NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

by State Library Staff

STATE LIBRARY EXPANDING THURSDAY HOURS

To better serve our patrons, the State Library will now be open on Thursday evenings until 7:00 p.m. Updated hours of operation are Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The State Library has added to the hours that we are open so that more people may be able to use our resources.

FAMILY HISTORY ORIENTATION TOUR

Are your patrons looking to learn more about their family history? The State Library holds bi-monthly Family History Orientation Tours. The next three tours scheduled are December 8, December 20, and January 5. Tours commence at 9:30 a.m. and end at 11 a.m. and begin in the Genealogy Reading Room. Pre-registration is required for all family history tours. To pre-register call (317) 232-3689 or e-mail tours@statelib.lib.in.us

INDIANAPOLIS NEWSPAPERS TO BE STORED AT STATE LIBRARY

The Indiana State Library, in collaboration with Indiana University Libraries, the Indiana Commission on Public Records, and the Indianapolis Star, is poised to save thousands of historic issues of two Indiana newspapers. Issues of the Indianapolis News dating back to 1869 and the Indianapolis Star back to 1903 are on their way to new homes.

Space considerations at the newspapers’ current location, the Indiana Commission on Public Records, prompted the move. As owner of these original issues, the Indiana State Library will provide long-term storage and maintenance of Indianapolis Star issues. The State Library will give the original issues of the Indianapolis News to Indiana University Libraries in honor of the contributions of IU’s departing dean of libraries Suzanne Thorin. IU Libraries will house the newspapers in their climate-controlled Ruth Lilly Auxiliary Library Facility in Bloomington.

STATE LIBRARY SYNERGY AWARD PRESENTATION

State Librarian Barbara Maxwell presented the Library’s Synergy Award to Dr. Alan January at the Indiana Library and Historical Board meeting on October 14, 2005. Dr. January, Program Director for Archives, received the award for his collaboration with the Indiana State Library to save the Indianapolis Star and Indianapolis News collection from possible destruction. He alerted Ms. Maxwell that the newspapers, which had originally been a part of the Library’s collection, were at risk. The News is housed at the Indiana University Library in Bloomington and the Star is at the State Library.

WORLDCAT

WorldCat has been added to two websites and is available to everyone. Search the holdings of thousands of library collections with the WorldCat database. WorldCat is now available on the INSPIRE web page at: http://www.inspire.net and Access Indiana web page at: http://www.in.gov/

Old Exterior of Indiana State Library
NANCY PEARL SPEAKS AT STATE LIBRARY

How many librarians have been the model for an action figure? Only one-Nancy Pearl, retired librarian, author, and commentator on National Public Radio. As the Director of the Center for the Book at the Seattle Public Library, Nancy Pearl introduced the “One Book, One City” campaign that encouraged patrons in the community to read and discuss the same book. Ms. Pearl spoke at the State Library in October to a gathering sponsored by the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, the Indiana University School of Library and Information Science-Indianapolis, and the State Library. “We are given one life to live, but it’s through books and reading that you can become anyone,” Ms. Pearl stated. The author of Book Lust and More Book Lust lists thousands of her all-time favorite books and states why they are worth reading. One peril of reading so much, however, is that you’re never quite sure whether your memories are your own or something you read. As Ms. Pearl recounted a story of her junior prom to her daughter, her daughter sighed and said, “Mom, that’s what happened to Penny in Double Date by Rosamond du Jardin.” Ms. Pearl is no longer sure she even attended her junior prom!

BOOKMARKS TO THE RESCUE!

Does anything make a librarian’s blood boil faster than a patron turning down the corner of a book to mark his or her place? Page corners need not suffer when a bookmark will do nicely.

In a collaborative effort to promote literacy entitled “Drawn to Reading,” students from Sutton Elementary School in Muncie created artwork and Ball State students digitized it to create wonderful bookmarks.

These bookmarks received an Innovation in Higher Education award from the Electronic Document Systems Foundation (EDSF). This award is presented annually to a degree-granting institution whose program is dedicated to the advancement of document communication and graphic media through education. “I am honored EDSF has recognized ‘Drawn to Reading’ with this award,” said Hans Kellogg, Ball State professor and project coordinator. “EDSF’s support has encouraged me to investigate expanding this program so others may benefit from its many goals. Everyone benefits when children are ‘Drawn to Reading!’” Encourage everyone at your library to read by handing out these multi-colored bookmarks that are distributed by the State Library. Contact Terry Black (tblack@statelib.lib.in.us) for more information.

READING THE NEWS WITH A TOUCH-TONE PHONE

Indiana is fortunate to have two services which make it possible for print-impaired persons to read newspapers by using a standard touch-tone telephone.

In early October, the National Federation of the Blind partnered with the Indiana Talking Book and Braille Library (ITBL) of the Indiana State Library to introduce NFB-NEWSLINE to the state’s print-impaired population. NFB-NEWSLINE converts the entire contents of more than 200 newspapers to synthetic speech which readers can access at any time. The growing list of available publications includes USA Today, the Christian Science Monitor, the Wall Street Journal, and other major newspapers from around the country.

Persons eligible for NFB-NEWSLINE may also call the Nina Mason Pulliam Dial-up Service and listen to selected sections of eighteen local newspapers. The news is read by volunteers using a phone voice message system. Newspapers from Bloomington, Madison, South Bend, and Indianapolis are among the eighteen selections.

Both NFB-NEWSLINE and the Pulliam Dial-up Service require user registration. Patrons of the Indiana Talking Book and Braille Library are automatically eligible for the Pulliam Dial-up Service. For more information, contact ITBL by phone at (317) 232-3684 or (800) 622-4970 or by e-mail at lbph@statelib.lib.in.us.

INDIANA LIBRARIES TURN BACK THE TIDE

Indiana libraries are assisting their southern counterparts devastated by the recent hurricanes. Computers, printers, books, and videos are just a few of the items that have been donated. Barbara Maxwell, State Librarian, applauds these efforts and has generously offered to visit the devastated sites to offer personal assistance. The Dayton Freight Company has

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volunteered to transport a full 53-foot trailer free-of-charge. The Indiana State Library welcomes additional donations and would like to extend our warmest appreciation for all those libraries that have contributed so far. Together, Hoosier libraries can turn the tide to help restore these collections to their original condition.

Libraries wishing to donate materials should contact Ron Rose by phone at (317) 232-3701 or by e-mail at rrose@statelib.lib.in.us.

DARROLL PIERSON TAPPED TO HEAD THE STATE LIBRARY’S INDIANA DIVISION

Longtime librarian Darroll Pierson has been promoted to the position of Indiana Division head. Darroll’s tireless dedication and years of service to the Indiana State Library made him the logical choice to fill the vacancy. He started working at the State Library in 1987. In 1995 he was promoted to the position of Librarian.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY NAMES NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

We are pleased to announce that Debbi Barnhart has accepted the third Associate Director position as the chief financial officer (CFO) at the Indiana State Library. Debbi’s 30-year background in state government and her two years here at the Indiana State Library has provided her with the skills to be the new CFO. As CFO, Debbi will be in charge of the business office, the Management Information Systems (MIS) staff, and the Library Development Office (LDO).

NEW LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE STAFF MEMBER

Indiana Division librarian Jacob Speer has been promoted to the position of Library Development Office (LDO) Supervisor. The LDO supports the improvement and development of library services to all Indiana citizens. As head of the LDO, Jake will supervise a staff that includes specialists in library finance, planning, evaluations, and services to special populations. He obtained his Master in Library Science from Indiana University and a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Iowa.