

# Latah County Library District

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT September 2010

### Activity Summary

- The six rural branches of the Latah County Library District have been selected as candidates for participation in the first phase of the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program project. By October 15th, 55 of the initial 75 library locations will be identified to proceed in the second phase. This statewide grant would increase bandwidth to selected libraries and replace several public computers at each location. The Business Manager attended an all-day workshop regarding the grant on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and the library continues to provide information as needed to the grant committee.
- In early September Trustee McGregor and I visited the six rural libraries to discuss the upcoming strategic planning process. McGregor also attended a meeting of the library managers on September 8<sup>th</sup> for the same purpose.
- On September 10<sup>th</sup>, library managers Sokol and Williams accompanied me to a demonstration of two different library software systems at the Post Falls Public Library. The all-day session was part of the CIN and VALNet exploration of software options.
- The VALNet board of directors met in Lewiston on August 19<sup>th</sup> and September 16<sup>th</sup>. In addition to usual business, we had further discussion on the consortium's relationship to the Washington-Idaho Network (WIN). The WIN board met on September 14<sup>th</sup> and agreed to an October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting between the WIN board and the board of the INLAN consortium of academic libraries, also members of WIN.
- The committee working on the waterwise demonstration garden project at the Moscow Library met September 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss expanding the project to include other improvements to the grounds.
- The semi-annual Friends of the Moscow Library booksale will be held at the Latah County fairgrounds on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM. There will be a members only presale from 6:00 – 8:00 PM on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- On September 17<sup>th</sup>, the library sent representatives to the Spokane Public Library for the first meeting of a new committee formed to discuss regional collection development issues.
- Youth Services Manager Cathy Ensley contributed a column on library storytimes to the local newspaper. Outreach Services Manager Betsy Bybell wrote a column on the First Book program.
- I attended the annual retreat of the Friends of the Moscow Library on August 19<sup>th</sup> as well as their regular meeting in September.
- Several managers and I contributed to the fall edition of the Friends of the Moscow Library newsletter.

### Department and Branch Reports

#### Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- August went by in a blur for me due to my absence from work due to illness for a couple of weeks.
- I did not have any summer reading programs in August in preparation for the beginning of the school year and story times. I was still pushing a few kids to finish up their reading logs so they could claim prizes.
- The sidewalk project in front of the library was beginning to wrap up and we still didn't know if there would be a sidewalk up to the library steps or not.
- The money that was donated by some of the White Family members was used to purchase a new flag for the front of the building and the bracket to hold it was lowered so that it is much easier to reach.
- A new tree was planted near the front of the library as part of the sidewalk project as were several other trees planted around town. Our tree that was originally planted there had been knocked over by cows. (only in Bovill would this happen)
- Business as usual with weeding and shelving

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- Summer Reading wrapped up August 31 with 53 signups and 36 finishers. I think the 6 big prize packages donated from the Deary Friends really helped more kids finish the program. Every child took home a prize, but only the kids who earned their free book (finished) were entered in the drawing for the big prizes.
- The Deary Friends held a booksale during Deary Days the first Saturday in August. There were people browsing the tables of books all day! About \$400.00 was made at this sale.
- Three storytimes were held in August to keep the little ones coming back! They were "craft" times, with book reading beginning in Sept.

Genesee Branch Report – Connie Sobczyk

**Highlights of Summer Reading 2010 – Genesee Community Library**

- Genesee 2010 Summer reading numbers are as follows:

Total Participants Signed-up:	99	
Participants Signed up Preschool/ # Completed:	24/17	71%
Participants Signed up Kindergarten/ # Completed:	13/8	62%
Participants Signed up Grade 1 / # Completed:	10/8	80%
Participants Signed-up Grade 2/ # Completed:	8/3	38%
Participants Signed-up Grade 3/ # Completed:	9/8	89%
Participants Signed-up Grade 4/ # Completed:	7/4	57%
Participants Signed-up Grade 5/ # Completed:	7/5	71%
Participants Signed-up Grade 6/ # Completed:	10/6	60%
Participants Signed-up Grade 7 and above:	11/7	64%

(Grade is reflective of Reader's grade entering in the Fall 2010.)

- A total of 99 Books were awarded to readers who completed their goals by program ending August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Completion rate for 2010 is 67%. In comparison, of the 90 participants in Summer Reading Program 2009, 48 completed their goals (53%).
- Grade 7 and above read over 18,554 pages during the 2010 summer months.
- Genesee provided 6 programs with outside programmers; each program averaged 45 readers.
- The most attended programs were Bubbleman, Cecil the Magician and Idaho Fish & Game with 66, 65 and 60 readers, respectively.
- Our program ended with an attendance of 72 at the Finale Party on July 29.
- Genesee's Total Checkout Circulation has increased 14% and 7%, respectively for years' 2008/2009 and 2009/2010. Genesee's Total July checkout charges have increased 4% to 8 % from intervals 2008- 2009 and 2009-2010.
- Story time designed around Dr Seuss books will begin Friday, September 10 at 10 AM.
- Saving the best to the end, the last week of August was full of pleasant surprises. A small young patron told me she will soon move to Moscow. Her mother said when listing the pros and cons for making this move, having to leave the Genesee Library and Ms. Connie was on the con side. Bittersweet! Moscow, you are getting a great sweet little girl.
- During the first 2 days of school, 4 Jr High students came in asking for good book reads. That is the first for me! Learning what these kids like to read during the summer was helpful.
- To sweeten the week, the best cook in Genesee brought me a quart of World's Best Homemade Pickles and bag of mouth watering caramels!

Juliaetta Branch Report – Linda Dahl

- Summer Reading finished here in the Juliaetta/Kendrick with 42 of the 68 participants finishing to earn their "Grand Prize Bag"! Thanks to the Friends of the Library, First Bank Pizza and the Harvest Lighthouse Cornerstone, children received some fun gifts and awards for their dedication to reading. And let's not forget to thank Applebees and Lancer Lanes Bowling!

- Now as the lazy days of summer end and fall classes begin, I am getting excited for the opportunity to get to know the other children in the area as monthly school class visits will soon begin. In the meantime we are working with the Juliaetta Elementary School to prepare all the children with library cards. This will enable the students to use the library, its services and resources, and help give them a great start this school year.
- Storytimes will also begin, every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Stories, crafts, book games and songs!
- Internet problems with the server created many days trying to work without internet or Voyager service. Numerous calls were made to restore service, but many days the library was without any internet at all. Patrons, though frustrated, were more than understanding, and I am grateful to them for their patience.
- One highlight of the month was my visit to the Kendrick Senior Meals luncheon where I was given a generous welcome. I gave a presentation, sharing all the Juliaetta Community Library has to offer. I brought books, audios, pamphlets, and a wide variety of materials to show the seniors all the ways the library can be of service to them. The result was several questions afterwards and application forms taken. Three of those attending came to visit "...the library you told us about" that very afternoon!

#### Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- Final Summer Reading numbers: 210 sign-ups 95 finishers
- The sprinkler is turned off and the valve is shut off for the winter
- The Boy Scout working on his Eagle Scout project at the library has been rather absent. He called not long ago and stated he was going to get busy and get it done but I haven't seen him. More on that when something happens.
- Looking ahead and starting to plan an October program with Claire Davis, Christmas Open House and Winter Reading.
- Planning to do some weeding in September to prepare for the new paperback budget.
- Storytime starts on September 10th and we are excited about seeing all our little smiling faces again! : )
- Took some time off here and there to work on a kitchen project at home. Would have rather done something fun!

#### Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- Working on board report. The monthly board meeting will be in Troy in September.
- Proctored a test for LCSC student.
- Summer Reading has come to an end. School started on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Totals this year are 139 sign-ups and 87 finishers.
- I've been having trouble with the staff computer and PC Reservation. I hope it has been taken care of now. Makes life easier.
- Preparing Story Times. The first one will be September 16<sup>th</sup>.
- I have been taking down decorations and putting away Summer Reading prize books.
- Anne was out on the 18<sup>th</sup> for a meeting. It was nice to see her.
- Blenda is back at school volunteering. I am so lucky to have her volunteering during the summer at the Library.
- The High School Volleyball team washed windows at the Library for their community project.