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# MPLA

Mountain Plains Library Association

# Newsletter

August 2007

[www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us)

Volume 52 #1

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MPLA on the Web  
[www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us)



## *It's Summertime and There's a Whole Lot of Reading Going On!*

Summer Reading Programs are in full-swing as kids are "getting a clue" at their libraries. The long-awaited last Harry Potter book dominates the news. Library usage climbs.

See a selection of summer reading lists, including some MPLA Board members' favorites on pages 9-10. Also see "Around the Region," pages 13-23, for summer reading reports and photos from many of the MPLA states. Happy Reading!



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## President's Message

As I attended conferences in five MPLA states this spring, I was struck afresh by the very special nature of the mountain plains region.

Consider the geography. This region is huge. Our twelve states cover 1,157,342 square miles, almost one-third of the entire United States.

Even with a mostly arid or semi-arid climate, this region is a major agricultural producer, especially of grains and livestock. Another major component of the economy is energy resources, including coal, oil, natural gas, and wind. There are great mineral resources, along with timber. Besides great wide open spaces, there is some of the world's most spectacular scenery, attracting tourists, film makers, campers, and people who want vacation or retirement homes. From the entertainment palaces of Las Vegas to the ski resorts of the Rockies, and from the Grand Canyon to Lake Tahoe, Yellowstone, and beyond to a huge array of national parks, monuments, wilderness areas, and so much more, the mountain plains region offers so much to so many people.

And talk about a rich heritage. From Spanish explorers, fur trappers, trains of covered wagons, homesteaders living in sod houses, pueblos, buffalo hunts, cattle drives, range wars, the dust bowl, F-5 tornadoes, one-room schoolhouses, and rugged frontier living to large cities, major universities, the Internet, Interstate highways, irrigation, and air conditioning — so much has happened here in just a few centuries.

I have been aware of this heritage for most of my life. My great grandfather homesteaded in western Nebraska, and my father grew up there. My maternal grandparents were immigrants from different countries. I heard stories of the Great Depression, of going to and teaching country school, of quilting bees, and Buffalo Bill. As a kid, I climbed up windmills, played on old hay rakes and other farm equipment, walked in the ruts of the Oregon Trail, watched wild pheasants, prairie dogs, hawks, and jackrabbits, and heard the coyotes howling nearby in the night.

Fortunately, the mountain plains heritage has been shared by many wonderful authors who have enriched our literature and helped give others an understanding of the people, places, and circumstances that have made this region so special. We celebrated Louis L'Amour at the Albuquerque conference and heard Michael Wallis and Rudolfo Anaya tell about their books and experiences, but the list of writers is long and studded with distinguished names, like Willa Cather, Tony Hillerman, John Neihardt, William Allen White, and Wallace Stegner, to mention just a few.

And above all are the people of the mountain plains region. They were and are a hardy people, willing to take on the challenge of making a living and forming communities in places where the distances, the terrain, the earth, and the environment posed challenges new to most of them. Among them are the librarians, people dedicated to making the difference in people's lives that can only happen through reading and being well informed in the marketplace of ideas. That dedication is alive throughout the region, and MPLA is playing a leadership role in seeing that it grows and flourishes.

*--Wayne*

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## **Four MPLA Libraries Selected to Host ALA's "Benjamin Franklin" Traveling Exhibit**

The American Library Association Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary in Philadelphia, recently announced that 20 public and academic libraries were selected to host the traveling exhibition, "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World." Libraries selected from the MPLA region are:


- Glendale Public Library, Glendale, Arizona
- Dakota State University, Madison, South Dakota
- Cedar City Public Library, Cedar City, Utah
- Laramie County Library System, Cheyenne, Wyoming

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has

provided major funding for the exhibition in libraries, which is based on a major exhibition which was on display at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia until April 30, 2006.

Libraries selected for the tour will host the 1,000 square foot exhibit for a six-week period between December 2007 and June 2011.

Are e-journal package details  
**overloading your staff?**



The acquisition of e-journal packages brings on additional tasks, such as getting an accurate list of titles on order, making sure you're paying the negotiated rate and troubleshooting access problems. These burdens can overload your library staff.

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## MPLA Author Interview

MPLA member James LaRue, Director of the Douglas County Public Library (CO), has published: *The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing Intellectual Challenges*. LaRue was recently interviewed by Jim Heckel about his book.



challenges. Those generations are almost obsessively overprotective of their children. That insight greatly changes the nature of the debate.

*JH: What do you think is the most valuable lessons to be taken from your book?*

*JH: Why did you write this book?*

JL: I was surprised, then almost overwhelmed, by the frequency and volume of the challenges received by my library. That got me curious about both the sociology and psychology of what started to look like a cultural shift. After some other experiences – joining Focus on the Family and going through their training program -- for instance, I thought I'd learned some things worth sharing with other librarians.

*JH: Your book pays attention to the historical background for challenges. Why do you think knowing about the history of the First Amendment and library challenges is important?*

JL: There is a parallel history to the development of the First Amendment and the development of the Library Bill of Rights. My research revealed to me the profound similarity of the Founders' vision of individual liberty, and the modern librarian's vision of intellectual freedom. Librarians are patriots! Isn't that refreshing?

