



Metro News

Metropolitan Library System

Volume 2, Issue 9

Meet the "new" MLS Consultants

Jeannie Dilger-Hill



Training, personnel development, outreach services, and consulting are among Jeannie Dilger-Hill's many areas of professional accomplishment. Most recently as Outreach Services Manager for the King County Library System, Washington, Jeannie was responsible for personnel, collections, programming, professional services, and a \$1.8 million budget.

Jeannie earned her Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

In addition to working for a large library system, Jeannie has also worked in academic and public libraries throughout her career, including several years as the Youth Services Department Head for the Salem Public Library in Indiana. Her experiences in library technology include the development of training modules, hardware and software troubleshooting, and Web design. She is also an advanced user of integrated library systems, especially Innovative Interfaces, Inc.'s *Millennium* system.

Jeannie was thrilled to be named one of *Library Journal's* "Movers and Shakers" for 2006 and cannot wait for the opportunity to use her enthusiasm and motivation in working with the members of the Metropolitan Library System.

Gretel Stock-Kupperman



Considers teamwork and collaboration to be the hallmarks of her work in her most recent position as Assistant Director for Public Services at the Benedictine University Library. In that position, Gretel has sharpened her skills in the planning, development, marketing, delivery, and assessment of all user services, as well as focusing on providing the most outstanding customer service possible.

Gretel's Master's Degree in Library and Information Science was earned at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

In positions with both special and academic libraries throughout her career, Gretel has developed a great appreciation for the ways that information professionals contribute to communities, businesses, and organizations. In these jobs, Gretel has developed her skills in public relations, outreach, reference services, library instruction, Website design, personnel management, and organizational behavior.

Gretel believes that among the most important characteristics of a consultant are the abilities to listen well and to deliver on promises. She is excited to have the opportunity to do those things for the MLS member libraries.

Christina Stoll



A 2006 *Library Journal* "Mover and Shaker," Christina Stoll comes to the Metropolitan Library System with an extensive background in academic, high school, and public libraries and with a wealth of experience working with special libraries and in continuing education for the North Suburban Library System. Her work and experiences in these varied positions include library administration (most recently for the Carol Stream Public Library), consulting, advocacy, meeting facilitation, programming, grant support, library technology, and networking.

Christina earned her Master's Degree in Library and Information Science at Dominican University; River Forest, IL.

Some of Christina's most noteworthy work for NSLS between 2001 and 2005 was in the arena of Knowledge Management. She is excited about the chance to use her expertise in this area to serve our member libraries by improving collaboration and knowledge sharing between System staff and member libraries.

Christina is happy to be working again for a member-focused organization and is looking forward to serving the members of MLS.

MLS Staff Consultants provide support and answer questions about all facets of librarianship and library work. They can help library staff solve a difficult problem, train new trustees, or act as a liaison or advocate. **Not sure which Consultant to contact?** Send an e-mail to consultants@mls.lib.il.us.

For more information about the Consultants, visit the MLS website at <http://www.mls.lib.il.us/consulting>.

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Library



Law

CAN LIBRARIES PERMANENTLY INCREASE TAXES UNDER NEW PTELL LAW GOVERNING REFERENDA?

By Gerard E. Dempsey and Janet N. Petsche

This article attempts to answer the question of how libraries can effect a "permanent" increase in tax proceeds under the June 30, 2006 amendments (Public Act 94-976) to the Illinois Property Tax Extension Limitation Law ("PTELL") covered in last month's Library Law commentary.

We begin with a look at the PTELL prior to Public Act 94-976. Then, the County Clerk in those counties subject to the PTELL (that is, Cook County, the so-called "collar counties," and any other county whose electors adopted the Tax Cap Act) calculated a tax rate for each fund of the Library by using the levy amount requested by the Library for the library fund in question. If the rate was higher than the maximum rate allowed by law (including tax rate increases previously authorized by public referendum), then the County Clerk reduced the calculated rate to the maximum rate allowed by law. Next, all tax rates of the Library subject to the PTELL were summed to produce an aggregate tax rate for the Library. If the sum of these rates exceeded the PTELL "limiting rate," established by a formula set out in the PTELL, the County Clerk proportionately reduced the rate for each of these library funds -- unless directed by the Library to reduce the rates in some other fashion.

Now we must look at the changes made by Public Act 94-976. The most striking change is that in counties subject to PTELL there can no longer be a public referendum asking voters to approve an increase in the maximum tax rate of a library fund for which the Library has levied taxes at any time in the past even if the statutorily-prescribed rate ceiling allowed has not been reached. Tax rate increase referenda for libraries subject to the PTELL are longer permissible.

On the other hand, we want to stress that under Public Act 94-976, any fund of the Library subject to the PTELL is permitted to exceed the voter-approved maximum rate, so long as the rate does not exceed any statutorily-prescribed maximum rate ceiling that cannot be exceeded by referendum or otherwise. In addition, Public Act 94-976 continues the rule that the sum of all rates that are subject to the PTELL cannot exceed the PTELL "limiting rate."

Example: suppose Illinois law sets a tax rate of five cents for a particular library fund and provides that the tax rate may be increased if the voters approve, but not in excess of ten cents. The Library's voters have approved a rate increase to eight cents. Under Public Act 94-976, using the referendum options explained in last month's article and summarized below, the Library is permitted to exceed the voter-approved rate of eight cents, up to the ten cents maximum set by the statute, provided, however, that the sum of all the rates of the Library may never exceed the PTELL "limiting rate."

Let us now consider a common scenario: a Library needs a tax rate increase and wants the increase to be permanent so as to cover ongoing operating costs. For example, the Library may desire to increase the tax levy for its General Fund, not only for a temporary period of a few years, but permanently.

If the Library is located in a county that is subject to the PTELL, the Library is not authorized to hold a referendum to increase its maximum tax rate for its General Fund. Instead, Public Act 94-976 provides three (3) substitutes to increasing the maximum tax rate of the General Fund:

A. To seek approval through a public referendum to levy for a new tax rate.¹ A "new" rate is a tax levy for any fund for which the Library has never levied in the past. Since the Library levies annually for its General Fund, a public referendum for this purpose is not applicable. (Additional information about what a "new tax rate" is, and about other aspects of the PTELL, including the formula for calculation of

a Library's "limiting rate," is available from the Illinois Department of Revenue's website.²⁾

B. To seek approval through a public referendum for a direct increase in the PTELL "limiting rate."³ The Library may ask voters to approve an increase in the "limiting rate" for a single levy year or for up to four levy years, as specified on the ballot.

C. To seek approval through a public referendum for an increase in the "extension limitation" (a percentage which is the lesser of the percentage increase in the CPI or 5 percent used in the PTELL formula to produce the "limiting rate") for a single levy year or for up to four levy years.⁴

How then does a library achieve a permanent tax rate increase to cover ongoing operating costs if it is successful in a public referendum for a direct increase in the "limiting rate" or in a referendum to increase the "extension limitation?"

If the voters approve a direct increase in the "limiting rate," it becomes the "limiting rate" for those years identified in the ballot. Consequently, the amount of taxes extended for the library funds subject to PTELL will increase to meet the voter-approved "limiting rate" for each of the years so identified in the ballot contingent upon the amount the library levies. The result can be an increase in the taxes extended and collected for each of the years so identified in the ballot. After the last of the ballot-specified years, the "limiting rate" will be calculated in the normal manner. However, the higher extensions produced for each of the years specified will result in an increased aggregate extension base in the normal formula to produce the new "limiting rate." The use of an increased aggregate extension base will help produce a higher "limiting rate" than would otherwise have been the case. Consequently, the revenue attrition generally caused by the PTELL should thereafter be gradual; creating a "permanent" revenue increase of some degree, so long as the PTELL remains substantially the same.

