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## Welcome

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We are excited to introduce a new column in this issue.

**NexGen YS** will be written by *Scoop* advisory committee member **Dylan Baker, from the Ada Community Library** in Boise. This is just the sort of thing we had in mind when we launched *The Scoop*---a place for public and school librarians to share fun, inspiring, and innovative ideas for youth services.

Dylan will present an important perspective--that of the next generation of librarians. Idaho librarians are in the process of envisioning the [future of library service for the next 20 years](#), and much of that vision will be carried out by the next generation. We hope you will be inspired to add your comments and responses to NexGen YS.

We will be holding a drawing for one of the books that was booktalked at the YALSA Institutes. Our profiled librarian Bret Fowler is reading it now and I know several others have placed it on their "to read" lists. If you send in a book review or programming idea in the next month, you could win a copy of *The Life Before Her Eyes*, by Laura Kasischke. Just e-mail [Peggy McClendon](#) or [Stephanie Bailey-White](#) or give us a call at (208) 334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271. We are also collecting web site URLs for Idaho school libraries. If your school library has a web site, please let us know!



## Meet Bret Fowler

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**Bret Fowler** is the media generalist at **Caldwell High School**. Bret served a two-year stint as librarian at Jefferson Junior High and taught English at the secondary level for 22 years before getting the job at the high school library, a job he loves. "Kids and books. It doesn't get much better than working with kids and books," he said.

Caldwell High has about 1,600 students. They are in their second year of including ninth graders in the high school student population. Bret describes his library as "a work in progress" and says he has a lot of plans and a lot of work to do. "I'm a big promoter of the LiLI databases," he said. On the day we interviewed him, he was researching search terms, web sites and reference books because students were working on the National History Day project on colonial America. He opens the library at 7 a.m. and leaves around 4:30 p.m. to allow as much time throughout the day for kids to visit. His goal is to turn the library into a "real library" – a research library where it is a quiet and safe place where kids can come and study and read and "taste books."

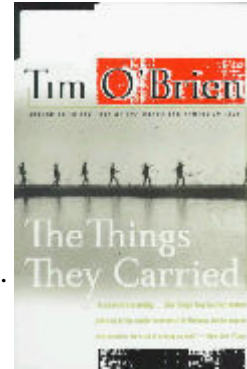
In addition to making the library a valuable place in kids' lives rather than just a hangout or a place they avoid, he also wants to make the library more inviting, attractive, and more colorful. When asked about his biggest challenge, Bret says "selling the faculty on this new paradigm of collaborating with the library on research and other needs."



Bret recently purchased over 400 new fiction titles for the library and says his biggest success so far is turning kids on to good reads. He is an avid reader with a dozen books in

progress. A few he's reading now include: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, by Mark Haddon; *Holiness: Its Nature, Hindrances, Difficulties, and Roots*, by J C Ryle; *The Hero* by Ron Woods; *The Life Before Her Eyes*, by Laura Kasischke; and he's rereading *Whirligig* by Paul Fleischman. Three of his all-time favorite titles include *The Things They Carried*, by Tim O'Brien, *A River Runs Through It*, by Norman McClean and *Reservation Blues*, by Sherman Alexie.

When Bret isn't reading or working in the library he enjoys fly fishing, tying flies, and camping. He also likes to engage in book arts and making paper. He is renovating an old school house that he lives in and enjoys spending time with his family.



## Library to Library

### Family Reading Week Incentive Program Deadline Extended

In the last issue we told you about the **Family Reading Week incentive program**. Applications are starting to arrive but we have extended the deadline to **October 31st** to give librarians more time to plan their family reading event. We have enough materials for 75 public / school partners to participate. If you have questions, call Peggy, Stephanie or Anne at (800) 458-3271 or 334-2150 (Boise area).

We wanted to share how the **Eastern Owyhee County District Library in Grand View** plans to partner with the **Grand View Elementary School** for Idaho Family Reading Week.



