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## ILEAD USA: Learn new technology skills and meet your community's needs

The Institute of Museum and Library Services granted the Illinois State Library \$470,000 to carry out the ILEAD USA project with four partner library agencies in Iowa, Colorado, Utah and Ohio. In Iowa, the program will bring together five groups of five librarians who will gather for three in-person sessions March 25-28, June 17-20 and October 21-24, 2013 to hear from technology experts and work on their projects. It is suggested that librarians form their own groups before applying for the grant since each group will develop a distinct project.

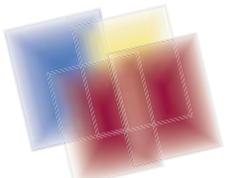
According to Alysia Peich, consultant, Iowa Library Services Des Moines Office, the ILEAD USA project will help librarians develop new technology skills by meeting a specific community need. Participants will be supported by mentors and teachers. In between the in-person sessions, virtual meetings (webinars) and other activities will allow participants to hone their newly acquired skills, experiment with participatory technology tools, and communicate with the ILEAD USA network of participants.

Said Peich, "I am excited about this initiative because I saw firsthand what a difference the program made in the Illinois library community, and I can't wait to see what Iowa librarians will be able to achieve with it."

"One group in Illinois worked on a mobile application to connect their teens to programs at area libraries. Another worked to encourage reading among youth of the community with book discussions, author visits, and more. And a third team worked on digitizing local history information, with the community's help," said Peich.

Library staff from all types of libraries - public, school, academic and special - are invited to apply when applications become available in October. For more information, plan to attend an online information webinar on November 1, 2012. (The time is yet to be determined.)

Additional information will be available at the Iowa Library Services booth at the Iowa Library Association Conference. This program is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by Iowa Library Services.



## Hindman and Ledford join Iowa Commission of Libraries

On August 25, Deb Hindman attended her first meeting as a member of the Iowa Commission of Libraries. She fills the position designated by the director of the Department of Education (DE). Hindman has been a K-12 Literacy Consultant for DE since January 2005.

Hindman's responsibilities include creating and delivering professional development materials to assist with the implementation of the Iowa Core Network; facilitating the Teacher-Library Leadership Team, which consists of AEA Media Specialists, Urban 8 Teacher Librarian Leaders and representation from the Regents Institutions. Other duties include oversight of the K-3 Innovative Grant for At-Risk Students and co-facilitating the Literacy Leadership Team.

Hindman also organizes an Adolescent Literacy Research and Development Team which designs and delivers professional development materials for AEA consultants to use with school districts, and also develops materials for Every Child Reads K-3.

Prior to coming to the Iowa Department of Education, Hindman worked at AEA 13 as a reading consultant for five years. She also taught at elementary and middle schools for 21 years.



*Deb Hindman*



*Brandie Ledford*

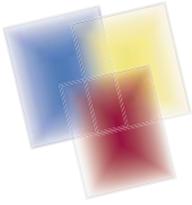
Brandie Ledford, director of the Sac City Public Library, has been named a member of the Iowa Commission of Libraries.

Ledford has been director of the library since 2008. She received her undergraduate degree from Eastern Illinois University and her masters degree in Adult and Continuing Education from Western Washington University. Ledford grew up in southern Illinois and has also lived in Texas, Washington and Tennessee.

Ledford serves on the Sac City Arts Council and is a board member of Kids World, the local day care center in Sac City (pop. 2,220).

Said Ledford, "I am so honored to be appointed by Governor Branstad to the Iowa Commission of Libraries. I hope that through my service on the commission I can help support the Iowa library community by representing small public libraries and the staff at Iowa Library Services who continue to teach me so much about providing excellent service to my community."





## Notes from State Librarian Mary Wegner

We are happy to welcome two new members to the Commission of Libraries, which is the governing board of Iowa Library Services. Deb Hindman comes to us from the Iowa Department of Education, replacing Kevin Fangman. Deb has worked with school libraries and is knowledgeable and appreciative of the important work done by Iowa's teacher librarians. Brandie Ledford, director of the Sac City Public Library, joins us as the first Commissioner to specifically represent public libraries. As director of the library in a town of 2,220, Brandie will be an excellent spokesperson for small libraries. I look forward to working with Deb and Brandie.

Please be sure to stop by and say hello to us at the Iowa Library Services booth at the Iowa Library Association conference!



