FIRST ALN SERVICE AWARD PRESENTED TO SUE FRY

The Alaska Library Network (ALN) Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the first ALN Service Award has been presented to Sue Fry, who retired from the Juneau Public Library in April 2011 as Collection Development Librarian. Sue is recognized for her exemplary work in making ListenAlaska Plus, a downloadable digital audio and eBook service, a success in its early years. As the Collection Coordinator for ListenAlaska, Sue tirelessly and only organized group orders, but problems, and all questions, and doing everything required to launch and establish the service. By voluntarily stepping forward on behalf of the partner libraries, she ensured ListenAlaska was a success for all its members through her work, attention, and time.

The ALN Board of Directors recently established the ALN Service Award to recognize exemplary work beyond the call of duty and meritorious service to the Alaska library community in support of ALN programs and services. The Board recognizes that the success of statewide and group collaborative programs is the work of many hands. In the future, they wish to acknowledge some of those individuals, who often work behind the scenes creating benefits for Alaskan libraries and their users.

Nina Malyshev, Director, Alaska Library Network
JUNEAU, Alaska -- Amos Wallace was a keeper. So his longtime home on Juneau's Douglas Island held numerous documents from his nearly 70-year career. Since he and his wife Dorothy passed away, their son, photographer Brian Wallace, has been going through the collection.

"I was in the basement in the earlier part of this year and I opened up some boxes of stuff and I saw some photos that I've never seen before, and unfortunately I found this," Brian Wallace says.

"This" was a pair of black-and-white, historic photographs showing the elder Wallace with a totem pole he carved in Cincinnati, Ohio. Both were badly damaged by water.

"I did not want this disaster to happen to the rest of the collection. So I immediately started putting everything together and organizing the archive and then I took it down to Sealaska Heritage (Institute). And now it's in a very safe place where it will be preserved for generations," he says.

The Juneau-based heritage institute preserves and advances Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian culture. It's planning a new building, the Walter Soboleff Center, to house a growing physical collection, a digital library, classrooms and display space.

That will include the Wallace collection.

"In terms of going out and meeting the rest of the world, Amos was that ambassador for Tlingit people and for Tlingit art," says Rosita Worl, the institute's president.

She says Amos Wallace was an important artist and craftsman. "He definitely brought attention to our art, nationally and internationally," Worl says.

Read more here: http://www.sacbee.com/2012/07/21/4647135/documents-of-famed-juneau-carver.html#storylink=cpy#storylink=cpy
DELTA

This has really charmed our patrons—to have a robin’s nest in the library’s front entry ... right on top of the porch light! Everyone is so worried about the chicks, and it’s fun to see people tiptoe and “shhh” others as they enter and leave the building. And everyone is relieved the birdies have been protected from the recent hail, rain and wind we’ve had.

Our motto is now “Everyone flocks to the Delta Library!”

Joyce McCombs, Director
Delta Community Library

SUTTON

Sutton recently celebrated the grand opening of the new Sutton Public Library and Community Resource Center. Nancy Bertels and her team of an assistant and many volunteers welcomed community residents and dignitaries to the new facility on Chickaloon Way. Their hard work for at least 12 years has paid off in a lovely building with strong vertical lines. It is meant to echo the historic Sutton Coal Washery, which sat very near the new library site.

High ceilings and a panel of windows framing a view of birch and aspen woods mark a strong contrast to the tiny, crowded former library building. The library looks enormous compared to the old one, but was designed so that it could still serve as a one-person library as staffing there is limited. The great new meeting room can be used by the community even when the library is not open.

Plenty of cabinetry for storage of craft and art supplies needed for Nancy’s creative programming is arrayed throughout the library and the meeting room. A high point is having two modern bathrooms in place of the one-bathroom-for-all in the old building!

The new library is full of attractive furniture including the classiest recycling unit that I’ve ever seen. A smaller conference room is tucked away in one corner of the building. Two jewels of the new library are the covered and fenced side porch and patio with comfy seating for outdoor reading and the front entryway’s incredible view of the Chugach mountains.