Library director **Kathy Chick** writes:

"During the week of November 14-18, at school the students will be reminded of the activity at the library and to read together as a family. Volunteer readers will go to the school and present stories to the classes during this week.

On Tuesday evening, November 15, a family-oriented activity will be held at the public library. We will be featuring families as our main theme this year. We hope to pull in many participants and their families. We also hope to get grandparents involved in our evening activity.

Our main activity will be story modules where families can sit together and read books at the library. We will have a guest speaker present some facts and how-to's on genealogy and research besides presenting some stories from ancestors and former residents of the Grand View area. A display of genealogical records and old photos will be set up and visible. A Family Tree page will be given to all participants so they can begin their own genealogy records. Help will be provided to get them started.

Our craft will involve finger puppets that the participants can make look like their family members. We will provide ideas of how to use them for entertainment and story related activities at home. We could not have a successful evening without some kind of food. So we will be featuring a few family favorites for the participants. We will do a simple poll at school to learn some of these favorites. We are going to ask the first and second grade students to write down the recipe for their favorite food dish or dessert. This will be in their own writing--not a recipe brought from home. It should be pretty cute. We will print these recipes into a book and distribute them at the Family Reading activity.

Of course, the evening would not be complete if we did not encourage any who have not signed up for a library card to do so. We are looking forward to having fun with families in our community. The school is excited about participating with us. Come on over!"



## Young Adult Corner

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### **Power Up with Print Institutes draw over 150 participants**

Idaho librarians had the chance to learn more about best practices in meeting the reading needs of teens at three workshops held in September. Over 155 public and school librarians attended the workshops sponsored by the Idaho State Library's Read to Me program. The workshops were presented by **Berkeley Public Librarian Francisca Goldsmith**, who contracts with YALSA, the Young Adult Library Services Association of the American Library Association to make the Power Up with Print workshops possible.

Library staff were encouraged to involve teens in planning programs and in helping select and promote books. Goldsmith also encouraged librarians to try focus groups as a way of getting better input into planning services to meet the needs of today's teens. "Young adults are an important target audience for libraries and we heard from several youth services staff who asked for more training

opportunities in this area," Projects Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said. "We hope library staff continue to share programming ideas, book reviews, and information in *The Scoop*."

For more information about YALSA, including resources for young adult librarians, go to the YALSA website at [www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa).

We plan on including the booklists generated at each of the workshops in the next issue of *The Scoop*. We also hope more people will share programming ideas, new books they have discovered, or ways they have reached out to reluctant teen readers in future issues.



## NexGen YS

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By Dylan Baker

Ask any Trekkie and they'll tell you that Picard's Enterprise is nothing like Kirk's. The original Enterprise resembled a modern-day submarine, but its successor was practically an office building. Female crew on Kirk's ship wore short skirts, but not so on Picard's. The latter Enterprise boasted sophisticated recreational facilities, like holodecks, while the former had few such amenities. Compared to the original series, truly this was the next generation of Star Trek.

Libraries too are markedly different than their predecessors of just a few decades ago. Gone are the unwieldy card catalogs, replaced by computer catalogs that find books in a fraction of the time. Books are no longer the only items to be found; CDs, DVDs, and even video games have squeezed into circulation. Free Internet access, unimaginable before the advent of the World Wide Web, is now a staple commodity at most libraries.

As different as the card catalog is to the computer catalog, so too is the staff of today's (and tomorrow's) library from the library staff of yesteryear. Generations X and Y entering the library field must surely appear strange to the Baby Boomers already well experienced therein. Perspectives and paradigms can often clash across the generational divide in libraries, whether outright or beneath the radar.

My goal in this series of articles is to open a dialogue and help bridge that generational divide to turn potential clash into fruitful communication.

I'll examine how cutting edge technologies such as wikis, RSS feeds, and podcasts can augment and enhance our services for youth and the community. I'll discuss the pros and cons of changing (and challenging) the conventional library ways, whether it's how we circulate items or even what items we circulate. I'll also consider ways to help motivate Generation X and Y librarians to do their best work.



