



# Footnotes<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Official Newsletter of the State Library of Iowa

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January 2004

## Seniors benefit from Cedar Falls-Waterloo library projects

Whether it's in the library, at home or at the local senior center, older residents in the Cedar Falls-Waterloo area have plenty of opportunities to read and discuss books thanks to a couple of programs created by local entities.

In the summer of 2000, staff from the Waterloo and Cedar Falls public libraries, the Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging and the Jesse Cosby Center developed a special grant for seniors in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls metro area called "The Third Age Project."

The project was underwritten by federal LSTA and Enrich Iowa funds and targeted both active seniors and those confined to their homes or nursing homes. The basic goal of "The Third Age Project" was to provide library and other associated outreach services to seniors where they live and gather -- in their homes, retirement and nursing homes, and senior centers.

The grant provided seniors with increased opportunities for reading, education and associating with others, providing just the kind of stimulation research recommends for staying mentally alert throughout life.

The project had several objectives, including:

- establishing library services at each of the four metro area senior centers;
- establishing library services in retirement homes currently without services and increasing the percentage of retirement home residents who already have library services;
- increasing the number of homebound patrons receiving library services;
- providing new library services that target the interests of seniors by beginning reading groups and providing Internet demonstrations at senior centers and retirement homes and by holding special "library days" at the local libraries;
- providing active seniors with volunteer opportunities with other seniors in need, such as reading to nursing home residents;
- improving seniors' access to adapted library materials and equipment by purchasing 500 additional books on tape and 500 additional large print books.

"I absolutely believe that we have enriched the quality of lives of seniors in the Cedar Valley because our projects stimulate them not only intellectually, but socially through the book discussion groups," said Carol French Johnson, director of the Cedar Falls and Waterloo public libraries.

"Perhaps the most impressive component of the Third Age Project is the overwhelming success of the book groups," said French Johnson. "In some cases, the customers need Project Coordinator Betsy Kirk to read to them because they are unable to read themselves, but their delight in this activity is humbling to those of us involved."



*Betsy Kirk, Third Age Project Coordinator (left), meets with residents at the Mallard Point Retirement Center in Cedar Falls to discuss "Pride and Prejudice."*

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## **New PowerPoint budget, annual report presentations available for libraries**

State Library and Library Service Area staff recently developed PowerPoint presentations and scripts for librarians to use during budget and annual report presentations. All Gates computers are loaded with PowerPoint. The presentations are available on the Telling the Library Story web site under Props (<http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/tell-library-story/index.html>.)

Pat Sleister, director of the Mary J. Barnett Memorial Library in Guthrie Center, used the budget PowerPoint presentation at a recent city council meeting. It was her first experience using PowerPoint and she was pleased with the results.

"We just had to put in our information and change a couple of things, plus add some facts and figures from past annual reports and we had a great presentation," said Sleister. "One of the city council members even mentioned that if it was my first PowerPoint presentation, it was certainly successful."

The web site also has information on how to use the slides if the equipment to project PowerPoint is not available.

## **Building consulting grants available**

The State Library has allocated Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds to continue the building consulting services to Iowa libraries. East Central Library Services will administer the project.

The maximum amount a library can receive is \$2,500. Libraries must hire a qualified building consultant with prior building experience. Building consulting fees and expenses must be negotiated by the library and consultant prior to submission of the grant application. Fees are paid only to consultants, not to architects or engineers.

LSTA funds for library building consultation may be requested for the following services:

- Library space needs assessment of current facility
- Library building process overview
- Evaluation of library sites
- Building program review
- Assistance in hiring an architect
- ADA compliance evaluation and planning
- Architectural drawing review
- Funding consultation

Projects must be completed by June 30, 2005. For an application or further information, visit the State Library's web site at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/LSTA/building-consulting-grants.htm>, or call Lily Lau, East Central Library Services, 1-800-332-7914.

## **County funding for rural library services now on web**

A study of county funding for rural library services in FY04 is now available on the State Library's web site at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/statistics/lib-stats.html>. The information will be particularly helpful to libraries facing budget cuts in FY05. The Iowa Library Service Areas contacted 99 county auditors for the information and the Iowa Department of Management provided current rural valuation information.

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## Check out Iowa Quick Facts

The State Data Center, the State Library unit which is the official source for U.S. census statistics about Iowa, has developed a new web site that provides lots of useful information about the state, including:

- Population
- Land Area and Urbanization
- Business and Industry
- Employment
- Vital Statistics
- Households and Families
- General Demographic Characteristics
- Social Characteristics
- Economic Characteristics
- Housing Characteristics
- Governmental Units: Counties, Cities and Townships
- Statistical Units: Census Geography and lots more

Check it out at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/news/news/News-2003/iowa-quick-facts.htm>.

