

# THE Envoy

Vol. 2, No. 4, Fall 2010



## Pete Black—ILA Trustee of the Year

Recently retired Idaho Commission for Libraries Commissioner Pete Black was named 2010 Trustee of the year by the Idaho Library Association (ILA). This ILA award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the Idaho library community and/or have distinguished themselves in the profession of librarianship. Nominated by fellow commissioners, Black served on the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) Board of Commissioners for over 13 years, was a Pocatello/

Chubbuck School District teacher-librarian for 31 years, and served in the Idaho House of Representatives for 14 years.

Although Black was not able to attend the 2010 ILA Annual Conference in Post Falls to accept the award in person, Commissioner John Held related Black's thoughts to ILA members at the Awards Banquet. Black thanked the members and told them that it was an honor to even be considered as Idaho Library Trustee of the Year, much less to have been chosen to receive such an award.



Look around at your colleagues and you will see who the real superheroes are.  
- Pete Black

state and local budgets shrink. Look around this room at your colleagues and you will see who the real superheroes are."

Black said that being Commissioner for the Idaho Commission for Libraries was a treat rather than a position and that he would miss working with State Librarian Ann Joslin and the Commission staff.

Black accepted the award in the name of the Idaho Commission for Libraries and the Idaho library community.

Black said, "I was only doing what the rest of you do. Every day librarians, school media generalists, library staff, board members, and volunteers work endlessly to provide the best library services possible for our patrons. The role of today's libraries is constantly changing with more demands by patrons.... However, all of us are being asked to do more with less as

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**Idaho Commission for Libraries**

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<http://libraries.idaho.gov>

**Mission:**

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

**Commissioners:**

Pete Black, John Held,  
Bruce Noble, Sara Staub,  
and Larry Weeks

**State Librarian**

Ann Joslin

**Commission Contacts:**

- Anne Abrams, southwestern/central Idaho library consultant
- Betty Hoffman, support services supervisor
- Danna Angevine, state publications, cataloging, and acquisitions librarian
- Erica Compton, reading programs coordinator
- Frank Nelson, southeastern Idaho library consultant
- Gina Persichini, networking consultant
- Glynda Pflieger, school library consultant
- Jan Wall, northern Idaho library consultant
- Marjorie Hooper, associate state librarian
- Pam Bradshaw, program supervisor
- Richard Wilson, associate state librarian
- Shirley Biladeau, continuing education consultant
- Sonja Hudson, grants/contracts officer
- Staci Shaw, reading programs coordinator
- Stephanie Bailey-White, reading programs coordinator
- Sue Walker, Talking Book Service consultant
- Teresa Lipus, public information specialist

**online @ your library®**

The Commission was awarded a stimulus grant of \$1,907,531 from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for the “online @ your library” Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The project will expand broadband and computing capacity in Idaho’s least connected libraries and expand LiLI online resources statewide for K-12 students and job seekers.

**online @ your library goals:**

- Provide free broadband access to Internet-based resources in Idaho’s public libraries.
- Provide statewide informal education resources for K-12 students.
- Address needs of the under-employed statewide.

**online @ your library strategies:**

- Extend broadband connectivity.
- Provide more public access computers.
- Expand online library resources.
- Provide library-based workshops pivoting around online resources.
- Publicize online library resources and free public access computing at the library.
- Ensure sustainability.

**What the grant funds cover:**

- Cost of expanding broadband connectivity in at least 55 Idaho public libraries.
- Cost of connectivity and bandwidth during the two-year grant period for these libraries.
- Cost of new computers for public access computing in these libraries.

- Subscriptions to new online resources: LearningExpress Library, Scout (an Idaho version of Teachers’ Domain designed for student use), and Internet2.
- Direct cost of delivering training to public library staff on E-Rate, public computer center maintenance, and online services.
- Grant project management.

**The candidate pool**

The candidate pool of libraries is based on connectivity speed (libraries with 4 Mbps or less) and demographic criteria (libraries that serve BTOP-defined “vulnerable populations”). Sustainability for each candidate library will be evaluated when the Request for Proposals (RFP) process begun in September is completed.

Staff from the candidate libraries attended a project launch workshop November 1–2 (see page 3).

**Expectations for all participating libraries:**

- Expand their Internet connectivity bandwidth and the number of computers available to the public.
- Host a workshop in partnership with the Regional Adult Basic Education (ABE) Center and a workshop in partnership with the Idaho Department of Labor, introducing adults to online resources that can help the unemployed and under-employed.
- Consider E-Rate funding as a strategy for sustaining their public computer centers.

The Envoy trustee newsletter is published quarterly and mailed to all library directors and trustees that are listed in the ICFL library directory.

The Envoy is also available as a PDF at:  
<http://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/trustee-news>

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- Provide data reflecting public computer center use as an element in the quarterly reports due for all Public Computer Center BTOP grants.
- Staff at each library will be trained regarding LiLI online resources and maintaining their public computer centers.