Most importantly, I'll offer a few thoughts on what each generation can learn from the others about working in libraries and giving our patrons the best possible service. The Baby Boomers have an advantage in their years of life and library experience, providing valuable tried-and-true perspectives. Yet Generations X and Y, while lacking in experience, are closer to the future's edge and its bold, new ideas—ideas that will keep libraries relevant in the changing decades to come.

Throughout this series, I welcome any input, comments, or questions. If you feel some element to be missing in my articles, please let me know or (better yet) contribute your own perspective to *The Scoop*. Only together can we reach across the generational divide and improve libraries for the young, the old, and everyone in between.

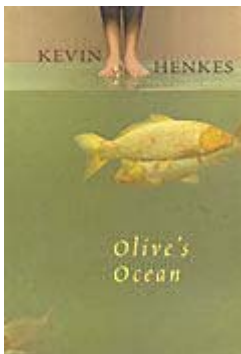
Leave your old Enterprise behind and join me as we boldly go where few libraries have gone before.

## Book Look

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Here are six more nominees for the **2006 Young Reader's Choice Awards (YRCA)** sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA). To see the complete list, visit their web site at <http://www.pnla.org/yrca/index.htm>. Only youth in Idaho who have read two or more of the nominated books (published in 2003) are eligible to vote.

### Junior Division - 4th to 6th grade



#### **OLIVE'S OCEAN by Kevin Henkes**

In this coming-of-age story, we meet 12-year-old Martha who is dealing with various family issues as well as her own quest to find herself. Added to the mix, is the story of Olive, Martha's classmate, who recently died in a car accident. Martha discovers she had more in common with Olive than she ever dreamed when Olive's mother gives Martha a page from Olive's diary. Martha discovers that Olive--like Martha--wanted to be a writer and that she wanted to see the ocean.

How Olive's dream intertwines with Martha's life when she visits Cape Cod with her family during the summer gently unfolds in this sensitive novel.

Read more about author **Kevin Henkes** and his other books at his web site:

<http://www.kevinhenkes.com/>.



#### **RODZINA by Karen Cushman**

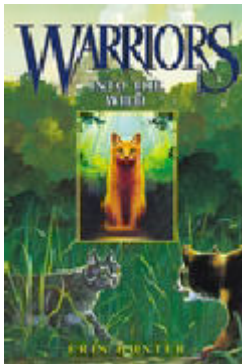
American history comes alive in this tale set in the late 1800s. The story of the Orphan Trains--a movement to transport

homeless children from New York City slums to farms in the West-- is told through the eyes of 12-year-old Rodzina Clara Jadwiga Anastazyia Brodski, a Polish immigrant girl. How the strong-willed heroine surmounts the travails of the cross-country journey with 20 other orphans and her eventual triumph in making a new life will captivate young readers through its gritty and humorous storytelling. At the end, Newbury award-winning author Karen Cushman provides historical notes and a bibliography of other orphan train books.

Publisher Houghton Mifflin has a study guide for *Rodzina* at:[http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/readers\\_guides/cushman/rodzina.shtml](http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/readers_guides/cushman/rodzina.shtml).

For more information on the Orphan Trains, go to the Children's Aid Society web site: <http://www.childrensaidsociety.org/about/train>.

### **Intermediate Division - 7th to 9th grade**



#### **INTO THE WILD by Erin Hunter**

In the animal adventure/fantasy category comes the story of feral cats who live in their ancestral forest and Rusty, an ordinary house cat. Or is he? How Rusty is transformed into Firepaw and helps the ThunderClan cats survive and save their way of life when threatened by other clans encroaching their territory is told in a manner reminiscent of Clare Bell's *Ratha's Creature* and Brian Jacques' *Redwall* series. The ending remains ambiguous, leaving room for sequels (this is Volume I of The Warrior series).

Who is **Erin Hunter**? Find out by visiting the SFBookcase.com web site:



<http://www.sfbookcase.com/author.asp?forename=Erin&surname=Hunter>.