Alternatively, if the voters approve an increase in the extension limitation used in the PTELL formula, then for each of the years the Library specified in the ballot, the "extension limitation" will be increased to the amount approved by the voters producing a higher "limiting rate." Consequently, the amount of taxes extended for the library funds subject to PTELL will increase to meet the increase "limiting rate" produced from the voter-approved "extension limitation" for each of the years so identified in the ballot contingent upon the amount the library levies. In the same manner as explained in the preceding paragraph the result can be an increase in the taxes extended and collected for each of the years so identified in the ballot. After the last of the ballot-specified years, the "extension limitation" will revert to the lesser of the percent of increase in the CPI or 5 percent. However, the higher extensions produced for each of the years specified will result in an increased aggregate extension base in the normal formula creating a higher "limiting rate" than would otherwise have been the case. Consequently, the revenue attrition generally caused by the PTELL should thereafter be gradual; and, in this scenario, too, there will be a "permanent" revenue increase of some degree, so long as the PTELL remains substantially the same.

Gerard Dempsey and Janet Petsche are partners with the law firm of Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd. which is an Illinois law firm with offices in the Civic Opera Building at 20 North Wacker Drive in Chicago and at 15010 S. Ravinia, Orland Park. The firm concentrates in the representation of local libraries, Library districts and Library systems, as well as other local governmental units.

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¹ 35 ILCS 200/18-190.

² <http://tax.illinois.gov/Publications/LocalGovernment/PTAX1080.pdf>.

³ 35 ILCS 200/18-190

⁴ 35 ILCS 200/18-205

The **Illinois State Library** is pleased to announce that the FY2007 School Library Per Capita Grant application is now available online for school districts to complete and file electronically. The grant application and related information are available at: http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/schoolpercapgrant.html. To apply, simply select the link "Apply for the FY2007 School Library Per Capita Grant."

DEADLINES & TIMELINE

October – Mid November: Grant applications accepted

November 17, 2006: Application deadline

December 15, 2006: Signature Page(s) deadline

Early Spring 2007: Award checks are issued

June 30, 2007: Grant funds spent or encumbered

August 31, 2007: All grant funds expended

Procedures for the grant include:

- School districts will file the grant application online with the Illinois State Library.
- The signature page must be printed, signed, and submitted via U.S. mail directly to the Illinois State Library.
- Regional library systems may request that their member school districts submit to the system a printed copy of the grant application and a copy of the signature page.

Questions regarding the School Library Per Capita Grant may be directed to Ron Winner at rwinner@ilsos.net; Susan Goodman at sgoodman@ilsos.net, or Jeanne Urbanek at jurbanek@ilsos.net

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY



From October 17th through October 20th, the Illinois State Library will be participating in another "Illinois

Library Host Program for International Librarians" through their partnership with the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The sixteen international librarians participating in this fall's program come from Chile, Colombia, Japan, Nigeria, Russia, South Korea, and Vietnam.

While here, the international librarians are eager to learn about U.S. libraries, and are very curious about many aspects of librarianship. The "Illinois Library Host Program" is a wonderful opportunity for the international librarians to truly explore Illinois libraries by observing first-hand the day-to-day operations of Illinois libraries. The "Illinois Library Host Program" also enriches the staff and community of the host institution through the shared stories from the international librarians about libraries and customs in their countries. The host program starts with an informal dinner reception at the Fraase Farm in Springfield on October 17. On the morning of October 18, a short informational meeting for the hosts and the international librarians will take place at the State Library. After the informational meeting, the international librarians will leave with their designated hosts to experience life and work in the host's library and town.

During the host visit, the international librarians usually stay in the homes of their hosts, but arrangements can also be made for them to stay at local hotels. Transportation arrangements back to Urbana-Champaign from the Illinois State Library will be made for the late afternoon of October 20.

If you have questions about the program or are interested in hosting one or more of our international colleagues in your home and/or at your library, please contact Bonnie Matheis at the Illinois State Library bmatheis@ilsos.net <<mailto:bmatheis@ilsos.net>> or 217-558-2065 as soon as possible.

Secretary White Awards \$3.4 Million in LSTA Grants to Libraries, Library Systems, and Museums

Secretary of State and State Librarian, Jesse White, has awarded FY07 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants totaling \$3.4 million to nearly 500 libraries, library systems and museums containing libraries in Illinois.

"LSTA funds encourage our libraries to be creative and innovative," White said. "Illinois librarians work hard to identify specific local needs and use these funds to address those needs. Over the years LSTA grants have produced hundreds of new programs in our state's more than 4,000 libraries, regional library systems and museums.

