. "She's a very helpful person she's caring. I just say I love her she's like my second mother," said Tyron.

With the smiles on their faces and their joy-filled laughter is easy to see that because of Kyna their experience at the library will never be the same.

Kyna was nominated by Tyron, Stacie and a few of the other teens at the center.

If you know someone in your community who goes above and beyond, email us information about them and what makes them a hero to mytown@thv11.com.

little rock family

JANUARY 2015

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**DELITA MARTIN SHARES HER
LIFE'S WORK OF ART AND HEART**

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Contagious CREATIVITY

Delita Martin shares her life's work of art & heart

BY HEATHER BENNETT

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KAREN E. SEGRAVE

Folks often say dynamite comes in small packages when they're cautioning others of underestimating someone or something because of size. In artist Delita Martin's case it is an understatement. Her petite frame packs a powerful charge of personality. She's a creative powder keg with an infectious spirit. "I love visual arts. I'm a closet painter, I love drawing, printmaking and throwing pots. I love literature and to read. I love acting—all types of art forms. I just love the whole creative process," she muses. Her passion for art, her work and her life draw you in and make you want to hitch along for the ride.

Delita was born in Conroe, Texas. She grew up with five older sisters and three older brothers. They were a close-knit family with cousins living nearby. She shares, "We were out of the house by 8:00 in the morning, going on adventures and getting lost in the woods on purpose. We had impromptu parties—fun adventures, outdoor things."

"Our family had a lot of artists, makers, storytellers, and the women were quilters. My father was a furniture maker. It was a magical childhood. I grew up in an unofficial art school. It was just how it was," she explains. Now, Delita's work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally in numerous portfolios and collections, including most recently, the State of the Art: Discovering American Art Now exhibit at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in northwest Arkansas.



DELITA SHARES HOW IT ALL BEGAN AND HER ROAD TO CRYSTAL BRIDGES

When I was 5 years old in kindergarten, I didn't really know what an artist was. Then I was given a color sheet. It was a farm scene on a hill. I layered different colors of crayons. My teacher said, 'Look at Delita's work. You can mix colors.' Students lined up to look at my work. After that I said I was going to be an artist.

One of my first drawings was actually on the back of one of my father's paintings. My family really inspired me. We loved creating things. I went through two coloring books a week. I copied my Dad's pictures. There was always something I wanted to do. I was 11 or 12 and finally truly realized my Dad was an artist. I always wanted to go to art classes, growing up creating things all day, every day. We couldn't afford art classes and I thought to myself, "I have them right here."



The first professional artist I met was John T. Biggers, the founder of the Texas Southern University's Art Department. My dad studied under him. One day dad said, "Get all of your drawings together. We're going somewhere." We then drove 44 miles and met Dr. Biggers. I was 12 years old when I received my first art critique. I felt a little star struck. Dr. Biggers said to me, "Young lady, do not ever miss an opportunity to uplift your people through your artwork."

Delita's Favorite Artists

JOHN BIGGERS

"I love his subject matter. It captures the African American community. You see tradition."

ELIZABETH CATLET

"She focuses on women's and human rights through printmaking, drawing, sculpture, and mark making."

JIM DINE

"I love his printmaking style, his aggressive mark making. I love that energy in his drawings."

KELLY LARSEN

"I love the way she uses found objects, a lot of 3D installation work. She addresses sexuality in women."



CRANKING IT OUT!

Delita turns up the creative heat and demonstrates letter press printing on a Vandercook Letter Press.

PHOTO BY DEAN WHEELER

My dad was really proud. He had wanted to be an artist, but had to provide for his family. He saw me enamored with Dr. Biggers. It meant the world to him.

I received my undergraduate degree from Texas Southern University and my graduate degree from Purdue University. I met my husband Cedric while I was in Houston. I was at a Mexican Cantina with some friends. He and his friends were at a table next to us. I kept telling him he couldn't buy me a drink, but then we eventually started talking politics and we exchanged business cards. Later on, before the Fourth of July weekend, I called him. We talked for 8 hours. We talked so long my phone wouldn't keep a charge after that. Our first date was a baseball game at Enron Stadium. He brought me a bouquet of tiger lilies. Those are my favorite flowers. We had them in our wedding!

Cedric's work ended up bringing us to Little Rock. (He is Vice President of Human Resources for PPC Broadband, Inc.) Cedric is my biggest supporter. When you create, you're in your own world and need someone willing to pick up the pieces and understand you're in creative mode. I have a note he wrote me early on that says, "Go effortlessly in the direction of your artist dream." I carry it around with me today.