### Statewide online resources

New online resources provided through the “online @ your library” grant project will be accessible via <http://lili.org> as they become available.

- Available now for all Idahoans is LearningExpress Library.
- Available now for Idaho students through a partnership with the Idaho State Department of Education are PLATO Learning for self-paced remedial solutions and Apangea Math tutoring.

Coming in 2011:

- Internet2 and Scout

### Staff training

- Apangea Math: Webinar training took place November 9, 10, 18, and 19.
- LearningExpress Library: Webinar training will be available December 6, 7, 9, 13, and 14.

Find more information about the “online @ your library” project at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/online>.



## online @ your library project launch

The Commission—along with nearly 150 Idaho state leaders, grant partners, and public library directors—launched the “online @ your library” broadband project on November 1 and 2 with a workshop sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Representatives from the Foundation spoke about the critical role that public libraries play in connecting Americans to technology and the Internet. And in her keynote address, “Connectivity Meets Community: Embracing the Future,” Library Consultant and Futurist Joan Frye Williams talked about libraries as idea laboratories and how this project will bring resources to rural communities as well as help to celebrate and support local identity.

Launch participants shared their visions on the future of libraries in Idaho communities and what increased Internet access and online resources at the library might mean for rural communities. They also brainstormed ideas for making public computing at libraries sustainable. Participants found the following ideas most intriguing:

- Create libraries as community centers to facilitate citizen education, info sharing, and idea labs. Reinvent libraries as community gathering places.
- Make rural communities more competitive by developing more diverse and sustainable local economies. Nurture partnerships with community resource people.
- Promote library services in the



Speed-dating at the launch. See more photos at [www.flickr.com/photos/38963497@N03/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/38963497@N03/)

community. Help communities to see broadband access as essential.

During a moderated panel discussion on Day 1, project partners (Department of Labor, Adult Basic Education, Idaho Public Television, and State Board of Education) described their agency’s resources and discussed how to leverage their services and the unique role of libraries in rural communities. On Day 2, librarians and project partners had a chance to get to know each other better in a “Speed-Dating” session.

The launch discussions and networking revealed how big this project is for Idaho. At the launch summation, State Librarian Ann Joslin said, “The possibilities for developing and expanding relationships are huge. Together we can do this. I observed a tremendous amount of enthusiasm here.”

Read more about the “online @ your library” project at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/online>.

## Election FAQs for District Libraries: changes for 2011

**When can elections for bonds, levy overrides, or plant facilities be held?** Election dates are the third Tuesday in May and the Tuesday after the first Monday in November each year. (I.C. 34-1401)

**How and when do I notify the county clerk if we are having an election for a bond, an override, or plant facilities?** The Secretary of State compiles an election calendar each year. Your county clerk will contact you before November 30th each year for information on any elections you might be holding.

If you decide to have an election during the year and did not notify the county clerk by November 30, you must let the county know at least 45 days before the election. (I.C. 34-106)

**When are trustee elections?** Trustee elections will be held in May in every odd year beginning in 2011. (I.C. 33-2715 or 33-2718)

**Have the terms of trustees changed?** Yes. The regular term for a trustee will be six years.

During the transition, these are the terms of trustees:

<b>Elected in:</b>	<b>Term ends:</b>
2006	2011
2007	2013
2008	2013
2009	2015
2010	2015
2011	2017

**What if a trustee resigns mid-term?** The person who is appointed to that position will serve until the next regularly scheduled election. At that election, the trustee shall be elected to complete the unexpired term of the vacated position. (I.C. 33-2716)

**Who pays for the election?** With the exception of a district establishment election (I.C. 63-802C), the county pays election costs.

**How has election notification changed?** The county will make legal notifications for the election, including publishing the notice for petitions for candidacy. Petitions will be filed with the clerk of the district. (I.C. 34-1404 and 34-1405)

**Has “one nomination, no election” been amended?** No. According to I.C. 33-2717, if only one candidate has been nominated, no election will be conducted. Districts still must notify the county (and ICFL) if there will be no election.

**My district is in more than one county. How will this new law affect me?** I.C. 33-1401 states: Elections in a joint school district or other political subdivisions that extend beyond the boundaries of a single county shall be conducted jointly by the clerks of the respective counties, and the clerk of the home county shall exercise such powers as are necessary to coordinate the election.

**How do I know what my library district is responsible for and what the county is responsible for?** The clerk of the district is responsible for distributing and collecting petitions and acting as the liaison with the county clerk. Otherwise, the county will take care of the election process. (The only things that have changed in Title 33 Chapter 27 are trustee terms and election dates.)

The Secretary of State will send out an election guide to the counties, who will then coordinate with districts within the county. The county will notify districts about deadlines and notification responsibilities.

