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## Welcome

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Thanksgiving is only a day away, and we'd like to share our list of things we are grateful for:

- [Over 300 subscribers to \*The Scoop\*](#)
- Great youth services librarians across the state
- The opportunity to share our collective wisdom and learn from one another
- Technology that allows us to communicate across the miles
- The great stories librarians send us about the difference they make in their young patrons' lives.

Here are some fun facts to share around your Thanksgiving table:

Thanksgiving was made a national holiday with a proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

The first "Thanksgiving" is the name later given a gathering of English colonists and members of the Wampanoag tribe for a harvest celebration in 1621 in Patuxet/New Plymouth.

The harvest celebration was not a new event. Native Peoples all over this continent have given daily thanks to their Creator for thousands of years. Likewise, celebrating days of thanksgiving was a familiar tradition for the Europeans who eventually colonized North America.

"Pilgrim" means someone on a journey with a religious or moral purpose. In the 1620s, inhabitants of Plymouth Plantation did not refer to themselves as pilgrims. Over 150 years later, the name "Pilgrim" was applied to everyone in Plymouth Colony. The name gained popularity in the 1800s and remains in common usage today.

For more information, visit the Smithsonian's Plimoth Plantation web site: <http://www.plimoth.org/>.



## Meet Kris Newby

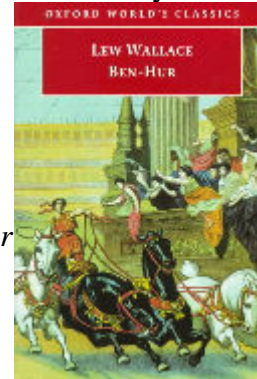
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Kris has been working as the school librarian in the Betty Kiefer Elementary School for three years. She job shares the position so she works in the morning and another staff member works the afternoon shift. The school is located in Rathdrum and serves about 500 students K- 6. Stephanie & Peggy had the opportunity to meet Kris when she attended the 2004 Summer Institute for Elementary Library Personnel in Moscow and again this summer when she flew down to attend the two-day mini-track on using the LILI databases.

Kris said she really enjoys her job because she has enough freedom to play off the interests of the kids and “your own interests too.” An example of this is her approach to a challenge she was presented when the school reduced the amount of time each class visits the library to 35 minutes. “That doesn’t give me much time to work with students between checking books in and out and using that time for computers and AR tests,” she said. The way she’s going to try to incorporate the hands-on work she enjoys as much as the children is by using a “center” approach. Last year she gave each student a rock and they used library resources to identify it. This summer she spent time in mines and with rock collectors to amass a bigger collection of rocks and gems that she’ll set out on tables for kids to identify and explore. She has plans to do the same thing with bugs and other collections and even brought in bleached deer bones around Halloween for a look at skeletons!

Her “go for it” style has also propelled her to train and qualify for the Boston Marathon, which she’ll compete in this spring. She also enjoys sewing and spent the summer reading *Ben-Hur* by Lewis Wallace – because she promised herself she would read the unabridged version as a challenge to herself!

**Keep up the good work, Kris! And good luck with the big marathon!**

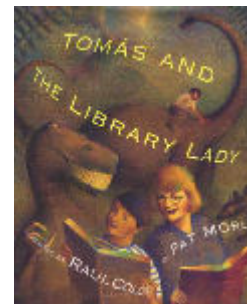


## Library to Library

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Last week was Idaho Family Reading Week. Several libraries have sent us updates about events they hosted.

**Buhl Public Library** began their Family Reading Night with Mayor Barbara Gietzen and her daughter Kim Quigley, an ESL teacher at Popwell Elementary, reading *Tomas and the Library Lady* as a bilingual story. Families registered as they came in and participated in book drawings after the story. The library invited clowns Doulos and Checkers (Mark and Netty Burgess) to present a reading and safety program using songs, stories, puppetry and sleight-of-hand. Forty-seven families attended. The library was able to meet families who have never been to the public library and hopefully they will feel more comfortable coming back.



**Burley Public Library** partnered with Cassia County Head Start, and three local elementary schools: Mountain View, Dworshak, and White Pine to host a "Read Around the World" family program, attended by 118 people. Each partner chose a country; then a storyteller and a presenter from each country was invited. Participants took an imaginary trip to Scotland, Germany, Russia, South Africa

and Mexico. Entertainment included bagpipes from Scotland, German songs sung by a sixth grade chorus, a foreign exchange student from Russia, a native South African and a singer from Mexico. Food from each country was also provided. Program coordinator Carolyn Chinn had this to say, "We had very good attendance and it was a lot of fun. Because of partnering with the schools, it was very easy to pull together."