## Certification update

Congratulations to the following public library staff certified for the first time through the State Library's Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians.

**Corinne Ball** - Britt  
**Debra Benner**, Paullina  
**Julia Blair**, Oxford  
**Teresa Buckingham** - Glenwood  
**Patricia Calease** - Clarksville  
**Christopher Evans-Winfield** - Collins  
**Pam Dettbarn**, Colesburg  
**Patrick Finney**, Washington  
**Mary Gepner** - Mount Ayr  
**Sheryl Groskurth**, Waterloo  
**Diane Haupt** - Wellsburg  
**Andrea Hogrefe** - Albert City  
**Angela Hughes** - Carroll  
**Betty Jolliffe** - Marathon  
**Michael Joregenson** - Coralville  
**Sandra Kennedy** - Bedford  
**Shelley Kesling** - Bondurant  
**Kimberly Kietzman** - LeClaire  
**Nancy Kuhlman**, Readlyn  
**Nancy Pudenz** - Carroll  
**Marilyn Reis**, Cresco  
**Anne Roelofs** - Cresco  
**Lynn Rogers** - Carroll  
**Sue Rube** - Sheffield  
**Laura Urbanek**, Roland  
**Gisela Veatch** - Mitchellville  
**Janis Vokaty** - Cresco

## Important Dates - 2004

### February

February 4 - E-rate window closes  
February 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 19, 20 - Summer Library Workshops (statewide)  
February 17 - Commission meeting - Des Moines  
February 24-28 - Public Library Association National Conference - Seattle, WA  
February 27 - Applications for Public Library Management I and II due

## Newbery and Caldecott medals announced

Kate DiCamillo, author of "The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread," and Mordicai Gerstein, illustrator and author of "The Man Who Walked Between the Towers," are the 2004 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals, the most prestigious awards in children's literature. The awards were recently announced at the American Library Association's Midwinter Conference in San Diego. For more information, visit the ALA web site at <http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=News&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=53433>

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## Building Blocks for Early Literacy April 14-15, 2004

*Sponsored by the State Library of Iowa and  
Iowa Department of Education*

**Stoney Creek Inn  
5291 N.W. 84th Street  
Johnston, Iowa**



Plan to attend this year's Westgate Lecture, "Building Blocks for Early Literacy." Registration is \$25 for both days, or \$20 for one day and includes lunch and breaks. A block of rooms (\$68) are reserved for both Wednesday and Thursday nights. Ask for the State Library of Iowa group rate. For reservations, call 1-800-659-2220 or (515) 334-9000. The registration form is available on the State Library's web site, [www.silo.lib.ia.us](http://www.silo.lib.ia.us), under news items (top of page).

### Wednesday, April 14

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The program will run from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### **Barbara Moss** - *"Matters of Fact: Using Nonfiction Literature in Today's Classroom."*

This presentation will provide teachers with information about recent nonfiction trade books appropriate for use with children. It will offer a variety of classroom-tested ideas for using these books, including specific strategies crucial for improving student understanding of non-narrative texts.

*Barbara Moss was a language arts teacher and supervisor in Portage County, Ohio for 17 years. She is presently a professor of literacy education at San Diego State University, where she teaches classes in children's literature and content area reading. She has published articles related to these topics in a number of professional journals. Her recently published book is titled Exploring the Literature of Fact: Children's Nonfiction Trade Books in the Elementary Classroom.*

From 3:15 to 4 p.m. there will be an opportunity for small group discussion.

### Thursday, April 15

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Sessions will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### **Penny Milburn and LauraBelle Sherman Proehl** - *"Matters of Fact: The State of Our Children. What can we do?"*

8:30 to 9:30 a.m. - This presentation will provide information on the condition of young children in the area of literacy in our nation and state. The condition of young children directly effects their language and literacy development as preschoolers and in later life. This session will briefly describe initiatives focused on improving outcomes for young children in all areas. In addition, an Iowa initiative focused on language and literacy development using story telling as the strategy and the impact on young children will be shared.

9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. - There will be a series of breakout sessions specifically for people who work with children ages three to five. Tentative session topics include early learning standards, selection of nonfiction books, story retelling, library models for outreach to child care centers and preschools, teaching vocabulary, assessing literacy skills and more.

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## WebJunction offers tips on “telling the story” about libraries’ impact on communities

WebJunction (<http://www.webjunction.org>) has a special feature this month that could be of great benefit to libraries: “Demonstrating Impact: Crunch the Numbers and Punch Up Your Message.”