If you are on the road system this summer, take the opportunity to admire the new Sutton library. Sutton is only 12 miles from Palmer on the Glenn Highway. A great new sign
makes the library easy to spot as you travel toward Glennallen. A recreation of the original town site is an added bonus if you stop to see the library.

Sue Sherif
Alaska State Library
The Ketchikan Public Library recently hosted its first ever Stuffed Animal Sleepover with very positive results. Ketchikan Public Library Assistant Amanda Kiely had learned about the concept at the Fairbanks AkLA Conference and had wanted to try it, so plans were made for a Saturday evening in late June. We advertised the event as an evening story hour to which children were invited to bring a stuffed animal friend who could then spend the night at the library.

After stories and snacks, twelve stuffed animals were left with the children’s library staff for safekeeping.

Once the doors were closed we got to work creating simple scenes to pose the animals in and take digital pictures. We brought in sticks and marshmallows to show the animals making smores around our summer reading club campfire, set up a checker game in progress with several animals watching the action, and posed the furry friends all over the building. The photos showed the animals reading, eating, using the computer, dialing the phone and even sitting on the copier!

Once the photos were taken, Amanda downloaded them, printed them out and mounted them on colored paper for a quick bulletin board display. Then she took a group photo of all the animals and printed that on a simple card which read inside “Thank you for letting me sleep at the library.”

The next morning as kids returned for their animals, they were given the thank you card and showed the bulletin board. Everyone got a kick out of seeing their animal having “fun” in the library, and lots of patrons expressed interest in participating next year.

As far as we can tell, the stuffed animal sleepover originated in Pennsylvania in 2008 and then quickly migrated to libraries in Indiana and the Midwest before catching on in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska in recent months. Reports of similar sleepovers are coming in from all over the country now. This take-off on the classic “teacher sleeps at school” story is a great addition to your story hour schedule and can become a great advocacy tool for all the types of materials and

(Cont. on pg. 6)
services libraries offer. After all, if Pooh Bear can listen to an audio book at the library, why can’t you?

To see an assortment of photos from the event go to the Ketchikan Public Library Facebook page.

Charlotte L. Glover
Ketchikan Public Library

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**MONUMENTS MEN**

Two photo albums that catalog Nazi-stolen works of art have been tracked down by the Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art, a non-profit founded by Dallas businessman Robert Edsel.

They were found and donated by relatives of two WWII veterans, one in Virginia and another in South Dakota, Edsel said.

The albums, which include a photograph and identification number for each stolen piece of art, may help researchers identify other European treasures that were taken and scattered during World War II.

The catalogs “basically became a mail-order shopping catalog” for Hitler, who used to flip through them as he planned to start his own museum, Edsel said.

Creating a successful new library program is a mysterious process. No matter how much you research and plan, attendance can be determined by factors out of your control. So I felt a familiar last-minute panic in the hours preceding the Family Scavenger Hunt and Stuffed Animal Sleepover. As I gathered supplies and ran through the night’s schedule, a question nagged me: “What if only three people show up?”

Three people did show up. Then four. And then five, six, and seven. Soon we had seventy attendees, and the library was filled with families. Was it the beautiful Dream Big, READ cake made by a library volunteer? Was it the lack of other events around town or the cool weather? The right combination of variables, as always, is an unknown. But I do know for certain that everyone—parents, kids, staff and volunteers—had a great time.

After making name tags for their stuffed buddies (using the term “stuffed animals” would be discriminatory to the contingent of non-animals present), patrons of all ages explored the library on a quest to collect information and treasures hidden in the stacks and online. The hunt had only eight items, a number small enough to keep kids 5-12 years old interested, but varied enough to keep parents on their toes. Kids gathered audio books, found and drew the Tumblebooks mascot, collected librarian playing cards, and discovered the library’s troll. The reward for completing the hunt successfully? A Dream Big, READ notebook and a slice of the delicious cake.

Then everyone moved into the meeting room,
and kids cuddled with their stuffed buddies for story time. Embracing new technology, we used an iPad to read a story app – *What Does My Teddy Bear Do at Night?* — and displayed it on our OWL television monitor. After the enchanting story, kids settled down and read to their stuffed friends, which included lions, bears, a sun, an octopus, Raggedy Ann and others of all shapes and sizes. We said goodnight to the stuffed ones and tucked them into their blanket bed. One or two stuffed buddies were too young to stay for the sleepover, as was evident by a few tears from their humans. Maybe when they’re older!

The real fun for library staff started after hours, when families were off to bed themselves. We photographed the animals playing soccer, reading, building with Legos, and generally causing mischief. When kids returned the following morning to pick up their friends, we distributed photos of the sleepover and presented each stuffed buddy with a pretend library card. The night portion of the program was well attended, but the number of kids and adults at story hour the next morning was a record breaker! We talked about the night, sleepovers, and dreams, among other fun topics.

The night was hectic, we had some technical difficulties, and it required the help of several staff members, but the combination of program elements was perfect. We know this because families told us without being prodded. Someone in the community without young children told me that a program like this demonstrates how innovative and valuable the library is. I couldn’t help but smile. It promoted advocacy and was—like all of our best programs—fun and informative. Planning will always be mysterious, but it’s gratifying when feedback is unambiguously positive.

Claudia Haines
Homer Public Library
NINA E. PROCKISH

Nina E. Prockish, 70, a lifelong educator, passed away on June 21st. She was a loving mother, sister, aunt, great aunt and friend. Nina was a patient, kind, generous, loving, determined and organized woman of integrity.

Born in Reno, Nevada, on Oct 28, 1941, to Roland and Mary Sanger, Nina had a desire to teach children and a passion for the library program. Soon after they moved to Anchorage in 1965, Nina began her teaching career in the Anchorage School District as a 5th grade teacher. Shortly thereafter, she completed her Library Science degree and spent the rest of her teaching career as an elementary Librarian. Nina retired in 1998, but continued her passion by helping librarians with their collections.

Nina is survived by her daughter Toni; brother Wayne and sister-in-law Laraine; nephew Tom Sanger and family; niece Victoria Shepersky and family; cousins Ginny Kish, Rita Thays, Cheryl Butcher, Tom and Lu States, Steve Boczkievicz and Cathy Ligmond; and many, many, many friends.

The family suggests donations to the American Lung Association, Anchorage Library Foundation, or the Anchorage Center for the Performing Arts in lieu of flowers.

ALASKA STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD MEETS BY TELECONFERENCE JULY 26

Members will discuss Basic Archival Training, the State Library building project, an October Archives Month poster, Archival Certificate of Excellence Award, and Exxon Valdez Litigation Records Project. ASHRAB is the National Archives Grants Referee Board. Grants are available to nonprofits throughout Alaska.

Further ASHRAB information is available at http://archives.alaska.gov/ashrab/ashrab.html. Information about National Archives grants can be found at http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/.

Larry Hibpshman
Alaska State Archives
ALASKA GOVERNOR’S EXXON SLIDES INDEX
IS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Alaska State Archives has created a webpage link connecting patrons to its Index of Governor’s Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Slides. The Governor’s Press Secretary employs a photographer whose job is to accompany the Governor and take lots of pictures! Shortly after the Spill the photographer produced 2,000 images that cover all aspects of the spill: beach and water contamination, wildlife impact, local community impact, public meetings, prominent State officials who were deeply involved, response and remediation, and the Pipeline from both ends at Deadhorse and Valdez. The index is in four parts, all of which are available at [http://archives.alaska.gov/for_researchers/for_researchers.html/#exxon](http://archives.alaska.gov/for_researchers/for_researchers.html/#exxon)

And stay tuned. By summer’s end 500 of the slides will be uploaded to VILDA, Alaska’s Digital Portal. All will be public domain and easy access.

Larry Hibpshman
Alaska State Archives


RG 348 SR 612 AS 18957 Slide #620.
Rebecca Moorman
Sally (Bynum ? Mollie’s sister)
Mollie Bynum
Jodi Jacques
Sofie Grant
Jacob Munford
Loretta Andress

Photographer: Craig Stark

Coral Sheldon-Hess
Dale Sheldon-Hess
Sofie Grant
Jacob Munford

Photographer: L Andress

Craig Stark
Loretta Andress
Rebecca Moorman
Jacob Munford
Sally (Bynum? Mollie’s sister)
Mollie Bynum
Coral Sheldon-Hess
Dale Sheldon-Hess
Mariecris Gatlabayan
Front: Sofie Grant

Photographer: “Man on the street”

not pictured: Patience Frederiksen
BANNED BOOKS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 30—OCTOBER 6, 2012

Banned Books Week (BBW) is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment. Held during the last week of September, Banned Books Week highlights the benefits of free and open access to information while drawing attention to the harms of censorship by spotlighting actual or attempted bannings of books across the United States.

Intellectual freedom—the freedom to access information and express ideas, even if the information and ideas might be considered unorthodox or unpopular—provides the foundation for Banned Books Week. BBW stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints for all who wish to read and access them.

The books featured during Banned Books Week have been targets of attempted bannings. Fortunately, while some books were banned or restricted, in a majority of cases the books were not banned, all thanks to the efforts of librarians, teachers, booksellers and members of the community to retain the books in the library collections.

Imagine how many more books might be challenged—and possibly banned or restricted—if librarians, teachers and booksellers across the country did not use Banned Books Week each year to teach the importance of our First Amendment rights and the power of literature, and to draw attention to the danger that exists when restraints are imposed on the availability of information in a free society.

http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek

BANNED BOOK: LOOKING FOR ALASKA

The Tennessee legislature recently passed a bill stating that teachers cannot encourage “gateway sexual activity” as part of the state’s abstinence-based sexual education movement.

Seizing the opportunity implied by the new law, officials in Sumner County last week banned John Green’s Young Adult novel “Looking for Alaska” from the school curriculum because it contains an oral sex scene—one of two mildly-erotic passages in the novel. For more information on the Banned Books Awareness and Reading for Knowledge project and the complete list of titles covered, please visit the official website at http://www.deepforestproductions.com/BBARK.html

http://world.edu/banned-books-awareness-looking-for-alaska/
Anchorage Public Library’s Ready To Read Resource Center (RRRC) has added a fourth kit to its collection, designed to promote early literacy skills in children age 0-3, throughout the state. The new Read With Me Bag gives youngsters the opportunity for hands-on experience with books. Each of the 25 themed bags includes 10 board books, a puppet or toy, as well as activity suggestions and informational sheets for parents and caregivers.

“Young children learn through their senses,” says Terrie Weckerle, manager of the RRRC which is housed behind the scenes in APL’s Z.J. Loussac Public Library. “This bag includes sturdy books that they can manipulate and, yes, play with. As they explore the books through tactile contact, they learn about print, about how to hold a book and turn the pages.”

Weckerle emphasizes the importance of social interaction when a child is playing with books. “Toddlers pay attention to what you do and copy it. By showing them how to turn the pages, pointing out the different elements on each page and, of course, reading to them, parents can really boost their children’s early literacy skills.”

Early literacy is not about flash cards or teaching infants and toddlers the ABC’s, Weckerle explains. It’s about playing with blocks and puzzles to first learn shapes (which will later allow them to decipher alphabets). It’s singing songs to develop their ability to listen and to sound out words. It’s talking to very young kids to expand their vocabulary so they have a bank of words to draw on when they are learning to read.

Established in 2008, the Ready to Read Resource Center is an Anchorage Public Library resource with a statewide focus. The Center is funded by a grant from the Alaska State Library. Weckerle started building the RRRC collection with 50 Ready to Read Tubs, each with 30-50 board books and picture books, which are designed to be checked out by libraries, child care home providers and centers, and other early childhood professionals and agencies for use with the young children in their care.

A second RRRC kit is the Read to Me at Home Tub. Each of these 40 tubs contains 10 canvas bags with three board books in each bag. With these tubs, local libraries can promote early literacy skills within their communities by loaning the little canvas bags of books to individual families. Likewise, child care providers can encourage home reading by circulating these take-home bags among the families they work with.

A third RRRC kit is the Lapsit Bag which, unlike the tub, is themed. These 42 different storytime bags each contain five-to-six books, along with a music CD, and a puppet or prop. The bags also include suggestions for fingerplays, songs and action rhymes. Libraries, child care centers, and even parents can hold their own storytimes. However, since the pages of the books in the Lapsit Bags are paper, children cannot play with them. That’s where the new Read With Me Bags come in.

“The Read With Me Bags are the logical next step to our collection,” Weckerle says. “Because board books are so sturdy, little kids have a chance to really get acquainted with books.”

Borrow the kits from Anchorage Public Library through interlibrary loan. For the themes of the bags and for more information about the RRRC program, go to http://readytoreadak.org/.

Nina Malyshev, Director
Alaska Library Network

(Photos on pg. 14)
(Early Literacy - Cont. from pg. 13)
SEARCHING GOOGLE — TIPS AND SHORTCUTS

For more options

Search for images with a particular color in them

You’ve searched for games in the format of Apps that are free from Apple. The color red that you selected will appear on screen in images of the apps (or related topics)
A children’s literacy program continues to expand in Alaska, with 18,029 children now enrolled in 29 Imagination Libraries serving 93 communities. In the past year alone Imagination Library has sent 191,910 books to Alaska children.

New Imagination Libraries were launched in April in Togiak, Yukon Flats, Copper River Valley and Anchor Point. Delta Junction launched its Imagination Library in May. Valdez expects to start its this summer, with Galena and Tanana in process.

Imagination Library mails a brand new, age-appropriate book each month to every child from birth to age 5 who signs up for the program in his or her community, regardless of family income. There is no charge to participating families. Best Beginnings and local communities raise funds to pay for the books, mailing costs and family engagement activities. The Dollywood Foundation manages the book delivery system.

The growth isn’t limited to new Imagination Libraries. Existing ones have ambitious expansion plans, too. Anchorage Imagination Library has committed to reach 8,000 children, Fairbanks North Star aims to reach 3,600 children, Mat-Su to reach 3,500 children, Southeast to reach 2,000 and Greater Kenai/Soldotna to reach 1,000.

When Best Beginnings took on the mission to expand Imagination in April 2009, there were just five affiliates —in Nome, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Hoonah, Wainwright and Southeast—with 3,673 children enrolled.

Best Beginnings’ approach is that Imagination Library is more than a book delivery program. It’s a way to get whole families and communities involved in early literacy —and help to ensure children begin school ready to succeed.

Thanks to the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, Governor Parnell and the Alaska Legislature for funds that will help Best Beginnings continue to support Imagination Library all over the state.

Barbara Brown
bbrown@bestbeginningsalaska.org

Best Beginnings is a nonprofit advocate for early learning in Alaska. It is the statewide umbrella for Imagination Library, promotes and supports local early childhood partnerships and produces and distributes materials and information for early learning.
Brewster Kahle is the type of person we all should admire—he’s highly intelligent, energetic, passionate, motivated and, above all, determined to improve the world by giving more information to more people.

He decided to recreate the Alexandria library, Alexa Internet, using technology to put information into the hands of as many people as possible.

He’s well on his way. The Internet Archive has almost 3.5 million texts, along with 1.3 million audio recordings, 666,000 movies and 103,000 live concerts.

It’s all searchable, so you can find what you’re looking for in a matter of seconds. Every day, more material is being added, from scanning machines in operation in several countries.

The Internet Archive has already changed the way we do historical research; it’s a tool so easy to use, and so rich with information that it would be foolish to ignore it.

It has the potential to do even more. Many of the books on the site are already out of copyright, but Kahle envisions the day when new books would be added to the archive as soon as they are published. Beyond that, the archive will make reading possible for many people who can’t read today for a wide variety of reasons—people who are blind, or who can’t hold a book, for example. The books on the Internet Archive are available in digital formats that are designed as a substitute for print material.

Another aspect of the archive is the Wayback Machine, which is made up of a lot of archived web pages. More than 150 billion of them, but who’s counting? The site makes it handy to surf the web of long ago.

All of these things exist because of Brewster Kahle—and they are only the highest of the highlights.

http://archive.org/about/about.php

Read more: http://www.timescolonist.com/Internet+Archive+founder+pops+into+Victoria/6817538/story.html#ixzz21NiJRkf1
OLDEST BOOK IN THE WORLD?