Cedric is also the baby of his family. We parent a little differently though. He would say my way of parenting is "Vegas: Kids' Style." I'm very laid back. I don't generally get too upset. Our son, Caleb, is a really great kid. He usually talks to me about stuff. I approach it philosophically and discuss why he did something the way he did it.

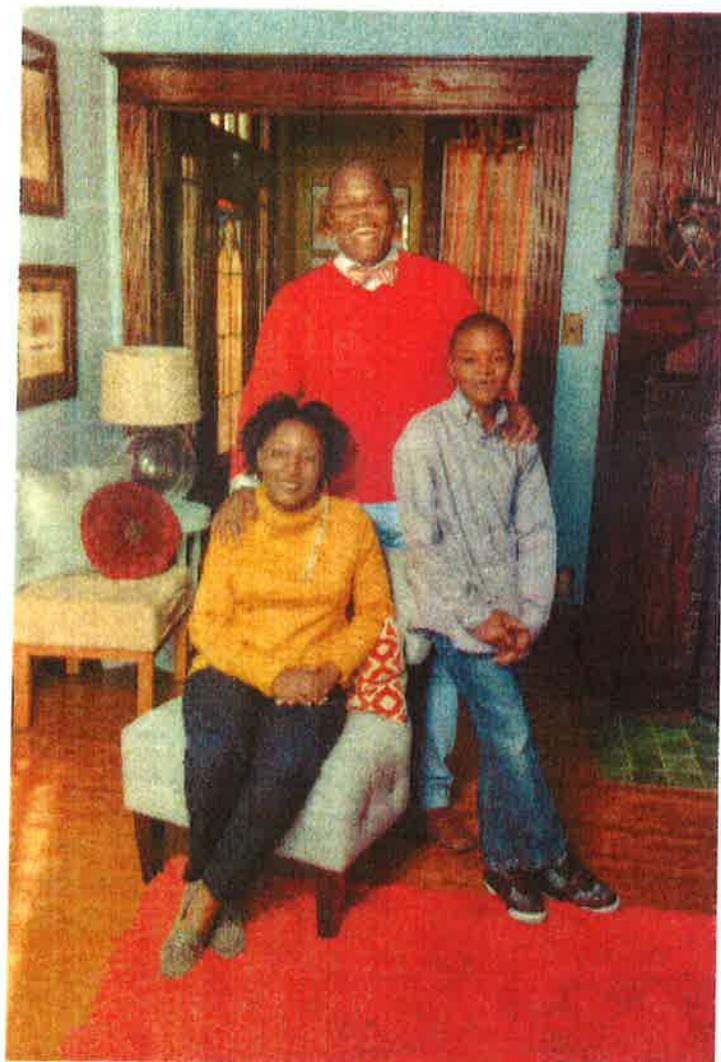
We love to do things as a family. We like going to the pumpkin patch, riding bikes, walking to the Green Corner Store for ice cream and going to festivals. We also love to cook together. We like to find recipes and experiment with them. I make Jamaican beef patties and Cedric makes roasted tomato pepper crab bisque. We also like to make chocolate chip pancakes!