*JH: You've received over 200 challenges in your library. Why do you think there have been so many? What have you learned from your experiences?*

JL: I used to think that so many challenges from the demographics of my region – highly educated, well-to-do Boomers and Gen X-ers – had to be an anomaly. Then I realized that it was precisely those demographics that were driving the

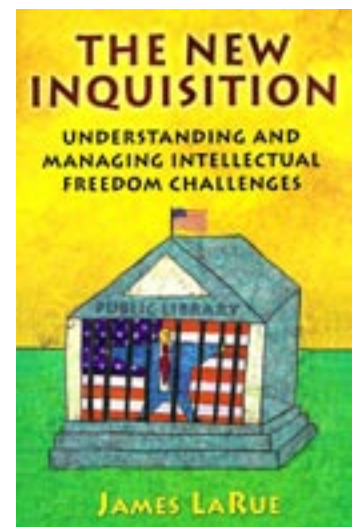
The biggest problem in America is not that children are reading too much. It's not effective to demonize the enemy, and fight defensive actions. Ultimately, librarians have to become players in our communities, taking our advocacy for intellectual freedom out of the library, and into the larger public square. We don't want to win the argument. We want to win the patron.

*JH: Why would you recommend your book to librarians?*

Intellectual freedom has a strong American resonance – a history that's been deliberately distorted and obscured by right wing politics and religion. But it's a history worth restoring and celebrating. Ultimately, my book aims to send strong, confident, and friendly librarians out to transform their communities, offering common and neutral ground to a society that has all but forgotten what that means.

**The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing Intellectual Freedom Challenges**, James

LaRue. 2007, Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited. \$40 - also available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.





# CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

by Dan Stanton, Arizona Local Documents  
Librarian & Coordinator, Organizational  
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*America has never been united by blood or birth or soil. We are bound by ideals that move us beyond our backgrounds, lift us above our interests and teach us what it means to be citizens.*

- **George W. Bush, Inaugural address, 2001**

At its most basic, the term *citizen* is a designation granted to an individual by a larger community united generally by geographic boundaries. The designation provided the individual with certain rights and responsibilities which were not available to non-citizens. The concept of citizenship was introduced by the ancient Greeks and continues to be debated in the United States today, often contentiously, due to personal and national identity issues. I hope that the following resources assist you and your users in gathering information on the various aspects of this complicated issue.

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution gives Congress the power “to establish a uniform rule of naturalization.” Congress’ first attempt was in March of 1790 when a law was passed allowing individuals to apply for citizenship if he had lived in the US for 2 years and could prove they were persons of “good character”. Oh! They also had to be free, white, and male. Excluded were: indentured servants, slaves, people of color, and those considered ‘dependants’ - including women, who were tied to their fathers’ or husbands’ status.

We’ve been contentious before. The following brief chronology is based on a 2005 *CQ Re-*

*searcher* article (<http://www.cqpress.com/product/Researcher-Illegal-Immigration-v15.html>) on Illegal Immigration.<sup>1</sup> The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 bars Chinese immigrants; national-origin quota systems are put in place in the 1920s; the Border Patrol is established in 1924; Communist country refugees are exempted from quotas in the 1950s; national quotas gives way to preference for immigrant relatives; immigration laws are reformed in 1986, legalizing undocumented workers while providing sanctions to employers of illegal workers; the World Trade Center is bombed in 1993 and again in 2001 by immigrant terrorists, tying immigration to national security.

## Practical Resources

<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis> - In 2003 the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) of the Department of Justice became the Citizenship and Immigration Services within the Department of Homeland Security. This site provides links to Services and Benefits, Immigration Forms, Laws and Regulations, and Education and Resources.

<http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/G-1112.pdf> - Document with suggestions for Public Libraries serving immigrant populations.

[http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/Citizenship\\_2004.pdf](http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/Citizenship_2004.pdf) - Excellent overview of Citizenship in the United States.

<http://www.dhs.gov/ximgtn> - Immigration site from the Department of Homeland Security providing links to Activities and Programs provided by DHS, Benefits available to eligible immigrants, Enforcement News, Immigration Statistics, and Local Resources.

<http://www.welcometousa.gov> - An initiative of the Task Force on New Americans, this portal

*continued on next page*

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION, *continued*

site provides access to immigration resources from across the federal government for individuals and their communities.

**Cultural Resources**

[http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/immigration\\_set1.html](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/immigration_set1.html) - Interactive presentation focusing on the major immigrant populations of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries by national origin.

[http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc\\_immigration.php](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_immigration.php) - Library of Congress Learning Page focusing on immigration resources for teachers and students.

<sup>1</sup>Katel, P. (2005, May 6). Illegal immigration. *CQ Researcher*, 15, 393-420. Retrieved June 12, 2007, from CQ Researcher Online, <http://library.cqpress.com.ez-proxy1.lib.asu.edu/cqresearcher/cqresrrr2005050604>.



MPLA  
Professional Development  
Grant Application Deadlines

August 1, October 3, December 5




Mini-Grant (\$150) – Applicant must be a current member of MPLA and must have been a member for the past full calendar year.

Regular Grant (\$500) – Applicant must be a current member of MPLA and must have been a member for the past two calendar years (total of three consecutive years).



For additional eligibility requirements, funding priorities and application requirements see

<http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grants.html>



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# New Mexico State University Offering Fall Graduate and Undergraduate Online Library Courses

*From Susan Pinkerton, Assistant Professor of Library Science,  
Doña Ana Community College/New Mexico State University*

It's not too early to sign up for convenient online courses starting in August and October! New Mexico State University will be offering the popular course:

EMD 411/511 **Foundations for School Library Specialists** - covers elements of librarianship, introduction to the history, purpose and role of the school library, and gives an overview of current issues and legislation affecting school libraries. This online course is 3 credits. August 22 – December 14.

In addition, NMSU - Doña Ana Community College will also be offering several 3 credit, 8 week courses online:

## **Courses Scheduled Aug. 22 – Oct. 12:**

L SC 100	Introduction to Library and Information Services
L SC 111	Introduction to Information Literacy
L SC 120	Introduction to Cataloging
L SC 130	Introduction to Technical Services
L SC 150	Library Services for Children and Young Adults

## **Courses Scheduled Oct. 15 – Dec. 14:**

L SC 100	Introduction to Library and Information Services
L SC 111	Introduction to Information Literacy
L SC 160	Introduction to Public Services
L SC 202	Academic Libraries – <b>NEW COURSE!!</b>
L SC 210	Computer Applications in Libraries and Information Centers

There is also a great line up of **new one credit courses**, which are 4 weeks in length and require no textbook:

L SC 234	Libraries, Access and Intellectual Freedom (September 4-28)
L SC 233	Library Privacy and Confidentiality (October 1-26)
L SC 261	U.S. Government Documents (October 1-26)
L SC 145	Marketing Your Library (November 1-30)
L SC 262	State and Local Documents (November 1-30)

You're welcome to take one class or several. Non-degree seeking students who desire single classes for professional development or for the state Library Media Specialist Endorsement are always welcome; however, students may also choose to complete coursework leading to an Associates Degree in Library Science or a Certificate of Completion in Library Science. It's easy to be admitted and enroll in our reasonably priced online courses. For further information, please visit us online at: <http://dacc.nmsu.edu/bis/libtec> or contact: Susan Pinkerton at 505-527-7567 or 1-800-903-7503, ext. 7567 or [spinkert@nmsu.edu](mailto:spinkert@nmsu.edu)





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# Assorted Summer Reading Lists

From the **Association for Library Service to Children, National Public Radio, Hornbook Magazine; Salon.Com, and MPLA Board Members**

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## Summer Reading and Learning for Children - Recommended Reading for Children and Their Families - *From the Association for*

*Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association*

Notable Children's Books - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/childrensnotable/notablebooklist/currentnotable.htm>.

Top Ten Lists of "All-Time Classics" - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/booklists/booksboysgirls.htm>. There is one list for preschool to age 8 and one list for ages 8-12.

100 best paperbacks - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/booklists/suggestedbooks.htm>. A list created for Reading is Fundamental (RIF).

Newbery Award Books - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/newberymedal/newberymedal.htm>.

Caldecott Award Books - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal.htm>.

Pura Belpré Award Books - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/belpremedal/belpremedal.htm>. Celebrating the Latino cultural experience.

Coretta Scott King Award Books - <http://www.ala.org/ala/emiert/corettascottkingbookaward/CSKwinners/cskawardwinners.htm>. Authors and illustrators of African descent.

Robert F. Sibert Award Books - [http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/sibertmedal/Sibert\\_Medal.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/sibertmedal/Sibert_Medal.htm). For informational books.

Mildred Batchelder Award Books - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/batchelderaward/batchelderaward.htm>. Books originally published in a foreign language, translated into English and published in the U.S.

Booklist Editor's Choice - <http://www.ala.org/ala/booklist/editorschoice/booklisteditors.htm>.

The Teen Read Week - <http://www.ala.org/teenread/>. A list of resources for teens.

An extensive list of all of the high-school-age reading lists - <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/booklistsbook.htm> is compiled by members of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of (ALA).

Finally, there are numerous web resources available through Great Web Sites for Kids - <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/greatwebsites/greatwebsiteskids.htm>. See entries under "Literature and Language"

*continued on next page*

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## National Public Radio (NPR) Summer Books

For the past few years NPR has featured “Summer Books,” including “Critics’ Lists,” “You Must Read This,” “Book Tour,” “Cooking and Cookbooks,” and “Book Talk from NPR Member Stations.” “Great Opening Lines to Hook Young Readers” by librarian Nancy Pearl appeared this year.

Summer Reading 2007: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=10628227>

Summer Reading 2006: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5435740>

Summer Reading 2005: <http://www.npr.org/templates/topics/topic.php?topicId=1084>

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## Hornbook Magazine Summer Reading

Books are hand-picked by the editors of Hornbook Magazine. All are published within the last year. The recommendations include picture books, younger fiction, intermediate fiction, YA fiction, folklore, poetry, and nonfiction.

<http://www.hbook.com/resources/books/summer.asp>

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## Salon.com Summer Reads

The Salon staff contributes to a four-part weekly series of summer reading recommendations.

[http://www.salon.com/books/feature/2007/06/04/summer\\_reads/index\\_np.html](http://www.salon.com/books/feature/2007/06/04/summer_reads/index_np.html)

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## Some MPLA Board Members’ Favorites

*The Beast in the Garden*, by David Baron.

*The Chronicles of Thomas Covenant*, by  
Stephen R. Donaldson.

*The Dogs of Bedlam Farm*, by Jon Katz.

*Dune*, by Frank Herbert.

“*Funk*” Books.

*Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini.

*The Lions of Al-Rassan*, by Guy Gavriel Kay.

*Midnight at the Well of Souls*, by Jack  
Chalker.

*Mog and Bunny*, by Judith Kerr.

*Night Flight* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

*Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen.

*Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie*, by David Lubar.

*The 13 Clocks*, by James Thurber.

*The Time Travelers Wife*, by Audrey  
Niffenegger.

*Three Billy Goats Gruff*, by Janet Stevens.

*To Say Nothing of the Dog*, by Connie Willis.

*A Town like Alice*, by Nevil Shute.

*Twilight*, by Stephanie Meyer.

*Warriors Don’t Cry*, by Melba Beals.



## **Update Your MPLA Directory Profile!**

MPLA uses MemberClicks, an online membership maintenance service, for its Directory. The information is available only to members, not to the public.

At the MPLA website: [www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us), choose “member area” at the top right, or the login section at the lower left (from the MPLA homepage.)

Login with your username and password. If you don't remember these, click on “Forgot Your Password” (be sure to enter the e-mail address which you originally used in the directory).

Upon arrival at the MPLA Membership Website, click on “My Profile” at the top left, or use the “Quick Name Search” to find your profile. Click on “Edit.”)

When your profile information appears you may add or change contact information, indicate your preferences, and change your username and password. “Save” the changes to your profile before exiting.

### Future Joint Conferences

- 2008 With Utah Library Association  
April 29 - May 2. Salt Lake City
- 2009 With Kansas Library Association  
Kansas Association of School Librarians, and Kansas Association for Educational Communications and Technology (April)
- 2010 With Oklahoma Library Association  
(spring)
- 2011 With Montana Library Association,  
Billings (spring)
- 2012 With Nebraska Library Association  
and Nebraska Educational Media (fall)



## ***We want to Connect with you!***

### **Plan to beat a path to the 2008 Annual MPLA/ULA Conference**

***Where Paths Meet: Connecting  
Libraries and Communities***



**Salt Lake City, UT**



**April 29 - May 2, 2008**

### **MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute**

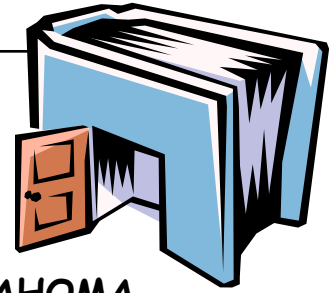
MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute  
Participants for 2007 will be announced on the  
MPLA website around the first week in August.

[www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us)

See “What’s New”

---

# Welcome New MPLA Members



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Danielle Theiss-White  
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Kelley Weber  
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Regional Medical Center KRMC  
Medical Library; Kalispell, MT

Liz Babbitt  
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Public Library; Bozeman, MT

Kelly Baca-Giuffre  
Librarian, Broadwater Community  
Library; Townsend, MT

Cathi Burgoyne  
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Carroll College Corette Library;  
Helena, MT

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Maureen and Mike Mansfield  
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Norma Glock  
Librarian, Columbus Schools;  
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Dawn Greenwood  
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Susan Lewis  
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Joliet, MT

Jodi Teeple  
Library Aide, Frenchtown High  
School; Frenchtown, MT

Audrey Wagner  
Student, University of Washington  
Online ; Billings, MT

Kate Zoellner  
Education Librarian & Assessment  
Coordinator, University of  
Montana; Missoula, MT

## NEW MEXICO

Kent Taylor  
MLS Student University of Alabama;  
Jemez Springs, NM

## NORTH DAKOTA

Sarah Henderson  
Access Services Librarian, Minot  
State University Gordon B. Olson  
Library; Minot, ND

Lori West  
Branch Services Manager, Fargo  
Public Library; Fargo, ND

## NEBRASKA

Kathleen Thomsen  
Director, Lexington Public Library  
Lexington, NE

## OKLAHOMA

Daniel Gibbs  
Library Director, Ardmore Public  
Library; Ardmore, OK

Michael Hull  
Public Services Coordinator,  
Western Plains Library System,  
Clinton, OK;

Kate Shaklee  
Adult/YA Services, El Reno  
Carnegie Library, El Reno, OK

Karen Neurohr  
Assessment Librarian, Oklahoma  
State University Edmon Low  
Library; Stillwater, OK

Amanda Owens  
Branch Manager, Tulsa City  
County Library  
Sapulpa, OK

Deborah Whelchel  
Technical Services, Ada Public  
Library; Ada, OK

## UTAH

Lisa Nelson  
Reader's Advisor Librarian, Utah  
State Library ; Salt Lake City, UT

Emily Schultz  
Manager of Cataloging, Family  
History Library; Salt Lake  
City, UT

Mary Lynn Sharpe  
Family & Church History  
Department; Salt Lake City, UT

## WYOMING

Ian Lindeman  
Teen Services, Converse County  
Library; Douglas, WY

Kristin Herr  
Director, Carbon County Library  
System; Rawlins, WY

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# Around the Region

## ARIZONA

A book exhibition at the **University of Arizona Libraries' Special Collections** will feature works of poetry and prose written by contemporary American Indian writers. Simultaneously, the Main Library's research west area will host a small exhibit of children's books by American Indian authors. The two displays will run from April 25 through August 10. See [http://www.library.arizona.edu/spec-coll/public\\_programs/nativevox.html](http://www.library.arizona.edu/spec-coll/public_programs/nativevox.html) for more information.

The Oro Valley Public Library recently launched a public laptop loan program. Library customers are now able to borrow a laptop for use only in the library, to connect wirelessly to the Internet. The library received a generous donation from the Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library to purchase fifteen laptops to complement an



LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) grant from the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records Agency and administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records Agency recently helped fund a wireless local area network for the library as well.

**The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Ultimate Reading List** by **Shelley Mosley, John Charles, Joanne Hamilton-Selway** and **Sandy Van Winkle** was published by Penguin/Alpha on July 3. The guide includes recommended titles in romance, women's fiction, chick lit, mystery and suspense, westerns, science fiction, fantasy, inspira-



tional fiction, and horror. Non-fiction topics include: animals, biography, autobiographies and memoirs, history, business, true crime, humor, etc. John Charles and Joanne Hamilton-Selway are librarians at the **Scottsdale Public Library**. Shelley Mosley, retired manager of the Velma Teague Branch of the Glendale Public Library, is now an adjunct reference librarian at **Glendale Community College**. Freelance writer Sandy Van Winkle is also a former employee of the Velma Teague Branch.

## COLORADO

MPLA member **Jim Connor's** new web site for the **Trustee College** is now at [trusteecollege.googlepages.com](http://trusteecollege.googlepages.com). For more information contact Jim Connor at [trusteecollege@msn.com](mailto:trusteecollege@msn.com), or 303-906-9551

The **Bibliographical Center for Research** (BCR) and Relais™ International Inc have signed an agreement whereby BCR will offer products and services of Relais International. BCR members will receive a 10 percent discount for the ILL and Document Delivery systems of Relais: Relais Enterprise, Relais ILL, Relais Access and Relais Express. BCR also announced an agreement with CIVICTechnologies that will make the Library-Decision suite of library geographic information system (GIS) planning tools and the Business-Decision database web service available to BCR member libraries at a negotiated reduced price. BCR will provide marketing, sales and training support with CIVICTechnologies will providing technical support. BCR is also joining with Velocity Express to provide physical delivery services

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in the library market. In addition to traditional library-to-library delivery services, the two organizations will explore innovative solutions to library delivery problems through developing home delivery and other types of pilot projects. BCR will assist Velocity with sales and marketing.