"Our librarians are always looking to the future, and looking for new ways to serve our patrons. LSTA grants help provide our libraries with some of the financial resources they need to remain our state's most reliable sources of information."

This year's LSTA grants were awarded in six categories:

- Bridging the Gap Between Community and Collection
- Bring in a Trainer
- Digital Imaging
- Emerging technologies and Methodologies
- Demonstration of Public Library Services
- Developing a Statewide Technology Toolkit

For more info and list of this year's recipients, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/press/2006/september/060926d1.html>.



ILA NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS CANDIDATES

The ILA 2007 Nominating Committee is soliciting nominees to run on the 2007 spring ballot for the Executive Board, including the office of ILA Vice President/President-elect.

The Nominating Committee will select two candidates to run for each of four Director-at-Large and the Vice Presidential seats.

The President-elect will serve a three-year term: as President-elect in 2007-2008, as President in 2008-2009, and as Immediate Past President in 2009-2010. Director-at-Large seats are also three year terms.

The Illinois Library Association Executive Board is the governing body of the association and is comprised of fifteen directors serving a three-year term. The board adopts and oversees implementation and evaluation of all plans, policies, programs, and budget for the association. Together, the board members constitute the leadership of the association and assume responsibility for its success.

Members who wish to make nominations should submit the following information: nominee name; present position; institution; address; telephone; fax; and e-mail address. Self-nominations are encouraged. All potential nominees will be asked to complete a Potential Candidate Biographical Form that will be emailed to them. Membership in the Illinois Library Association is a requirement.

Nominations may be sent to any member of the 2007 Nominating Committee:

Chair: Dianne Harmon, Joliet Public Library(dharmon@joliet.lib.il.us);

Members: Tina Hubert, Lewis & Clark Library System (tinah@lcls.org); Kendi Kelley, Retired (kendik@shawls.lib.il.us);

Mary Munroe, Northern Illinois University (C60MHM1@wpo.cso.niu.edu); Tobi Oberman, Skokie Public Library

(toberman@skokiepubliclibrary.info); Lynn Stainbrook, Arlington Heights Memorial Library (lstainbrook@ahml.info); Denise Zielinski, DuPage Library System (dzielins@dupagels.lib.il.us)

LACONI Presents

Bringing the Gen X & Gen Y Demographic Back to the Library

Date: October 20, 2006

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: St. Charles Public Library
One South Sixth Avenue
St. Charles, IL 60174

Topics:

- ◆ The Writings on the Wall—But What Does It Say
- ◆ Generations: whY we should care about what's neXt with twentY and thirtY-somethings
- ◆ It's not your Grandmother's Library
- ◆ Putting Gen X and Gen Y in Q

For more information about this event, visit
http://www.laconi.org/opps/OPPS_10_06.doc

Disaster Planning for Libraries



Date: November 17, 2006

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Harold Washington
Library Center
400 South State Street
Chicago, IL 60605

Join Panelists Jim O'Callahan, Managing Director at A.C.R. Inc., and Diana Donovan, Senior Loss Control Consultant, The Hartford, for a discussion about this 2007 Per Capita Grant requirement. Learn what is truly needed to construct the best plan for your library.

For more information regarding this event, visit
http://www.laconi.org/ladmin/Nov_06_Flyer.doc

THE Buzz



congratulations



MLS Resource Sharing is pleased to announce that Semiramis Morales-Grady, ILL Bibliographic Assistant, has been selected as a recipient of a 2006–2007 Secretary of State/Illinois State Library Training Grant for the Masters of Library and Information Science Degree. Semi is one of

15 recipients of the grant awarded in the amount of \$7,500. This is in addition to a GSLIS New Student scholarship Semi had already received from Dominican University this fall.

Semi has been part of the Resource Sharing team at MLS for two years. Semi's exposure to the library profession began at Cicero Public Library over 16 years ago when she started there as a page. Today, she can often be found working the reference desk at Cicero Public Library on the weekends. In addition to her role as part of the Resource Sharing team, Semi serves as the System liaison for PolyTalk (a library interpreter's network). She is also the person responsible for the translation of our Reciprocal Borrower's pamphlet "Su Tarjeta de la Biblioteca Publica."