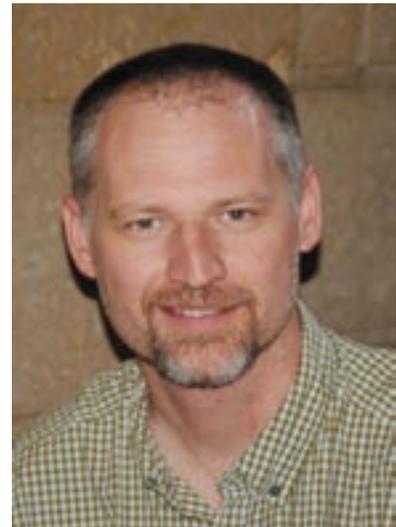
## Balmer hired as SILO systems analyst

Iowa Library Services staff welcomed Jerry Balmer to the SILO program on July 9.

As a systems analyst, he is responsible for developing and maintaining SILO's web hosting services. His initial assignment is focused on upgrading PLOW to the latest version of the Plone content management system.

Previously Balmer was the technology buyer for the Iowa State University Bookstore. He has more than five years of web development experience in the agriculture and auto racing industries, and said he is excited to get back into programming.

Balmer has degrees in Management Information Systems and Finance from Iowa State University.



*Jerry Balmer*

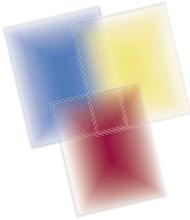
## Certification Update

Congratulations to the following public library staff certified for the first time through the [Iowa Library Services' Certification Program for Public Librarians](#).

Maggi Abernathy - Scranton  
Joleen Allen - Paton  
Christopher Brown - Pella  
Debra Caudle - Ellsworth  
Lori Davis - Melcher-Dallas  
Robert Fiedler III - Muscatine  
Shelly Gerard - Millersburg  
Carina Gorgo - Le Claire  
Phyllis Gorsch - Millersburg

Christine Guthmiller - Kanawha  
Laura Hoover - Swisher  
Barb Klapperich - Stacyville  
Molly Mauer - Grundy Center  
Lany Mitchell - Wesley  
Aileen Roberts - Rippey  
Kim Schwartz - Agency  
Kim Ungs - Hopkinton





## Librarians join Governor's STEM hubs in Iowa

In May 2012, Governor Terry Branstad, Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds and University of Northern Iowa President Ben Allen announced the selection of network hubs that will promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

It was the first major initiative of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, a public-private partnership whose overarching goal is creating greater student achievement in STEM subjects and a stronger STEM workforce. Each STEM network hub will work with businesses, education institutions, nonprofit groups, libraries and others in their region in a way that best fits local needs, interests and resources. Several librarians applied for and were given seats on the councils.

- Deb Robertson, Director, Briar Cliff College Library  
Northwest hub - Iowa Lakes Community College
- Cheryl Carruthers, Librarian, Area Education Agency 267
- Sarah Rosenblum, Director, Marshalltown Public Library  
North central hub - Iowa State University
- Kathi Most, Director, Red Oak Public Library  
Southwest hub - Southwestern Community College
- Deborah Stanton, Director, Washington Free Public Library  
Southeast hub - University of Iowa & Kirkwood Community College
- Rodney Henshaw, Director, Drake University Library, Des Moines  
South central hub - Drake University

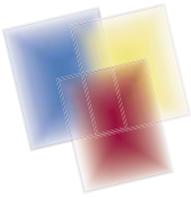
According to a statement from the Governor's office, "A top priority of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council is to help improve learner interest and achievement in STEM areas. To help meet this goal, 12 STEM programs were selected through a competitive process to be "scaled-up," getting great programs into the hands of educators and learners across Iowa."

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. A World in Motion                      | 8. Project HOPE (Healthcare, Occupations, Preparation and Exploration)        |
| 2. Fabulous Resources in Energy Education | 9. The CASE for Agriculture Education in Iowa                                 |
| 3. First LEGO League                      | 10. State Science + Technology Fair of Iowa                                   |
| 4. FIRST Tech Challenge                   | 11. Partnership for Engineering and Educational Resources for Schools (PEERS) |
| 5. HyperStream                            | 12. Corridor STEM Initiative (CSI)  |
| 6. iExploreSTEM                           |   |
| 7. KidWind                                |   |

Deborah Stanton, Washington Free Public Library Director, said "STEM programs are no longer just the purview of our schools and higher education facilities. The southeast STEM district's Scale Up Program grant is for all people working with Iowa youth. Although we were very pleased with the number of applicants for this first round of program grants, I personally would love to see more public libraries that are passionate about science, technology, engineering, and math apply."

For more information, visit [www.iowaSTEM.gov](http://www.iowaSTEM.gov).





