

State Library Update

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- Upcoming **art exhibits** at the State Library
- Display at the Miller Building highlights **state publications**

The State Library again offers its popular series of **classes during National Library Week**, April 11-15. Class topics focus on finding the information you need to do your job well. Each class is 50 to 60 minutes long and is held in the computer lab on the third floor of the Ola Babcock Miller Building in Des Moines.

Classes will teach you how to find statistics, understand the Open Meetings and Open Records Laws, improve your internet searching skills, use databases to find thousands of full-text journal and research articles, find reliable health information on the Web, and more.

Watch for the next *State Library Update* for details on the classes and registration.

The State Library - Law Library, located on the second floor of the state capitol (between the House and Senate chambers) is a **valuable resource for legislative information**.

Confused and overwhelmed trying to wade through legislative data? Contact us for facts about bills, legislators, lobbyists, legislative directories, committees – in short, all things legislative. Law Library staff help hundreds of customers each month find the legislative information that they are looking for. Find many helpful links at the Law Library's Web site www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/law-library.

Call the Law Library at 515-281-5124, 800-248-4483 or e-mail law@lib.state.ia.us for all your legal, legislative and judicial information needs.

The State Library of Iowa is excited to announce the launch of the **new State Data Center website**. The State Data Center was awarded a grant by the IOWAccess revolving fund for the development of an interactive website. IOWAccess works to provide one-stop electronic access to government information and transactions. The new site offers users the ability to choose specific geographies, and to create customized reports to meet their individual needs.

On February 10, the U.S. Census Bureau released population, race and Hispanic or Latino origin, and occupancy data from the 2010 Census. The data is available for all counties, cities, and townships in Iowa and can be accessed on the new website at www.iowadatacenter.org/. Any questions or suggestions on how to improve the site are welcomed. Contact Gary Krob at 515-281-6618, 800-248-4483, or gary.krob@lib.state.ia.us.

The **Ask a Librarian** service presents a seamless interface to state government for Iowa citizens and it can save your agency time in researching questions outside of your scope. Refer customers to the link on the state portal at www.iowa.gov (Live Online Support – upper right-hand corner) or to the State Library's website at www.statelibraryofiowa.org (Ask a Librarian or Live Chat – upper right hand corner).

Don't waste time tracking down information not related to your agency, let the State Library's professional research staff use their knowledge of state government and in-depth resources to assist you in providing the best possible information to your customers. Answering customers' questions is a top priority of the State Library's professional staff and replies are usually within one business day.

If you have questions, please contact Barbara Corson at the State Library at 515-281-4352, 800-248-4483, or barb.corson@lib.state.ia.us.

Waterloo artist Margaret Whiting's artwork will be exhibited in the State Library – Main Library during the month of March. Her art, created with old law books, dictionaries and science books, addresses current environmental issues. For a preview of her unusual and creative art and for more information go to www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/news-publications/art-exhibits/mwexhibit.

The **photographs of state employee, Dana Barrer**, will be on exhibit in the State Library – Main Library during April. Her photos cover a wide variety of themes from

downtown Des Moines to historic Prague. For examples and more information go to www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/news-publications/art-exhibits/dbexhibit.

If you are visiting the Miller building be sure to stop by the new display in the rotunda. It celebrates the wide variety of valuable "Iowa Outdoors" information **published by state agencies**. From water quality and geological studies to water recreation and information about our many state parks, Iowa state agencies produce a rich and diverse body of work to educate and inform.

Other services that the State Library offers:

- It's easy to find out what books, journals, videos, etc, the State Library has by checking our online catalog at <http://catalog.lib.state.ia.us>. For digital state documents go to Iowa Publications Online at <http://publications.iowa.gov>.
- Non-digital materials can be sent to state employees' offices. When you find material that you want in our catalog, simply click on "Request Item" and enter your State Library card number. Be sure to fill in the note field to tell us where to send the material.
- Don't have a State Library card? Go to www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/services/state-library-card to sign up. Anyone who lives in Iowa is eligible for a card.

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