Semi is presently pursuing her Masters degree at Dominican University and anticipates receiving her degree by January 2008. All of MLS wishes Semi continued success in her future studies.



Mark your calendar for November 13-14, 2006 (Monday and Tuesday)! It's the fall **2006 ILGISA Conference**. Planning is already underway and preliminary information has been posted. This conference has a theme of GIS: Geography, Information, and Service because the focus will be on giving to your community. The keynote presentation will be about the GIS Corps and how they are giving back to the country.

For more information about the ILGISA conference, visit <http://www.ilgisa.org>.

Pam Deiters, Administrator at the Tinley Park Public Library for the past 17 years, has announced her retirement, effective May 2007.



A graduate of the Chicago State University masters degree program in library science, Pam never worked in a school library! She served as the Director of the Calumet Park Public Library, worked as the assistant in the youth services department at the Blue Island Public Library, and in the libraries at St. Xavier University, Chicago State University, and Lewis University at Little Company of Mary Hospital. Pam has also served as Interim Director in a number of MLS member libraries.

In retirement, Pam and husband Jim, an ordained deacon in the Catholic Church, hope to work together in ministry and spend more time at the lake with their six children and four grandchildren, including oldest son, Jim Deiters Jr., a recent Dominican graduate and the head of Adult Services/Circulation at the Palos Heights Public Library.



Please join the DuPage Library System on October 16, 2006 for a very special **Electronic Resources Event** that will cover everything from group purchase offers to negotiating contracts to evaluating databases. The day will consist of several morning presentations, a break for lunch and afternoon, and "Table Talks" where attendees will get one-on-one time with the presenters to ask questions specific to their situations.

Carol Dawe, Consortium Manager, LINC (Library Integrated Network Consortium) will present on contract negotiations and license agreements; Gwen Harrison, Network Consultant, Illinois State Library, will present on and discuss current e-resource offers and group/consortia purchases available through the Illinois State Library; Laura Haule, Reference/Information Services Manager, St. Charles Public Library, will cover considerations for your collection, criteria for evaluating databases, and evaluating vendors.; and Dale Ann Lawrence, Business Manager, North Suburban Library System, will discuss a common sense approach to demystifying contracts.

Register today for this exciting event at <http://www.dupagels.lib.il.us/calendar/detailpages/1153413834.html>.



The Public Library Association Presents their Spring Symposium of Workshops

Date: March 1 - 3, 2007 (Thursday thru Saturday)

Location: San Jose, California

Six Reasons to Register Today:

- ◆ Demonstrating Results: Using Outcome Measurements in Your Library
- ◆ Right People, Right Time, Right Work: HR Trends and Tools
- ◆ Customer Service in Public Libraries, 21st Century Style
- ◆ Refresh, Recreate, Redesign, Remodel, Retail
- ◆ Advocacy @ Your Library
- ◆ Mining Gold in the 21st Century: Strengthening Your Library with Literary Services

For more information about the workshops and to register, visit the PLA website at <http://www.pla.org>.



The **ISLMA 2006 Annual Conference** entitled "Lasting Impressions: The Roles of Teacher Librarians" will be held from November 9 – 11, 2006 at the Sheraton Chicago Northwest. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.islma.org/conferences.htm#conferences>



The River Forest Library's READ poster project is on display! These posters feature community leaders with their favorite books. Each poster promotes reading, literacy, and libraries. The variety of community leaders and their reading choices help model lifelong reading for all ages. Visitors will recognize educational administrators, elected officials, librarians, and community leaders.

We hope that you will have an opportunity to stop by to see the collection. In early October, the posters will be sent out to schools and local organizations for further display.



LibraryU

LibraryU is happy to announce the publication of **CAT001 - Introduction to Cataloging for Non-Catalogers**, the final and foundational module in their popular Cataloging series - *MARC in Your Library*. Why is cataloging important? What are library catalogs and why are they needed? The answers to these questions plus an introduction to descriptive cataloging, classification, and subject analysis are all included in this new LibraryU offering authored by Lynnette Fields, Cataloging Trainer from The MARC of Quality. Enroll today at <http://www.libraryu.org> and learn the answer to the burning question - Who is Charles Cutter and what do his rules have to do with cataloging?

