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# NEWSLETTER

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# HAPPY RETIREMENT

## Good-bye, Rowena and Karen

Real success is finding your lifework in the work that you love.

- David McCullough (1933 - )

It is very difficult to find enough words to thank these two dedicated and visionary women for their years of service to the library world but this quote came to mind. They both love and believe in public libraries and their goals have always focused on making libraries more accessible and inclusive.

They leave with more than intrinsic success, however. Through their work in Marigold, APLEN, and TAL, individual libraries in Marigold, the Marigold organization, as well as libraries across the province have attained higher standards of service and achieved greater visibility in their communities and the Province.

You will be missed and your contributions will live on.

— Janine, on behalf of Airdrie Public Library staff and Board

### from Rose Reid at Bighorn...

I began working at the library in Exshaw (now known as Bighorn Library) in 1995. The day after I was hired I was sent to Strathmore to attend the librarians' workshop. I was rather intimidated at the prospect of meeting such a large group but one of the first people to greet me was Rowena Lunn. She had such an engaging smile and her manner was so kind that she put me quite at my ease. I was rather taken aback to realize that this charming woman was the boss of the whole place. She went out of her way that day to make me feel comfortable and at home. I doubt she even remembers it because that is just the way she always is with everyone but I will recall her kindness fondly forever. It was not just a one time event either. I have never once called her at to ask for assistance and met with anything but professionalism, patience and warmth. I can't recall her ever making me feel like I had asked a stupid question (and trust me some of them were pretty stupid.) I learned from Rowena that libraries are more about people than they are about books.

It was about a year later that I got a chance to get to know Karen Labuik. There was a meeting at the Edmonton Public Library to plan the direction of a new ad campaign for Alberta Libraries. I was asked if I would like to drive up there with Karen and take part in a round table discussion. I felt a

bit nervous about going for such a long trip with someone I did not know but my fears were for nothing. We started talking not long after the car started and we did not stop until we fell asleep that night. She is a delightful companion to travel with and we laughed for hours that trip. I can't really recall much about the actual meetings but I loved the conversations there and back. I found out on that trip that Karen is a fearless and adventurous traveler and that she is prepared to camp anytime at a moments notice. In the years that followed I learned so much from her, I swear I came away smarter every time we met or chatted on the phone. I learned to be patient with politicians and understand the constraints they have to work under. I learned that taking the time to reach out and connect with the people at every level is well worth the effort. She even managed to make chunks of the Library Act comprehensible to me.

I consider it a great blessing that these vibrant women have been a part of my life and I will miss working with them very much. It is my heartfelt wish that they will visit my little hamlet in the mountains and spend some of that glorious retirement time with me.



### Rowena ... retiring on July 31st

When one works in a regional library system, one meets the most dedicated people – especially those Board members – all 41 or 96 of them – who are willing to work Saturdays and many evenings, travel in snowstorms and in minus 29 weather to come to a meeting. I have been, continue to be, and will always be in awe of those dedicated volunteers who made work in regional library systems and small rural libraries so rewarding.

I have also been very fortunate to work with and for some amazing people. The staff at headquarters, the member libraries and other libraries in the province have made my career something to be envied. The cooperation and collaboration has ensured that I have been able to succeed in my career and that Marigold has been able to grow and thrive over the past 28 years.



### Karen ... retiring on September 30

When I began thinking about this moment, my mind really wanted to create a top ten reasons for working at Marigold list. I couldn't narrow it down to less than three or four dozen. My daughter says I'm lucky to love my job.

## New feature in **TRACpac**

Your library's online catalogue, TRACpac, now offers **ChiliFresh Review Engine** — a tool that allows library customers to read and write reviews.

Watch for promotional bookmarks to give to your customers.



### **Conversion project at Nan Boothby Memorial Library in Cochrane**

Headquarters staff spent approximately one day a week for six weeks converting the remaining items in Nan Boothby's collection into TRACpac, including large print, children's collection, non-fiction and outstanding paperbacks.

### **Looking for music to complement some of the programs offered at your library? Or are you looking to book entertainment for a library program?**

Lee and Sandy Paley, who at one time were summer reading performers for Marigold when we had a performance component to our summer reading program, are available for library programs. Their website at [www.schoolhousesongs.com](http://www.schoolhousesongs.com) also contains a wealth original of music for downloading at a nominal fee.

## **Staking out the Stacks**

### **New titles in the Professional Collection**

To June 5, 2009

*Framework for the Future: Positioning Alberta Libraries for the 21st Century: Report of the MLA Committee on the Future of the Public Library Service in Alberta.* Alberta Municipal Affairs. Edmonton: Municipal Affairs, 2009.

*Reference and Information Services: an Introduction.* 3rd ed. by Richard E. Bopp and Linda C. Smith.

*Censorship* by Frank Caso.

*Oxford Dictionary of Psychology.* 3rd ed. by Andrew M. Coleman.

*Getting the Money: How to Succeed in Fundraising for Public and Nonprofit Libraries* by Ken Dowlin.

*Managing Library Volunteers: A Practical Toolkit* by Preston Driggers and Eileen Dumas.

*Slideology: the Art and Science of Creating Great Presentations* by Nancy Duarte.

*Next Library Leadership: Attributes of Academic and Public Library Directors* by Peter Heron, et al.

*The Everything Etiquette Book.* 2nd ed. by Leah Ingram.

*Introduction to Reference Work.* 8th ed. by William Katz.