## Keyser attends digital preservation training

Tom Keyser, a librarian and archivist in the Specialized Library Services unit of Iowa Library Services, recently completed the Digital Preservation Outreach and Education (DPOE) program's Train-the-Trainer Workshop.

Twenty-one library, archive and museum professionals from 13 Midwest states joined the DPOE's second Trainer Network in Indianapolis, bringing the total number of DPOE trainers to 45.

Since 2011, DPOE trainers have delivered digital preservation training to more than 900 professionals in less than a year.

Noted Keyser, "I hope to be able to present A to Z workshops on digital preservation and tailored smaller workshops about portions of digital preservation to groups that may only need to fill in the gaps or strengthen parts of their digital preservation programs." Keyser said he plans to teach his first class later this year. He received a congratulatory letter from Iowa Senator Tom Harkin which said, "I hope that you had a great experience with the program, and I wish you the best of luck as you continue your training in this field. I admire your hard work in learning these new skills and passing them on to your community."

DPOE Trainers contribute to the Library of Congress's efforts to deliver digital preservation knowledge and practices to local organizations. According to George Coulbourne, Executive Program Officer in the Office of Strategic Initiatives and an instructor at the workshop, "Digital preservation training needs to be accessible not only to large institutions but to smaller organizations such as museums and historical societies in small towns, and to individual citizens."

The workshop was made possible through a partnership with the Indiana State Archives and Indiana State Library with funding from the Institute for Museum and Library Services.



*Tom Keyser, third row, second from right, at the train-the-trainer DPOE workshops*

## Plan now to visit the big WOW! events in October



The Downtown Community Alliance and Des Moines Public Library, in cooperation with other organizations including the Iowa Center for the Book (ICB), a unit of Iowa Library Services, are excited to announce a new series of events in Greater Des Moines called the WOW! (Wonder of Words) Festival.

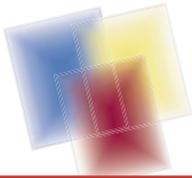
A variety of WOW! Festival events - both entertaining and educational - will be held Oct. 17 – 29 in various locations throughout the city. The activities are meant to feed the brain and the soul through the celebration of the written word, according to festival organizers.

The WOW! Festival connects readers, writers and other literary artists during a series of events to celebrate reading and inspire lifelong learning throughout the community. Just as the Des Moines Arts Festival showcases the visual arts and the World Food Festival features culinary traditions from around the globe, the Downtown Community Alliance says it's time for Des Moines to embrace its deep publishing traditions with a festival designed for readers of every kind. [Click here](#) to see a schedule of WOW! events.

Well known authors will take part in the [Iowa Authors Fair](#), which Robin Martin, ICB Coordinator, has played a big part in organizing. Listen to writers discuss their works. Bring the entire family to a multimedia presentation about a famous Iowa heroine. Or hear first hand from a best-selling mystery writer whose books have become award-winning movies.

On October 23, fifth graders from select Des Moines public schools will experience the entire process of producing a book at the second annual Hands on Book Festival, sponsored by the ICB and the Des Moines Rotary Club. Students will learn to make paper and ink from University of Iowa students of MacArthur Fellow Timothy Barrett. They will also interact with best-selling children's author Sarah Prineas and award-winning illustrator Claudia McGehee. Attendees will enjoy exploring the Central Library as they learn all about the history of books and book

*Cont. on Pg. 7*



*Cont. from Pg. 6*

publishing.

Author Sarah Prineas writes fantasy novels for children, including: *The Magic Thief*, *The Magic Thief: Lost*, *The Magic Thief: Found*, and *Winterling*. Her fifth book, *The Summerkin*, will be published by HarperCollins in 2013.

Illustrator Claudia McGehee of Iowa City is the author of *A Tallgrass Prairie Alphabet* which was named a Midwest Favorite by the Upper Midwest Booksellers Association. She has been a professional illustrator, working mainly in scratchboard, for many years.

## Libraries share their RAGBRAI stories

“We had a great RAGBRAI day” - Webster City

As in other years, libraries were busy as throngs of bicyclists stopped in during this year’s Register’s Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI).

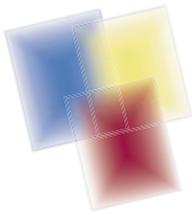
**Kendall Young Library (Webster City) Director Angie Martin-Schwarze** said “It was so much fun to welcome people from all over the country and to share our beautiful library with them. For much of the day, we had a greeter at the door welcoming people, directing them to bathrooms, refreshments, magazines, computers, etc. Our door counter showed 689 people for the day; 400 more than usual. Many expressed appreciation for our friendly staff and beautiful library. It was a boost to our morale and a lot of fun.” *(Photo on right - Kendall Young Library)*



**Judy Grienke-Miller, Cherokee Public Library**, said she found several people stretched out on the floor napping in less traveled areas and remote corners of the library. “We’re not normally open Sundays, but many were thankful we were. They used the Internet computers, wifi, and found places to sit, relax and rest. Everyone appreciated the air conditioning. Some read a book or magazine and a few looked up local history and pictures.”