**Erica MacCreaigh** has been appointed Senior Consultant with Institutional Library Service, at the Colorado State Library, Colorado Department of Education. She is responsible for coordinating and supervising library services and training library staff at nine Department of Corrections facilities across the state. Previously she supervised the Arapahoe County Detention Facility library, and most recently was the Coordinator of Outreach Services for the Arapahoe Library District. She co-authored *Library Services to the Incarcerated: How to Apply the Public Library Model in Correctional Facility Libraries*.



The **Arapahoe Library District** recently received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget. It was the only library in Colorado to receive the recognition.

**Kate Elder**, librarian for the **Rene Spitz School** at the **Colorado Mental Health Institute**, Fort Logan, was a recipient of a \$3,000 Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries grant. The

award was one of 263 given to school libraries nationwide.

## KANSAS

**Cynthia Berner Harris**, Director of the **Wichita Public Library**, was surprised to learn she was chosen as a 2007 Excellence in Public Service winner in front of a crowd of elected officials, Library Board members, employees and family. Also in attendance were **Bill and Dick DeVore**, donors of the \$2,500 cash prize awarded to Berner Harris. Chosen from over one thousand eligible employees, Berner Harris was selected as the City representative for her strong work ethic, high performance, commitment to community and leadership qualities.

**Dodge City Public Library** is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Library service began in Dodge City in February 1907 in a Carnegie Library Building. One hundred sixty eight individuals joined in the anniversary celebration with introduction of special guests, tours of the library, exhibits showing the history of the library and older technology, birthday cupcakes furnished by the Dodge City Friends of the Library and a 100 balloon release. Of the 10 persons who had been directors over the past 100 years, five were at the celebration.

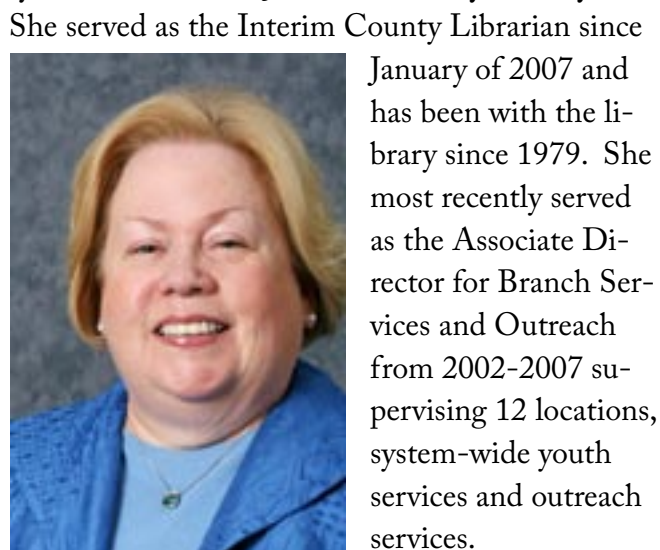


*Presidents: l-r: Lois Flanagan Bryson 1951-1972; Jan Bryant 1974-1977; Jane Hatch 1977-1996; Rosanne Goble Siemens 1996-2002; Cathy Reeves 2006-Present*

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**The Greensburg/Kiowa County Library Relief Fund**, set up by the **Kansas Library Association** after the tornado which devastated the library, has received over \$19,000 in donations for from libraries and library staff across the country. Michelle Swain, KLA President, extends her thanks to all who contributed. Donations may be made at <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/greensburg.html>.

**Donna Lauffer** was recently named the County Librarian for the **Johnson County Library**.



She served as the Interim County Librarian since January of 2007 and has been with the library since 1979. She most recently served as the Associate Director for Branch Services and Outreach from 2002-2007 supervising 12 locations, system-wide youth services and outreach services.

MPLA member **Scott Goldy** is leaving the MPLA region after 7½ years to become the new Instructional Librarian for Rock Valley College in Rockford, Illinois. He will coordinate all the instruction and designing and teaching the for credit library skills class. He began July 2.

The Sundown Film Festival returns to the **Kansas Historical Society** for the second year featuring four classic movies with Kansas themes, shown off the wall, under the stars. This summer's film series follows a sports theme in conjunction with the Kansas Museum of History's current exhibit, **Game Faces: Kansans in Sports**. Visitors are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs. Movies begin at sundown. The films include **Knute**

**Rockne: All American, Hoosiers, Brian's Song, and A League of Their Own.**

**Anna Foote, Johnson County Library** Youth Services Specialist has been awarded the 2007 Miriam L. Hornback Scholarship from the American Library Association to attend library graduate school at the University of Missouri-Columbia in autumn 2007.

## MONTANA

Five library directors, **Renee Gross** (Sidney), MPLA member **Bridgett Johnson** (Lewistown), **Renee McGrath** (Stevensville), **Jodi Oberweiser** (Drummond), and **Sami Pierson** (Libby) attended the ALA conference in Washington D.C. courtesy of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. They attend a day long forum where they presented Montana rural libraries to other participants.

Guy Vanderhaeghe's *The Last Crossing* was chosen for the **2007 One Book Montana**. People across the state are invited to read the selected One Book Montana and join in book discussion groups on their own or through their libraries. The Montana Committee for the Humanities offers discussion guides, suggestions for library, school, and book group projects, and opportunities for readers to place comments at their website.

**Eileen Wright** (Billings), **Sami Pierson** (Libby), **Jennifer Bottomly-O'looney** (Helena), and **Robyn Peterson** (Billings) attended the *Connecting to Collections* summit in Washington DC. They were apart of the first National Conservation Summit held by the Institute of Museum and Library Services in partner with the Heritage Preservation. Two libraries and two museums were invited from each state to attend the two day summit and listen



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to speakers share their expertise in conservation, information on technological advances, guidance on funding, and ways to connect to the public. They also met Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States.

## NEBRASKA

Focus on Nebraska's Regional Library Systems:

The **Nebraska Regional Library Systems** consist of six non-profit corporations. The six systems were established to provide access to improve library services through the cooperation of all types of libraries and media centers within the counties included in each System area. The Nebraska Library Commission provides support for these systems using state and federal funds. For access to all the System's activities and newsletters visit: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/index.html>

The **Eastern Library System** is proposing to go to an online newsletter only. To subscribe to the ELS mailing list go to [www.nlc.state.ne.us/lists/index.htm](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/lists/index.htm). Then scroll down to ELS-L and follow the directions. The system board is proposing to mail out newsletters for one year to people without computers. See <http://www.elsne.org/>.

The **Southeast Library System** has implemented a blog and a wiki. The SELS Stiki Wiki, [http://selsne.stikipad.com/wiki/rss\\_with\\_content/](http://selsne.stikipad.com/wiki/rss_with_content/), and blog "The Southeast Library System Synapses," [selsne.blogspot.com](http://selsne.blogspot.com), were began after **Brenda Ealey** successfully completed a course offered by Michael Sauers at the Nebraska Library Commission, and after attending sessions on Wikis at MPLA in Albuquerque.

**Marjorie Harrison** has been appointed to the **Panhandle Library System** Coordinator position. Marjorie will begin work on July 24. She is currently Director of the Romeo District Library in Washington, Michigan.

The **Nebraska Library Commission** is now taking internship grant applications for student interns to assist with local library programming. Staff will introduce high school or college students to interesting library activities and serve as a library career ambassador by training young people to help with exciting library service projects.

*'Nebraska Libraries: Charting Paths to the Future'* is the theme for the annual conference of the **Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association**, to be held October 24-26 in Kearney. For more information see <http://www.2007nla-nema.info/>.

## NEVADA

**Daphne Arnaiz-DeLeon** has been appointed the new Division Administrator for the **Nevada State Library and Archives**. Prior to her Nevada appointment, she served as the Division Director of Archives and Historical Services for the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives.

She received her Bachelor's Degree in History and her Master's Degree in History, with a subspecialty in Archival Management, from



the University of California at Riverside. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists, and the Society of American Archivists. **Guy Rocha**, who has served as Interim Administrator, will return to his position as Assistant Administrator for Archives and Records. The Nevada State Library and Archives is a division of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs.



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**Beth Heggeness**, Chair of the Nevada Young Readers' Awards Interest Group of the Nevada Library Association, announced the 2007 NYRA winners:

- Picture book-**Arrowhawk** by Lola Schaefer
- Young Reader-**Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism** by Georgia Byng
- Intermediate-**Cryptid Hunters** by Roland Smith
- Young Adult-**Twilight** by Stephenie Meyer

The first Nevada Young Readers' Award was presented in 1988. The program has steadily grown with over 45,924 youngsters reading more than 138,000 books, and voting for the 2007 winners. During the annual NYRA breakfast, held at the end of the Nevada Library Association Conference, children will have the opportunity to meet and talk with the authors. A popular feature at the breakfast includes the children's speeches and their award presentations to the authors.

At the June Board of Trustees meeting, the **Las Vegas-Clark County Library District** Board awarded a contract for the construction of the new **Centennial Hills Library** to Rafael Construction, Inc. Rafael Construction will join JMA Architecture Studios on the 32,826 square foot project. The Centennial Hills Library became a reality as a result of an agreement between LV-CCLD and **Henderson District Public Libraries**. The **Green Valley Library**, located in the City of Henderson, will transfer to the Henderson District on January 1, 2009. LV-CCLD will shift resources from the Henderson area to the new Centennial Hills Library which is also scheduled for completion in January 2009.

**Summer Reading Programs** are operating on full speed with a variety of themes throughout the state. "Get a Clue @ Your Library" is the

focus at **Washoe County Library System, Douglas County Public Library, Henderson District Public Libraries, Carson City Library, Pahrump Community Library, and Storey County Public Library**. "Club Read" is the theme at the **Las Vegas-Clark County Library District**, while **Boulder City Library** youngsters are enjoying "Dragons, Dreams, & Daring Deeds." **Elko-Lander-Eureka Counties Library System** has challenged their readers to "Treasure Your Library."



*Young summer reader at the Pittman Library  
in Henderson Nevada*

## **NEW MEXICO**

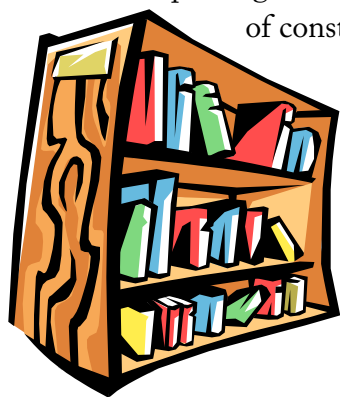
**Susan Oberlander** has been appointed **New Mexico State Librarian** by Stuart Ashman, Secretary of the Department of Cultural Affairs. Oberlander has been a utility economist with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission since 2000. She was the Director of Libraries and the Library Technology degree program at Northern New Mexico Community College for 14 years, 1978-1992. Oberlander holds a Master of Library Science from the University of Oklahoma, as well as a doctorate from the School of Information Management and Systems at the

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University of California – Berkeley. Oberlander replaces **Richard Akeroyd**, who resigned his position in April after serving as State Librarian since August 2003.

**Linda Morgan Davis, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System**, was a co-presenter of a poster at the 19th International Union for Health Promotion and Education Conference held in Vancouver, British Columbia June 10-15. There were more than 4,500 attendees from around the world. The poster, *Increasing eHealth Access in Rural American Indian Communities* outlines work with American Indian communities in New Mexico and builds on grants received from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region (NN/LM SCR). The primary investigator for this grant work and co-presenter is **Louis J. Lafrado**, L&D Associates Consulting Group Rio Rancho, NM.

**Linda K. Lewis, University of New Mexico Libraries**, writes that the physical rebuilding of the Zimmerman Library basement at the University of New Mexico has begun. "After the fire in April, 2006, the entire basement was gutted; it looked like a parking garage with cement and nothing else. Now we have the sound of drills; half of the parking lot on our north side is full



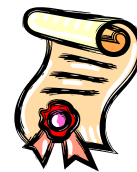
of construction trucks, cranes and supplies; and people in hard-hats are back. It's noisy, and we love the sound of progress." Construction should be finished in October 2007, with materials and staff back in

place to reopen for the spring 2008 semester. For more current status reports see <http://elibrary.unm.edu/ziminfo.php>.

## NORTH DAKOTA

The **Minot Public Library** received a health information grant of \$1,500 from the St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation with matching funds of \$1,250 from the Patrons of the Library. The Library has also dedicated additional funds towards the project. The funds will be used to build the health information collection and to publish a brochure promoting the collection and the Health and Wellness Resources Center Database, which will be distributed to libraries, clinics, and hospitals in the region.

**Suzanne M. Morrison, U.S. Court of Appeals, 8th Circuit**, Branch Librarian for the North and South Dakota, was named 2007 Winner of the Spirit of Law Librarianship Award. An MPLA member, Morrison is also on the **Fargo Public Library Board**.



The **Minnewaukan Public Library** received two grants for its 2007 book lease program: \$400 from the Maddock Economic Development Corporation Gaming Trust and \$100 from the North Dakota Telephone Company Dollars in Motion.

A food cart has been added to the **Gordon B. Olson Library at Minot State**. Dubbed *The Gnawed Log*, the cart was installed in the lower level of the library.

North Dakota libraries celebrated **National Library Week** from kids in pajamas to adults at high tea. Psi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma hosted a high tea at the **Bowman County Library** with musical entertainment by **Matt Woodley** and **Charm Hibl** of **Bowman High School**, and a poetry reading by Professor **Gary Cummick** from **Dickinson State University**. **Grand Forks Public Library** hosted a *Pajama Storytime* which included stories, a puppet show, milk and cookies, and kids of all ages in their pajamas.

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## OKLAHOMA

**Oklahoma librarians** breathed a sigh of relief after the 2007 state legislative session ended. Legislators approved a \$425,000 increase in state aid to public libraries. It is nowhere near the \$7.5 million that was requested, but in a year when many state agencies suffered budget cuts, it was a good sign. And for the first time in several years, there was not an active bill threatening cuts in library funding if certain censorship measures were not adopted.

**Mary Sherman**, director of the **Pioneer Library System** since 1987 and an active leader in IFLA, retired this spring. The new director is **Anne Masters**, who had been Pioneer's Associate Director for System Services since 2001, after retiring from being Director of Media Services for the Norman Public Schools for 29 years. Both Mary and Anne are past presidents of the Oklahoma Library Association and were recognized during OLA's centennial celebration as Oklahoma Library Legends for their many accomplishments and contributions to library service.

The **Oklahoma Department of Libraries** offered three one-day workshops during July for librarians and library staff on how to use a cost-effective service to conduct online surveys.

The **Oklahoma State University Library's Electronic Publishing Center (EPC)** has completed its latest project. In cooperation with the Oklahoma State Department of Tourism and the Oklahoma Department of Career Technology, the EPC digitized the first 50 years of the state's magazine, *Oklahoma Today*. All are available in PDF through the EPC's free Web site <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/oktoday/index.html>.

**Oklahoma Crossroads: Documents and Images**, consisting of selected digital collections of

the **Oklahoma Department of Libraries** spanning more than 100 years of history, now contains an Oklahoma State Government Publications area for source documents from state agencies.. The collections include documents, photographs, newspapers, reports, pamphlets, posters, maps, and an author database ranging in date from the late 1800s to present.

For the first time since it was built in 1970, the **McAlester Public Library**, largest branch in the **Southeastern Public Library System**, has had a remodeling. The library's public area was completely reorganized and spruced up, making it much more inviting and user-friendly. One highlight of the changes is in the new children's area, with its entrance flanked by giant mushrooms and a large bookworm greeting young readers. A sign overhead welcomes people to the "Children's Shroom."



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## South Dakota

Jasmine Rousey Rockwell, MPLA member and Children's Librarian at the **South Dakota State Library**, read to children during a visit to the **Huron Public Library**. In a joint venture, the State Library and the South Dakota Public Broadcasting tour visited 10 libraries in their "Read across South Dakota with Reading Rainbow" program. The tour promoted the TV programs, "Reading Rainbow" books, and library summer reading programs. The tour also included visits to South Dakota libraries in Buffalo, Timer Lake, Woonsocket, Estelline, Marion, Elk Point-Jefferson, Yankton, Scotland and Bonesteel.