#### **MILLICENT MIN, GIRL GENIUS by Lisa Yee**

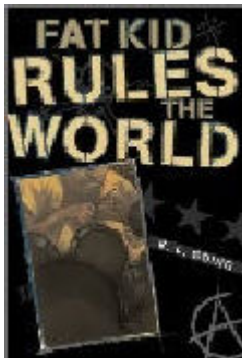
Wouldn't it be cool to be a genius? Millicent Min finds it a mixed bag as her "know it all" attitude keeps getting in the way of making a real friend. Her parents are worried about Millie's lack of social skills, but Millie is more concerned with

her college poetry class. Told over the course of the summer of her 12th year, the story focuses on how learning about trust, friendship and getting along in the real world helps Millie become wise as well as smart.

Budding writers and fans of *Millicent Min* will enjoy visiting **Lisa Yee's** quirky web site and reading about how she came to write the book.

<http://www.lisayee.com/>

### Senior Division - 10th to 12th grade



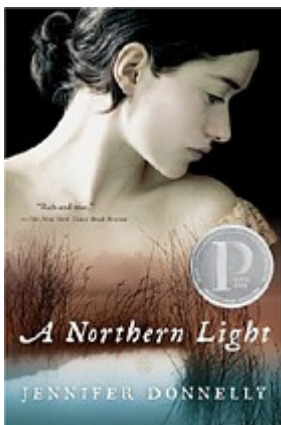
#### **FAT KID RULES THE WORLD** by **K. L. Going**

Who hasn't dreamed of being a rock star at one time or another? Meet the unlikely duo of 296-pound self-proclaimed "fat kid" Troy Billings and high school dropout/ punk-rock guitarist Curt MacCrae, who has plenty of problems of his own, including drug use. Told in the first person from Troy's perspective, this engrossing book chronicles the development of their friendship after Curt rescues Troy from a suicide attempt, and Curt asks Troy to be a drummer in his band. Plot twists, memorable characters, humor, and honesty make this a book that will ring true for teen readers.

Read an interview with first-time author **K. L. Going** at

<http://www.cynthialeitichsmith.com/storygoing.html>

and visit the author's web site at: <http://www.klgoing.com/index2.html>.



#### **A NORTHERN LIGHT** by **Jennifer Donnelly**

In another story about a girl who wants to be a writer (see *Olive's Ocean*), this award-winning book is based on a murder which took place at the turn of the 20th century and was the basis of Theodore Dreiser's classic *An American Tragedy*. From Jennifer Donnelly's web site: "Mattie is torn between her familial responsibilities, her desire to be a writer, and the excitement of a first romance. Her dilemmas and choices are quietly reflected in the life of a young woman found drowned in a lake, a woman whom Mattie gets to know only through a bundle of letters left in her possession. The tale of the drowned girl merges with Mattie's own story, giving her the courage to define her own future."

On **Jennifer Donnelly's** web site also find an interview with the author and a reader's guide. <http://www.jenniferdonnelly.com/index.htm>





## Summer Reading News

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### **Boise Hawks' partnership with Treasure Valley Libraries is another home run in 2005**

The Boise Hawks teamed with area libraries this summer by challenging kids to read through the "Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds" reading program.

Thirty-two area libraries participated in the program with over 17,000 kids participating. Any child who read six hours or more was then eligible to receive a ticket to a Hawks' game. Almost 10,000 children did just that!

"Children and family entertainment are what we're all about," said Boise Hawks President/General Manager Todd Rahr. "The fact that we were able to help motivate 10,000 kids to continue to learn and grow over the summer is a source of great pride for our organization."

Boise Hawks players and Humphrey the Hawk spent a great deal of time actually going to the libraries. A number of the players visited the libraries to read, sign autographs, and motivate the children to improve their reading skills.



• *From Sports Central: Independent and Minor League Sports News*



## School Zone

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State Library staff has been working to make the library's professional development collection more relevant and user-friendly. We are now able to send books and videos back and forth to your school or library in a postage-free cloth sack. By utilizing a "Netflix" delivery model, we hope it makes it more convenient for you to borrow some of the titles we have available. If you have any suggestions for topics you'd like to see or specific book titles, please contact Peggy or Stephanie and we'll pass the requests along. Here's a few titles that have been added recently:

***The Principal's Guide to a Powerful Library Media Program***, by Marla W. McGhee and Barbara A. Jansen. (2005). Increase visibility for your library media center. A tool for principals and librarians can use to understand how exemplary school library programs really work, and how important that library is to students'



achievement. [ISL 025.1978 McGhee]

*Motivating Students in Information Literacy Classes*, by Trudi E. Jacobson and Lijuan Xu. (2004). This book provides a step-by-step process for building motivation into instruction showing librarians and instructors how to develop engaging courses that will compel students to become effective and successful users of information. [ISL 028.7071 Jacobso]

*Do It Right!: Best Practices for Serving Young Adults in School and Public Libraries*, by Patrick Jones and Joel Shoemaker. (2001). This book discusses customer service principles and how they apply to young adult library services and suggests specific strategies readers can use to provide their young adult users with world-class customer service. [ISL 027.626 Jones]

*The Information-Powered School*, edited by Sandra Hughes-Hassell and Anne Wheelock. (2001). The idea behind this book's publication was that school library media specialists and teachers could work together to make certain their students were truly becoming information literate and equipped to utilize those skills as they advanced to higher levels of education. [ISL 027.8 Informa]

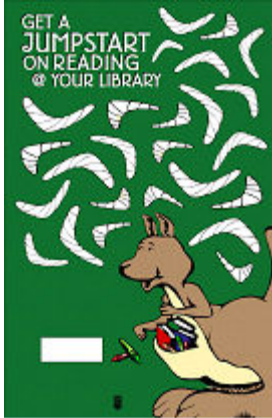
## Know the Numbers

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The YALSA Power Up with Print Institute held in September focused our attention on Idaho's teen population. **Idaho Kids Count, 2005** is a good source of statistics for this group.

- Teens ages 15-19 make up 8.6% of Idaho's population.
- Violent deaths for teens in Idaho are 30% higher than nationally.
- Idaho ranks 7th highest in the nation for per capita adolescent suicides.
- High school students smoking cigarettes dropped to 14% in 2003 (down from 27% in 1993).
- High school students drinking alcohol dropped to 35% in 2003 (down from 44% in 1993).
- Juvenile DUI arrests have increased – 29% more in 2002 than in 1995.
- Juvenile violent arrests have declined to 264 in 2002 from 481 in 1995.
- Nearly 20% of 9th graders do not graduate from high school.

Go to [www.idahokidscount.org](http://www.idahokidscount.org) for more statistics on Idaho's youth.



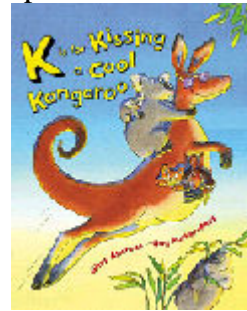
## A Closer Look at the Boomerang Project

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Project Boomerang is a new outreach program recently launched by the Read to Me program. Applications were attached to the poster (see graphic on the left) in the Family Reading Week packets mailed to public libraries. We have received about eight applications to participate so far.

We hope that families will have fun coloring a boomerang for each day they read together. At the end of the month, we hope families are in the habit of reading together and that they'll visit your library to stock up on great books and more!

The Read to Me program provides free posters to distribute to a group of at-risk children in your community. Those children will read with their parents or caregivers and return to the library for a free copy of *K is for Kissing a Cool Kangaroo*, by Giles Andreae.



To participate in this pilot project, simply partner with a community organization (daycares, Head Start, a developmental preschool program, WIC, migrant programs, Parents as Teachers, etc.) that serves children who are unlikely to have library cards. Find out how many children the program serves and ask to distribute the posters and library information.

The State Library's Read to Me program will provide the posters and books. You'll need to complete a brief evaluation form about the project and return any books that are not "redeemed" at the end of your project time frame. [Click here for an application](#) or call Stephanie at the State Library for more information. There is no deadline to apply, but books and posters are limited and available on a first-come first-served basis.



## Tips & Tools

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This information came to us (and also was posted on LIBIDAHO) from Lynne Rohweder, Manager, Marketing & Editorial Services - NoveList 919-489-9412 x203 [lrohwerder@epnet.com](mailto:lrohwerder@epnet.com). NoveList is a product of EBSCO Publishing and part of the [LiLI database](#).

### **Using NoveList's Article and List Search**

In addition to its rich database, NoveList has an abundance of editorial content for readers, librarians, media specialists and teachers. We began adding customized content five years ago to enhance our readers' experiences. Now NoveList has developed a large reservoir of material that can be difficult to navigate due to its increasing volume. Article and List Search offers a way to search all of NoveList's editorial content, including: Author Read-alikes, Book Discussion Guides, BookTalks, Annotated Book Lists, school curricular materials, Readers' Advisory materials, Explore (genre) lists and awards lists.

When do I use this search? There are many ways that Article and List Search can save time and help you find great content in NoveList. Here are several:

With **Article and List Search**, you can quickly determine the availability of a NoveList Book Discussion Guide using just the title of the book (Book Discussion Guides are listed alphabetically by author). You can search for one or all types of NoveList's articles and lists on a particular topic, or by a particular NoveList contributor. If NoveList hasn't yet developed an Author Read-alike list for your favorite author, Article and List Search is another avenue that can lead you to authors you may enjoy (see "Finding read-alikes" below for details). Article and List Search can also help locate Read-alikes by genre.

Searching for articles and lists by topic Article and List Search gives access to NoveList content by topic. For instance, if you want to see what kinds of additional material NoveList has to offer about African-American fiction, follow these steps:

1. At the Search Our Database tab, click Article and List Search.
2. Type in "African-American."
3. Click Search.

Results for Article and List Search are relevancy-ranked, so the best matches for your topical search will be on the first few pages of results. Article and List Search performs a keyword search of the full text of NoveList's editorial content, so any article containing any of your search terms (e.g. "American") will be returned in the result list.

The results for this search include Annotated Book Lists, Book Discussion Guides, Author Biographies for Young Adults, awards lists, Explore Fiction (genre) lists, and more. Near the top of the results are book lists titled "The Roots of Modern African-American Fiction," "African-American Children's Authors," and "African-American Coming of Age Stories," just to name a few.

If you want only one type of NoveList content in your results, use the drop-down menu to the right of the Find box, like so:

1. At the Article and List Search page, type in "African-American." 2. Change the drop-down menu option from All Types to a single type of content-in this case, choose Annotated Book Lists. 3. Click Search.

Please note: If you are using NoveList K-8, choose Teaching with Fiction as the content type for the example above.

Finding read-alikes for favorite authors... NoveList's Author Read-alikes are a great tool to help readers find new authors they will enjoy. Like all NoveList's editorial content, Author Read-alikes are carefully crafted and thus take time to produce - so we may not have developed a Read-alike for your favorite author yet. This example uses Article and List Search to find existing Read-alikes that mention author Bernard Cornwell.

## News Beyond Idaho

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Like many Americans, we have been stunned by the images broadcast of the devastation of **Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**, and especially of the young lives that have been uprooted and traumatized. How have libraries been affected by this disaster and how can we help? Here is a link to the Idaho State Library web site with information on [assistance related to libraries](#).

We also received a booklist compiled by Gale K. Criswell, Children and Teen Services Consultant for the State Library of Louisiana. The list contains [books that may be helpful for children who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina \[and now Rita\] \[in PDF format\]](#). The books may be used by parents or other caregivers to present difficult issues in the context of stories. Some non-fiction titles are also included. The majority of titles are intended for children age two through age eight. A booklist for older children is included at the end.

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2. Replace the email address at the end (john@example.com) with your own.
3. Surf to that URL and follow the instructions.



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**Contact Us:** *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho State Library's 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.