

THE Nexus

Vol. 4, No. 2 Summer 2011



online
@ your library®



State Librarian Ann Joslin

online @ your library update

We are almost halfway through the “online @ your library” Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant period. Through “online @ your library,” the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is expanding broadband and public computing capacity in 56 of Idaho’s least connected public libraries and expanding online resources statewide for jobseekers, K-12 students, and adult learners.

Expanded broadband

The Commission matched individual BTOP libraries with the lowest-cost providers for broadband Internet service in their particular communities. In addition, up to 90 percent of the Internet bill for the libraries will be paid by the FCC E-Rate Universal Service Fund. Most of the libraries are also getting wi-fi equipment that will enable library users who bring their own computers to the library to access the Internet. Many BTOP libraries are already up and running with their expanded broadband and new computers and laptops.

Online resources

LearningExpress Library has been well-used since the BTOP-funded statewide subscription became available in November 2010. At libraries throughout the state, jobseekers and students are using LearningExpress Library courses for reading, writing, math, and computer skills; study guides for academic tests such as the GED and SAT; and a wide array of career certification preparation and practice exams. Check out LearningExpress Library usage statistics posted at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/learningexpress-library>. Statewide usage is available quarterly.

Statewide online resources coming in late 2011 include “Scout,” an online video encyclopedia from Idaho Public Television, WGBH Boston, and PBS Learning Media offering thousands of short videos for student use that support state and national education standards; Idaho Department of Labor’s Idaho Jobseekers Handbook offering tools and video tips; and Internet2 resources for libraries. Like LearningExpress Library, these resources will be available through the Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) portal at www.lili.org.

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{ Global information, innovative services and community

Idaho Commission for Libraries

325 W State St.
Boise, ID 83702-6072
208-334-2150 • 800-458-3271
<http://libraries.idaho.gov>

Mission:

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

Commissioners:

John Held, Dave Mecham,
Bruce Noble, Sara Staub,
and Larry Weeks

State Librarian

Ann Joslin

Commission Contacts:

- Danna Angevine, state publications, cataloging, and acquisitions librarian
- Dian Scott, office services supervisor
- 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
- Kevin Tomlinson, southwest/south central Idaho field consultant
- Marjorie Hooper, associate state librarian
- Pam Bradshaw, program supervisor
- Roger Dubois, administrative services manager
- 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

The Nexus is available as an e-newsletter and PDF. To subscribe go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/subscribe-to-nexus>.

online @ your library, continued from page 1

Library and partner training

Training is a key component in the “online @ your library” project, and staff members from BTOP libraries completed E-Rate training as well as training for newly available online resources. BTOP libraries also participated in “Connecting Resources & Partners Workshops” held throughout Idaho this spring. These workshops connected libraries with their local grant partners—such as the Department of Labor and Adult Basic Education—and provided hands-on access to the various resources available to all Idaho residents through the BTOP project.

Partners commented that they appreciate outreach efforts on the part of the Commission to raise awareness about the BTOP project and leverage existing resources within the state. Partners are looking forward to using the information gathered at these sessions to design larger workforce services initiatives.

Promotion

In late May, BTOP libraries received a kit with “online @ your library” materials to promote the availability of the expanded broadband and resources. In addition, all public libraries received table-top displays to place near their public access computers to show computer users where to find valuable online resources.

One of our key BTOP partners, Idaho Public Television, is airing television spots promoting the new resources available to Idaho residents, and is in the process of developing more. Check the spots out [here](#).

End-user training

This summer, “digital literacy” coaches are helping computer users at the BTOP libraries. The Idaho Department of Labor field offices matched Youth Corps participants with many of the BTOP libraries. The Youth Corps participants are working part-time in the public libraries, assisting patrons with basic computer skills and tutorials.

The Department of Labor is also leveraging their existing resources for jobseekers to develop an online “Idaho Jobseekers Handbook” that will be available statewide this fall.

Libraries make great partners

Partnering with other state agencies for the “online @ your library” project benefits not only the Commission and Idaho public libraries, but also the partnering agencies. While the libraries learned about resources available to their communities, staff at partnering agencies learned what libraries across the state have to offer and have been “simply amazed” by the discovery. Partners are impressed with the committed effort to bring new resources and assistance to the people in communities across the State. One agency director said, “We have all enjoyed the wonderful library personnel that we’ve met and been privileged to work with....What a group of great partners!”



E-Rate funding in Idaho

So far in Wave 1 of 2011 E-Rate funding, 57 public libraries have received funding commitments. Most schools or libraries have more than one funding request. There is a separate funding request for each vendor and, depending on the service (e.g., telecommunications or Internet), a library may have two or more funding requests for the same vendor. There are 170 funding requests from Idaho libraries and 139 have been funded at this time, for a total of \$423,035.70.

The E-Rate program (also known as the Schools and Libraries Program of the Universal Service Fund) is administered by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Through the E-Rate program, discounts are made available to eligible schools and libraries for telecommunication services, Internet access, internal connections, and basic maintenance of internal connections. Discounts for support depend on the level of poverty and the urban/rural status of the population served. Discounts range from 20% to 90% of the costs of eligible services.

For more information about E-Rate visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/e-rate> or www.universalservice.org/sl/about/overview-program.aspx/.

ICfL welcomes new SW/south central field consultant

Since arriving at the Commission in late May to assume field consultant responsibilities for southwest and south central public libraries, Kevin Tomlinson has been visiting libraries, meeting people, and participating in meetings—taking in as much as he can about the Idaho library community.

Tomlinson, who earned his Master of Library Science (MLS) degree from Indiana University, brings a wide range of library experience, from the Library of Michigan to public library systems in Michigan and Arizona. At Michigan's state library he served on the legislative team, while his public library positions include department head, branch head, and deputy director—giving him varied perspectives on library matters. Tomlinson says his responsibilities at the Commission are a great fit because they will require him to draw on all of his skills, background, and knowledge.

Prior to library work, Tomlinson taught for several years, at both high school and middle school levels, and is certain he will be drawing on that experience as well. He notes that there is a lot of teaching involved in the library profession. "When you are at the front desk, you're 'on.' Story time, reference, and book discussions are all teaching." He foresees drawing on past teaching experience for consultant activities such as facilitating at meetings and training at workshops.

Tomlinson is excited about the challenge of "thinking on his feet" as he works with public libraries to build their capacity. He is also eager to get involved in some of the many outdoor opportunities that Idaho offers.

The Commission is delighted to have Tomlinson on board.



Southwest/south central Idaho field consultant Kevin Tomlinson



EBSCOhost databases include:

- AGRICOLA
- Academic Search Premier
- GreenFILE
- Computer Source
- ERIC
- Fuente Academica
- Legal Collection
- Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts
- MasterFILE Premier
- Military & Government Collection
- Newspaper Source Plus
- Professional Development Collection
- Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection
- Religion and Philosophy Collection
- MAS Ultra: School Edition
- Middle Search Plus
- Primary Search
- Teacher Reference Center
- TOPICsearch
- Vocational & Career Collection
- Business Source Premier
- Regional Business News
- Small Business Reference Center
- Alt HealthWatch
- Consumer Health Complete
- Health Source: Consumer Edition
- Health Source: Nursing/ Academic Edition
- MedicLatina
- MEDLINE

LiLI Database Content - Update

The Commission is pleased to announce that two more databases have been added to the suite of resources available through the LiLI Database. With the addition of a readers advisory service and an auto repair resource, the following LiLI Database resources are available as of July 1, 2011 through the LiLI Portal and Idaho's publicly funded libraries:

- NovelList and NovelList K-8
- Auto Repair Reference Center
- World Book Encyclopedia
- Heritage Quest (genealogy research)
- Gale Virtual Reference Library e-reference books
- EBSCOhost

If you and your users access the LiLI Databases through www.lili.org, you need not take any additional action. Just enjoy the new line-up!

If you would like set up the links to the databases among your other online services from your public access computers or website, the information is available at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/lili-databases> under "Technical Support, Account Creation and Customer Service." Just click the link for the vendor in question.

WESTPAS - Protecting Cultural Collections Workshop

by Shirley Biladeau

The [Western States Preservation and Assistance Service](#) (WESTPAS) will present a [two-part preservation workshop](#) for all Idaho libraries, museums, and cultural institutions this summer in Boise at the Idaho Commission for Libraries. [Register](#) today for this hands-on workshop. Take-aways include a pocket disaster response plan, a better understanding of disaster recovery resources available in your area, and a new appreciation for disaster preparedness.

Pre-registration is required. Register online at: [WESTPAS workshop http://tiny.cc/ZePOL](http://WESTPAS%20workshop%20http://tiny.cc/ZePOL).

For registration assistance contact: Kathy Krause krause@plsinfo.org

Please share with all of your colleagues – if you have any questions, you can contact Shirley Biladeau at shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov at the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

Part 1: Prevention & Preparedness – August 18, 2011 – Idaho Commission for Libraries

Part 2: Response & Recovery – September 19, 2011– Idaho Commission for Libraries

Instructor: Kris Kern, Fine & Performing Arts Librarian, Portland State University

Administrators and staff responsible for emergency preparedness, response, and decision-making in all types of cultural institutions should attend. By registering for the workshop, the institution commits to supporting the attendee(s) to achieve the workshop's disaster preparedness goals. When possible, please send two attendees so they can work together on the disaster preparedness activities.

2011 Teens and Technology Summary Report

by Erica Compton

What a great Teens and Technology course we had this year! Sue Walker and I enjoyed traveling around Idaho for the regional workshops, working with local mentors, and meeting dedicated and talented library staff. Here is a snapshot of some of the data and information that was collected through evaluations and surveys. Read the entire report [HERE](#).

Teens and Technology Course results:

- 40 participants and four regional mentors (target 48 participants)

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Teens and Tech continued from page 4

- 31 participants completed all requirements (78% completion rate; target 90%)
- 50 book trailers were submitted for the March 25 workshop
- Over 150 book trailers were created by teens through all the Teen Tech Week (TTW) events statewide

Teen Tech Week data as reported in SurveyMonkey Evaluation

- 29 Public Libraries participated (20%; target 22%)
- 16 School Libraries participated (7.5%; target 12%)
- 1,258 teens participated in registered TTW events (50%; target 2,500)
- 20 of those registered were first time participants in TTW (400%; target 5)
- 59 library cards issued

Teens and Technology Course Evaluation

Where were you on the skills and knowledge Ladder? Range: 1 is low - 5 is high

- My ability to work with teens to create a book trailer project:
 - Before course: 26 of 32 participants responded 1 or 2
 - After course: 24 of 32 participants responded 4 or 5
- My overall knowledge of using technology to create book trailers:
 - Before course: 27 of 32 participants responded 1
 - After course: 31 of 32 participants responded 4 or 5

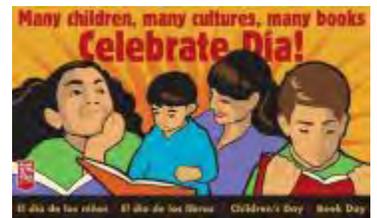
Course Method Evaluation – Range: 1 (Disagree) - 5 (Agree)

- Training methods were appropriate to achieve outcomes at regional workshop:
 - 32 of 33 participants responded 4 or 5
- Overall, I found the course valuable:
 - 32 of 33 participants responded 4 or 5

Día celebrations reach record numbers in 2011

by Erica Compton

Libraries across Idaho hosted Día events this year and by all accounts they had a great time. Pictures poured in and I was only able to use a small sample of images submitted. You can read all about the celebrations and see more pictures on the ICfL website [here](#).



Thank you to each library for your hard work and a 100% completion rate of the Día final report. Your efforts make it possible for us to report the following information:

- 17 libraries participated in ICfL's Día program
- Four libraries were first time hosts of a Día program
- 2,544 children, 281 teens, and 908 adults attended Día events throughout Idaho. That is a total of 3,733 people participating in celebrations and being introduced to library services.
- ICfL shipped out 2,700 bilingual, Spanish and English paperbacks for libraries to hand out at events. Many libraries supplemented that supply so they could hand out even more.
- 41 new library cards were issued and one site handed out another 37 applications that we hope will get filled out soon!
- 16 out of the 17 libraries stated that it was "Highly Likely" that they would host another Día event next year.
- You can read the full summary report on the 2011 Dia program on the ICfL website [here](#). It includes great feedback on the program and ideas for the future too.



- Ada Community Library, Victory Branch
- American Falls District
- DeMary Memorial Library
- Grangeville Centennial Library
- Hailey Public Library
- Jerome Public Library
- Kimberly Public Library
- Larsen-Sant Public Library
- Lewiston City Library
- Lizard Butte Library
- McCall Public Library
- Oneida County Library
- Salmon Public Library
- Snake River School Community Library
- Stanley Community Library District
- Twin Falls Public Library

Let's Talk About It!

The Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho Commission for Libraries have been bringing Let's Talk About It (LTAI) reading and discussion programs to communities in Idaho for 25 years. The addition of a program speaker makes this project different from a traditional book discussion program. The Let's Talk About It project brings together humanities scholars and adult readers in public libraries to read and discuss literature that explores American values, history, and culture. Any adult is welcome to sign up at their local participating library. Each library selects a theme, and readers will read from three to five titles within that theme, coming together for discussion and in-depth exploration of each book. Participating libraries report attracting new patrons, many repeat participants, and successful stimulating discussions.

Congratulations to the 16 libraries selected to participate in the Fall 2011 and Winter/Spring 2012 Let's Talk About It program. The statewide schedule is available on the ICfL website, along with the application and program information.

The Let's Talk About It program is made possible by the Idaho Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a generous gift from U.S. Bank, and is administered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

Transforming Life After 50 Fellows Complete Studies

By Shirley Biladeau

Congratulations to the 16 individuals from Idaho libraries who completed a year-long fellowship focusing on libraries services for midlife adults ages 50+, along with 74 Fellows from 11 other states. The Fellowship began with a 3-day Institute in Portland last September. During the past 9 months the Fellows focused on community assessment, program development, and evaluation through a variety of blended learning opportunities. They re-examined traditional views on aging and explored innovative ways in which public libraries can become centers of lifelong learning and civic engagement. The year-long program was funded by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program.

Now the Fellows will focus on planning and implementing Transforming Life After 50 (TLA50) approaches in their own libraries, including locally appropriate programs and engagement strategies. You will be hearing more about these efforts during the coming months as the Fellows share their stories, successes, and lessons learned in providing relevant services, resources, and volunteer opportunities for the 50+ generation. For more information go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/transforming-life-after-50-fellowship>.



Six Idaho librarians receive the LSSC Registration Assistance Award

By Shirley Biladeau

Six library staff members from around the state received the Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Registration Assistance Award. LSSC, a program managed by the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association, offers library employees the opportunity to enhance library service and increase their knowledge and skills in areas such as the foundations of librarianship, technology, and communication. This national certification is a valuable tool that will travel with the candidates regardless of geographic location.

The award covers one-half of the candidate registration fee for the certification program. Idaho's LSSC Registration Assistance Award recipients are:



- Joan Smith, Library Assistant, College of Western Idaho
- Jody Pettit, Director, Priest Lake Public Library
- Miranda Galbraith, Young Adult Programming/Cataloging Librarian, Madison Library District
- Shelly Doty, Instruction and Research Services, Albertsons Library— Boise State University
- Susan Nay, Assistant Director/Technical Services, Burley Public Library
- Valerie Bame, Children’s Librarian, Burley Public Library

The LSSC program is funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to the American Library Association. To find out more information about the LSSC Program go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/lssc>.

Idaho Library Statistics

The Idaho Commission for Libraries annually releases Idaho Library Statistics, a compilation of statistical data from all Idaho public libraries and publicly funded school libraries. ICfL encourages all Idaho libraries to participate in these annual surveys.

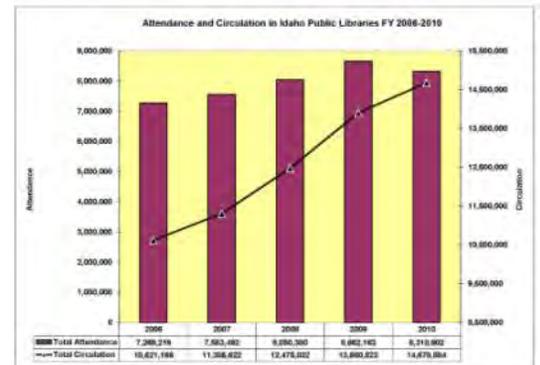
Statistical data submitted by Idaho's public and school libraries are useful to local, regional, state, and federal decision makers who have responsibility for ensuring that these vital publicly funded institutions remain able to provide the best programs and services for all the people of Idaho.

These library statistics are helpful when librarians want to:

- Compare their own library activity from year to year.
- Compare information from libraries of similar size.
- Obtain statistics to support budget requests.
- Analyze the needs of their community.

The public library data tables for FY10 are available at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/2010-fy-public-library-statistics>. Included are:

- Table 1 – Public Libraries by County
- Table 2 – Public Libraries by Population
- Table 3 – Mini Public Library Directory



SAVE THE DATE - ILA Annual Conference, October 5 - 7, 2011

Start getting ready to "Fast Forward, Rewind, Pause, and Unwind" at this year's Idaho Library Association Annual Conference, which will be held in Boise, October 5 - 7, 2011. Taking place at the Boise Centre, the Conference will feature a wonderful selection of presentations as well as Boise's great downtown area. New this year is the All Conference Read featuring Anthony Doerr's *Memory Wall*.



On Facebook, visit the Idaho Library Association page and click on the Events link. You can join the list of attendees or send invitations to your friends and colleagues.

Complete conference details will be available by mid-August at: <http://www.idaholibraries.org/conferences/2011>.



Library news from around the state

Ada Community Library—Lake Hazel Branch The Lake Hazel Branch of the Ada Community Library opened April 11. The two-story, 14,000-square-foot branch was opened in response to overflow crowds, a packed parking lot, teeming story times, constantly busy computer terminals, and insufficient room for expansion at the library's 22-year-old main branch. See more at www.idahostatesman.com/2011/04/14/1604951/from-bowling-to-books.html.

Clearwater County District Library, Weippe The April 8, 2011 edition of USA Today featured Clearwater County District Library in Weippe in the story "10 great places to take a library tour." Check it out at <http://travel.usatoday.com/destinations/10great/story/2011/04/10-great-places-to-take-a-library-tour/45893838/1>.

Community Library Network, Hayden Stephen Byrum, a Community Library Network teen, received Honorable Mention at the state level in Idaho's "You Are Here" Teen Video Challenge 2011 for his video promoting the Summer Reading program to other teens.



Ann Nichols, director of the East Bonner County Library District

East Bonner County Library District Ann Nichols has been named director of the East Bonner County Library District (EBCLD). Nichols has been serving as interim director since the retirement last fall of longtime library director Wayne Gunter. She joined the EBCLD staff in October 2005 as administrative librarian/assistant director. She previously held key positions with the Idaho Falls Public Library and the Idaho National Laboratory's Technical Library in Idaho Falls, ID. Read more at www.bonnercountydailybee.com/news/local/article_0fc4e8c4-5515-11e0-9cac-001cc4c002e0.html.

Garden City Library Garden City Public Library teen Lorry Hernández's video promoting the 2011 Summer Reading program to other teens was selected at the state level to be Idaho's official "You Are Here" Teen Video Challenge winner for 2011. Read more at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/ericacompton/idaho-teen-wins-video-challenge> and www.idahostatesman.com/2011/04/28/v-print/1627271/garden-city-teen-wins-250-for.html.

Hansen District Library Hansen District Library received a bequest of nearly \$250,000 from Nora Anderson, a longtime resident of Hansen who passed away last fall. Anderson was a great friend of Frances Harris, who founded the library in 1975 and passed away in 2005. The library hopes to use this "once-in-a-lifetime" gift to expand the library building, purchase new computers, and do maintenance work on the rest of the building (new windows, possibly new carpet, etc.). The gift will greatly benefit the library and the community it serves.

Lewiston City Public Library In June, Lewiston Urban Renewal Agency approved \$195,000 in downtown property tax dollars for a new library building. This money is in addition to \$160,000 in community development block grant funds approved by the Lewiston City Council. On April 25, the Lewiston City Council approved an agreement to purchase the Cornerstone/Erb Hardware building located downtown at 5th and D Street. The building will provide five times the space of the existing Thain Road structure. The city will pay \$595,000 of the building's \$800,000 selling price. The owner, Bennett Industries, is donating the remaining \$205,000.

Libri Foundation Grant Recipients The Libri Foundation (www.librifoundation.org) helps rural libraries acquire new, quality, hardcover children's books. 2011 recipients are: Grangeville Centennial Library; Hollister Elementary School Library; Lizard Butte Public Library, Marsing; Notus Public Library, and Ririe City Library.