Right now, the book known as the oldest in the world is a several-pages-long volume held by Bulgaria’s National Museum of History. The book is comprised of six pages of beaten 24-carat gold covered with Etruscan script, one of the few writing systems scholars have yet to decipher [source: BBC News].

According to reports, the book, exhibited in 2003, was estimated at about 2,500 years old. It was found along the Strouma river in southwestern Bulgaria “in an old tomb,” and was donated to the museum by the finder, who remained anonymous. Its age and authenticity were confirmed by two independent scientists, whose names also remain unknown.

The question of what is the oldest book in the world will likely never be answered. There’s the question of what exactly is a book…. For complete article: http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/arts/literature/oldest-book-in-the-world.htm

Restoration work has been taking place on an edition of the world’s oldest printed book—the Diamond Sutra—which dates back to 868 AD. http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11912738

Yet another widely mentioned candidate is a Sumerian epic poem, The Epic of Gilgamesh, owned by the British Museum. It is written in cuneiform on clay tablets and dated at about the seventh century BC. Read the astounding story of its discovery in The Buried Book: The Loss and Discovery of the Epic of Gilgamesh, at JSRCC libraries. The Chinese have their I Ching, or Book of Changes; the Indians have the Hindu Vedas; and then there are the Sutras, ancient writings of both Hindu and Buddhist cultures. http://jsrcclibrary.wordpress.com/2011/11/08/oldest-book-in-the-world/

Was the first book only the first one to be created on a printing press? What about earlier books printed by the Chinese using woodblock? What materials were used, and how were they handled? Was it truly possible to accurately date the book? Was it found in ancient Egypt, Sumer, China, or India? Maybe it was written in hieroglyphics, cuneiform, or other ideogram or pictogram?

According to many sources, the oldest book in the world is The Teachings of Ptah-Hotep, alternately known as The Maxims, The Instructions, or The Wisdom of Ptah-Hotep. This ancient Egyptian work, preserved both on clay tablet and papyrus, instructed people on how to live a virtuous life of civic duty and to reject selfishness and greed. Various creation dates of 2700-2200 BC, and even earlier, exist.

A thrilling mystery set against a stark landscape and the inspiration of Nome’s real-life dog hero, Balto.

Twelve-year-old Tee has just moved to Nome, Alaska, with her writer father and sullen little brother, Jack. Jack isn’t happy about the idea of living in the middle of nowhere, but Tee and her dog Henry are thrilled — so much open space to run around and sniff.

But on a walk near their new house, Henry spots something that has him seriously spooked. Tee sees a mysterious shadow, and it seems to be following them. Have they disturbed a restless spirit? And what other secrets might this dark place be holding?    


General guidelines to publication in *Newspoke*, Alaska Library Association newsletter:

**Not accepted:** paid advertising; material intended to “sell; make a profit” rather than to “inform.” Submissions viewed as advertisements, unless item is of particular interest to Alaska, Alaskan patrons and/or libraries, or is submitted by an AkLA member.

**Accepted:** Alaskana—books, book reviews, or articles relating to, or of interest to, Alaskan librarians and/or their patrons. Informative material related to libraries and librarianship, especially in regard to Alaska.

Most anything submitted by AkLA members—reasonably “tasteful and well-written,” of an appropriate length (much leeway here); author is willing to submit to possible editorial changes, which may include length, spellings, downsizing of convoluted sentences. . . (Editor will make every effort to let the author know of, and pre-approve, any significant changes before the material is published in *Newspoke*.)

**Other**—determined on an individual basis by “the committee” (defined as a group of at least three AkLA members). If the *Newspoke* editor or the individual submitting has questions or concerns about any submission, the matter will be sent on to the *Newspoke* Committee.
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CALENDAR

Library Card Sign-Up Month Sep. 1–30, 2012
Sylvania Campus, Portland, OR
Association for Rural and Small Libraries Annual Conference, Sep. 27–29, 2012
Sheraton Raleigh Downtown, Raleigh, NC
Banned Books Week Sep. 30–Oct. 6, 2012