

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

12/16/2011

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at http://lam.alaska.gov/about_lam/FridayBulletin.html.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

WHO WE ARE: VALERIE OLIVER (E-RATE SPECIALIST)



Valerie Oliver is a part of the Alaska State Library's Library Development Staff and resides in Anchorage. She took over the role of E-rate Coordinator from Della Matthis in 2006 and spends her time assisting both our libraries and our school districts in getting E-rate discounts on their phone and internet bills.

E-rate is the "slang" term for Universal Service Funding for Schools and Libraries. Universal Service is a term the federal government uses and is the act of providing a baseline level of communication services to all people within our country. The Universal Service Fund (USF) provides discounts on phone and Internet bills to schools and libraries so that they can afford connectivity to the rest of the world. This connectivity in Alaska is vital, as our schools and libraries depend more and more upon the Internet to access information and participate in training, e-government, workforce development, online forms completion, and more. All schools

and public libraries in the state of Alaska are eligible for E-rate/USF discounts on their phone and Internet bills, and the average discount in our state is just over 70% of the bill. Alaska receives more than \$30 Million dollars in E-rate/USF funds annually and our libraries are dependent upon this funding for improved sustainability into the future.

Before becoming E-rate Coordinator for Alaska's schools and libraries Valerie was a school librarian for the Anchorage School District. She has been in Alaska since 1980 and hails from Michigan. She obtained her MLS from the University of Arizona and would love to hear from libraries that have questions about how they can maximize their E-rate application. In addition to assisting schools and libraries in the E-rate process, Valerie is a part of the OWL (Online With Libraries) Project team.

NEW BUILDING PROGRESS REPORT AVAILABLE

Our building design team has posted their Fall 2011 Project Team Status Report – Statewide Library Archives Museum to the project blog at <http://alaskalamp.blogspot.com/2011/12/design-team-status-report-december.html>.

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

ALASKANA AWARD FOR 2011: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Alaskana award was established in 1994 to honor outstanding adult fiction and nonfiction works about Alaska published in any format. Works that will be considered make a significant contribution to the understanding of Alaska; exhibit originality, depth of research and knowledge of Alaska; and have been published in the calendar year preceding the AkLA conference at which the award will be presented. The author is not required to be an Alaskan resident.

Information to include in the nomination:

- Author, title, place of publication, publisher, and date of publication
- Full description of the work being nominated
- Statement of the overall impact of the publication
- Supporting documentation for this nomination should include critical testimony, such as published reviews or specially written letters that evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the nomination which will aid the review process.

Nominations must be received by Friday, January 13, 2012.
Email to: Teresa Williams [twilliams@anchagemuseum.org]
Please direct any questions to:
Teresa Williams 907 929-9236 or Jim Simard 907 465-2926

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM FRAUDS AND SCAMS

It is regrettable that e-mail scams and other forms of fraud seem to rise this time of year. That makes it a good time to educate yourself on the common forms of fraud so that you, coworkers and visitors can have a happier holiday season. Educating yourself on fraud is easy by visiting the USA.gov page on Consumer Frauds and Scams at <http://www.usa.gov/topics/consumer/scams-fraud.shtml>. For scams active in the State of Alaska, visit the Attorney General's Fraud and Scams page at <http://law.alaska.gov/department/civil/consumer/fraud.html>.

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