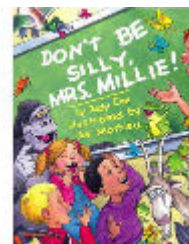
Kathy Chick, director of the **Eastern Owyhee County District Library in Grand View** sent this report:

"Great things have been happening at the public library in Grand View. Most recently was the Family Reading Night activity to celebrate Idaho Family Reading Week. The activity was held on Tuesday evening, November 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. The main focus of the evening was to have families come to the library together and spend time reading and having fun. Nine families for a total of 35 people attended the event. They had an opportunity to tour the library facility and look over the collections to find what they wanted to read together. Some wonderful puppets were made, sort of in resemblance of family members! Family histories were highlighted and the children were given family tree pages to fill in. They also had the opportunity to make flip books of their family members. These are great fun. Treats consisted of some family favorites as Rice Krispy treats, chocolate Chex mix, and sugar cookies. Grand View Elementary School helped with the publicity and school librarian Christine Meyers assisted at the evening activity. In addition to the books provided by the State Library, the library district provided some extra books for a drawing. As it turned out, each family in attendance went home with at least one new book. Ya-hoo! We appreciate all who attended and all who helped make our evening fun."

**Oakley Elementary School** and the **Oakley Public Library** sponsored a Family AR Night at the elementary school. Two special guests read to the 31 families who attended. Oakley resident Christopher "Tuck" West read from his recently published children's book *Petey's Truck'n Adventures*. Radio personality Steve Mitton was the second guest reader. School librarian Terisa Robinson sent this photo of the family reading banner that hung at the school. She commented on the success of the event, saying, "I thought it turned out great and was a wonderful opportunity for our families. The books to give away were a 'HIT'."



**Payette Public Library** co-hosted an author event with the Payette Primary School. Local children's author Judy Cox read *Don't Be Silly Mrs. Millick*. Refreshments were served to the 94 people who attended. Director Colleen Bonnell judged the event a big success and said, "This activity promotes reading for the families and they enjoy the activity." The library also had a drawing for an at-home family reading night complete with a book, popcorn and pop.





## NexGen YS:

By Dylan Baker

In response to Dylan's article in the [November 10th issue](#) of *The Scoop*, **Cathy Schief from Ada Community Library** sent us this comment, " I'm glad to have the advice, Dylan. Every new generation rubs shoulders with the same problems. I'll try to be more alert to such things. I work with Dylan and he is one of those NexGens who brought with him new ideas and skills to the Youth Services Department of Ada Community Library. Now we don't know what we'd do without him and his special expertise."

## Young Adult Corner

**Gena Marker**, is the media generalist for **Eagle Academy**, an alternative high school in the Meridian School District. She is coordinating a big Literacy Fair for the students today and plans to write an article for the next *Scoop* about the experience. They will be doing some book drawings during the event and she asked the students what titles they would most like to win. We thought we'd pass along their list of books:

### Suggested Book Titles from the Students at Eagle Academy

- *Knight's Wyrd*, by Debra Doyle and James D. Macdonald
- *Harry Potter And The Order Of The Phoenix*, by J.K. Rowling
- *The Killers Cousin*, by Nancy Werlin
- *The Blue Lawn*, by William Taylor
- *Distraction*, by Bruce Sterling
- *Thr3e*, by Ted Deckker
- *Resurrection Men*, by Ian Rankin
- *Harry Potter and The Half Blooded Prince*, by J.K. Rowling
- *Ender's Game*, by Orson Card Scott
- *A Grave Talent*, by Laurie R. King
- *Johnny Voodoo*, by Dakota Lane
- *I Will Be Seeing You*, by Lurlene McDaniel
- *One Perfect Rose*, by Mary Jo Putney
- *For the Roses*, by Julie Garwood
- *Darkside Horror for the Next Millennium*, Pelan
- *A Child Called 'It'*, by Dave Pelzer
- *The Lost Boy*, by Dave Pelzer
- *A Man Named Dave*, by Dave Pelzer
- *The Bleeding of the Guns*, by Alexander



by John

Fullerton



- *The Secret of Whispering Springs*, by Jerri Garretson
- *The Blooding*, by Patricia Windsor
- *Queen of the Darkness*, by Anne Bishop
- *Artemis Fowl: The Opal Deception*, by Eoin Colfer
- *Crank*, by Ellen Hopkins
- *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, by J.K. Rowling
- *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, by J.K. Rowling
- *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, by J.K. Rowling
- *Rogue Warrior: SEAL Force Alpha*, by Richard Marcinko
- *Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor*, by Harry Mazer
- *A Boy No More*, by Harry Mazer
- *Heroes Don't Run: A Novel of the Pacific War*, by Harry Mazer



