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# Welcome

Ah, December---the month when we are busy tying up one year and looking forward to the next. Here at the Commission, we are working on some end of the year reports. To help us determine what impact the Read to Me program has had on public libraries, we are asking every library to fill out an short (4 questions) online survey. The deadline is January 10th. The survey is at: <a href="http://libraries.idaho.gov/readsurvey">http://libraries.idaho.gov/readsurvey</a>. After that date, we will be following up by telephone with those we have not heard from. Thank you for your help.

Our next issue of *The Scoop* will be published next year on Friday, January 5, 2007. Until then, we wish you a bright and merry holiday season!

# **Meet Stephanie Kukay**



In this issue, we are pleased to profile one of our own--Stephanie Kukay. Stephanie, who is a frequent contributor to
The Scoop and works behind-the-scenes on many library
development projects, is retiring from the Idaho Commission for
Libraries in January. We hate to see her go and want to take this
opportunity to thank her for her many contributions to library
development.

We asked Stephanie to tell us about her career. A librarian since 1970, she has worked at the Commission for the past 22 years. In 1985, Stephanie was hired as a reference librarian, and she

also was placed in charge of the Federal Documents program. As the mission of the State Library evolved over the past four years, Stephanie's responsibilities shifted, and she began to work more closely with library consultants, supporting their work through research, evaluation and planning. Stephanie and fellow reference librarian Jane Houston also co-wrote the four public service ABLE courses, available at http://libraries.idaho.gov/able.

Some recent projects Stephanie has been involved in include: coordinating the evaluation process for all ICFL continuing education events, assisting with the LiLI Unlimited project and assisting with Read to Me. Stephanie also does research for consultants on special topics, facilitates meetings and serves on the agency's records management team. Of the changes she's experienced at the Commission, Stephanie

reflects, "One of the great things about working at the Commission is that I got to take on a totally new job without changing workplaces. It was a great opportunity for me."

When asked about her most memorable activity, Stephanie said without hesitation that it has been her opportunity to travel to many Idaho libraries and visit with librarians on their home turf. Stephanie appreciates that she has had resources and support for her work, and she admires how Idaho librarians are very resourceful and creative. She has been inspired by what they are able to accomplish with few resources.

Stephanie said her biggest challenge at work was taking on the continuing education evaluation process. It was daunting at first, especially since she had never used Excel before. But now she is very adept at turning out great reports with graphics and charts. We asked Stephanie for any advice she would give someone starting his or her library career. She said the library field is wide open and this is a great time to be a librarian. She recommends doing all the networking possible and to be proactive in looking for mentors. She said, "Don't limit yourself to just one mentor. There is great talent in the

Idaho library community and new librarians should take advantage of it."

Stephanie keeps busy at home with her seven cats--all strays that have found shelter in the Kukay household. She laughed when asked if she has a cat on every chair and couch. (Yes!) Stephanie grew up in a home where books were prized, and reading was her favorite activity as a child. She remembers being read to by her grandmother from the time she was a baby. Some of her favorites were the *Bobbsey Twins* and titles in the Golden Book series. It is not a surprise to learn she still has some of her original childhood books, dog-eared, but well loved.



Stephanie's current favorite reading is in the adventure and suspense genre. She recommends author James Rollins and is looking forward to reading a juvenile fantasy series: *The Circle of Magic*, by Tamora Pierce. Come January, Stephanie looks forward to sleeping in, completing some household projects, spending more time with both her husband and her father, and helping her husband finish a 1926 Model T Roadster hot rod.

Stephanie, good luck! And, we'll miss you!

# **Library to Library**

The McCall Public Library has a new easy-to-use computer set aside specifically to help children find books. The computer has a touch-screen that can be easily reached by youngsters and is set up in the children's section. Unlike standard text-based catalogs, the children's computer uses InfoCenter software and graphics to catch the attention of little bookworms. Children can choose from a range of topics by looking at pictures, for example, a picture of a soccer ball and baseball bat for sports books. Touching the picture leads to more pictures for more specific topics. The computer also has text-based search functions for older readers, library director Anne Kantola said. The computer also has a search for the popular Accelerated Reader program. "It's been a great addition to our library," Kantola said.