TREND WATCH – Are you Keeping Up With Keeping Up?

Trend #5: Business Coaching Evolves

- Business coaching is a booming global industry generating \$1 billion a year;
- 8,400 coaches belong to the International Coaching Federation (a 450% increase in five years) — most coaches charge between \$100 and \$500 per hour.
- Tangible results of coaching are better team chemistry, improved performance, and higher retention rates.

Forecasts for this area of business:

- As high ROI's (return on investments) begins to spread, coaching will become an accepted practice at the majority of large companies;
- Business coaches will groom the replacements for retiring baby boomers;
- Consolidation of individual coaches will take place under a few brand names

So, there you have it – for the moment! Are you in sync with the Trends, or were you even aware of them? If you are intrigued enough to want to keep following these trends, visit the website of **Miriam Pollack & Associates** at <http://www.miriampollack.com>.

Etc...

**The Illinois State Library Presents: TRY-IT!
ILLINOIS from OCTOBER 1- NOVEMBER 30**

Visit <http://www.elillinois.org/tryit/> to gain access to Try-It! Illinois 2006, the seventh annual statewide database trial, sponsored by Secretary of State and State Librarian, Jesse White, and the Illinois State Library. Try-It! Illinois offers the staffs and library users of the more than 4,000 ILLINET member libraries the opportunity to survey and evaluate a wide variety of electronic resources. Thanks to partnerships between the Illinois State Library and the participating electronic resource vendors, there is no charge for accessing these databases during Try-It! Illinois. (The Office of the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library makes no representations, guarantees, or warranties as to the accuracy, completeness, currency, or suitability of the Try-It! Illinois electronic resource offerings. The Office of the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library specifically disclaims any and all liability for any claims or damages that may result from use of electronic resources included in the Try-It! Illinois offering. The responsibility for content rests with the organizations that are providing the information. The inclusion of links from this site does not imply endorsement by the Office of the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library).

Library Word Search

V E A F H C I L T W R J W E S
 U D L C I C M H P G E B P P J
 T N I I Y C E K S Y C E C N P
 U L J P N S T W S L I C J J J
 V C T V A E D I M Q P R G V S
 M B J U K T V Q O G R U H M S
 J P R W F S H U T N O O U N E
 V U I B D A G F J E C S X U R
 S S H B T L F I I X A E R S I
 A D V I S O R Y S N L R T T A
 A J C V S W E D F C D G W E L
 C O N S U L T A N T S E B S S
 S P O H S K R O W A P O R S L
 E T A R E C W X N I O B Y V I

Can you find these words in the above puzzle?

ADVISORY, CONSULTANTS, EBOOK
 ERATE, FICTION, ILA, JUVENILE,
 PATHFINDER, RECIPROCAL, RESOURCE,
 SERIALS, SIGS, THESAURUS,
 WORKSHOPS



The **MLS Annual Meeting** will be held on Friday, October 20, 2006, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at the Tinley Park Public Library, located at 7851 Timber Drive, Tinley Park, Illinois. Cost: Free. If you are interested in attending, visit the MLS website at <http://www.mls.lib.il.us> to register. If you have any questions, contact Cherie Calvin at 630-734-5137 or calvinc@mls.lib.il.us.

About Us

Metro News is a monthly publication of the Metropolitan Library System. The MLS membership consists of 86 Public, 80 Academic, 224 Special, and 1,115 School libraries; including 13 Developmental members in Cook, DuPage, and Will counties.

Office locations: 125 Tower Drive; Burr Ridge, IL 60527
 224 South Michigan Avenue – Suite 680; Chicago, IL 60604

Phone: 1-866-734 2004
 Fax: 630 734 5050 (Burr Ridge)

Executive Director: Alice Calabrese-Berry (calabrese@mls.lib.il.us)
 Newsletter Creator: Cherie Calvin-Simons, (calvinc@mls.lib.il.us)
 Article submission deadline: 15th of each month



Food for Thought:

“If you want others to be happy, practice Compassion. If you want to be happy, practice Compassion.”

- The Dalai Lama -