## Book Look

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As Idaho communities grow more diverse, libraries are impacted by changing demographics. From time to time, State Library staff gets requests for information about books for Hispanic youth and other cultural groups. Here are some web sites which provide further information:

[http://www.bcplonline.org/kidspage/kids\\_bklist\\_grtbksteens.html](http://www.bcplonline.org/kidspage/kids_bklist_grtbksteens.html)

2003 Great Books for Teens - Baltimore Public Library - features various ethnic groups

<http://www.humanities-interactive.org/vocesamericanas/>

Not a book list, but looks like it could be a good resource, with information for teachers.

<http://www.slco.lib.ut.us/hispanic-bklist-hlcforchildren.htm>

Salt Lake County Library - booklist

<http://www.monroe.lib.in.us/childrens/hisp.html>

Monroe County Library, Indiana - booklist

<http://www.cofbooks.com/cof-hs.html>

One recommended title

<http://www.isomedia.com/homes/jmele/joe.html#laanch>

Scroll down this page to find Hispanic literature

[www.library.wvu.edu/ref/subjguides/ed/edtopics/spr05hispan.htm#bibd](http://www.library.wvu.edu/ref/subjguides/ed/edtopics/spr05hispan.htm#bibd)

A list from Western Washington University - for all ages, not just teens

<http://www.eastern.edu/publications/emme/current.html>

*Electronic Magazine of Multicultural Literature* has book reviews

### New books worth checking out:

*My Room Mi Cuarto*, by Rebecca Emberley. One of four newly released bilingual books. These graphic board books give kids a head start in dual-language learning. See <http://www.twbookmark.com/books/44/0316000523/index.html> for more info.

*The Best Friends Book*, by Todd Parr. These brightly colored board books will help young readers understand the must-knows of preschool - and life. <http://www.twbookmark.com/books/47/0316012432/index.html>

Ages 3-6: *Toot & Puddle: Wish You Were Here*, by Holly Hobbie. A fun and adventurous story in which Cousin Opal and Puddle go to extreme lengths to help cure Toot after he becomes ill. <http://www.twbookmark.com/books/63/0316366021/index.html>

Ages 8-12: *The Printer's Devil*, by Paul Bajoria. A mysterious story set in the underground criminal world of London. Mog, a young apprentice at a printing shop, encounters pickpockets, convicts, crooks, murders and more on this twisted, breathtaking tale. <http://www.twbookmark.com/books/92/0316010901/index.html>



## Upcoming Events in December

November is **Bingo's Birthday Month**: The Italians are credited with being the inventors of Bingo! No, the name doesn't mean anything in Italian. Actually, the game was first called "Lo Giuoco del Lotto D'Italian." From Italy, it went to France in the late 1770's and they shortened the name to "Le Lotto" and played strictly among the wealthy French aristocrats. In the 1880's the Germans then developed their version of Bingo as an educational game for children to help learn math, spelling and history. For more on the history and how to play and build bingo cards go to [www.brownielocks.com/bingo.html](http://www.brownielocks.com/bingo.html).

December 16-24, **Las Posadas**. The celebration of Las Posadas is observed for those nine days in December. Although it originated in Mexico, it has now started to become popular in the United States, especially in Hispanic neighborhoods. The name "Las Posadas" means "The Inn or Shelter." The traditional Mexican observance is to reenact Mary and Joseph's search for shelter as they traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem during the days before Christ Jesus was born. For more on Las Posadas, go to [www.brownielocks.com/posadas.com](http://www.brownielocks.com/posadas.com).

