

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

2/13/2015

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.

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 LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

The Library Development unit has changed a lot since last fall, as you can see from our staff directory at: <http://library.alaska.gov/dev/staff.html> Here is what has been happening:

- Daniel Cornwall in Juneau is Library Development's Internet and Technology Coordinator. If you need help with these issues, please contact him. Sue Sherif retired on July 30 and I was hired into her position as Head of Library Development.
- Alex Pock is the Grants Administrator and the State Data Coordinator for public library statistics. He actually started in this new position in October, but has been working on the OWL Project closeout, which will be finished by the end of February.
- While the OWL project ended on September 30, the Legislature has funded the OWL program as an ongoing service. Shane Southwick coordinates the OWL program, which continues to help public libraries pay for internet service and he manages the videoconference network developed during the OWL project. We no longer have OWL grant funding for purchasing equipment or for IT aides.

- We are working with our departmental procurement officer to issue a request for proposals for a contracted school library consultant to be paid with Federal LSTA grant funds. I hope that we will be able to publicize the RFP for this contracted consultant in the near future.
- Library Development is managing a new grant program that was funded by the Legislature last year. We are distributing \$5 million to school districts statewide to bring about 150 schools up to 10 mbps download speeds as the School Broadband Assistance Grant program. We are calling this one School BAG.

One thing stays the same: we are still here to help you develop the best possible programs and services that you can in your libraries. If there is anything you need to know or need help with, please give us a call or drop us a line. Thanks!

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OWL CONNECTS ALASKANS REPORT ONLINE

Online With Libraries (OWL) staff have posted a [six page infographic](#) summarizing the success of the four year federally funded project, now continued with State funds. The infographic also notes organizations that have used OWL video conferencing to save on travel funds including:

- Adult Protective Services
- Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children
- Alaska Humanities Forum
- Alaska Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators
- Alaska Zoo
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Department of Education & Early Development
- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Health & Social Services
- Department of Labor
- Doyon Limited
- Governor's Council on Handicaps and Disabilities
- Ilisagvik College
- Matanuska Susitna Borough
- Office of Children's Services, State of Alaska
- Providence Hospital
- Raven Correspondence Studies Students
- US Coast Guard

The OWL project has also placed the following equipment into Alaska's libraries:

- 351 workstations
- 183 early literacy stations
- 385 laptops
- 125 tablets

For more OWL accomplishments, see the full infographic at http://library.alaska.gov/pdf/anc/owl/OWL_infographic.pdf

BANDWIDTH TIP: CONTROL HOW MUCH DATA NETFLIX USES

Your staff and visitors might be interested to know that they can force Netflix into lower video resolution, saving data and making it easier to stay under ISP/Cellular imposed data caps. See how in the TechBoomers tutorial [Data Usage with Netflix](#). Other helpful plain English tech tutorials can be found at <http://www.techboomers.com>

THE FY2015 E-RATE FILING WINDOW IS OPEN UNTIL MARCH 26, 2015

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is currently receiving applications (Form 471) for USF/E-rate support for library phone & Internet bills, as well as Internal Connections, Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections, and Managed Broadband Services. The deadline for submitting these applications is March 26, but the application for new services can be submitted any time after a 28 day waiting period that begins with filing the procurement Form 470 (which solicits bids). Applications should be made online and the USAC portal for online applications is: <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/menu.asp>

Valerie Oliver and Lynn Hallquist are available at the Alaska State Library to answer questions as you navigate this application process. erate@alaska.gov will connect you with Valerie and Lynn at the Alaska State Library. They also offer period webinar assistance on how to successfully file for E-rate. Additional guidance can be found on the Alaska State Library E-rate webpage at http://www.library.state.ak.us/erate/erate_home.html

E-rate funding can mean 60-90% discounts on your Phone and Internet monthly bills, as well as a budget for infrastructure upgrades necessary to keep your internal network function for your staff and patrons. The budget can even be used to maintain that network for you. You also can receive assistance directly from USAC either from their informative website <http://www.usac.org/sl/default.aspx> or from their help desk 1-888-203-8100.

ARCHIVED WEBINAR EXPLAINS HOW TO CREATE DIGITAL SIGNAGE

This past week the Library Development section of the Alaska State Library held a webinar explaining how you can make any largish monitor you have hanging around do double duty as digital signage promoting your library services and collections:

Using Your OWL Screen as Digital Signage (2/11/2015) with Daniel Cornwall

- [Blackboard Collaborate Recording](#)
- [Handout \(PDF\)](#)

- [Presentation Slides \(PDF\)](#)
- [Free multimedia guide](#)

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

LITTLE APPLES BLOOM IN ANCHORAGE

The following message from Elizabeth Nicolai appeared on the AkLA Children Services list, but may also be of interest to museums and other organizations:

Introducing LITtle ApPLes: Anchorage Public Library's Early Literacy Brand

One of the most critical components of a child's first five years is their development of early literacy skills. Early Literacy, everything children know about reading *before* they learn to read, has long been at the core of library services offered for children and caregivers.

The goal of LITtle ApPLes is to build an association for parents that Anchorage Public Library (APL) has special opportunities to grow their young ones into future readers. The brand aids this goal by bringing early literacy activities into the forefront while aligning efforts and fostering consistency between APL locations. To establish the brand, APL has new templates for printed material such as program schedules, weekly early literacy tips, and event fliers. These templates help highlight APL's growing number of special early literacy programs for children from birth to age five:

- Baby Builders: open block playtime
- STEM Storytime: preschool storytime that introduces Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts
- Growing Readers Club: interactive storytime with a take home activity
- Wee Be Jammin': music and movement program

The brand also includes a new LITtle ApPLes webpage (<http://tinyurl.com/littleapples>). Visitors will see a large variety of resources, including a rhyme of the week, literacy tip of the week, recommendations for books and special apps, links to early literacy resources, and YouTube videos featuring APL librarians sharing some of their favorite songs.

Parents, caregivers and others can also text LITTLEAPPLES to 888777 to receive a weekly early literacy tip and storytime updates!

LITtle ApPLes is the creation of two youth services librarians from APL, Lacey Hemming (Muldoon Library) and Stephanie Schott (Loussac Library), who hope to designate all early literacy programs, events, and original content under one brand. The logo was created by APL Library Assistant, Ingrid Bondarenko.

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