*Merchandising Made Simple: Using Standards and Dynamite Displays to Boost Circulation* by Jenny LaPerriere, Trish Christiansen,

*Scorecard for Results: a Guide for Developing a Library Balanced Scorecard* by Joseph R, Matthews.

*Novel & Short Story Writer's Market.* 28th ed. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest, 2008.

*1001 Letters for All Occasions* by Corey Sandler and Janice Keefe.

*The Canadian Writer's Market.* 17th ed. by Sandra B Tooze.

*Library Evaluation: A Casebook and Can-Do Guide* by Danny P. Wallace, Connie Van Fleet



## Learning from our customers

A good way to do a spot-check on the relevance of library service in your community is to ASK YOUR CUSTOMERS. The book, *The Evaluation and Measurement of Library Services*, offers a variety of surveys and other ways of combining traditional processes of measuring inputs (how many we have) with outputs (how many were used) and customer satisfaction. The author, Joseph R. Matthews, believes this forms a truer picture of the value of the library to its customers and stakeholders.

You (or your board) can do a spot-check along with the Performance Measures surveys or separately. This will also give you useful information for developing your Plan of Service. Here is an excerpt from the book and a sample survey — don't forget to develop the rest of the survey! "Asking users about the relevance of existing and possible library services is a form of client satisfaction surveys than can have direct and positive impact. The users will benefit because the library will better appreciate what services have the greatest clear-cut impact in their personal or professional lives. The library, in turn, can benefit from such a survey in that it will identify what services are most important but also understand how users rate the library's current performance for each specific service offering."

The library customer is asked to indicate the priority the library should give to each service, using a Likert scale. Following this, the user is added to rate the library's performance in providing the service. Asking the library's funding decision makers and library staff to complete the questionnaire also will allow the library to compare and contrast the responses from these three important groups. Any differences that emerge between the groups will require further attention and consideration.



### Note:

The order of the library services in the second section should be different than the sequence of the first section of the survey. This forces the respondent to carefully read and rate each library service.

In your opinion, what priority should the library give each of the following.  
Please circle the number that best gives an indication of your assessment

	Low Priority		very high priority					Don't know
	←						→	
Availability & accessibility of library staff	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Availability of reference services	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Checking out books	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Able to browse magazines & newspapers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Interlibrary loan service	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Access to online databases	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
...and so forth								

In your opinion, how well does the library perform in each of the following areas?  
Please circle the number that best gives an indication of your assessment.

	Low Priority		very high priority					Don't know
	←						→	
Availability of reference services	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Checking out books	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Availability & accessibility of library staff	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Access to online databases	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Interlibrary loan service	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
Able to browse magazines & newspapers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	D
... and so forth								

# IN THE PRESS ...

Alberta's new vision for libraries will build on the established base of library service, promote collaboration and innovation and capitalize on technology

In his letter announcing funding details, The Hon. Ray Danyluk states, "Libraries are a key component of Alberta's strong communities and the Government of Alberta is committed to a strong province-wide public library system." This funding is "an ongoing investment that complements funding received from municipalities."

Provincial grants for 2009 are based on 2008 population figures. Find out what this means for each municipality at:

[http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/mc\\_funding\\_for\\_PLS.cfm](http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/mc_funding_for_PLS.cfm)

**Immediate outcomes ...** A portion of Marigold's increased funding from the Province has been earmarked for increases in the materials allocation and the transfer payments to libraries.

Marigold's revised 2009 Budget will be presented at the Board meeting on August 29.

Download a copy of the "Framework for the Future: Positioning Alberta Libraries for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at

[http://municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/documents/lcvss/Library\\_report\\_final--April\\_15.pdf](http://municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/documents/lcvss/Library_report_final--April_15.pdf)

**Alberta Arts Days**  
**Sept 18-20** [AlbertaArtsDays.ca](http://AlbertaArtsDays.ca)

**Discover Experience Celebrate**

Watch for more information

@ your library

September 18 – 20, 2009 is a three day celebration of arts and culture in Alberta communities. Below are some suggestions for libraries on how to become involved in the festivities:

- have children and teens design (new) book covers for their favourite book or one they imagine
- display art/crafts of local artists or artisans
- hang a big piece of blank newsprint on a library wall, and invite children, whenever they are in the library, to create/add to a mural (can be a theme). Crayons only recommended!
- same idea as above – but do 'graffiti' theme/idea for teens
- have children or teens draw maps of imaginary places from books they have read
- have teens start, or create, a few pages of a communal graphic novel

- ask people who are signing out art/crafts books from the library if their finished projects can be displayed
- slam a few stories – hold a story slam, an open-floor exchange of stories based on a theme; stories can be true or otherwise
- craft time at your library: "Found" Sculpture – put found (or random) objects together into exciting sculptural pieces using glue, tape, wire, Velcro straps, craft putty or any other material you can think of. Exhibit the art work in businesses around the community
- invite elected officials to give speeches at events
- play music in the library or invite a band to play in the library

Let your imagination soar!!

Celebrate Alberta Arts Days and keep your displays up for Canadian Library Month in October.

## From the April 2009 issue of Chatelaine:

Chatelaine assistant editor Danielle Groen and researcher Megan Griffith-Greene decided to 'make a change' by sharing their love of reading with women and families in need.

By weeding their own personal libraries, and those of co-workers, they collected over 700 books. The books were donated to four charities: the June Callwood Centre (for pregnant teens and young mothers with children); the Redwood (shelter for abused women); the Elizabeth Fry Society (assistance for women with legal problems); and the City of Guelph's Fee Assistance in Recreation program (subsidized fees for recreation programs for low income families).

## