

The Scoop - Volume 2; Number 19 November 17, 2006



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Welcome



Show me the monkey!! Curious George has been spotted all over Idaho, even at the Governor's Office. We would love to hear how your Idaho Family Reading Week event went and share some photos (see Library to Library section below). Please send a quick e-mail to Peggy or Stephanie and tell us how it went!

In the photo above, State Librarian Ann Joslin [far left], Curious George, Mrs. Risch and invited children watch Governor Risch sign the Family Reading Week proclamation.

Meet Jean Hauritz

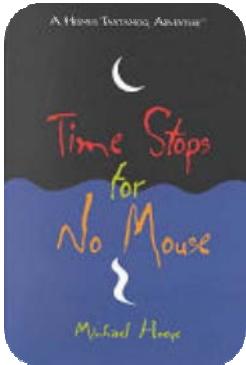


This time of year, **Jean Hauritz** is breathing a sigh of relief at surviving her very first Summer Reading Program. She told us it was, "An action packed five week program with a successful pilot project." That project, "Stories on the Lawn with Mrs. H" was held once a week during the free lunch program offered at the local elementary school.

Although Jean's only been with the **West Bonner County Library District** in **Priest River** (located west of Sandpoint) for one year, she's managed to jam-pack every single work day with challenges.

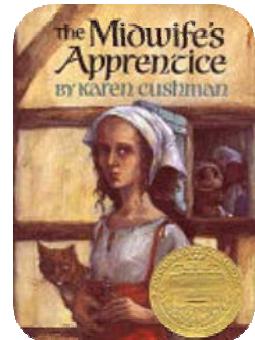
In her position as Program Coordinator, Jean works with ages ranging from preschoolers to adults. She conducts a preschool half hour story time in the morning twice a month, a K-6 Tale Twisters story and craft session twice a month after school, and the Youth Advisory Council once a month for 7th-12th grades. And, as if that wasn't enough planning and presenting, she is also initiating their newest project, an adult literacy program. Along with that program, Jean is especially excited to be involved in activities for Banned Book Week and planned discussions with the Youth Advisory Council.

In 2005, Priest River had an estimated population of just over 1,900. Like so many areas of Idaho, it's steadily growing. The West Bonner Library District serves not only the city of Priest River but also over 6,900 people in the surrounding area via services at one main and one branch library in Blanchard. Presently the attendance figures are low, but with the help of innovative programs and marketing strategies the number of people availing themselves of library services is expected to increase.



According to Jean, one of her favorite things about the job is, "Finding modern and cultural stories for young readers. I can offer all the old classic favorites, but it is so nice to refer a child or young adult to a younger author and story." Recently, she's been checking out some of the young reader's fiction such as Michael Hoeye's *Time Stops for No Mouse* and *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman.

Her early years were filled with stories about animals. A bit later mystery stories became a favorite as well as any stories about other countries. She emphasizes that, "I've always loved to read," and has been interested in libraries ever since working in her high school library. Taking such pleasure in reading and her love of working with children makes her present job a good fit. Jean also has a sage comment. She says, "Despite the low attendance, I know that we do impact those who enter our doors. Be encouraged, small town libraries. You do most definitely fill a need."



There are also a lot of activities happening outside Jean's workplace. She spends some of her spare time spinning wool and other fibers "just for fun and relaxation". She finds time to visit museums in both the local area and Seattle and generally loves to travel.

Library to Library



Mary Nate from Bear Lake County District Library in Montpelier called to tell us about the library's successful event on Monday evening. Three hundred and fifty people attended their Family Reading Night. Participants were greeted by Curious George and then went to four activity stations. At each station, they earned a sticker. When they had all four stickers they could sign up for door prizes and received rulers, door hangers and white boards. Bear Lake also took Curious George to all the schools this week and they will be sharing the costume with the **Soda Springs Public Library**.



Mary sent this photo (above right) which features library trustee Helen Rasmussen and her granddaughter Isabelle posing with Curious George. Thanks, Mary!



Ann Tabler, director of the **Hailey Public Library** sent us this report: "While we didn't have Curious George (in person), we have had a fun Family Reads Week. On Tuesday evening, November 14, we had an open house with a holiday cookie bake-off, crafts for the kids (turkey hats) and a Book Walk (like a cake walk but the prizes were donated books). Today [Wednesday] we had a special story time with Curious George as a theme complete with mini banana muffins, a Curious George video, and stories by

our own Leann Gelskey, Children's Librarian Extraordinaire. It has been a very fun week and we have had many new families join the library as a result."



Payette Public Library Director Colleen Bonnell said, "Curious George and the Man with the Yellow Hat (Mayor Doug Henderson -- featured in the photo at left) were at the Payette Public Library Monday, Nov. 13. We lost count at over 159 people (kids and adults). The mayor read ***Curious George Visits the Library*** and then Curious George hung out with the children and adults and took pictures and received a lot of hugs and loving."



Garden City Library director **Lisa Zeiter** shared: "[Last night] was the BIGGEST party we have ever had at our library. Impossible to count heads... We served over 250 banana splits and many MANY MANY of the guests skipped the ice cream to spend more time with Curious George and the Man in the Yellow Hat! Promise to get you some pictures soon. My Oh My!"



McCall Public Library Children's Librarian **Meg Lojek** said, "We have been having SO much fun with Curious George! We visited three daycares and four classrooms yesterday and had an evening family event last night. Curious George travels to **Cascade Public Library** tonight. Finally, we'll have it at preschool storytime tomorrow! Lots of mileage out of it, lots of good PR, and lots of smiles!" He's in front of the elementary school at the left and working the storyhour crowd with Meg at the right.



Heather Stout from **Lewiston Public Library** said Curious George enjoyed his visit at their library too. (see photo at right). "We're having a great time with this. More pictures to follow after more events."



Governor and Mrs. Risch were special guest readers at **Boise Public Library's** "Dinner and a Book" family reading event on Wednesday night. One hundred people signed up to attend. Pizza, ice cream, and stories were served to the families. Curious George also made an appearance.

Young Adult Corner

A Blog-buster Idea

In July 2006, the Washington State Library kicked off their Summer Reading Book Blog Pilot Project. The primary goal is to make use of a technology teens use and enjoy (and consider ‘cool’) to promote books and reading. Success will be measured by the amount and frequency of participation by youth. The blog is intended to be a place for middle school teens, grades 6-8, to share reviews and comments about their favorite books and communicate with each other about what they’re reading. Another goal is to demonstrate the potential uses of blogs for libraries, either for patrons or for staff. If the project is a success, follow-up training will be offered to cover further uses of blogs in libraries and how to set up and administer a library blog. Additional statewide reading blogs may also be created.

For more details on how registration and requirements were set up, visit the project web site: <http://www.washingtonreads.org/blog/>.

Great Stories CLUB picks three Idaho sites

In March, 181 libraries were selected to participate in the Great Stories CLUB, an initiative funded by Oprah's Angel Network aimed at getting books into the hands of troubled teens. The initiative, implemented by ALA's Public Programs Office and YALSA, helped establish book discussion groups for teens in alternative schools and juvenile detention centers.

Idaho school libraries participating in the program include: **Mountain Cove High School Library** in Boise, **Portneuf District Library** in Chubbuck and **School District #25 Teen Parent Center** (Alternative School) in Pocatello, and **Eagle Academy School Library** in Eagle.

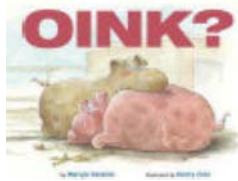
Libraries awarded this grant received 11 sets of the three books to provide to members of the book club, along with online resources to plan and implement the program. Book selections, theme and program support materials are developed by YALSA's Outreach to Young Adults with Special Needs Committee. The theme for the Great Stories CLUB is teens facing challenges, and included the following titles: ***The First Part Last*** by Angela Johnson, ***Born Blue*** by Han Nolan, ***Stuck in Neutral*** by Terry Trueman.

To read about the libraries' experiences, visit
<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/currentprograms/greatstories/>

Book Look

Thank you to our colleague Rhonda K. Puntney, Youth Services and Special Needs Consultant for Lakeshores Library System in Wisconsin for permission to share these reviews of great storytime books with Scoop readers:

Oink? by Margie Palatini

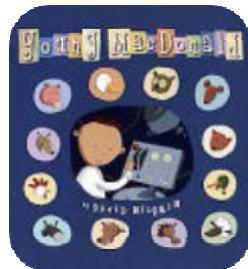


Some of the other animals on the farm are fed up with the pigs—they stink, their living quarters are a disgrace and both are a mess. So they decide to outwit the pigs and get them to clean up a bit. The chickens will take care of the fence and building, the rabbit will tend to their diet and the duck will organize a pond-digging. But are these pigs as dumb as they look? Palatini has written a fun story that should work well for any storytime, whether it's on a lap or in a group.

Henry Cole's pictures are colorful and easy to understand—everyone should be able to catch that the pigs know what they're doing, and the self-righteousness of the other animals is hilarious.

Young MacDonald by David Milgrim

An interesting take on an old song. Young MacDonald is into science, especially cloning. Each verse has a different combined animal, resulting in some weird combinations. The book is possible to sing, as each rendition of animal makes lyrical sense, but that's where the magic of the book ends. Some of the animals you'll have to slow down when you say them, else you might inadvertently say something you shouldn't... it also is a little disturbing for someone to be playing with science like this—perhaps if he weren't a farmer it would be a little less weird. Of course, by the end he has to quickly fix everything, as his parents have arrived home with pizza for all. The illustrations aren't bad, but lack pizzazz, and the animals are all out of proportion (which, I suppose, makes sense if you're combining a pig and a horse). Overall, this book doesn't jive.



Magic Thinks Big by Elisha Cooper

Magic is a fat cat who can't seem to decide what to do today. He sits in the doorway, thinking of all the different things he could do, if he got enough gumption. The main thing he thinks about though? Different ways to get fed. This is a short, but extremely cute book. Magic is truly a fat cat, and Cooper gives us a few different views—the best is the top view, looking down on the cat. The illustrations are in soft watercolors, making everything dreamy. A picture of the inspirational cat is on the back cover, rounding out this book.

Send Stephanie or Peggy a review for *The Scoop*, and we'll send you a brand new hardback book for your library.

Upcoming Events



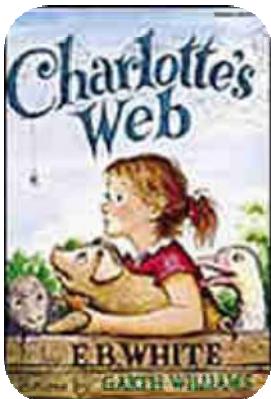
An Evening With Judith Viorst.

Author Judith Viorst will be presenting a free session open to the public called "Parenting Our Children from Newborn to Thirty-Year Old-and Beyond" on Tuesday, November 28, 2006 at the Grove Hotel in Boise from 7:30 - 8:15 p.m.

Judith Viorst is the author of several works of fiction and non-fiction for children as well as adults. **Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day**, her most famous children's book, was first published in 1972 and has since sold over two million copies. Books will be on sale and a book signing will be held from 6:30 - 7 p.m. and 8:15 - 9 p.m.

Light refreshments and no-host beverages will be available. This community event will be held in conjunction with the Early Years 2006 Conference. For more information about this conference please visit www.idahochild.org or call 208-334-6955. The event is sponsored by: Kaplan Early Learning Company, Idaho Department of Education, and Idaho Parents as Teachers

Break a World Reading Record with Charlotte's Web



Join schools, libraries and other organizations across the nation to help break the world record for the most people reading the same passage simultaneously in multiple locations.

On **Wednesday, December 13, 2006, at 12 noon (EST)**, join students, educators, librarians and fans of Charlotte's Web to gather in schools, hospitals, libraries and community centers to read a passage from E.B. White's classic tale of friendship, kindness, selfless giving and miracles. "Break a World Reading Record with Charlotte's Web" will introduce this wonderful story to a new generation and reintroduce the story to fans who haven't read it since childhood.

Go to <http://www.charlotteswebbarr.com/> to find out how to participate. Also available online are detailed instructions, a Charlotte's Web reading record event guide, reproducible activity sheets, registration forms, an Educator Guide, coloring sheets, fun activities and an online database with comprehensive information and tips to join this national attempt! Charlotte's Web opens in theaters nationwide on December 20, 2006.



Summer Reading News



It's Not Too Late - Apply Today for Bright Futures Outreach Incentives

Today, November 17th, is the deadline to send in your Bright Futures Intent to Participate form to the Idaho Commission for Libraries. This gives you the inside track to receiving loads of incentives for your summer reading program. Special bookmark pens (created just for Idaho libraries), t-shirts, door hangers, magnifying glasses, posters, stickers, lapel pins and more are available. Help make the 2007 summer reading program the best ever with your participation.

Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/default/Intent-sum07.pdf> to print the form and fax it to the Idaho Commission for Libraries or you can fill it out and submit it online at: ~~editor's note: the link has been removed because the page is no longer in existence~~. If you have questions about any of the incentive programs, contact Peggy at 334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.

Schools and Public Libraries Team Up for Summer Reading Success

In 2006, Idaho libraries visited over 200 schools to promote summer reading. In addition, 44 libraries partnered with 65 schools to earn books for their collections. Idaho libraries shared how they felt these activities worked to support their summer reading programs. Here are a few of their comments:

- I know that a lot of children who came into the library mentioned seeing our librarians at their school.
- I think it helped families realize that the library is accessible, fun, and educationally important. The library is an equal playing field where financial issues don't matter.
- The school visits were a factor in increasing the number who signed up.
- Our excitement was passed on to them.
- The visibility of the banners and the promise of special prizes always helps.
- We were more visible throughout the community.
- We targeted third grade classrooms during our spring classroom visits. We did have an increase in SRP enrollment in 3rd, 4th, and 6th grades...with 3rd grade being our biggest increase of all!
- It helped build connections between the library and the elementary school and the students who attend.

- We did a promotion at kindergarten registration. The schools allowed us to visit an assembly and classroom. We gave handouts to each child in kindergarten through 3rd grade, hung posters and the banner, and it was announced in the school newsletter. We had the principal, librarian, and teachers as guest readers at the programs. The administration office announced it on the reader board all summer.

School Zone

Gooding High School Media Coordinator Cora Caldwell sent in photos from their October carving contest as promised. The 2006 event was another success with over 20 pumpkins entered in the contest. Gooding elementary and middle schools come over to the school library to view the contest entries. Pumpkins are judged by staff in the different categories, but the People's Choice Award is the popular vote by the students themselves.



The photo at the right shows the Pumpkin Carving Contest winners (left to right): JuNeil Wolfe with "Most Unique" pumpkin; Briana Evans with "Scariest"; Michael Rider and the "Cutest" pumpkin; Damon Hanson who won the "Most Difficult" award; Jessica McHan with the "Traditional" award; and Audra Shaw (not in photo) won the "People's Choice Award."

The Gooding High School student winners received their choice of book and carving patterns and tools.

Toward the end of this month, the 40 student members of the Gooding High School Reading Club will be creating Christmas door decorations for residents of Gooding Rehabilitation & Living Center. "About 50 decorations of angels, Santa's, trees, wreaths and other jolly decorations are placed on doors to help celebrate the season. We have read Christmas stories and poems to residents, also," Cora said.

During Christmas Culture Day in December, the Reading Club usually sells food from a different country. "Our display hosts a flag and sometime music from our chosen country. All clubs participate as we help students learn about different cultures in the world," she said.

Great ideas, Cora! Thanks for sharing with The Scoop.

Know the Numbers

Most adults (83 percent) rate library services to children as “very important.” This survey finding was reinforced by focus group participants who said that taking children to the library is part of being a good and conscientious parent. (Source: The Benton Foundation, 1998, *The Future's in the Balance: A Toolkit for Libraries and Communities in the Digital Age*: www.benton.org/publibrary/future-balance/toolkit.pdf. Accessed May 1, 2006)

Young people ages 8-18 spend an average of 6.5 hours per day using various media. While time spent with computers and video games increased significantly since 1999, the amount of time spent on reading remained steady at about 43 minutes per day. Three-fourths of the children ages 8-18 say they read daily for pleasure. (Source: Rideout, Victoria, Donald F. Roberts and Ulla G. Foehr. 2005. *Generation M: Media in the Lives of 8-18 Year-olds*, Menlo Park, CA: Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. Available at www.kff.org/entmedia/entmedia030905pkg.cfm. Accessed May 1, 2006.)



A Closer Look at Emerging Trends in Youth Services

Trend #8: The use of technology has changed the way that many community residents seek information and services at home, at work, at school and at the library.

Creating and maintaining a library web site was an emerging trend about 10 – 15 years ago. At that time it functioned more as an online brochure – described services, listed hours, and provided contact information. Today the emerging trend is for a library web site to offer services through the web site – LiLI databases, RSS feeds with information about new book releases, online storyhours, displays via online slide shows, virtual reference, homework help, etc. The expectation is people shouldn't have to drive 30 miles to get to a library to access services.

The new “e-branch in a box” service helps provide the tools to create this service at your library (and maintain a current web site in 30 minutes or less a month!). Many of you may have recently participated in e-branch workshops. If not, it’s not too late to learn more about this great new free service. To learn more, [contact Michael Samuelson](#) at the Idaho Commission for Libraries (or 1-800-458-3271).

Children and teens may be computer literate, but not information literate. Along with this trend comes the change in role of librarians as educators.

The expectation that the library serve as the community's navigator for electronic as well as print information has expanded the library's traditional role. The library is increasingly called on to provide skilled searching and help locate resources in the complex online world of information. The library's online catalog, reference databases and its web site indicate the community's growing need for electronic guidance and resources. People also expect an increased level of instruction in how to use the various databases and electronic resources. (Source: Mount Laurel Public Library's long range plan)

Facts about Children's Home Computer Access and Internet Use (Source: Child Trends Databank, www.childtrends.org/prekto3.cfm)

In 2003, more than three out of four children (76 percent) ages 3 to 17 had access to a computer at home, up from 15 percent in 1984. Forty-two percent used the internet at home, nearly double the percentage (22 percent) who had used it in 1997.

Home access to computers and the internet has expanded dramatically over the last decade. Common uses for the home computer by children and youth include educational programs, games, word processing, and access to the internet. Activities common among teens also include reading or sending e-mail, sending and receiving instant messages, shopping, getting news, and going to entertainment, music, or sports websites. In 2001, children ages 5 to 17 were most likely to use home computers to play games (59 percent of all children), but they also often used home computers for connecting to the internet (46 percent) and completing school assignments (44 percent). Among children who used the internet, the most common uses included school work (72 percent), e-mail (65 percent), and playing games (62 percent).

Differences by Race and Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic white and Asian children are much more likely than black and Hispanic children to have access to a computer at home and about twice as likely to use the internet at home.

Differences by Household Income Level

As household income rises, so does children's access to computers at home and home Internet use. In 2003, 43 percent of children in households with an income of less than \$15,000 had access to a computer at home, compared with 96 percent of children in households with an income of over \$75,000. Children's internet use at home follows a similar pattern, ranging from 17 percent to 63 percent.

Differences by Parental Education Level

As householder education increases, so does children's access to computers and use of the internet at home. For example, children in homes where the head of household does not have a high school education are much less likely to have access to computers or to use the internet in their home than children in homes where the

householder graduated from college (47 percent versus 94 percent, respectively, for computer access and 20 percent compared with 57 percent, respectively, for home internet use in 2003).

Differences by Age

Home computer access is high at any age. In 2003, 70 percent of 3- to 5-year-olds had access, compared with 79 percent among 15- to 17 year-olds. Fifteen percent of children ages three to five used the Internet at home in 2003, compared with 65 percent of youth ages 15 to 17.

State Estimates

In Idaho, 33 percent of kids are without a computer at home. New Hampshire ranked the highest in terms of the most children -- 82 percent have computers at home. Mississippi ranked the lowest with 55 percent lacking access to computers at home. (Source Kids Count, www.aecf.org/kidscount/sld/compare_results.jsp?i=490)

Tips & Tools

New Books at the Idaho Commission for Libraries:

Partnering with Purpose: A Guide to Strategic Partnership Development for Libraries and Other Organizations, by Janet L. Crowther and Barry Trott. Libraries Unlimited, 2004. [021.2 CROWTHE]

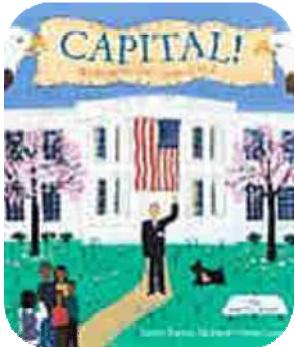
A practical guide showing how - and with whom - to form partnerships, handle challenges, meet partners, and create and maintain mechanisms for tracking and evaluating partnerships. Useful samples and reproducible forms are included to help you get started.

The Search: How Google and Its Rivals Rewrote the Rules of Business and Transformed Our Culture, by John Battelle. Portfolio, 2005. [025.04 BATTELL 2005]

More than an analysis of the Google phenomenon, this volume offers an excellent view of the past, present, and future of search technology and its impact on our culture. A well-written and easy-to-read approach to a fascinating subject.

These books are part of the Professional Development Service offered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL). Materials can be borrowed either by direct loan or through interlibrary loan at your library. Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/professional-development-collection> or call ICFL at (208) 334-2150 or (800) 458-3271 for more information.

News Beyond Idaho



On a recent trip to Washington, D.C., Peggy ran across a brochure from the District of Columbia Public Library which features books related to our national capital. **"Just for Kids: Washington, D.C. through Children's Books,"** prepared by Children's Librarians at the D.C. Public Library is a guide for armchair adventurers and on-foot explorers to the delights of D.C. The list is divided into categories which include Places to See, Government, Geography & History, People, and Stories Set in D.C. It includes *Capital!: Washington, D.C. from A to Z* by Laura Krauss Melmed. To see the complete list, go to:

<http://dclibrary.org/kids/dcbooklist.html>.



Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in *The Scoop*. Just e-mail [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#) and we'll print your comments in *The Scoop*.

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Contact Us: *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Peggy McClendon](#) or [Stephanie Bailey-White](#) at (208) 334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.