Soda Springs Elementary School children participated in a fundraiser in May called "Laps for the Library." Students collected donations for the Soda Springs Public Library from area residents in return for their running efforts. Local businesses helped make it a fun day by donating prizes. The event was sponsored by the Friends of the Library. (Caribou County Sun)

## **Still Going Ape over Curious George!**

Blackfoot Public Library children's librarian Brenda Wilcox had some great ideas for getting publicity, including having Curious George deliver bananas to their local newspaper staff. We love it!! Here's more about what they did this year . .



We at the Blackfoot Public Library are very pleased and excited about the success of our Idaho Family Reading Week celebration! There are children in our area who are still talking about Curious George sharing a storytime and a hug with them.

To help promote our special week, Curious George visited the offices of our newspaper *The Morning News* and the local Wal-Mart store. He handed out activity schedules, autographs and, in some cases, bananas. Daily activities were listed in the Community Calendar.

We coordinated special storytimes with our program partner, Head Start (see photos above and to the right). The children had a ball having Curious George come and visit them at school and participate in fingerplays, songs and stories.



On our Banana Blitz day, 103 of "George's favorite treat" were given out. And 142 banana-nut muffins were devoured during our Muffin Munch activity. The Wednesday family storytimes were well received with an attendance of 114 to start the day and ending with 30 families coming together in the evening for a Curious George memo board, pictures with George, and more stories. Coloring and listening activities were offered all day, every day throughout the week. Over 200 craft or coloring pages were completed.

Many family scrapbooks now include a picture with Curious George and a child surrounded by books in the library. How can you beat that for promotion?

Special thanks to Brenda and Lisa Harral at the Blackfoot Public Library for sharing their ideas and getting permission from all those parents for the photos!





Staff at the **Idaho Falls Public Library** said the 2006 Idaho Family Reading Week was their most successful ever. "We had over 300 people come to see George, including our mayor (see photo at the left). That is a record for a family reading week event. We are ecstatic," youth services librarian Sarah Jackson said. She said George also made an appearance at the parent workshop they hosted at the Idaho

Falls Head Start Center as part of their First Book program.

Mountain Home Public Library staff spent time during Idaho Family Reading Week getting Curious George out and about, according to youth services and outreach coordinator Robin Murphy. George visited two elementary schools (the photo at the right shows him at East Elementary), family programs (photo above) and visiting the mayor. They also helped with a huge family reading event at West Elementary!



# **Young Adult Corner**

#### YALSA to Offer Four Online Courses

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA), is offering four online courses to run from February 5, 2007 through March 2, 2007. Registration opens on December 15, 2006.

"Making the Match: Finding the Right Book for the Right Teen at the Right Time" participants will become experts at connecting teens with books! In a recent survey by <a href="Smartgirl.org">Smartgirl.org</a> and YALSA, the majority of teen respondents said that they would read more if they knew about more good books to read. In this e-course, participants will learn how to make a successful match between library materials and teen library users. Course participants will explore adolescent development, learn about teen reading preferences and take part in an active discussion about specific books and library materials that meet the varied needs and interests of teens. Teri Lesesne will teach this course.

Teri Lesesne is a professor of Library Science at Sam Houston State University where she teaches classes in YA literature. She is the author of two professional books, "Making The Match" and "Naked Reading." She writes reviews of YA books for VOYA, SIGNAL, The ALAN Review, and Voices From The Middle. In her spare time, Lesesne consults with school districts and presents seminars across the country in YA literature.

"New Technologies & New Literacies for Teens" participants will become familiar with the tools and techniques teens use to communicate and collaborate online; learn how to inform their own community about best practices that support teen's technology-based print literacies; have the opportunity to talk with others about teen use of technology and how that use improves literacy skills; and create framework for a program or service at their library that supports teen technology-based print literacy. Linda Braun will teach the course.

Linda Braun is an educational technology consultant with LEO: Librarians & Educators Online. In her job she works with schools, libraries, and other types of educational institutions to help them figure out the best way to integrate technology into their programs and services. She is an adjunct faculty member at Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, a columnist for *VOYA*, and has written several books on topics related to teens and technology.

"Reaching Teens Virtually" will focus on how libraries can engage in service to teens virtually. Because virtual services are fast becoming a staple in American life, librarians can benefit from a deeper understanding of their benefits and consequences in a library setting. Participants will gain the skills needed to garner support for virtual teen programs and will explore the tools needed to implement virtual services in their own libraries. Angela Pfeil is the instructor for this course.

Angela Pfeil is the product manager for Ask A Librarian, Tutor.com's online reference software. She holds an MLS from SUNY at Buffalo and an MA in Counseling from the University of Phoenix. For the last 9 years, she has served customers in person and online through her work in public libraries as a youth services librarian, community outreach librarian, branch manager and as a virtual reference librarian for Tutor.com's Librarians By Request service. She has dedicated her entire career in libraries to serving teens, no matter where they are. Pfeil is the author of *Going Places with Youth Outreach: Smart Marketing Strategies for Your Library* (ALA Editions, 2005) and the instructor for YALSA's online course OutReaching Teens.

"YALSA Competencies Live" is an introduction to YALSA's Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth. From collections to programming, participants will learn how all the aspects of good service to young adults work together and how to plan for growing teen services in school or public libraries. Participants will explore how and why the Competencies are integral to libraries and how they can be put to use in your library as a means of improving the services and resources offered to teens. Participants will develop a customized young adult services plan to implement in their library according to the tenets of the Competencies. Amy Alessio will teach this course.

Amy Alessio has enjoyed the constant advice of her Teen Advisory Board for over eight years in her capacity as teen coordinator for the Schaumburg Township District Library in Illinois. She is the YALSA fiscal officer and the editor of the YALSA online journal *YAttitudes* in addition to being active in the Illinois Library Association. She has presented locally and nationally on teen services and writes about young adult literature for Teenreads.com and Crimespree magazine. She also is the co-author of *A Year of Programs for Teens* with Kim Patton (ALA Editions, 2006) and instructor for the YALSA online course "Power Programming for Teens."

**Registration information**: Registration for the course is available online from December 15 through January 25 at <a href="www.ala.org/yalsa">www.ala.org/yalsa</a>. The cost for each course is \$135 for YALSA members, \$175 for ALA members, and \$195 for non members. The course is the equivalent of a one day face-to-face workshop. More tips on taking online courses can be found on the YALSA Web site at: <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/onlinecourses/info.htm">http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/onlinecourses/info.htm</a>.

[Thank you to Maren Ostergard, YALSA Virtual Regional Advisory Board member for sending us this information.]

## **Book Look**

The **Ada Community Library** hosts a mock Caldecott Tea each December for area school and public librarians. Participants poured over tables of books looking for likely candidates. The top three choices this year included:

- 1) *Flotsam*, by David Wiesner. A wordless book in which a boy finds a camera at the beach and the film inside reveals fascinating underwater pictures as well as children around the world, so the boy takes his own picture and returns the camera to the sea where it will journey to another child. (Source: Novelist)
- 2) Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led her People to Freedom, by Carole Boston Weatherford. Illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Follows Harriet Tubman's spiritual journey to freedom as she, leaving her family behind, escaped from slavery and led many others to freedom. (Source: Novelist)
- 3) Third place went to **Way Far Away on a Wild Safari**, by Jan Peck. Illustrated by Valeria Petrone.

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The official Caldecott winner is announced at the American Library Association Midwinter meeting in January. Do you think any of our picks will win? Do you have other titles you think should be award winners? Send <u>Stephanie</u> or <u>Peggy</u> a quick e-mail with your opinion for The Scoop, and we'll send you a brand new hardback book for your library.





## **Upcoming Events**

Looking ahead to 2007, save these dates:

**Celebration & Connection: Charting Your 2020 Vision** The Idaho Commission of Libraries invites you to connect with fellow librarians and celebrate the wonderful services that Idaho libraries provide. You will also reconnect with the 2020 Vision, hear from a dynamic speaker, tour the WebJunction website and complete an action plan charting your future. To register for one of the dates below, go to the calendar of events at http://libraries.idaho.gov/event.



- Jan. 16-17 Coeur d'Alene
- Jan. 23-24 Twin Falls
- Feb. 6-7 Pocatello
- Feb. 12-13 Boise

This conference is part of the Rural Library Sustainability Program, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and supported by WebJunction.



The Idaho Library Association's regional spring conference dates have been

- Region 2 Northern Idaho May 4
- Region 3 Treasure Valley May 19
- Region 4 Magic Valley April 4
- Regions 5 &6 Southeast and Eastern Idaho April 27

For more information and to contact conference chairs, visit the ILA website:http://www.idaholibraries.org/.



The JumpStart kindergarten registration outreach deadline is February 9, 2007. See <a href="http://libraries.idaho.gov/jumpstart">http://libraries.idaho.gov/jumpstart</a> for the simple application and more details.



#### **Teen Tech Week**

Register for Teen Tech Week, March 4-10, 2007 www.ala.org/teentechweek.





#### Get a Clue Resources

Fingerprint Font Online <a href="http://www.summerreading.cla-net.org/yaresources.html">http://www.summerreading.cla-net.org/yaresources.html</a>
This is the same font used by artist Russell Walks for the Teen/YA Summer Reading Program.

Off the Beat: Recommended Books from Madison's Police Officers <a href="http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/booklists/offthebeat.html">http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/booklists/offthebeat.html</a>
Now here's a clever idea: invite various groups and organizations in your community to submit their own "Don't Miss" reading lists. For other "Don't Miss" lists from Madison Public Library, go to <a href="http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/booklists/">http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/booklists/</a>. (Neat New Stuff I Found This Week, <a href="http://marylaine.com/neatnew.html">http://marylaine.com/neatnew.html</a>, Copyright, Marylaine Block, 1999-2006, 11/30/06)

[Thanks for Rhonda Putney, Lakeshores Library System, Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System <a href="http://www.west-bendlibrary.org/mwflskids.htm">http://www.west-bendlibrary.org/mwflskids.htm</a> for sharing this with Scoop readers.]



## We still need your book title suggestions!

Over 75 libraries sent in the Bright Futures Intent to Participate form to the Idaho Commission for Libraries. We're getting ready to order books for the Read for Your Library incentive program. If you have suggestions for titles, please send them to <u>Stephanie</u>. We're hoping to get quite a few mysteries to go with the theme, but may need to get other genres as well. The criteria includes newer titles that are appropriate for elementary school-age students that we can get from our book vendor in large quantities. Please send suggestions by the end of the month.





## School Zone

# Dan Pink to kick off the American Association of School Librarians National Conference in Reno

Dan Pink, a best-selling author, acclaimed technology writer and business consultant, will keynote the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) 13th National Conference & Exhibition, "The Future Begins @ your library," October 25-28, 2007, in Reno, Nev. Pink will open the forward-focused conference and address thousands of school library media specialists, support staff, library vendors, authors and exhibitors during the Opening General Session on October 25.

"Dan Pink brings a wealth of knowledge and ideas about what the future holds for American workers. As we work with teachers and administrators in developing curriculum and designing instruction, it will be important to incorporate some of these ideas in order to help our learners succeed," said Allison G. Kaplan, co-chair of the AASL National Conference Committee. "Mr. Pink will inspire conference attendees to use their best instructional approaches to help students become the creative and innovative thinkers needed for future leadership," added Carl A. Harvey II, committee co-chair.

Pink's latest book, "A Whole New Mind," discusses the cultural and economic changes caused by the technological revolution and examines essential skills needed to succeed in today's technology-driven society. Pink is also the author of "Free Agent Nation," which is considered a key publication on employee-management relations. He also regularly contributes to Wired magazine, has written for the New York Times, Harvard Business Review and Fast Company. He serves as independent consultant to CNBC's "Power Lunch," ABC's "World News Tonight," NPR's "Morning Edition," and American Public Media's "Marketplace" and he is a prolific speaker and presenter.

"Dan Pink is a forward thinker and expert in today's technology-focused marketplace. AASL is thrilled to have this dynamic speaker launching our 2007 National Conference," said AASL President Cyndi Phillip. "As library media professionals, responsible for student information literacy skills, we need to recognize the changing nature of our society and understand the important role technology plays in shaping the future."

In addition to Pink, the AASL National Conference will feature five preconferences, over 100 concurrent sessions, more than 200 exhibiting companies, educational and school tours and special appearances by award-winning authors and illustrators.

For more information on AASL's 13th National Conference & Exhibition in Reno, visit http://www.ala.org/aasl/reno.

## **Know the Numbers**

## Idaho receives kudos for increasing participation in School Breakfast Program

Idaho has been recognized as one of the top five states in improving participation in the national School Breakfast Program after increasing participation in the program by nearly 12 percent, the State Department of Education announced.

Idaho ranks 15th in the nation for participation in the school breakfast program. Of the more than 85,000 students who are eligible for free and reduced-price school lunch, nearly 42,000 participate in the school breakfast program.

"Idaho is receiving recognition for increasing participation in this important program in part because we are a rural state," said Colleen Fillmore, director of the Child Nutrition Program at the State Department of Education. "We are proud of the work we have done."

Participation in the School Breakfast Program increased nationwide during the last school year, with a record 7.7 million low-income children receiving free and reduced-price breakfasts on an average day during the 2005-2006 school year.

The Food Research and Action Center's School Breakfast Scorecard 2006 finds accelerating growth in school breakfast participation by low-income children - up by 622,000 children (8.7 percent) over the past two school years.

The School Breakfast Program began as a pilot program in 1966 with the intent of making sure children started the school day with the boost breakfast can give.

"Studies continue to demonstrate the links between breakfast and learning," Fillmore said. "We want to make sure that breakfast is available to all Idaho students."

[Source: Idaho Dept. of Education press release, 12-12-06]

# A Closer Look at Emerging Trends in Youth Services

Trend #10: "Digital natives"—those under 24 years, have grown up with and are immersed in technology. They are low users of library services.

Consider some of the data reported in "Teens and Technology," part of the Pew Internet & American Life Project, 2005 [pewinternet.org/PPF/r/162/report\_display.asp]

- 87% of teens 12-17 use the Internet
- 51% use the Internet daily; 81% play games online
- 76% get news online
- 43% make purchases online
- 31% get health information online
- 45% of teens have cell phones
- 33% of teens have sent text messages
- 32% of all teens use IM every day

What does this mean for your library? Idaho librarians have been exploring new ways of communicating with their customers. Here are a few they have been exploring:

**IM** Instant messaging is a preferred way of communicating among teens. According to Wikipedia, "IM is real-time communication between two or more people based on typed text. The text is conveyed via computers connected over a network such as the Internet." It is relatively east to set up an instant messaging account. **Memo Cordova, librarian at Boise State University's Albertson Library**, recently wrote about it on the SPLAT blog.

**Social software.** Social software covers a wide variety of web applications that allow online users to connect with one another. It is one of the fastest growing phenomenon on the web.

- myspace, one of the most popular sites on the Internet, provides an interactive, user-submitted network of friends, personal profiles, blogs, groups, photos, music, and videos. Visit the Idaho Commission for Libraries myspace site: <a href="http://www.myspace.com/icflonline">http://www.myspace.com/icflonline</a>. We invite you to sign up as one of our friends (check out how many friends we have).
- <u>flickr</u> is a photo sharing site\_allows users to store and share photos. See the Idaho Commission for Libraries' flickr site at: http://flickr.com/photos/icflphotos.
- YouTube, founded in February 2005, is a consumer media website for people to watch and share original videos worldwide. People can see first-hand accounts

of current events, find videos about their hobbies and interests, and discover the quirky and unusual.

**Gaming** - Libraries are integrating online games into their programs and video games into their collections. Read about what **Suzanne Davis at East Bonner District Library in Sandpoint** has to say about gaming at her library: <a href="http://splat.lili.org/node/123">http://splat.lili.org/node/123</a>.

**E-branch** The Idaho Commission for Libraries recently introduced a web template using Drupal software for libraries who want an up-to-date web site but don't have the time, money and technical expertise to do it on their own. After attending training, most libraries should be able to update their site in 30 minutes a week or less. Find a list of Idaho libraries who have announced their new e-branches at: <a href="http://help.lili.org/node/137">http://help.lili.org/node/137</a>.

**Podcasting** refers to the distribution of a multimedia or audio file over the Internet to be played back on a mobile device or personal computer. In November, the Idaho Commission for Library helped create a podcast featuring 14 Idaho librarians who took the "Teens and Ttechnology" online course. The librarians shared what they learned and what they got out of the course. Find the 30-minute podcast at http://libraries.idaho.gov/teens-and-tech.

For more information, check out this resource written by librarian, author and technology trainer Michael Stephens: <u>Web 2.0 for Libraries: Best Practices for Social Software Best Blog Practices and More for Libraries</u> Chicago, IL, July, 26 2006.

# **Tips & Tools**

## **Penguin Pals**

We all know when a new children's movie comes out, many children's interest change to the subject of the movie. With the release of the movie "Happy Feet", children are a lot more eager to learn about Penguins. It just so happens that January 19th is National Penguin Awareness Day. Here are some great Penguin activities and printables to plan a great penguin program.

- Penguin program ideas and book list <u>http://www.teachingheart.net/penguinsunit.html</u>
- Penguin Lesson Ideas <a href="http://www.preschooleducation.com/penguin.shtml">http://www.preschooleducation.com/penguin.shtml</a>
- Penguin Coloring Page http://www.preschoolcoloringbook.com/color/cpbird22.shtml
- Penguin Color By Numbers <a href="http://www.coloring.ws/t/animals/penguins/4.gif">http://www.coloring.ws/t/animals/penguins/4.gif</a>
- Penguin Coloring Page (From Monterey Bay Aquarium)
   http://www.mbayaq.org/lc/kids\_place/activities/pnd\_prnt\_penguin.html
- Live Penguin Cam http://www.mbayaq.org/efc/efc\_se/se\_sz\_cam.asp
- Penguin Mask http://kevinschafer.com/penguinplanet/pdfs/mask.pdf
- Paper Tube Penguin http://www.dltk-kids.com/t/animals/bpenguin.html
- Itsy Bitsy Penguin Book http://www.kidzone.ws/animals/penguins/ws13.htm
- Penguin Pete Pattern http://www.kckpl.lib.ks.us/ys/CRAFTS/penguin.htm
- How to draw a penguin http://www.billybear4kids.com/Learn2Draw/sheets/penguin.html
- Emperor Penguin Coloring Page <a href="http://www.kidsplanet.org/cyw/penguin.html">http://www.kidsplanet.org/cyw/penguin.html</a> (Preschool Education Newsletter, 11/29/06)

[Thanks to Rhonda Putney, Lakeshores Library System, Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System <a href="http://www.west-bendlibrary.org/mwflskids.htm">http://www.west-bendlibrary.org/mwflskids.htm</a> for sharing this with Scoop readers.]

# **News Beyond Idaho**

## Ways libraries have improved customer service

The following is a list of some things libraries in New Mexico have done recently to improve customer service and satisfaction.

- Provide updated service brochures for new patrons.
- Improve signs external and internal.
- Extend hours.
- Allow AV materials to be returned in bookdrops.
- Simplify the checkout process.
- Prepare information kits on hot topics.
- Create great library web sites.
- Guide patrons on how to use the library.
- Shelf more books face out.
- Conduct surveys on how to improve services.
- Use e-mail to notify customers about new books, reserves, and overdues.
- Cross-train staff.
- Focus on customers' and staffs' needs.
- Work on better cooperation with local government.
- Give new staff a better orientation.
- Create advisory groups for each department.
- Add customer service and satisfaction to staff job descriptions.
- Do better planning of the physical layout of the library.
- Have an active outreach program.
- Create a form/mechanism for tracking complaints & suggestions.
- Target services to specific groups.
- Offer more bibliographies for targeted groups.
- SMILE.

(Reprinted from *The Hitchhiker for Librarians* in New Mexico)



**Talk Back**: We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just e-mail <u>Peggy</u> or <u>Stephanie</u> and we'll print your comments in The Scoop.

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