

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

1/14/2011

## Contents:

- **WHO WE ARE: SARA LEE**
- **READY TO READ RESOURCE CENTER: A SURVEY**
- **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS OPPORTUNITIES: A NOTICE FROM SENATOR MURKOWSKI'S OFFICE**
- **LIBRI FOUNDATION BOOKS FOR CHILDREN GRANT**
- **STATEWIDE LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**
- **ALASKA OWL IN THE NEWS**

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### **WHO WE ARE: SARA LEE**

After a short break, we are restarting our series of profiles of Division staff and how they see a new facility fitting into their work. This week we feature Sara Lee, Museum Protection and Visitor Services Assistant:

As a year-round visitor services assistant, I am the person you are most likely to encounter as you enter the Museum, call on the phone, or send a general email or mail inquiry. About half of the kids coming in for a field trip interact with me at the front desk or on one of my tours. I also do facility security and tracking of incoming & outgoing objects, exhibits, and mail. I am often the first to encounter a family heirloom, photograph, or diary that is mailed or brought in to the museum for information, evaluation, or donation.

I hope that the new combined facility will assist me in better serving our diverse publics with additional safeguards for protecting the collections as well as accessible, comfortable, convenient and coordinated facilities that will encourage further or first time visits, extended stays, one-stop business transactions, additional after business hours enrichment programs, and more access to in depth interactions with our history & culture. My top 6 improvements would be: building that doesn't leak, more restrooms, more accessible entry, cloak room with lockers prior to gallery entry, café, and classrooms.

### **READY TO READ RESOURCE CENTER: A SURVEY**

The Anchorage Public Library's Ready to Read Resource Center, located at the Z.J. Loussac Public Library, is a statewide resource for anyone who works with infants and toddlers anywhere in Alaska.

Its mission is to promote early literacy development throughout Alaska by providing books and other resources to children birth to age three and their caregivers. To learn more about the project, visit <http://lexicon.ci.anchorage.ak.us/readytoread/site/index.html>.

The Ready to Read Resource Center loans reading kits, free of charge, to early care and education professionals, to agencies who serve young children and their families, as well as to libraries. A few examples of eligible groups are:

- Health clinics
- Faith-based early childhood centers
- Child development centers
- Licensed family child care providers
- Head Start programs
- Rural libraries

The Ready to Read Resource Center currently has 3 types of book kits available for those who work with children who are age 3 and under:

- Ready to Read Tubs (an assortment of 35+ board books and picture books)
- Read to Me at Home Tubs (10 small totes, each with 3 board books)
- Lapsit Bags (themed storytime kits)

What other kinds of book kits would you like to see created for your work with infants and toddlers? Do you have comments about early literacy in Alaska? Please share your thoughts by completing this 10-question survey by January 23, 2011: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9N5RWL6>

The Ready to Read Resource Center is funded by an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant through the Alaska State Library.

## **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS OPPORTUNITIES: A NOTICE FROM SENATOR MURKOWSKI'S OFFICE**

Karen McCarthy of Senator Lisa Murkowski's office has contacted us with the following information about two opportunities from the Library of Congress.

1. Senator Murkowski has a program to donate new and gently used books as well as new desk-sized maps of world regions from the Library of Congress to schools, libraries, and literacy programs across Alaska. The Library's Geography and Maps Division has made the maps available online. There are two links by which Alaskans can download these maps. They are:
  - **The American Memory Map Collections**  
<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/mapsSince1960.html>: individual desk-sized maps of many countries and regions of the world as well as various maps of the earth. This is the collection from which Senator Murkowski has been donating hard copies of maps.
  - **Places in the News Map Collections**  
<http://www.loc.gov/today/placesinthenews/archive/2010.html>: newly-released maps of countries, areas, and regions that have recently been in the news, such as Haiti, Afghanistan, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf, and the Korean Peninsula.

All of these maps are available free of charge. Of course, Senator Murkowski will continue to donate hard copies of maps to those who request them.

