

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

7/31/2009

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REP MARK NEUMAN VISITS BIG LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY

We like hearing stories about legislators visiting libraries in their district and this week we have the following report from Big Lake librarian Jo Cassidy:

On Thursday, July 23, 2009 the Big Lake Public Library held their Summer Reading Program Wrap-up party. We had 331 kids participate this year. We held our annual community barbecue / potluck that evening. Over 300 people enjoyed the live music by Steelhead and great food.

Representative Mark Neuman attended and presented the Big Lake Library Advocates with thirty (30) Alaska Statehood medallions. These medallions were commissioned by the Alaska Statehood Commission, of which Neuman is a member, to raise funds for events celebrating Alaska's 50th Anniversary of statehood. "In this instance we are raising the understanding of our youth in the valley about Alaska by adding books on the state to the shelves here in Big Lake," Neuman said.

The Big Lake Library Advocates has an on-going silent auction, starting bid is \$30. The medallions are valued at \$50. Anyone can purchase these medallions for \$50 each by calling the library at 892-6475. The proceeds from this money will go towards purchasing new books about Alaska's statehood. These books will be available to anyone through the interlibrary loan system.

Big Lake Librarian Jo Cassidy says one of the goals of the program is to introduce and encourage students in Big Lake to develop good reading habits. "We have a great library and we want young people in the community to take advantage of it," Cassidy said.

ARCHIVES RESCUE CORPS (ARC) TRAINING REPORT

Friday Bulletin caught up with Frances Field of the Archives Rescue Corps and asked her to talk about the just completed rounds of training by the ARC. She reports:

Archives Rescue Corps just completed its first round of archives training in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks. ARC had 47 participants, many of them who traveled to partake in the training.

Training concentrated on photographic preservation under the guide of Buffalo State conservation intern Jennifer McGlinchey. McGlinchey lectured on the history of photographs and how to identify photography types, as well as basic care of archival papers and photos. Participants also learned about agents of deterioration and mitigation risks, as well as how to test plastics, acids and negative nitrates under the direction of Alaska State Museum Curator of Museum Services, Scott Carrlee.

Participants were pleased with the training which was offered to them free and they look forward to future trainings and workshops offered by ARC.

NEW DIRECTOR OF UAF MUSEUM OF THE NORTH

Robert Banghart of the Alaska State Museum reports that the UAF Museum of the North has a new director:

Fairbanks, Alaska—UAF Provost Susan Henrichs has selected Carol Diebel as the new director of the University of Alaska Museum of the North. Diebel will begin her new duties at the museum in early October. “I am very pleased that Dr. Diebel will be the new museum director,” says Henrichs. “She brings an outstanding combination of skills including exhibit development, collections management, public relations, outreach and scientific research.”

Diebel currently serves as the director of natural environment at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, where she leads the museum’s natural history research, curatorial and collections team. At Te Papa, she helped oversee the planning and construction of the museum’s natural history collections storage facility and served on the development team for many exhibits, including Whales/Tohora, which is now touring internationally. In addition to serving as a research administrator and as a member of Te Papa’s leadership team, Diebel made it a priority to make the museum’s scientific research and collections more available to the public in engaging and interactive ways.

Congratulations Carol! We hope you will enjoy Alaska. If your library, archives or Museum has welcomed new staff recently, please send a note to the *Friday Bulletin* and we will highlight your new workers.

TWO ALASKA MUSEUMS AWARDED IMLS GRANTS

Alaska State Library Grants coordinator Patience Frederiksen reports on two recent recipients of IMLS funding:

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) today announced \$19,176,000 in Museums for America (MFA) grants for 167 museums in 46 states and Puerto Rico. These museums were chosen from 433 applicants across the United States. Grants will support high-priority activities that advance the museums' missions and strategic goals, helping them to serve the public more effectively. Awarded in three categories (engaging communities, building institutional capacity, and collections stewardship), MFA grants

fund projects such as exhibitions, training, research, planning, technological upgrades, the purchase of equipment, and educational programming.