*Steve Rokusek (standing left), South Dakota Public TV; Jasmine Rousey Rockwell (kneeling left), State Library; Buddy – the Public TV mascot, Wess Pravecsek (kneeling right), South Dakota Public TV, Ruth Hemen (standing left), Huron Public Library Children's Librarian; and other staff and volunteers provided "Reading Rainbow" entertainment for Huron summer readers.*



*Buddy, the South Dakota Public Broadcasting mascot, gives a Huron Public Library reader a hug.*

The **Madison Public Library** is offering the "Get a Clue" summer reading program, with **Diane Krueger**, Children's Librarian, taking books and stories to many of the day-care centers. In addition "The Dora Program" is offered at the Madison Public Library to serve the growing Spanish population. While parents attend ESL classes, Diane Krueger provides "Dora" stories and songs for the children. Diane does not speak Spanish, but two visiting Mormon elders speak Spanish and have volunteered to translate.



*Huron Public Library Summer Reading "Detective" looking for a "CLUE" on opening day of the "Get a Clue" 2007 Summer Reading Program*

Almost sixty **Custer County Library** readers were eligible to participate in this "Dig to Find the REST of the Mystery" field trip to the Ditch Creek area in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The library readers searched the area for clues and experienced archaeology dig sites in progress.



The **Custer County Library** in the Black Hills unveiled a custom local "Get a Clue" poster for their Summer Reading Program. The poster stars Sherlock Holmes (alias **Jean Diedrich**, School Librarian) and Dick Tracy (alias **Marguerite Cul-lum**, Custer County Librarian) and other library staff in disguise. The local print shop and local teachers helped assemble and print the poster –at \$0 cost – but PRICELESS to the folks in Custer County.



A "Read to the DOG!" activity is a new venture held during the **Huron Public Library** Summer Reading Program this year. The reading slots have filled rapidly – the new activity is very popular with young readers. The Beadle County Humane Society provides two dogs for the activity.

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Young Huron readers reserve 15 minutes to read a book of their choice to the dog. The dogs have been very good listeners and enjoyed their visits to the library!



## Utah

**Emily Schultz** is the new representative from Utah to MPLA. Emily is the Manager of Cata-



loging at the **Family History Library** in Salt Lake City. She has worked in libraries since age 14 when she began volunteering at the North Mankato Public Library in Minnesota.

The **Grand County Public Library** in Moab has been given the *Best Small Library in America Award*. The award, now in its third year, is co-sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and *Library Journal*. The library is recognized for its excellence in providing access to knowledge and learning for residents and visitors.

MPLA member **Dorothy Horan** is the new President of the **Utah Library Association**. She conducted a training meeting for the new officers in conjunction with the ULA Board Meeting in June at the State Library. New officers received training on role expectations, ULA activities, meeting protocol, voting, budgets, and deadlines. The new conference committee chair, MPLA member **Jeff Belliston**, reported that planning has begun for the joint conference with MPLA to be held April 29-May 2, 2008 in Salt Lake City. The Program Board met to begin discussions on programs for 2008.

MPLA member **Donna Morris** and **Kimberly Bray** reported on National Legislator's Day and their successful trip to Washington D.C. in May with **Dorothy Horan** to lobby local leaders on library issues. The three met with Senator Hatch, Senator Bennett, and Congressman Matheson personally. All three lawmakers expressed support for libraries and for the upcoming LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act).

## WYOMING

The **Laramie County Library** in Cheyenne closes August 1-September 7 to move to a new location and building. July 31 marked the "Grand Closing" celebration. The library has online information including building updates and photos at [http://www.lclsonline.org/news/articles/070608\\_ClosureInfo.html](http://www.lclsonline.org/news/articles/070608_ClosureInfo.html) and <http://www.lclsonline.org/building/>.

The **Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library** featured Jeanine Jackson, U.S. Ambassador to Burkina Faso, who presented a slide show program on the West African nation.

**Friends of the Teton County Library** awarded the group's first-ever Volunteer of the Year Award to **Sue Dennis** for her work at the library.

The **Natrona County Public Library** hosted a spring visit from author **Michael Sullivan**, a strong advocate for boys' literacy. During his visit, Sullivan stressed the importance of boys having male role models to look up to. In response to Sullivan's visit, NCPL is providing an positive arena for fathers and sons to spend time together. Two "No Girls Allowed" events are scheduled for August 2007, and many activities are planned for boys and their role models to participate in together. This is the most recent in a series of initiatives by the library to reach "Tweens" (3-5<sup>th</sup> graders) and encourage them to keep reading.

The **Teton County Library** and Jackson Hole Writers recently hosted **Daniel Woodrell** and **Terry Tempest Williams** at an Author night. The authors showcased their varied writing styles and shared insights.

*School Library Journal*, in partnership with Thomson Gale named **Fort Washakie School/Community Library and Technology Center** a co-winner of the 2007 Giant Step Award. Launched in 2000, the Giant Step Award recognizes a school and public library that has significantly improved its programs or services and greatly impacted student learning and achievement and presents a \$5,000 check. The School/Community Library and Technology Center is one of the most impressive in the nation, but this combination school-and-public library on the Wind River Indian Reservation hasn't always been the thriving library and education center that it is today, with four full-time staff including **Robin Levin, Dana Harr, John Washakie**, and **Cathy**



**Gervais**. Six years ago, when then-District Superintendent Karl Berlin decided to build a new library, his vision went beyond creating a more inviting space for students. At the time, the school's media center was very small, had only four computers, a limited collection, bookshelves that blocked the sunlight and a recessed reading area nicknamed "the pit." "I wanted to do something for the community," he says.

**Robert Staley, University of Wyoming Libraries'** government documents librarian, is the recipient of the 2007 Agnes Milstead Distinguished Librarianship Award. Staley, a UW librarian since 2001, is noted for his commitment to classroom teaching, research acumen and ability to make navigable the disorienting world of electronic information.



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For information on paying by credit card, go to the MPLA Website online form  
at <http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html>

## Mountain Plains Library Association

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