This year the Jewish holiday of **Chanukah** is celebrated from December 26-January 2, 2006. It marks the miraculous victory of the Jews over Greek persecution and religious oppression. When their leaders, the Maccabees, came to rededicate the Temple in Jerusalem, they found only one flask of oil with which to light the eight-branched candelabra, the Menorah. The oil lasted eight days and to commemorate this miracle Jews light a candle each night of Chanukah. The

lighting of the Menorah brings a sense of hope into Jewish homes around the world. For more on this holiday go to [www.educationplanet.com](http://www.educationplanet.com) and search "Hanukkah". The Flint Public Library has put together a current list of useful Hannukkah resources that includes books, videos and web sites at [www.flint.lib.mi.us/fpl/hanukkah/index.shtml](http://www.flint.lib.mi.us/fpl/hanukkah/index.shtml)

We also recommend "Fiction for the Jewish Holidays: The New Year and ALL Year" by Heidi Estrin, an article in *Novelist* found by searching for Hanukkah in the School Resources folder. Several other booklists under the same topic search are very interesting.



## Summer Reading News

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If you read the [November 10th issue of \*The Scoop\*](#), you know that there will be some new opportunities for summer reading in 2006. In this issue we will look at **School Visits**.

In 2005, public libraries visited 169 schools to promote summer reading, up from 119 in 2004, a 42 percent increase. What is the value of going to the school in person to talk up summer reading?

Visiting the school can

- get kids excited about reading and coming to the library this summer
- foster public library/school library cooperation
- reach children who don't use the public library

The 2006 Program Manual for "Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales" has a section on school visits (pgs. 71-77). Here is one idea from the manual to use during your school visit:

### **Mystery Box**

"The Box with the Funny Thing in It" is a Norwegian folktale adapted from *Scandinavian Folk and Fairy Tales* (Gramercy Books, 1984). It fits in nicely with the play on "tails" and "tales" in "Paws, Claws.." You'll need a box with a lid, a key and a tail of some kind to put in the box. The tail from a plush animal toy will do, such as a raccoon's tale. Be sure to emphasize the "tale" in the final sentence or younger children will not get the pun.

You can have the box set up in the classroom beforehand as a mystery box, to pique some interest. If so, decorate the box with interesting wrapping paper or



draw a large keyhole on the side of the box. Or, decorate the box with question marks. Then read/act out the short skit about the "mystery box" on page 72 of the manual.

At the end, tell the children that there will be lots of tales to tell and lots of tails to wag this summer at the library's summer reading program. You may want to read a story, pass out a small prize, or do one of the activities outlined on pages 73-77 of the manual.

### **One Library's Experience**

When the **Snake River School Community Library** sponsored a special theater presentation at the elementary school to kick off summer reading in 2005, they were successful beyond their dreams (see the [June 24th issue of \*The Scoop\*](#)). Participation went from 100 to 600. Library director Rhonda Butt said, "I have learned the statement 'be careful what you wish for' contains much truth. Our kick off event was 100 percent successful in creating the climate of enthusiasm we hoped for our Summer Reading Program. The students were so excited with the quality and humor of the "Sword and the Stone" theatrical presentation that our program numbers have exploded."

You don't have to have a huge school event to be successful. Carve out some time to visit schools this spring and make contact early with school personnel to get on their schedule. The State Library will provide "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" **bilingual bookmarks and cat and dog bendies** for school visits. Be looking for an application in January to participate.



### **School Zone**

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Recommended Literature (K-12) Collection from the California Dept. of Education is a database of outstanding literature for children and adolescents in grades kindergarten through grade twelve. "The recommended titles reflect the quality and the complexity of the types of material students should be reading at school and outside of class." The site may be a useful reference. Check it out at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/rl/l/>.

### **Know the Numbers**

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Here are some facts about Idaho's school libraries, published in *Fifty Years of Supporting Children's Learning: A History of Public School Libraries and Federal Legislation from 1953 to 2000*. National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Education. March 2005.

- The percentage of students attending public schools with library media centers in 1953-54 was 63% compared to 99% in 1999-2000.
- Fifty-one percent of public schools had a librarian in 1953-54; 75% had a librarian in 1999-2000.
- In 1953-54, there were two school library books per student; in 1999-2000, there were 23 books per student.
- Book expenditures per student were \$3.00 (in adjusted 1999-2000 dollars) in 1953-54 and \$41.00 in 1999-2000.

## A Closer Look at Instant Messaging

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**State Library Consultant Jan Wall** attended the **Internet Librarian Conference** in Monterey, CA, in October. She distilled a presentation she attended and sent us this report:

Blogs, wikis, RSS, folksonomy, flickr, podcasting, social bookmarking, IM - buzzwords that may not mean anything to most librarians, but resonate with the "digital native" generation. These topics and more were featured at the Internet Librarian Conference in Monterey (CA) in October.

Youth Services Librarian Aaron Schmidt (see [www.walkingpaper.org](http://www.walkingpaper.org)) uses IM (instant messaging) with his younger patrons. One estimate of IM usage is that 85% of the 15-25 age group uses IM to communicate with their peers. They use email to communicate with "older people." Here are the main points from Aaron Schmidt's presentation on IM at the conference:

10 points about IM in libraries "Here's a barebones distillation of IM in libraries.

1. Instant Messaging is free (minus staff time)
2. Millions of our patrons use IM every day.
3. For some, not being available via IM is like not having a telephone number.
4. There are three major IM networks (AIM, Y!M, MSN)
5. Y!M and MSN will be interoperable at some point.

6. Trillian is a multi-network IM client, meebo is a web-based multi-network client. Use them.
7. Having practice sessions in-house is a good way to get staff excited about IM in libraries.
8. Staff can communicate in-house using IM.
9. Libraries can choose to have one IM point of contact, or they can choose to divide it departmentally.
10. IM is user-centered and builds relationships with library users."

## Tips & Tools

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The September 2005 issue of *School Library Journal* profiled America's Library – [www.americaslibrary.kids.us](http://www.americaslibrary.kids.us) – created by the Library of Congress, as its Site of the Month. The intent is to make history fun for kids while they learn. Primary sources from the Library of Congress are incorporated with games and activities to present history in an entertaining, interactive format. The October 2005 issue of *School Library Journal* includes the supplement, *Curriculum Connections*. There are two copies – one for librarians and one for educators that you can pass on to teachers and other colleagues. Packed with high-quality materials, *Curriculum Connections* is designed to assist collaboration between teachers, librarians, and students. It includes the best books, multimedia, and Web sites reviewed in SLJ during the past nine months. *School Library Journal* is available through LiLI-D in the EBSCO database, Academic Search Premier.



Here are a few more books on youth services in the State Library's collection. Contact the State Library at 1-800-458-3271 or go to the Web site at [www.lili.org](http://www.lili.org) for more information about getting a library card and having materials mailed to you.

***Bare Bones Children's Services: Tips for Public Library Generalists***, by Anitra T. Steele. American Library Association, 2001. [027.62 STEELE] The "bare bones" approach recognizes that there are libraries with limitations on children's services because of budget or size or staff constraints. This slim volume offers practical insights with a customer-focused approach. Topics include adapting reference and readers' advisory skills for children, providing homework help, storytelling and creating programs that help to build relationships with children, parents and teachers.

***Instant Web Forms and Surveys for Children's/YA Services and School Libraries***, by Gail Junion-Metz and Derrek L. Metz. Neal-Schuman NetGuide Series. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., 2002. [027.62 METZ & 027.62 METZ]

CD] This is a toolkit consisting of a CD with ready-to-use forms and a manual with step-by-step instructions for using the forms. The forms are designed to assist librarians in serving children of all ages, their teachers and parents. There are forms on reference questions, homework help, and program interest surveys. There are also forms for recommending items, reading interest surveys, and applying for a library card. The purpose of this toolkit is "to take the expense, work, and uncertainty out of online form and survey design and upload, and make it simple for public and school libraries to add these nifty tools to their Web sites." (p. v) A total of 24 forms and 24 surveys, along with tutorials, allow you to preview and select the best one for your library.

***Teens & Libraries: Getting It Right***, by Virginia A. Walter & Elaine Meyers. American Library Association, 2003. [027.62 WALTER T] Focusing on key strategies for improving young adult service, chapters include: partnerships with youth, the power of technology, a place for teens in the library, conversations with teens, teen panels and participation. Many of the ideas in this book were presented at the YALSA workshops in September.

## News Beyond Idaho

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The UK National Literacy Trust has a wonderful web site with some inspiring stories and resources. Check out their great reproducible handouts at <http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/talktoyourbaby/quicktips.html> . "Quick tips - talking with your baby" and "Sharing books with your baby" are two, in particular worth checking out. Their Winter, 2005 newsletter features articles on their family reading campaigns. Here's my favorite quote from the newsletter: "**Where there is a library, there is hope.**"

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