



FLATHEAD
COUNTY
LIBRARY

News

Newsletter of the Flathead County Library Foundation

Summer 2006

Director's Corner

Spring has sprung in the Flathead! Morels and trillium have popped out in the woods, summer blockbuster movies are starting to appear in theaters, the book publishers have released the "just in time for summer" catalogs, and Flathead County Library, along with Missoula Public, Hearst Free, Drummond, Polson, and Bitterroot Public libraries, have won a Library of the Year award for the Partner Library program.

The Montana Library Association awards Library of the Year to a library that has shown recognizable accomplishments in the past year.

Our award culminates two years of determination, collaboration, and hard work to give residents of our communities the very best in access to library materials.

Partner Libraries have set a bar for resource sharing in the library community and Flathead County Library is proud to have been one of the founding libraries of this program.

Also this year, Partner Libraries pooled resources and purchased over 6,000 electronic books from NetLibrary that are accessible to customers of all 66 libraries in the Montana Shared Catalog.

Springtime also means preparation for the Summer Reading Program. Children and teens will be delighted by the slate of programs scheduled at all branches. Pick up a brochure at your local library for a complete schedule of activities and join in the summer reading fun.

I hope to see you all in the libraries this summer!

Kim Crowley
kcrowley@co.flathead.mt.us



Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales is the theme of the Flathead County Library's Summer Reading Program, which starts June 12.

Summer reading program starts in June

"Paws, Claws, Scales & Tails" is the theme for the Flathead County Library's 2006 Summer Reading Program, designed to encourage young people to enjoy books all summer long.

Children from infants through sixth grade may register at any Flathead County Library branch, beginning June 12. The program concludes on Aug. 25.

Children will receive a reading log to record time spent reading or listening to books.

Library branches will offer a variety of programs all summer, focusing on wild and domestic critters. Brochures listing schedules of programs are

available at all library branches.

In Kalispell, special summer reading times are scheduled every Thursday at 1 p.m., while the summer reading programs in other branches will be incorporated into the regular storytimes, 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays in Columbia Falls and 1 p.m. Thursdays in Whitefish.

In Columbia Falls, a Summer Reading Program kick-off party is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on June 14. The program will include registration, games, treats and more.

Special programs throughout the summer will feature information about

Continued on Page 3



Magi Malone was hired in January as Technology Training and Adult Services Librarian for the Flathead County Library System.

Malone loves the variety of her job

Magi Malone took a pay cut when she went to work for the Flathead County Library System, but she said she received a 100 percent increase in job satisfaction in exchange.

Malone started work in January as Technology Training and Adult Services Librarian, and enjoys the variety of her job. She teaches computer classes to the public, helps out at the reference desk and coordinates the e-rate program, which allows libraries to apply for discounts on telecommunications services. Later this year, she'll begin technology training for library staff members.

"I enjoy the variety of duties, questions and people," she said. "Every day is different."

Malone, who grew up in New York, has been a professional librarian since 1989, when she received her master's

degree in library science from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. She worked in Helena, Great Falls and Billings before moving to the Flathead Valley in 2002. She served as librarian for Glacier National Park for 3 1/2 years before taking her current job.

She "absolutely" loves her job, and has particularly enjoyed teaming up with Brett Fisher to teach basic computer skills to the public.

"I think it's been very successful," she said. "People have been very appreciative of the computer training services—and they're a lot of fun to teach."

Apart from her job, Malone enjoys boating, sea kayaking, gardening and reading.

"I'm trying to become a more avid reader," she said.

Flathead County Library System

Library Foundation Board of Directors

Greg Foley, Kalispell
President

Dorothy Laird, Whitefish
Vice-President

Kim Crowley, Library Director
Corporate Secretary

Helen Hindersman, Whitefish
Recording Secretary

Laura Long, Columbia Falls
Treasurer

Roy Beekman, Kalispell

Barbara Boorman, Kalispell

Stephanie Christensen, Kalispell

Robert Lopp, Kalispell

Library Board Liaison

Mary Sullivan, Bigfork

Library System

Board of Trustees

Laura Long, Columbia Falls

Chairperson

Robert Lopp, Kalispell

Vice Chairperson

Jerry Hanson, County at Large

Marge Fisher, Whitefish

Dave Hilde, Bigfork

Flathead County Commissioners

Joe Brenneman

Gary Hall

Robert W. Watne

Newsletter editor

Mary Pat Murphy

Pea Green Boat sails in Kalispell

The Montana Public Radio's Pea Green Boat children's program came to Kalispell on June 1, and listener response was enthusiastic.