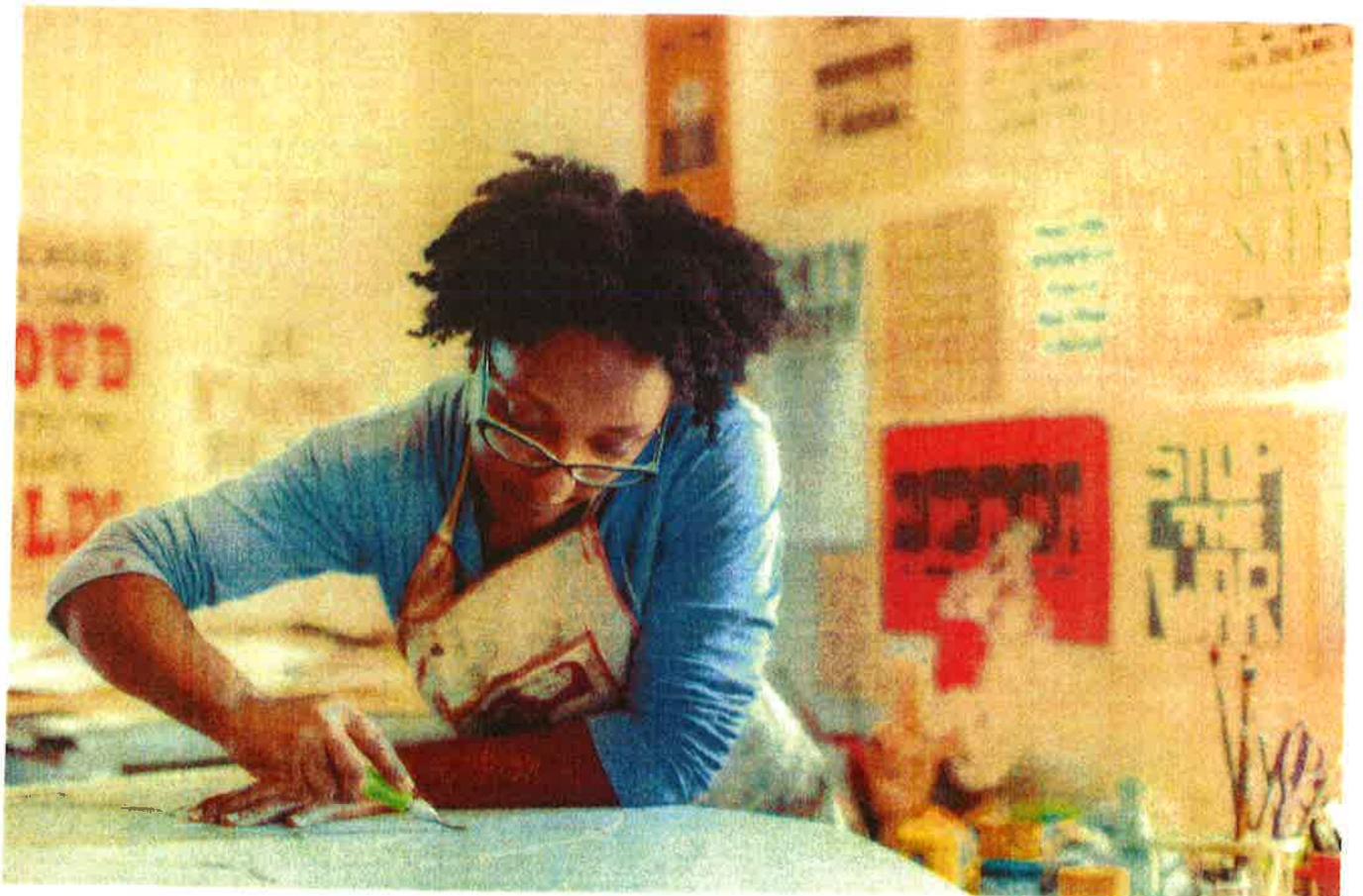
On juggling being an artist and a mom, I think about people always saying they're putting off having kids because of what they're doing at the time, but I've found a child doesn't have to stop anything. It just changes the path you take to it. You can create when and how you can. I find ways to incorporate him into the world and it actually enriches it. Caleb has been going to shows since he was a baby. He really pays attention. I want him to understand you CAN realize your dreams and do the impossible. ♦

FINE ARTS & FAMILY

Delita pours her heart into her work and her loved ones. Above left, she is pictured with her latest untitled mixed media piece and also carving linoleum for a relief print. The Martins have a lot of fun together, whether it's a photo shoot or family time on a Friday night.









NLR lends a hand to insolvent library

City offers loan aid, shares services

JAKE SANDLIN

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

With a branch library expansion in North Little Rock's downtown, numerous community functions, museum quality exhibits and an annual writers fellowship, the independent William F. Laman Library System has been praised for its innovation and for offering a valuable public service.

But innovation often comes at a cost. Late last year, with the library's budget stretched too thin, things came crashing down.

Library hours had to be curtailed Dec. 1 at both the main library, 2801 Orange St., and the new Argenta Branch Library, 420 Main St., and 11 staff members lost their jobs as of Thursday. An annual writer's fellowship for Arkansas authors was canceled, and programs and exhibits for the next two years will be downsized or eliminated.

Through the first 11 months of 2014, the library showed a \$516,815 deficit in its \$4.3 million annual budget. The 2015 budget has

been reduced to less than \$3.2 million.