The Alaska awards include:

Anchorage Museum Association - Anchorage, AK (Award Amount: \$147,736; Matching Amount: \$248,122)

Grant Category: Engaging Communities. Contact: Ms. Suzi Jones, Deputy Director, 907-343-6141; jonesjs@anchagemuseum.org

Project Title: "Exhibition Development for an Exhibition on Dena'ina History and Culture"

The Anchorage Museum, in partnership with the Alaska Native Heritage Center, will develop an exhibition on the history and culture of the Dena'ina peoples of Alaska. This exhibition will be the first ever on the Dena'ina and will fill a gap in the public knowledge of Dena'ina peoples. The 5,000-square-foot exhibition of more than 200 objects will return to Alaska many early Dena'ina materials. The exhibition will bring the Dena'ina story to life through re-created settings and hands-on activity stations. A catalog and educational materials will accompany the exhibition.

Pratt Museum - Homer, AK (Award Amount: \$146,063; Matching Amount: \$275,4450)

Grant Category: Engaging Communities. Contact: Ms. Holly Cusack-McVeigh, Curator of Exhibits, 907-235-8635 ext. 36; exhibits@prattmuseum.org

Project Title: "Kachemak Bay: An Exploration of People and Place - - - Final Phase of Pratt Museum Master Exhibit Plan"

Kachemak Bay: An Exploration of People and Place, the final phase of the Pratt Museum Master Exhibit Plan, will enable the museum to engage its community in confronting pressing issues, including environmental, cultural, and economic changes, through the development of dynamic exhibits and programs that meet the museum's long-term strategic goals. The Pratt will leverage the participation of more than 300 community collaborators, volunteers, and scholars as well as partnerships with the National Park Service, National Geographic Society, regional tribes and Native American associations, and the Homer Chamber of Commerce to meet these goals.

HOLTON TO HEAD ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGE ARCHIVE

Gary Holton, associate professor of linguistics at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, has been appointed director of the Alaska Native Language Archive.

Holton will work to advance the archive to be the premier linguistic repository for Alaska and the circumpolar North. The archive will continue to support the mission of the Alaska Native Language Center, working closely with center faculty and language experts to ensure appropriate curation of the holdings.

Future development of the archive will also be guided by an advisory board consisting of both archivists and representatives of the Native community from across the state. For more information, contact Holton at 907-474-6585 or gmholton@alaska.edu. (Reprinted from EED Information Exchange 7/24/2009.)

NIH OFFERS FREE AND STANDARDS ALIGNED CURRICULUM MATERIALS

If you know teachers looking for interesting health lessons for K-12 students, direct them to the National Institutes of Health curriculum supplements at <http://science.education.nih.gov/customers.nsf/WebPages/CSHome>. From the web site:

“The NIH curriculum supplements are teacher’s guides to two weeks of lessons on the science behind selected health topics. They combine cutting-edge biomedical discoveries with state-of-the-art instructional practices.”

Curriculum supplements are available for all grades and are aligned to state education standards. Some of the available curriculum supplements are: “Science of Mental Illness”, “How your Brain Understands What Your Ear Hears”, and “Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases.”

NEW FREE COURSE MATERIALS FROM MIT

Thanks to MIT’s Open Courseware Project (<http://ocw.mit.edu>), many college level courses are freely available to lifelong learners everywhere. Materials available vary by course but can include reading lists, lectures, course notes and assignments. Here are some recent additions (descriptions from website):

SP.414 / WGS.414 Gender and Media Studies: Women and the Media Fall 2008
<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/Special-Programs/SP-414Fall-2008/CourseHome/index.htm>

“This course examines representations of race, class, gender, and sexual identity in the media.”

2.626 Fundamentals of Photovoltaics Fall 2008
<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/Mechanical-Engineering/2-626Fall-2008/CourseHome/index.htm>

“In this course students will learn how solar cells convert light into electricity, how solar cells are manufactured, how solar cells are evaluated, what technologies are currently on the market, and how to evaluate the risk and potential of existing and emerging solar cell technologies”

21A.215 Medical Anthropology: Culture, Society, and Ethics in Disease and Health Fall 2008
<http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/Anthropology/21A-215Fall-2008/CourseHome/index.htm>

“Examination of how medicine is practiced cross-culturally, with particular emphasis on Western biomedicine.”

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