Space quickly filled up for the live taping of the program, so a second show was taped for later airing.

The Pea Green Boat is a popular show for children of all ages, with

stories, songs, poetry and special guests. The skipper of the Pea Green Boat (the title is taken from lines in the Edward Lear poem "The Owl and the Pussycat") is Annie Garde.

After the one-hour taping, Garde moved upstairs to the Children's Area to meet and talk with the children who are fans of the program.

Library card is ticket to reading books on-line

More than 9,000 e-books can be searched in the Library Catalog using the keyword Netlibrary. The search can be combined with a favorite topic such as computers or gardening to find many titles to read on line for free.

Selections include fiction and a variety of non-fiction topics.

Free registration available through the Netlibrary.com web site allows users to check out books on line from any computer with internet access.

E-books were purchased by the Montana Partner Libraries for the Montana Shared Catalog.

A good book is just a few clicks of your mouse away, so check out e-books, sit back and read your favorites on-line.

Food for Fines helps food banks

Nearly 2,000 pounds of food was collected for local food banks during National Library Week. Food was collected at all library branches.

Library customers were forgiven \$1 in fines for overdue books for each food item brought into their local library during the week.

Summer Reading Program

Continued from Page 1

all kinds of critters, ranging from hummingbirds to wolves. Programs are scheduled on exotic pets, companion animals, Karelian bear dogs, bats, snakes raptors and owls and numerous other topics.

Special guests will talk about their areas of expertise at many of the programs.

On July 15, the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company will perform "The Hobbit" at the KM Building Theater. Tickets will be required for this program, which will start at 11 a.m.

Prizes will be awarded throughout the summer for five hours spent reading or listening to a book. Everyone may earn two reading prizes,



Magi Malone, left, and Brett Fisher, standing, teach an internet computer class at the Whitefish branch library.

Library offers computer classes to public

Library customers can learn computer basics at free classes being offered at all branch libraries.

Since the classes started in April, about 75 people have participated in one or more of the classes. Topics covered include computer comfort classes highlighting Microsoft, Useful, Introduction to the Internet, the Library 24/7 and Easy e-mail. In addition to the regular schedule of classes in June, two more topics have been added.

A class on using digital cameras is

and winners may enter to win one of two grand prizes. The first grand prize will be drawn on July 22 and the second grand prize will be drawn on Aug. 25.

The Library appreciates the many local businesses and organizations that donated time, products or funds to make this year's program a success. Special thanks to Friends of The Library, the Columbia Falls Library Association and the Whitefish Library Association for their support.

The summer reading program winds up with special end-of-summer celebrations Aug. 23 in Columbia Falls and Kalispell and Aug. 24 in Whitefish.

For more information on the summer reading program, contact your local library.

planned for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 29 and a general computer question and answer session will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 2.

The fall schedule for computer classes will be available on-line at the library's web site: www.flatheadcountylibrary.org.

For more information, or to register for a class, call Brett Fisher at 758-5814.

Creature Feature is theme of teen reading program

"Creature Feature" is a summer reading program for county teens, grades 7-12. Teens are asked to keep track of the time they spend reading and report their reading at the library to earn prizes.

Prizes include paperback books and coupons to local restaurants. Teens may choose what they want to read. Comic books, magazines, newspapers and listening to audio books all count toward time spent reading.

The program begins June 12, 2006. For more information, contact Katie Boyes, Public Services Librarian, at 758-5713 or kboyes@co.flathead.mt.us.

See you at the library!



Flathead County Library
247 First Avenue East
Kalispell, MT 59901-4598
(406) 758-5820

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kalispell, MT
Permit
No. 134

Bigfork • Columbia Falls • Kalispell • Marion • Whitefish

Friends group benefits library

The Friends of the Library contributed \$1,200 to make it possible for 13 Library staff members to attend the Montana Library Association Conference in May.

The Friends also increased their annual contribution to the Summer Reading Program to purchase children's books for reading incentives.

The group supports the Library in various ways, with a special emphasis on young people.

New members are always welcome. The group meets at noon the third Thursday of the month in the downstairs meeting room of the Kalispell Library. For more information, call 257-3988.

Friends officers are Erica Wirtala, president; Linda Stevens, vice-president; Clare Hafferman, secretary, and Mary Westphal, treasurer.



Flathead County Library staff members accept the Library of the Year award at the Montana Library Association conference in Missoula. From left are Patty Jones, Julie Morotz, Kim Crowley, Jane Wilkinson, Sidney Johnson and Marilyn Campbell. Flathead County Library is one of the partner libraries that received the annual award.