**Virginia Holsten, Vinton Public Library Director**, said she heard the question asked most often by people riding into town is “Where’s the library?”

“We had over 225 people in during the day - not a problem in the bunch,” said Holsten. “All were very appreciative, and let’s face it, fun to visit with. A gentleman from Spokane told me he had done a lot of traveling, and while some countries may have better health care, or public transportation, no one has better libraries than the USA.”

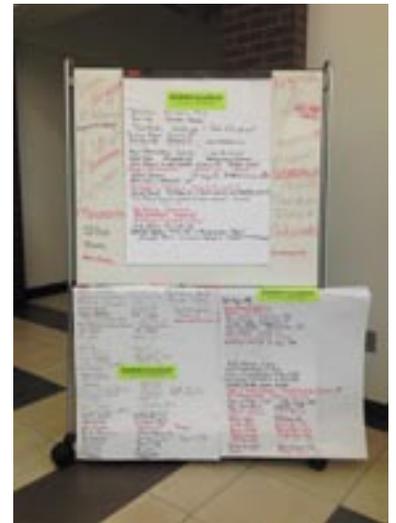


## More RAGBRAI stories



**Marshalltown Public Library** Director Sarah Rosenblum said the library hosted more than 150 RAGBRAI visitors from over 20 states and four foreign countries. "We asked folks to sign a big guest book in the lobby and issued over 100 guest passes for our public computers. We were visited by a librarian and library trustee from California. At one point, visitors were treated to an

impromptu piano concert by another rider. Everybody was friendly and very grateful for the opportunity to get out of the heat and visit our great library. In all, it was a great day at the Marshalltown Public Library." *Photos from Marshalltown Public Library.*



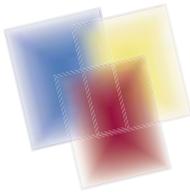
About 100 riders an hour came through the library in **Lost Nation** (pop. 467). According to **library director Janene Shannon**, people used the restrooms, computer and wifi. "I have only good things to say about my visitors," said Shannon. "They were respectful, clean, quiet and orderly. What more could I ask for?" Donations were given without a designated can and the best comment Shannon said she received was 'I need to go home and support my library.'"



**Steve Wendl, Anamosa Library and Learning Center**, wrote to say staff worried about the stability of their wifi in the library knowing it would be strained to the max that day. Said Wendl, "A lady who was using RAGBRAI as a working vacation came in and was attempting to use the Internet. After awhile she came up to the desk and, in exasperation, asked if there was anywhere outside of Anamosa she could go to get reliable Internet access. We asked why and she said she kept getting disconnected. We asked her to hang on and give us a chance to fiddle with our wifi router. After rebooting it, the wifi was restored and she happily returned to her table and spent the next

couple of hours working without interruption. As she left she made a point to thank us for 'going the extra mile' to help her out. She gave us a fist bump as she left, and we had made a new friend."

*Photo - Anamosa library*



## A couple more RAGBRAI stories

“We had a lot of fun the day RAGBRAI passed through **Roland**,” said library director **Laura Urbanek**. “The riders were hot and tired, and stopped in our library to



*Photos from Roland*

rest, enjoy some air conditioning, fill their water bottles, and say ‘hello’ to Butterscotch, our Guinea pig mascot, or our Duck on a Bike. To help welcome them to the community, some of our teens painted

bikes which were displayed in raised flowerbeds along Main Street. We’re not sure who had their picture taken more that day...Butterscotch or the duck. One of our riders decided to perform an impromptu reading of Dr. Seuss’s *Oh, the Places You’ll Go!* As you can see, he cleared the crowd!”



Director **Mary Jo Ruppert**, **Cherokee Public Library**, said they had lots of people looking for a cool, quiet place. “Many slept in chairs, on couches and on the floor,” said Ruppert.



*Cherokee Public Library*

## News from around the state

Looking for program ideas for Halloween? Be sure to take a look at the new “Program Ideas” page on the [Iowa Library Services website](#). The purpose of this page is to gather ideas that have mass appeal for librarians looking for new programs ideas. Please take a look and if you have a program you would like to share, contact [Annette Wetteland](#), Iowa Library Services.

