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## Popular yearly event the result of “wonderful cooperative and collaborative relationship”

Once a year, residents of Vinton, IA come together through the efforts of three local libraries to celebrate literacy and share the importance of reading.

“Night of 1000 Stars” is a collaborative literacy program sponsored by the Vinton Public Library, the Vinton-Shellsburg School District and the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. The event, which began in the Vinton area in 1991, takes place each year during National Library Week.

Programs have included a variety of “stars” over the years, always centered around promoting literacy and sharing personal accounts of the importance of reading.

This year’s guest was native American Ralph Moisa from West Des Moines.

“He brought lots of Indian artifacts and talked to the kids about the importance of reading and ecology,” said Virginia Holsten, Vinton Public Library Director.

Moisa also brought a 30 foot tall teepee where he entertained up to 100 children and their parents at a time. Over 300 attended.

“He talked to the groups, showed them a buffalo hide and played songs on his wooden flute,” said Holsten. “Even the parents were in awe.”

The partnership between the three libraries makes for an impressive yearly program. It takes place on the Braille school grounds and is hosted by the school’s librarian, Dotta Hassman. Sandii Huemann-Kelly, library media specialist for the Vinton-Shellsburg School District, is responsible for refreshments and Holsten obtains a book for each child. Several local organizations help with expenses.

“There are many benefits for our students, including another chance for integration with their peers from public schools,” said Hassman. “The community benefit from our perspective is that they have a reason to come to the Braille School.”

Holsten noted that additional advantages for the community are “front stage emphasis on literacy in our schools, libraries and communities.”

“When you look over the crowds and see the ages represented, it is clear that reading is important in this community,” said Holsten.

Everyone benefits when librarians from different agencies work together.

“The librarians of the Vinton-Shellsburg, Iowa Braille and Vinton Public libraries have evolved a wonderful cooperative and collaborative relationship that extends far beyond ‘Stars,’” said Holsten. “We work together and accomplish several common goals: promote positive library public relations, put books into the hands of kids, and raise awareness that reading is important to people.”



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## State Library to change database products

Providing funding for the licensing of electronic databases to help meet the information needs of Iowans is a critically important role for the State Library, and is one of the priorities of the Commission of Libraries (the governing board for the State Library). On April 23, the Commission approved the following changes in the State Library's database program:

1. Because of cuts in the State Library's operating budget, it is no longer possible for the State Library to offer Electric Library to Iowa libraries free of charge. Electric Library will not be available through the State Library after June 30, 2002.
2. Because of cuts in the State Library's operating budget, the SILO FirstSearch Project is being changed. While the State Library will continue to offer searching to all Iowa libraries in the FirstSearch base package databases, it is no longer possible to offer free full-text searching through WilsonSelect after June 30, 2002.
3. A new suite of databases will be available to all Iowa libraries through a contract with EBSCO. Because of the State Library's budget constraints, libraries who wish to participate in this EBSCO project are being asked to contribute a portion of the costs. However, the price structure is designed to make it possible for all libraries to participate.

The prices for the coming year are as follows: For public libraries: \$25.00 base price plus \$.02 per capita. For academic libraries: \$500.00 base price plus \$.25 per student (FTE). Public libraries will be able to use state infrastructure money to participate in this EBSCO project.

The EBSCO project will officially begin on July 1, 2002, but the databases will be made available earlier to Iowa libraries to allow time for training. The databases to be included are listed at the end of this message.

We are very pleased to be able to offer this new database opportunity, and encourage all libraries of all types to participate. We are able to make the price affordable by partnering with the AEAs in a joint purchase of EBSCO products. The EBSCO databases listed below are purchased by the AEAs and made available to Iowa schools. Iowa citizens will now have the benefit of having the same databases available in their schools, their Iowa colleges, and their public libraries. Additional information will be available soon from the State Library and your Library Service Area. If you have questions, please contact Judy Jones at (515) 281-4499, 1-800-248-4483 or email [judy.jones@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:judy.jones@lib.state.ia.us).

### EBSCO Databases:

**MasterFILE Premier:** "Designed specifically for public libraries, MasterFILE Premier contains full text for more than 1900 periodicals covering general reference, business, health, education, general science, multi-cultural issues and much more..."

**Academic Search Elite:** Full text for 1600 scholarly journals

**Business Source Elite:** "Provides full text coverage for 1075 business periodicals ranging from general magazines to trade publications and top management journals..."

**Health Source: Consumer Edition:** "Provides access to more than 200 full text consumer health periodicals..."

**Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition:** "Provides more than 500 scholarly full text journals focusing on many medical disciplines. Coverage of nursing and allied health is particularly strong..."

**Newspaper Source:** "Selected full text coverage for more than 200 newspapers, including cover-to-cover full text for the Los Angeles Times and the Christian Science Monitor.... (does not include the Des Moines Register)"

**MAS Ultra:** Full text for more than 460 popular high school magazines

**Professional Development Collection:** 450 full text education and library science journals

**TOPICsearch:** "This current events database allows researchers to explore social, political and economic issues, scientific discoveries and other popular topics discussed in today's classrooms - it contains full text for over 50,000 articles from more than 3000 diverse sources..."

**ERIC:** The Educational Resource Information Center, an education database

**Middle Search Plus:** "Contains full text for more than 100 popular, middle school magazines" in addition to "reference books and an Image Collection"

**Primary Search:** "Contains full text for more than 50 popular, elementary school magazines"

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## Data to be collected on school library media centers

One of the Iowa Commission of Libraries' priorities is to develop a uniform data collection system for all types of libraries, so outcome-based information can be compared locally, statewide and nationally. A project to collect school library media center statistics will begin this year with the State Library working in partnership with the Area Education Agency media directors. Each school building in Iowa will be asked to submit information about its library and media collections, staff and services. The information can be reported electronically. Data is already available about public and college libraries, so collecting school library information will allow the State Library to present a much more complete picture of library materials and services available in Iowa.

## Governor and First Lady present books to kindergarteners

Through Iowa Stories 2000 every kindergartener in Iowa will receive a copy of the book, *I is for Iowa*, to reward them for their efforts in learning to read and for the pleasure of reading throughout the summer months. First Lady Christie Vilsack is traveling to one elementary school in each of the 15 Area Education Agencies through May to present the book to kindergarten children. All other books will be distributed through the AEAs to every public and non-public kindergarten classroom teacher.

"This is something I've dreamed of for years, presenting every kindergarten child a book that they can take home for the summer and read with their family," said Vilsack.

*I is for Iowa* was written by Mary Ann Geniecke of Cedar Rapids and illustrated by Lonna Nachtigal of Ames. It uses the alphabet to describe Iowa people, places, events, and products. Iowa State Press published the book in a special paperback edition for Iowa Stories 2000 to distribute to the 39,000 kindergarteners across the state.



## Important Dates

May 27 - Memorial Day - State Library closed

May 31 - FirstSearch agreements due at Central Iowa Library Service Area

June 13-19 - American Library Association Conference - Atlanta, GA

June 25 - Iowa Commission of Libraries meeting - Des Moines

June 30 - Year 2 - 2001 Partnership Grants / Grant project completion date

June 30 - Direct State Aid funds expended

June 30 - 2002 LSTA Partnership Grant interim reports due

June 30 - Library Infrastructure funds expended

## More librarians certified

While recently evaluating the Library Services and Technology Act 5-year plan, an interesting statistic emerged. Prior to direct state aid, 63 percent of public library directors participated in the certification program. Today, the rate of participation is 89 percent.

"I don't believe we would have this level of participation if the Library Service Areas had not informed libraries about direct state aid requirements and encouraged them to meet at least Tier 1 requirements," said Sandy Dixon, Consultant, State Library.