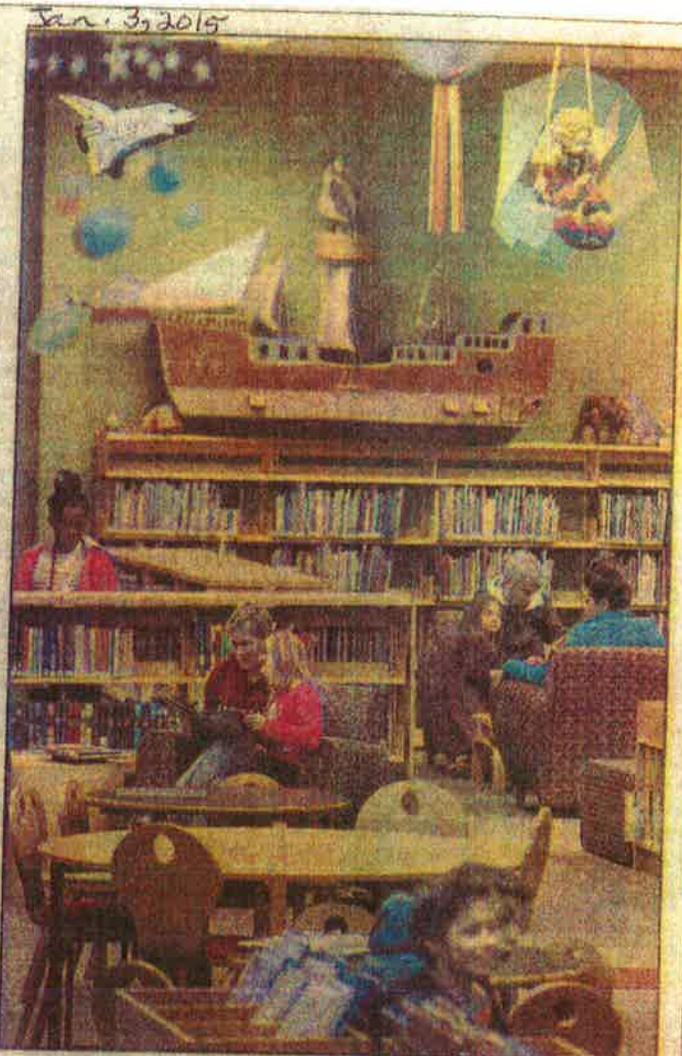
North Little Rock's government, which doesn't fund any of the library's operations, has stepped in to help the library system find its footing over the next two years or so, Mayor Joe Smith confirmed last week.

The Laman Library System also is independent of the Central Arkansas Library System, which is based in Little Rock.

At a meeting last week between the city's Public Building Authority and the Laman Library board of trustees, Smith said he wanted to focus on "what happens next" with the library system, instead of how it ended up in financial trouble.

What happened, Smith said afterward, is that the library may have tried to do too much with too little funding under former Executive Director Jeff Baskin, who died Sept. 9, less than two months after he was diagnosed with an advanced stage of cancer.

See **LIBRARY**, Page 8B



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/BENJAMIN KRAIN

Brittany Franklin of Maumelle (center left) and her daughter, **Emma**, read books Saturday in the children-and-teen area of the Laman Library in North Little Rock. Budget problems have led to reduced hours and programs at the library.

Library

• Continued from Page 1B

Baskin — who was often praised for his innovations and the services offered at Laman Library and who had worked for years to acquire the former post office building for a downtown branch — might have had a plan, Smith said, to keep the system above water financially. Any such plan dissipated with his death.

"My opinion is, I think it was the intent of the director to pay the difference from the cost of the construction and the loan out of the library's operating funds, because he didn't want to borrow \$3.7 million, he wanted to only borrow \$2.7 million, to keep the loan low," Smith said. "Once the branch was open, there wasn't enough money in operations to pay either of the loan amounts. So, they quickly ran out of cash.

"His intent was to keep the loan as low as possible, but what was needed in the amount of cash available to make up the difference wasn't there."

The library's board of trustees, which oversees the system's operations and finances, also should "realize now that they really needed to be an active participant in the money management of the library," Smith added.

So now the city is offering to help the Laman Library System.

The most significant assistance is restructuring two loans for \$782,000 and \$2.71 million that were taken out at the end of 2012 to purchase and renovate the 83-year-old former downtown post office building into the Argenta Branch, which opened in April.

Through the North Little

ity, two annual loan payments for the Argenta Branch have been changed to be interest-only for 2015-16, with no principal to be paid those two years.

The restructuring will save the library system \$624,716 over the next two years, with the loans also extended two years to come due in 2025, an agreement approved by Centennial Bank on Wednesday. The loans will return to their normal debt payment schedule in 2017. The change immediately puts \$312,358 back into the library's 2015 funds.

"This will give the [principal payment] back to the library to go back into the library's operations money," Smith said last week. "Over this two-year period, you'll have over a half-million dollars in savings.

"If we run into issues in 2017, we'll fix it. I don't know how, but we'll fix it."

The only caveat for the city's financial assistance, Smith said, is that a city representative will co-sign all checks written by the library. He said the move was intended to better manage the library's expenses, not to be "looking over [the library's] shoulder."

The city also will help the library by providing assistance from the city attorney's office, Finance Department and maintenance to save the library system from spending money to hire those professional services, Smith said.

"The city is going to help them out with their overhead," Smith said after the meeting. "If the partnership works like I think it will, I think this might become the norm. I think we all realize we can help save some taxpayer dollars as partners."