The site discusses topics like how to convince funders that the library is an indispensable part of the community’s social and economic life. Begin with the “Road Map” through the jungle of sustainability, and continue with many other materials including articles and discussions.

Be sure to look at the article written by Karen Burns, administrator of the Southwest Iowa Library Service Area, on the Telling the Library Story web site.



*First Lady Christie Vilsack, left, her assistant Cyndi Pederson and State Librarian Mary Wegner took part in a Capitol employees musical performance during the holidays.*

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## Iowa sees dramatic increase in number of libraries with high speed Internet access

SILO staff recently completed a study that shows 74 percent of Iowa public libraries now have high-speed Internet access. Staff used 2003 annual reports and the “Iowa Implementation Report” from the Gates Foundation and compared them with 2002 annual reports. The table below summarizes the results.

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>After Gates Computers</u>
Using ATS	227 (41%)	361 (65%)	411 (74%)
Unused ATS	142 (25%)	106 (19%)	56 (10%)
No ATS	190 (34%)	92 (16%)	92 (16%)

ATS stands for Advanced Telecommunication Services. “Using ATS” includes public libraries whose library computers have high speed Internet access. “Unused ATS” includes public libraries who have access to a high-speed Internet provider, but whose library computers do not have high-speed Internet access. “No ATS” includes public libraries that do not have access to a high-speed Internet access provider.

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## Literary Calendar added to Iowa Center for the Book web site

A new feature has been added to the Iowa Center for the Book web site that will inform Iowans about literary events in their communities and around the state.

The literary calendar has two purposes:

- To provide information to library staff and the public about literary events taking place across the state
- To provide information for program planners to encourage collaboration and cooperation on events

All types of libraries, bookstores, colleges and other organizations that sponsor literary events are encouraged to submit information on their events for the literary calendar. The Iowa Center for the Book hopes that this will be another avenue for sponsors to provide information about their events and that it will encourage people to attend who might not otherwise find out about an event. To encourage collaboration, program providers are asked to add information about their events to the calendar as soon as possible.

When adding All Iowa Reads programs, be sure to check "All Iowa Reads" in the Event Type box.

Promotion of the Literary Calendar will take place in two phases: First with organizations that will enter information and then with the general public. Bookmarks promoting the new site will be available soon.

Major funding for the Iowa Center for the Book web site was provided by Humanities Iowa.

## Seniors benefit from Cedar Falls-Waterloo library projects

(Cont. from Pg. 1)

The second project, "Gray Matters," also targets senior citizens and is funded by an LSTA grant and Enrich Iowa funds. "Gray Matters" will provide aids and devices that will enhance visits to the libraries by seniors, including motorized carts and special walkers. Project coordinators will also initiate monthly memory stimulation classes at nursing and retirement homes through the use of Bi-Folkal kits, also known as reminiscence programming, and will provide book discussion groups at various senior outreach sites. A special web site outlining all of the libraries' programs and services for seniors will also be developed.

"We know that we have been able to bring library services to people who were formerly unserved, and that's just a rewarding experience for any librarian and our resident social worker, Betsy Kirk," said French Johnson.

Copies of the The Third Age Project manual are available from French Johnson at [johnson@iren.net](mailto:johnson@iren.net).

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## State law library hosts CBS news during Iowa caucuses

The photos below were taken at the state law library on Sunday, January 18, before the CBS news show "Face the Nation" with Bob Schieffer. Schieffer interviewed presidential candidate John Edwards. Other CBS news reporters who broadcast from the law library were John Roberts, CBS Evening News, and Harry Smith, The Early Show. Also shown is Chris Wallace from Fox News and local reporters from the CBS affiliate in Des Moines.



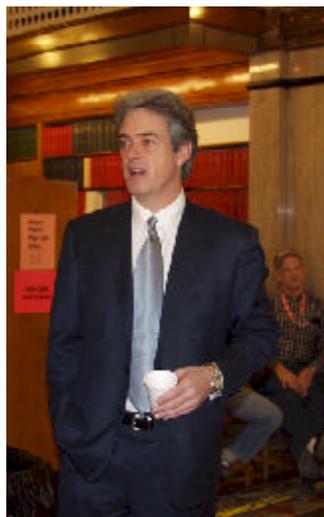
*From left, Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards, Bob Schieffer and Amy Walter from Cook Political Report.*



*Edwards, state law librarian Linda Robertson, KCCI News anchor Kevin Cooney (back) and Schieffer. Schieffer made numerous on-air comments about the 'beautiful' law library.*



*Local KCCI news reporters and anchors, from left, Steve Karlin, Sheila Brummer and Cynthia Fodor were on hand to meet CBS reporters.*



*CBS news anchor and reporter John Roberts*



*Fox news reporter Chris Wallace*