2. The Library has just announced its 2011 Summer Teacher Institutes. The five-day institutes are designed to introduce educators to the millions of digitized primary sources available on the Library of Congress web site. The session will give teachers the tools to use these resources in their classrooms and provide teachers with the opportunity to work with other teachers from across the country and share strategies for effective classroom activities.

There will be seven individual five-day sessions held at the Library of Congress in 2011. Sessions are free and fill up fast. Interested teachers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, but not later than the February 4 application deadline. The 2011 sessions will be held on the following dates:

- Session 1: May 23-27
- Session 2: June 6-10
- Session 3: June 13-17
- Session 4: July 11-15 (Civil War Focus)
- Session 5: July 18-22
- Session 6: August 1-5
- Session 7: August 8-12

Participants have the option of obtaining 3 graduate credits (for a fee) from George Mason University for completing all Summer Teacher Institute requirements. For additional information and to apply for the Summer Teacher Institute, go to:

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/professionaldevelopment/teacherinstitute/apply>. If you can't make it to DC, professional development opportunities are also available online at <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/professionaldevelopment/>.

As always, check out the many resources available to teachers (<http://www.loc.gov/teachers>), librarians (<http://www.loc.gov/library/>), and kids and families (<http://www.loc.gov/families/>) through the Library of Congress. It's like having the world online!

## **LIBRI FOUNDATION BOOKS FOR CHILDREN GRANT**

The Libri Foundation is currently accepting applications for its 2011 Books for Children grants.

The Libri Foundation is a nationwide nonprofit organization that donates new, quality hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States. Grants will match up to \$350 raised locally on a 2-1 basis (total value including match: up to \$1050). Libraries have up to 4 months to raise the matching funds after receiving a grant. Previous Books for Children grant recipients are eligible to apply for another grant three years after the receipt of their last grant.

Application deadlines for 2011 are: (postmarked by) January 23rd, April 15th. Grants are awarded January 31st, April 30th. Application guidelines and forms may be downloaded from the Foundation's website at [www.librifoundation.org/apps.html](http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html) (Copied from Washington State Library Update January 12, 2011)

## STATEWIDE LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

In response to the document *Determination of Eligibility for the Alaska State Centennial Museum (Alaska State Museum), Juneau*, and following an intensive public process and consultation with Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, and other agencies, the Department of Education & Early Development has determined that it will continue with the current planning process for the new building for the Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums. This process includes using the current site and demolition of the Alaska State Centennial Museum located at 395 Whittier Street in Juneau.

The Department of Education & Early Development worked cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources Office of History and Archeology to accomplish the eligibility study and subsequent public comment period. The public comment period received a number of comments from citizens and other interested entities.

EED will now work with the State Historic Preservation Office to craft a mitigation agreement that will honor the history of the Alaska State Museum, convey the story of the Centennial Museum project, remember the building as it stood, and that will be affordable using current budget. State Librarian Linda Thibodeau will facilitate the process for LAM and requests public input on mitigation ideas.

Workshops and a public meeting with ECI\Hyer and associated partners were held in Juneau this past week to begin to move ahead with the schematic phase of design of the new building. More information about these design updates will soon be found on the project blog: <http://www.alaskalamp.blogspot.com/>.

### ALASKA OWL IN THE NEWS

Since last month's launch of Alaska Online with Libraries (Alaska OWL), news about the project has been spreading. Stories about Alaska OWL in the last few weeks included:

*Grants bringing faster Internet service to libraries statewide* (KTUU 1/4/2011)  
<http://www.ktuu.com/news/ktuu-grants-bringing-faster-library-internet-010311,0,2285972.story>

*Program brings high-speed to rural libraries* (Alaska Journal of Commerce 12/23/2010)  
[http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/122310/loc\\_pbhs.shtml](http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/122310/loc_pbhs.shtml)

For more information about Alaska OWL, visit (<http://www.library.state.ak.us/dev/owl.html>)

## FRIDAY BULLETIN

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