[Click here for an example](#) of what you’ll find. It’s a great program idea - Couch-to-5K - that **Tena Hanson**, director, **Estherville Public Library** and staff came up with this summer. It was featured in a recent issue of the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) newsletter.

**Christopher Cox** recently became dean of library services at the University of Northern Iowa. He replaced Kate Martin, the acting dean. Cox said his main roles are to work collaboratively with library faculty and staff and the campus, to chart a course for the library, to be the face of the library where outreach is concerned and to garner the financial resources needed to allow the library to provide the information resources and services that users expect - when and where they need them. Before coming to UNI, Cox was interim director of libraries at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and most recently served as dean of libraries at Western Washington University.



**Lamoni Library Director Rebecca Ramsey** thanks Lamoni HyVee manager Doug Rouse for the store's donation in August of 295 books, valued at \$960. Ramsey said library staff are currently sorting through the books: Some will go to the collection, while others will be saved for prizes in next year's Summer Library Program.

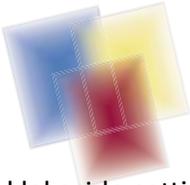
"I was flabbergasted when Doug offered to give us this entire shipment of books," said Ramsey. "It's a very generous donation and our patrons are going to love them."

### Librarians honored

Several librarians were honored for their years of service as library employees. **Shirley Vonderhaar**, James Kennedy Library, Dyersville, recently celebrated with a party for her 25 years as library director. An open house honoring **Sharon Rhinehart's** 18 years as children's librarian at the Vinton Public Library was held on July 31st. Another open house was held on August 1 for **Director Judy Grimes** to celebrate her 12 years of service at the Woodward Public Library.

**Lola DeWall, Pocahontas Public Library**, was extremely excited about the success of this year's Summer Library Program.

"We had a record number sign up for this year's Summer Library Program. We had 205 children and teens register. 118 completed the entire program and 43 attempted to read and complete logs. We also had several who signed up just to attend the programs. This was a very busy and fun summer. We had 169 kids and adults attend the Blank Park Zoo program. On average, for our different age group story hours - three a week - we had 40 to 50 attend each one. Basically our summer was busy preparing and checking out books. We thought it was fantastic for a town with a population of 1,789," said DeWall.



A beautiful lakeside setting was the site for **Clear Lake Public Library's** 25th Annual Iowa Storytelling Festival held July 26 and 27. There was also storytelling in Clear Lake City Park.

The 2013 festival kicked off on Friday at 9 p.m. with the "Ghost Boat." Featured performers shared eerie stories on the cruise of the Lady of the Lake paddlewheel boat. The following day featured performers told "Stories for Kids of All Ages" and "Teller's Favorites."

The Iowa Storytelling Festival is part of the Lakefest arts celebration that also includes the Art Sail of fine arts and crafts, and the Lakeside DixieFest musical event. The Iowa Storytelling Festival is funded by the Clear Lake Public Library Foundation with assistance from the Friends of the Clear Lake Public Library.



*Children take part in a storytelling event in Clear Lake*



**The Knoxville Public Library** celebrated its 100th anniversary on July 12. State Librarian Mary Wegner was a featured speaker. During the ceremony, members of the library talked about its history, as well as its future plans for a major building project.

From left, Wegner cuts a cake. Next to her is Bob Leonard, library trustee; Roslin Thompson, library director; and Dave Garcia, library board president.

The **Kothe Memorial Library, Parkersburg**, held an open house on August 18 to celebrate the new addition/remodel of its building, which according to director Marty Stahl is "beautiful." "The public outpouring of support has been inspirational," said Stahl.

August 18th was also a big day for the community of **Sloan** as it celebrated the grand opening of a new library facility. Several successful grants, countless fundraisers and hundreds of generous donations all culminated in a new library building which was formerly a doctor's office. Congratulations go to library director Mary Parker, Tami Coil, and the Sloan library board.

Congratulations to Susie Campbell and staff as they moved into the new **Lewis Public Library**. Campbell said they had lots of help from school kids and their wagons with the move.

**Gayle Trede**, who plans to retire October 31, has worked at the Mount Pleasant Public Library as director since 1984. Said Trede, "During the years we have expanded our collection, our services and our library. There is nothing like watching a little one discover books and reading or helping people find answers to their questions, which have ranged from 'who is the author who wrote the books about a woman archeologist in the 19th century' to 'how do you repair a spinning wheel.'"

Trede said she will miss helping the people of Mount Pleasant and Henry County, and her fellow librarians. "It's been one of the best jobs in the world."