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## Fall 2002 Public Library management classes scheduled

The State Library is offering Public Library Management 1 and 2 beginning in September 2002. Registration deadline is July 26, 2002; the fee is \$35 payable on the first day of class. Registration is available online at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/Certification/cecat.htm#September> or by calling Fran Fessler, 515-281-5790; 800-248-4483; [fran.fessler@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:fran.fessler@lib.state.ia.us)

### Public Library Management 1

Date: Fridays, September 6, 13, 20, 27; October 4, 18, 25; November 1, 2002  
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. September 6; 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. on all other days  
Place: Urbandale Public Library on September 6; ICN sites on other dates

Instructor: Deb Tobias, MLS

### Public Library Management 2

Date: Wednesdays, September 4, 11, 18, 25; October 2, 16, 23, 30, 2002  
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. September 4; 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. all other days  
Place: Urbandale Public Library on September 4; ICN sites on other dates

Instructor: Vicki Myron, MLS

## Centennial building in Iowa City under construction

The sounds of saws and hammers will replace the sounds of pages turning in a traditionally quiet library and special collections department, as the State Historical Society of Iowa's Centennial Building in Iowa City undergoes much-needed masonry and structural repair beginning April 15. The project consists primarily of installing isolation and expansion joints throughout the building.

In order to better serve patrons who use the Historical Society's resources, the building's hours will change temporarily to accommodate construction work. The new hours, effective April 30, will be Tuesday through Friday, noon to 7 p.m. The library will be open normal hours on Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and, as usual, the special collections department will be closed on Saturdays. Patrons of the library and special collections should be aware that some research materials might not be accessible during parts of the construction.

The project is scheduled to last six to eight weeks, at which time the library and special collections will resume regular public service hours. Construction is estimated to cost \$150,000 and is being paid for through the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF).

For further information about the construction project, please call 319/335-3916.

## ICPC offers preservation workshop: "SOS - Save Our Stuff!"

The Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium (ICPC) is offering "SOS - Save Our Stuff!" from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. June 7, 2002, at Iowa Wesleyan College, Mt. Pleasant. A tour will be offered from 3:45 to 5 p.m.

Morning sessions will be held at the Social Hall of the Student Union at Iowa Wesleyan College. Dr. Abby Smith will discuss ways in which artifacts and their physical frailties affect their research value over time, and what caretakers can do to preserve them. David McCartney, University Archivist, and Sheila Hanke will follow her presentation with specific case studies in preservation.

Afternoon sessions will be held at the Old Threshers Theatre Museum. Administered by the National Society for the Preservation of Tent, Folk, and Repertoire Theatre in America, it includes items from Chautauqua, showboats, and minstrel shows.

The registration fee is \$35 and includes lunch at Iowa Wesleyan College. A brochure and registration form are available at <http://web.grinnell.edu/individuals/stuhrr/icpc/icpcsos2002.html>. Enclose check or money order payable to ICPC with the registration form and mail to: ICPC Workshop, c/o Amy Groskopf, Davenport Public Library, 321 Main Street, Davenport, IA 52801. To reserve lunch, the registration form must be received by May 31, 2002. For more information, contact: Amy Groskopf at 563-328-6850 or [agroskopf@libby.rbis.lib.il.us](mailto:agroskopf@libby.rbis.lib.il.us)

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Four delegates from Iowa participated in the American Library Association's (ALA) Legislative Day, May 6 and 7 in Washington, DC.

Visiting with Congressman Tom Latham are, from left, Mary Wegner, State Librarian; Dale Ross, Chair, Iowa Commission of Libraries; Gina Millsap, Iowa Library Association (ILA) President; and Michele Leininger, ILA Governmental Affairs committee member. In addition to attending ALA-sponsored meetings, the Iowa delegates visited with Iowa Congressman and Senators.

## Photos from 2002 Hazel Westgate Lecture

Patrick Jones, author of *Connecting Young Adults and Libraries* and *Do It Right: Best Practices for Serving Young Adults in School and Public Libraries* was the guest speaker at this year's 2002 Hazel Westgate Lecture, April 28 in Johnston. Of the 115 librarians who attended the event, many said they were anxious to get back to their libraries and implement some of Jones' ideas.



Jones' entertaining style made for a fun, yet insightful, session on meeting the needs of young people in the library.



Fran Fessler, State Library, and Karen Day, North Central Library Service Area

Jones with Maria Levetzow from the Bettendorf Public Library



Left, State Librarian Mary Wegner welcomes attendees. Right, Deb Greene, Iowa City Public Library, read a tribute to former children's librarian Hazel Westgate.