President’s Letter

As we launch into another exciting year, I’d like to thank the membership for being supportive in all the MLA efforts. And more big thanks need to go out to all those who have volunteered their time to serve as officers, committee chairs, and lending a hand in general.

This year will prove to be quite busy. It is a legislative year and Judy Hart of the Lewis and Clark Library has taken on the herculean task of being in charge of governmental affairs. She will be working with our lobbyists to monitor all legislative activities that involve or might affect libraries, freedom of speech and the flow of information. I urge all of you to support this effort by contacting your local representatives and discussing your library with them.

Another great event will be annual conference. The 2011 conference will be in Billings and is a joint conference with the Mountain Plains Library Association. MLA will have the opportunity to share the conference with eleven other states. The crack conference planning chairs Johanna Freivalds and Kim Hart are on the case and things are moving right along. Start gathering your programming ideas because the submission form will be available on the MLA website soon.

Other reminders—MLA license plates are available so please consider one at renewal time or even sooner. The ASLD/PLD retreat is coming up in October. Come on down to Chico for a great learning opportunity, beautiful scenery, warm pools and occasionally on topic book discussions.

And one last, but ever so important, reminder, please check your membership status. Make sure you have a status of active. If you aren’t sure, check the MLA website.

Thanks again to everyone. I look forward to a great year.

Chouteau County Library

After 4-nearly-5 years of fundraising, the Chouteau County Library in Fort Benton has new carpeting! The carpet looks fantastic and goes so well with the original wood and furnishings in the library. Staff, board members, Foundation members, high school students and patrons helped with the large amount of moving and re-shelving of books. A big thanks to everyone!

Our Big Sandy Branch has a new librarian! Vicki Silvan replaces Dee Pribyl, who retired after ten years as branch librarian. Welcome Vicki!
Retiring librarian donates red phone box to MSUB library

By Rob Rogers Of The Gazette Staff

The red British phone box practically glows in the dusky indoor illumination of Montana State University Billings library’s south wall.

“This is a little more fun than giving to the endowment,” said Jane Howell, retiring director of MSUB’s library system.

Howell bought the phone box at Christmastime from a Billings Army-Navy surplus store and donated it to the university as a memento of her four decades at the library. Howell was born in England and moved to the United States in 1968.

“It’s a fitting tribute,” said Brent Roberts, who takes over for Howell today in the library.

Howell was a little more candid.

“I thought it was an interesting way to remember the funny English lady,” she said.

Howell is well known to students, staff and members of the Billings community as “that British lady” or “that British librarian,” Roberts said. He said the phone box is the perfect complement to the library following Howell’s retirement.

The idea was sparked last Christmas when Howell saw an ad from the Army-Navy surplus store touting the authentic British phone box. She put in a call, paid $3,000 and by April the kiosk had arrived.

“It was worn,” she said. “The paint was chipped.”

In the end, she paid a few more thousand dollars to have it restored and delivered to the library — a feat in itself. The box weighs more than 2,000 pounds. The kiosk has been wired again for electricity, so the frosted glass panel near the top that reads “telephone” glows yellow. The university will install a working phone so the box can actually be used for making calls.

Roberts did some research. The phone box is a K6 “Jubilee” model, meaning it was constructed sometime between the late 1930s and early 1960s, when the boxes were at the height of their popularity.

Howell has donated to the university’s endowment for years, she said.

“I’ve always believed in giving back,” she said.
But with her departure from MSUB, she wanted to do something different, something a little more special, she said. When she saw the ad for the kiosk, she knew she had found her answer.

“I think it will last longer than I will.”

Contact Rob Rogers at rrogers@billingsgazette.com or 657-1231.

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Retiring librarian donates red phone box, continued

Parmly Billings Library Foundation’s 5th annual fundraiser another sold-out success!

By: Dee Ann Redman, Assistant Director, Parmly Billings Library

The Parmly Billings Library Foundation’s 5th annual Food for Thought fundraiser was another sold-out success! The event features dinner with new friends who talk about a specific topic. The table topics were stimulating; the food was delicious; the wine was luscious; and best of all — we raised money for our Library! Twenty tables avidly discussed topics that ranged from medical marijuana to sustainable farming to the future of the auto industry.

If you’d like to receive information about this wonderful event or just want to find out what this exciting evening of conversation is about, go to our Food for Thought website at www.ci.billings.mt.us/foodforthought. You can sign up to receive email notices for the 6th annual evening, learn about table topics and hosts, or read comments written about this year’s dinner. For more information, please contact Leslie Modrow, Development Director, at 237–6149 or email her at modrowl@ci.billings.mt.us
New Name, New Location, and New Hours for LCL East Helena Branch Library

By: Patricia C. Spencer, PIO, Lewis & Clark Library

The building renovations are complete, the books have been moved, and your brand new East Helena Library is open for business!

The Lewis & Clark Library is pleased to announce the relocation of their East Valley Branch from the East Valley Middle School to 16 E. Main Street in East Helena. With the move comes a change of name, change in hours, and increase in services.

The Lewis & Clark Library Board of Trustees approved the expansion of services to East Helena in late 2009 based on continued growth in that community. Lewis & Clark Library Director Judy Hart explains that, “Since 2001, the East Valley Branch of the Lewis & Clark Library has experienced record increases in visitation, circulation, program attendance, and use of public access computers. In response to this increase, the Lewis & Clark Library Board began researching ways in which to better serve the growing population in East Helena and the East Valley.”

Hart goes on to explain that “During 2009, the East Valley Branch had a 6.7% increase in visitation, a 27% increase in circulation, computer use increased 33%, and program attendance by over 11%.” East Helena Branch Librarian Diane Potter is excited to be able to offer expanded services to her patrons.

With the move and change in hours, the East Helena Branch will be able to offer a children’s storytime; expanded adult and senior programs and classes; computer classes; as well as an expanded collection of books, DVDs, magazines, and audio books. “We are just so thrilled to be in East Helena and able to provide more services to the community,” stated Potter. In the first day the new library was open, three new library cards were issued and later over 40 kids attended a summer reading program presentation on scuba diving.

Potter explains that the community’s response has been positive, “everyone is just so thrilled that the library is open and on main street!”

CONGRATULATIONS, GLADYS!

Gladys Rayhill, Library Director, Belt Public Library completed her library endorsement-- to be added to her teaching license-- through MSU Bozeman!
Water, Water Everywhere…at the Library!

By Karen K. Stock, Trustee and SRP Coordinator, Wedsworth Memorial Library

No, there hasn’t been a flood, just a group of Cascade area children ‘splashing about’ at Wedsworth Memorial Library! Each Tuesday morning over the past four weeks they have participated in the Summer Reading Program, whose theme this year was, “Make a Splash—READ”. The SRP is a collaborative effort between forty-four states across the nation, and is sponsored by Wedsworth Memorial Library and the Montana Library Association.

Average attendance at each session was 15 children, ranging in age from 2-10 yrs, and all enjoyed fun stories, riddles, games, and crafts. In keeping with the watery theme the first week, the children each created a construction paper rubber duck in a bathtub full of bubbles, which was pasted to the library wall. These represented their reading records, and each week the children added stickers to the bubbles to show how many books they had read (or had been read to them). Then we learned all about water and weather, and put together a craft simulating the water cycle. The second week we explored the seas and oceans, with stories about creatures that make their homes there, and they created a seahorse mobile. Next up was the study of fresh water ponds and rivers and tales of beavers and frogs. The fourth week was all about summer fun, with more stories, a flying fish game, and creation of a very snazzy fish hat! The event concluded with the children enjoying yummy refreshments, as they were presented with their certificates of participation together with a “Make a Splash—Read” theme bag.

Thanks to all the children who participated, to Jackie Strandell and the Library patrons who endured loud voices and excited giggles for an hour each session, and extra special kudos to the parents and grand-parents who were there to help!
The High Plains Book Award

By: Dee Ann Redman, Assistant Director, Parmly Billings Library

The High Plains Book Award banquet is coming up soon, and attendees are in for a great meal and a good time with authors and fellow booklovers. Emeritus Award Winner Margaret Coel will be the featured speaker, and winners for Best Fiction, Best Nonfiction, Best First Book, Best Poetry and Zonta Best Woman Writer will be announced.

Sixteen books have been selected as finalists for the 2010 High Plains Book Awards. All of the books were written by a regional author or writing team, or are literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains. Nominations were received from publishers and individuals in the US and Canada. Winners will be announced at The High Plains Book Awards Banquet on Friday, October 8, 2010 in Billings, MT. The event is held in conjunction with the annual High Plains BookFest.

For more information about the finalists and about obtaining tickets, visit the event website at http://highplainsbookawards.org.

By: Mary Lou Mires, PNLA Representative

Darlene Hert (MSU – Billings Library) was recently elected PNLA’s Board Secretary. Darlene will take office August at PNLA’s 2010 Conference in Victoria, B.C. Teressa Kennan (UM - Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library) and Mary Ann George (UM – Helena College of Technology Library) were selected, as two of thirty-two emerging leaders, to participate in 2010 LEADS – PNLA’s leadership institute at Schweitzer Mountain Resort, Sandpoint, ID. in October.

Congratulations to Darlene, Teressa, and Mary Ann!

Victoria, B.C. August 11 – 13, 2010
http://2010conference.wla.org/events/
Keynote speakers include authors Robert Sawyer (sci-fi), Clyde Ford (Red Herring as well as other fiction/non-fiction), Karen Cushman (Midwife Apprentice and Catherine, Called Birdy plus others) and Diane Tullson (Red Sea, Saving Jersey and more).

Great sessions! Stop by and talk with the Exhibitors! Visit with friends and colleagues! Can’t be there…go to http://2010conference.wla.org/ and read the Conference Blog.
ASLD/PLD fall retreat at Chico Hot Springs

By John A. Heldt, Lewis & Clark Library and PLD Chair

What do stagecoaches, social networking, internships, Swedish crime novels, and hot water have in common?

All will be featured attractions at the ASLD/PLD fall retreat at Chico Hot Springs October 17-18.

Nearly a dozen programs are on tap for the annual event, including “Stage Coaching in Yellowstone, 1878-1916: The Best of all Possible Worlds,” by Lee Whittlesey. A past presenter at Chico, Whittlesey is a longtime Yellowstone National Park historian and author of several books.

Another featured speaker, Robert Maxwell of University of Utah, will show us the future with RDA (resource description and access).

Other presenters include Matt Beckstrom (social networking), Roberta Gebhardt (cataloging), and Jan Zauha and Alice Meister, who will explain the ins and outs of “Supervising Internships” in academic and public libraries.

Karen Gonzales will lead a hot tub book discussion of Stieg Larsson’s celebrated crime novel, “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.”

Participants can earn continuing education credit for most programs.

The cost of the retreat is $80, which includes all programs, lunch and dinner on Sunday, breakfast on Monday, and snacks. Participants are responsible for their own accommodations, though a block of rooms has been set aside for conference participants at Chico Hot Springs Resort. Call 406-333-4933 or 800-468-9232 to reserve a room and mention MLA.

Additional retreat information, an updated list of programs, and a registration form can be found at www.mtlib.org. Completed registrations and payment should be sent to treasurer Beth Boyson at Bozeman Public Library, 626 E. Main Street, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Questions or offers to assist with the event should be directed to co-chairs John Heldt (jaheldt@mtlib.org) and Anne Kish (a_kish@umwestern.edu).

We look forward to seeing you at Chico!
Nancy Brennan, long time Director of Bicentennial Library in Colstrip and outstanding contributor to the Networking Task Force and other aspects of the Montana library community, now lives near Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Nancy has returned to her first love, application of her Master’s degrees in Forestry and Botany. She is a Master Naturalist in Minnesota and is contributing to that organization. She also is planting a variety of indigenous plants near their lovely log home at the edge of a lake where white pine were common years ago and where she now has planted several new seedlings. In addition, she assists at the Tamarack Wildlife Refuge, where she is shown photographing an interesting species in the woods not far from the Visitor’s Center at the refuge.

Rosebud County Library in Forsyth now has a finished addition, complete with a ground level front entrance and elevator to the main floor library and basement meeting rooms including a newly furnished Local History Collection room. The beautiful landscaping includes a new walled “home” for the many memorial roses which have been part of the library grounds for several years. At the far left of the picture is a new linden tree, planted by avid library supporters Mariellen and Toppy Lee, who planted the first linden tree here after the original building was built in 1970. When that tree had to be removed for construction purposes, the Lees, now in their mid-80’s, returned to help plant the new tree. Mariellen Lee was President of the GFWC Forsyth Woman’s Club when they received a statewide Friends of the Library award from the Montana Library Association in 2000.

Nomkoo Arrives!

By Cindy Christin, Supervisor, Children’s Services, Bozeman Public Library

An elephant is coming to Bozeman! A Global Ambassador for Sustainability, Nomkhubulwane (Nomkoo) is a 9’ tall 1.3 ton elephant sculpture made of woven recycled tires and comes to Bozeman from her home in Africa. Nomkhubulwane is touring internationally to encourage creative projects and discussions about a more respectful and sustainable relationship with the earth. Bozeman is one of only five US cities to host the sculpture as part of her 2010 North American Tour. From August 4 - September 15, she will reside at the front plaza of the Library where she will serve as a creative catalyst for community conversations and conscious change.
Nomkoo Arrives, continued

A City Celebration to welcome Nomkoo to Bozeman will take place Wednesday August 4, 3:00 pm–7:00 pm in the front plaza of the Library. Scheduled activities include interactive music with the Dupli-cates, interactive group art, and the official welcome message at 5:30 from Alice Meister, Library Director, Martha Joh Reeder-Kearns, and Mayor Jeff Krause. Children will be able to make their own elephant sculptures starting at 3pm. Refer to the website for the full schedule of events for this day at www.nomkoo.org.

Project Nomkoo is a grassroots collaboration using art, music, culture and community conversations to raise awareness for issues of sustainability, conservation, the environment and the inter-relationships of all living things. Bringing together local citizens, nonprofits, businesses, city departments and educators, Project Nomkoo has a full schedule of fun and engaging activities and events.

Montana State Library News

By Sue Jackson, Montana State Library

Certification Program – New Online CE Tracking System

Thanks to the genius of Mike Price, you can now track your continuing education credits online using a password protected tracking form. All you need to do is register and set up an account. Then, as you work toward certification, you can access your personal CE Tracking Form to add library continuing education events you attend. With the click of a button you can add ce events from the Master Certification Continuing Education List (for training offered or hosted by Montana State Library, Montana Shared Catalog, Montana Library Association, or Montana’s six library federations). For other events you participate in (workshops, webinars, online courses, etc.) sponsored by other organizations or associations, you can input the information directly into your CE Tracking Form. The system Mike has developed has some great special features: it keeps a tally of your credits in each ce category, it totals up all of the ce credits you’ve earned, it can be printed when you apply for certification, and it can be downloaded to your PC. Give it a try!! http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Training/certification/CE_Tracker/default1.asp

NOTE: If you have been adding your ce activities to a tracking form on your PC, you don’t need to transfer that information to the new online form. You can just make the switch to the online form now. Then, when you’re ready to apply for certification, just print and send in both CE Tracking Forms, PC and online.

Leadership Training This Fall

Two leadership workshops are scheduled for li-
library directors and board members. Please plan to join us on:

Saturday, October 9th – Billings (Hilton Garden Inn)
or
Saturday, November 6th -- Missoula (Hilton Garden Inn)

We’ve invited Pat Wagner, Pattern Research (Denver), to return to MT for these workshops. Pat is a distinguished library consultant and trainer with a special interest in library boards and the important role of library trustees. She’ll share her expertise on the role of library leaders in serving their communities and provide some ideas on surviving these tough economic times.

Registration will begin in early fall.

**SWIM Scholarship Awards**

In case you haven’t heard, 17 Montanans have received SWIM library education scholarships. Ten will receive $14,400 each in scholarship funds to complete the MLIS degree from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences, and seven individuals will receive $4,320 each to complete the School Library Media Endorsement program from either the University of Montana or Montana State University. Congratulations to all!

Matthew Beckstrom, Helena – UNT
Linda Blomquist, Dillon – UNT
Nancy Coultas, Superior -- MSU
Jennifer Crisman, Great Falls -- UM
Debra Denowh, Sidney -- MSU
Mitchell Grady, Anaconda -- UNT
Joelfre Grant, Ronan -- UM

Pamela Harrington, Missoula -- UNT
Cheryl Hoover, Billings -- UNT
Kris Keller, Kalispell -- MSU
Dana Kopp, Clinton -- UNT
Nancy Lunday, Helena -- UM
Lisa Lykins, Kalispell -- UNT
Michelle O’Rourke, Great Falls -- UM
Jessica Tobin, Helena -- UNT
Nancy Venable, Havre -- UNT
Jennifer Wilke, Billings -- UNT

To have a look at the MT SWIM recipients, go to: [http://msl.mt.gov/greatcareer/html/swimproject.htm](http://msl.mt.gov/greatcareer/html/swimproject.htm)

An additional 34 library education scholarships were awarded to residents of the other SWIM states – Idaho, South Dakota, and Wyoming. The SWIM project is funded by a grant from the federal Laura Bush Librarians for the 21st Century Grant Program and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Fall Workshop 2010 – Great Falls Holiday Inn, September 24-25

In the last issue of Focus we highlighted some of the topics and presenters for this year’s Fall Workshop. Here’s more!

Predictions are that within a decade, less than 25% of books sold will be print versions. Amazon.com just announced that sales of e-books now outnumber sales of hardcover books. What will the decline of print mean for libraries? How will we incorporate e-books into our collections and what should we be doing to serve mobile users? Two of our favorite consultants, Tracy Cook and Suzanne Reymer, will take on the challenge of new technologies and how these tools are changing libraries.
Science and Math for the Preschool Crowd -- you’re kidding, right? According to Linda Clark, an early learning specialist from Bozeman, the answer is no. Why? Very young children are capable of science and math-based learning and naturally love play that leads to science and math knowledge and understanding. Linda’s interactive session will demonstrate how librarians, teachers, parents - anyone living and working with children ages 0-8 - can encourage and facilitate scientific ways of thinking, talking, and doing. Join Linda to be better prepared to help children feel the power that comes from exploring and making discoveries about our world.

Also for the very young set, Kurt Cunningham, Education Specialist from MT’s Fish Wildlife and Parks, will tell us about Growing Up WILD, a nationally-recognized early childhood education program (ages 3 – 7) that invites children to explore the world and wildlife around them using early math, science, and literacy skills. You’ll learn how to implement the Growing Up Wild curriculum/activities and how to provide an early foundation for developing positive impressions about the natural world as well as lifelong social and academic skills.

Chris Markuson, GIS Manager for Pueblo County in Colorado, has provided GIS data for his local library district on several important projects. These include implementing a successful capital development campaign, developing a media outreach strategy to promote events and programs, evaluating library collections to mirror the interests of the community, devising a future development plan for library construction, and preparing grant applications. You’ll leave this session with a real appreciation of the value of GIS and wanting to learn more.

The OCLC Digital Archive provides long term preservation of digital masters, ensuring that a master copy of digitized material exists and is accessible into the future. Partnering with the Montana Historical Society Research Center, the State Library now provides access to this digital preservation tool that accompanies and supports the Montana Memory Project. Access is open to all Montana libraries, archives, museums and schools. Attend this workshop to learn the essential differences between digital access and digital preservation and how the Digital Archive process works.

Lauren McMullen, MSL’s training expert, has two special workshops on the schedule this year:

First, how’s your library’s customer focus? Can your patrons easily find what they are looking for or do you have to spend a lot of time explaining things? You’ll look at recent market research and talk about service design factors like community demographics, user behavior, library signage, a reader-centered approach, and more. There will be brainstorming and sharing ways to arrange your library to provide the optimum UX (User Experience).

And, what about a Reference Rodeo? You’ll get your rope around some solid information in this hands-on session and have a chance to practice your reference skills discovering new sources and using old reliable. There will be a variety of individual and team events like “Clown Around,” “Stump the Bull,” and “Wrestle with the Big Questions”. The rodeo prize is the big golden belt buckle of knowledge; of course, when you improve your information skills – everyone wins!

Can a patron go barefoot in the library? What can you do about rowdy teens who are bothering other patrons? Join Great Falls City Attorney Jim Santoro and Great Falls Public Library Director Kathy Mora as they explore what a library can legally include in a behavioral policy or code of conduct. It’s all about free speech and being reasonable – not as simple as it sounds. Examples from MT libraries will be looked at and discussed.

As always, there is no registration fee for attending the Fall Workshop and MSL provides lunch both days. Registration will begin in August. Watch for it on wired-mt!

MT Connecting To Collections Grant

The MT CTC Project, coordinated by Montana State Library and the Montana Historical Society and funded by the Institute of Museum and
Missoula Public Library News

By: Joyce Doyle, Missoula Public Library

**Missoula Public Library to hold The Big Read**

What if all the residents of Missoula and surrounding towns read the same book? That’s Missoula Public Library’s plan this fall. The library is proud to announce it will offer The Big Read in October and November, orchestrating a community-wide reading of Dashiell Hammett’s classic detective novel “The Maltese Falcon.”

Missoula is one of 75 communities across the nation participating in The Big Read this year thanks to a $17,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and additional support from local businesses and organizations.

The Missoula community will celebrate “The Maltese Falcon” with a full calendar of events including book chats hosted all over the county, staged readings, movie screenings, children’s events, mystery games, a Find the Falcon scavenger hunt, Festival of the Book mystery writers workshops, and lots more from Oct. 5-Nov. 13. The Big Read kicks off with “Spade and the City: A Tour of Noir,” on Oct. 5, offering a virtual trip through Hammett’s San Francisco featuring music, food and Bay Area Hammett expert Don Herron. Plus, the library will be giving out more than 2,200 copies of “The Maltese Falcon” at the library and locations throughout the county. Younger readers won’t be left out – they can get a copy of “The Falcon’s Malteser” or “The Malted Falcon,” our Little Read selections.

Special thanks to major local Big Read Missoula sponsors Missoula Art Museum, Missoula County Public Schools, Allegra Print & Imaging & Signs Now, and Humanities Montana. The Little Read is majorly sponsored by the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation. Additional Big Read support and partnerships include DirecTV, Otis Elevator Company, First Security Bank, Missoula Federal Credit Union, Norco Products, Fact & Fiction, Historical Museum at Fort Missoula, MOLLI – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at University.

Montana State Library News, continued

Library Services, is in full swing. The online survey to collect data about historical materials held by Montana’s cultural institutions – including libraries -- will be available in mid-September. The data collected in the survey will be used to develop statewide preservation strategies and to educate legislators and other funding sources about the state’s preservation needs. The project also features five preservation workshops for staff and volunteers of MT’s libraries, museums, historical societies, county records offices, and tribal governments. The half-day workshops, which will be presented by Tom Clareson and Leigh Grinstead of Lyrasis, have been scheduled:

October 5 – Havre-Hill County Public Library

October 6 – Kalispell, Museum at Central School

October 7 – Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives

October 19 – Miles City Public Library

October 20 – Bozeman (location to be announced)

A small stipend will be available for institutions that have staff or volunteers attend a CTC workshop.
Missoula Public Library News, continued

of Montana, MCAT, Poverello Center Inc., Missoula County Sheriff’s Office, Barnes & Noble, Book Exchange, Missoula Senior Center, Kelly Cooper, UM School of Theatre and Dance, Loyola High School, Top Hat Bar, Friends of the Missoula Public Library, and Missoula Public Library Foundation. Partner libraries include Drummond School & Community Library, the Mansfield Library at UM, and Lewis & Clark Library.

Missoula Public Library putting technology grant funds toward a mobile computer lab

Missoula Public Library is among the 42 Montana public libraries receiving a $1,829,473 U.S. Department of Commerce grant to fund its “Enhancing Computer Centers in Montana Public Libraries” project, designed to expand broadband capacity and training in many of Montana’s public libraries coordinated through the Montana State Library. Missoula plans to create a mobile computer lab/bookmobile which would travel a regular circuit throughout the outlying regions of Missoula County. The new mobile lab unit will be able to offer full library services including Internet access and computer training as well as access to the library’s online resources and print materials.

MPL Considers Building Needs

What will the future Missoula County Public Library look like? The library is embarking on an Envision! project to review its current building and plan out future building needs. As part of the planning process, building study agents Oz Architects are hosting two public forums and conducting a survey of library users and non-users to determine community interests and needs. The current library building located at 301 East Main was designed for 30 years of use. Built in the early 1970s, the building has already exceeded expectations, according to library director Honore Bray, and the library is fast outgrowing its shell. Bray reports the library plans to remain in its downtown location. The Envision! project is a three-month process including focus groups comprised of staff, community organizations/businesses, and public input. In addition, Oz will provide engineering and structural assessments, itemizing what’s needed in a library building and what may be lacking from the current facility.

The MSU Libraries’ 20th annual Tribal College Librarians Professional Development Institute

By: Mary Anne Hansen, Associate Professor/Reference Librarian, Montana State University Libraries

The Montana State University Libraries’ 20th annual Tribal College Librarians Professional Development Institute convened June 7 - 11, 2010, on the Montana State University Campus. Sixty-two participants and presenters from 15 states, the District of Columbia and Canada, representing 37 different institutions, gathered for TCLI 2010. This year marked the largest participation numbers since its inception because of a three-year IMLS grant received by TCLI coordinators to fund the travel expenses of participants and some presenters. TCLI participants took part in 20 different programs and networking sessions covering a variety of professional development and cultural issues, including program planning, leading book groups, researching treaties, tribal college library standards, trends and issues in the field from the perspective of current library science students, Inupiat muktuk (whale) presentation, a program on the National Museum of Languages and more.
A special feature of this year’s institute was a presentation by Montana Poet Laureate, Mr. Henry Real Bird, the first Native poet laureate to represent the state. Other presenters included Dr. Loriene Roy, ALA Past President and UT Austin School of Information professor, Dr. Cheryl Metoyer, UW Ischool professor, Gary McCone, recently retired from the National Agriculture Library; Judy Meadows, State Law Library of Montana and more.

Through TCLI, the MSU Libraries continue our outreach to tribal college librarians and their constituencies through relevant professional development programs, consultation and networking tailored to their unique needs. Tribal college libraries serve a dual role because most serve as both an academic library for their campus and as a public library for the entire tribal community, typically on a reservation in a geographically isolated area. TCLI has become the professional development opportunity of choice for many tribal college librarians because of the unique networking, group problem solving and educational programs addressing their specific needs. Started in 1990 by Kathy Kaya and Kay Carey, both now retired, TCLI is coordinated annually by Mary Anne Hansen and James Thull, both reference librarians at Montana State University.

Butte-Silver Bow Public Library News

By: Lee Phillips, Director
Butte Silver Bow Public Library

Butte Digital Film Project: Young Butte America Speaks

The Butte Silver Bow Public Library has received grant funding from Humanities Montana and NW Energy to offer 20 young adults in Butte Silver Bow the opportunity to capture on film the importance of geographical factors in the development of Butte Silver Bow and, through the inquiry process, learn about the people and cultures who settled in Butte. The digital film will allow young adults to explore, examine and expand their understanding of Butte as the place they call home and to consider the future of Butte.

Participants met with film makers and scholars who provided technical and research support, including Pam Roberts the director of the PBS film Butte America. These adult mentors were available to confer with young adult filmmakers during the project. Young film makers used flip digital cameras and flash drives to capture and store their film footage. They met with the project mentors over the next six months to get assistance with technology, editing, story board creation, research skills, interview techniques, and narrative.

Young film makers participated in the creation and editing of the final film production that will be screened at the The Mother Lode Theater on August 14th at 4:30 during the AnRiRa Irish Festival. It will also be made available for other libraries and schools in Montana through Humanities Montana. The film shows the work of five different groups of seventh and eighth graders. The students share their views of Butte America. Their perspective is interesting and often surprising, as they interview experts, tour the mine and buildings of Butte learning about the place where they live. Copies of the film DVD will be available for a five dollar donation at the theatre and the library.
Memorandum of understanding between Butte Silver Bow Public Library in partnership with Butte School District #1.

Partnerships between libraries and schools systems can be extremely beneficial. Encouraging the next generation to be lifelong learners and readers is key to the future of schools and libraries.

BSB Public Library can:
1. Support student learning by partnering with schools
2. Maximize community resources for the greatest benefit of students
3. Improve communication and collaboration

Education is important to libraries. One of the purposes of libraries to insure a well informed citizenry.

1. Libraries can provide students with information and resources to succeed.
2. The Library supports the District’s goals and objectives for lifelong learning.
3. Our partnership will open doors, open minds, and connect users to careers and support the economic health of the community.

The Library staff is available to promote books in the classroom, participate in school-based book clubs, talk about summer reading programs, assist media specialists with creating reading lists and scheduling author visits. The library will create and host an A+ Curriculum Enhancement Guide for teachers.

1. Provide resource materials pdfs about library resources
2. Share staff development materials on technology
3. Suggest good reads for teachers and their students
4. Provide professional library resources

The Library will make PTA presentations on using the library for the whole family.

Addressing key concerns and provide resources:
1. – Drug, alcohol, and tobacco use
2. – Internet safety
3. – Homework help
4. – Helping beginning readers with early literacy programs
5. – Explore careers

A+ Partnership Memorandum of Understanding

The District will provide three representatives to the A+ committee. The district representatives will include one administrator, one media specialist and one teacher. The library will provide three representatives; the Library Director, the Childrens Librarian and the Young Adult Librarian.

The pilot A+ program will implement three goals in the 2010/2011 school year.

- Insure all new and incoming students are provided a library card application with registration. Teachers will provide encouragement for students to have a library card.
- Participate in the Library Card sign up drive in September. Outcome – 70% of elementary and middle school students have their own library card.
- The library will provide curriculum enhancement guides for teachers introducing the resources at the library available to support instruction. In service training for teachers will be available. Outcome -50% of elementary teachers will preview the materials provided. CE credit from OPI will be available for those who participate in training.
- The Library will make one PTA presentation about the resources available at the library. Information on library educational services will be provided to schools to be disseminated by the school administrator in the most effective manner.

The Committee will meet quarterly to evaluate the progress of the three goals. The committee will provide a report to the School Board and the Library Board at the end of the school year assessing goals, reviewing surveys, reporting attendance in A+ programs and outlining successes and obstacles with recommendations for the next school year.

Lee Phillips, Library Director
Butte Silver Bow Public Library
Patti Hepola, Chair
Butte District #1 Board of Trustees
Pictures from the 4th of July Parade

The Freedom to Read pic features my daughter USAF Staff Sargent Ruth Phillips, home on leave. The second picture features our classic car entry in the July 4th parade in Butte (over 100 entries!!). The gal in red is our new Adult/YA Services Librarian Regan deVictoria. She started July 1st and has already won the hearts of our YA community. She is a Missoula native and comes to us via the University of Washington in Seattle. We are so glad she wanted to come back to Montana and call Butte her new home. Regan celebrated her birthday on July 24th and received an engagement ring from her significant other who relocates to Butte in August! Way to go, Regan!

Butte Digital Image Project
We are at the half way mark with our Butte Digital Image Project funded through the Montana Cultural Trust, the Butte Urban Revitalization Agency, and Butte Silver Bow. http://www.flickr.com/photos/buttepubliclibrary/ is our Flickr library account. We have over 750 images online and over 58K views! Check it out.

KohaCon
Lee Phillips, director of Butte Silver Bow Public Library, will be presenting at KohaCon 10 in Wellington, New Zealand in October this year. The conference celebrates Koha’s ten year anniversary and features developers and librarians from all over the world. For more information about Koha and Koha 10 go to http://www.kohacon10.org.nz/. I will give a presentation on “A librarian’s POV: Why I love Koha.” Discussion points include:

- Our migration from Winnebago,
- The ease of implementation and staff assimilation in using Koha,
- The digital branch project we are developing for patrons’ materials,
- Our first collection inventory with Koha,
- Training the patron to use the OPAC and remote access with classes offered weekly at the library,
- Our virtual branch located in a retail location in Koha and the benefits of being self-hosted,
- A short wish list of what we want to do in the next two years: RSS feed new acquisitions from Koha to Facebook and Twitter and more.
MPLA Report

By: Pam Henley, Technology Assistant/MPLA Representative
Bozeman Public Library

The 7th MPLA Leadership Institute took place in Estes Park, CO, with 30 attendees. Want to know more about it? Talk to Pam Arroues and Megan Dazey to hear what they have to say about the experience (or check out the Institute photos - http://photos.mpla.us/ - maybe you can find out the significance of the toilet plunger!). Think it might be something you’d like to attend? It will be held again in 2012, so keep watching Focus and the MPLA website (http://www.mpla.us/index.html) for information. Remember, MLA has money available to help you attend.

The position of state representative to MPLA will be available next year, and here are 3 great reasons to consider it: Nebraska, South Dakota and Arizona! Those are the next 3 joint conferences after Billings, and are all fall conferences – no conflict with our MLA conference. Let me know if you have questions.

MPLA now has an entry in Wikipedia (search for Mountain Plains Library Association).

Humanities Montana August News

By: Kim Anderson, Associate Director, Programs
HumanitiesMONTANA

Two New Speakers Bureau Offerings

Ever wonder how the town of Loma got its name? Montana Historical Society librarian Brian Shovers and three other researchers can answer that question and many others in the new Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau program, Celebrating Montana Place Names.

Feeling adventurous? Then our other new program, Living Magically—Acting Practically, featuring author and explorer Jon Turk, is just your ticket.

The Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau offers over 100 different programs on Montana culture, history, and literature, Native American cultures, public affairs, the arts, and other humanities disciplines. Browse through our catalog to pick a program for your organization, and check out our calendar of events to see what’s going on in your community.

Join Discussion of Hugo’s Selected Poems

Frances McCue, author of The Car That Brought You Here Still Runs: Revisiting the Northwest Towns of Richard Hugo, is leading an online discussion of Richard Hugo’s Selected Poems from July through December. Go to the Humanities Roundtable and join the conversation. And consider hosting a reading and discussion of this year’s One Book Montana in your town. For much more information about materials available to spark your discussions, email Kim Anderson or call her at 243-6022.

Reflections On...Difference and Truth

Dean McGovern facilitates Reflections On... Difference and Truth using Langston Hughes’ poem “Theme for English B” to initiate discussion about how we assume, reveal and measure our differences.

“Reflections On...” discussions are an online extension of Reflect: Community Readings and Conversations, a Humanities Montana program designed for communities, nonprofit groups, and government organizations that uses literature to provoke conversation about civic engagement.