**Where can I find more information?** Contact your county clerk or the Secretary of State at [www.sos.idaho.gov/](http://www.sos.idaho.gov/). For the most current Idaho Code citations, check online at [legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/TOC/IDStatutesTOC.htm](http://legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/TOC/IDStatutesTOC.htm).

## 2011 Audit changes for district libraries

The law has changed so that there is no requirement to have a review or audit if your district library's annual expenditures are less than \$100,000. Under previous law, libraries with budgets between \$50,000 and \$100,000 might have had a biennial review. For current audit requirements, check online for 67-450B at [legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title67/T67CH4SECT67-450B.htm](http://legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title67/T67CH4SECT67-450B.htm).



## South Bannock District Library's new building

The South Bannock District Library System is adding a new facility to serve its McCammon and Inkom patrons. A groundbreaking ceremony for the new library was held in McCammon on September 13. The library is located in the center of town on a lot that houses its bookmobile, which currently serves the patrons of McCammon. The new 2,950-square foot library, which includes a public meeting room, is expected to open by May 2011.

Marcy Price, library director for the district, said the facility's design is similar to the district's existing libraries in Downey and Lava Hot Springs, although those libraries don't have public meeting rooms.

"I think we'll get a lot of people really happy in our service area. It won't be as far out for people to drive, even from Inkom," Price said. "We're very happy to be able to improve our library service."

Funding for the new library, expected to cost roughly \$475,000, comes from a plant facilities levy passed in the district in 2005. The levy generates \$100,941 each year for a decade. Because the levy has already been in place for more than five years, the district has the cash to build the new library. Funds have also been used to improve existing structures, finance the purchase of the property for the library, and purchase a new bookmobile to



September 13 groundbreaking in McCammon

replace an outdated one.

The bookmobile will continue to be stationed in McCammon as it makes monthly visits to each grade school and middle school in the Marsh Valley School District. "We'll continue to go weekly to Inkom where we don't have a facility at this time," Price said.

The South Bannock District Library serves about 9,000 residents.

## ICFL Board of Commissioners tours Idaho libraries

The Idaho Board of Library Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, October 1, 2010 at the Hunt Lodge in McCall after touring libraries in Cascade, New Meadows, and McCall on Wednesday and Thursday. The annual fall tour of libraries is a highlight for the Commissioners. They enjoy getting out to visit the libraries, meet the librarians, and see the facilities, services, and challenges first-hand.

Wednesday afternoon the Board, State Librarian Ann Joslin, and other ICFL staff members toured Cascade Public Library and had the opportunity to shop in the The Recycled Book, a welcoming place to find reading treasures.

Thursday morning, the Board was invited to the Cascade Pre-School to see the First Book program in action. Later in the morning, the Meadows Valley Public Library District Board of Trustees took the time to visit with the Commissioners. It was interesting for the Commissioners to hear about the effort involved in building the library and establishing the library taxing district.

On Thursday afternoon at McCall Public Library the Commissioners toured the Idaho History Room, learned about the vibrant wall murals, and were delighted to hear that the statues of the children playing outside of the library are

dressed up for the changing seasons. At the Barbara R. Morgan Elementary School in McCall, the Commissioners were impressed to hear about the collaboration between the school library and the public library and at McCall Donnelly High School they were pleased to learn of the school's use of technology and the LiLI databases.



The Commissioners hear about Teen Read Week at the Cascade Public Library.

For more photos of the Board tour, visit [www.flickr.com/photos/38963497@N03/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/38963497@N03/).



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## Library trustees' role with library literacy programs

As a library trustee, you are an advocate for the library, a volunteer who is seen as focused on serving the community, and a community leader who has influence with other decision makers. In your role as trustee, you can use your influence to support and promote programs at your library. Here are some ideas how:

- Take your librarian to lunch with your favorite civic or service organization representative to talk about your library's programs.
- Let community officials know about programs the library is planning.
- Talk to at least one other person—your neighbor, your brother-in-law, the bank teller, the grocery clerk, your clergy person—about what is happening at your library.
- Write a letter to the editor in support of an upcoming program.
- Attend library events in support of the program.
- Personally invite your state legislators to attend events that your library hosts.

## Kids flocked to libraries for 2010 Summer Reader programs

Over 69,000 Idaho children and teens participated in this year's Summer Reading Program at their public libraries, a nine percent increase over last year's record numbers. These programs are designed to help children build or maintain literacy levels over the summer. With support from the Commission, Summer Reading

activities are offered free to children statewide. Taking advantage of the "Make a Splash" theme, 131 Idaho libraries designed programs that offered opportunities for reading as well as arts, recreation, and youth development. In their 2010 program evaluations, Idaho public library staff cited four main factors in the higher number of participating

children this year:

- good partnerships with schools
- the economy driving more families to libraries for free services and programs
- increased outreach efforts
- a theme or activities that engaged many children. Find out more at [libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading](http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading).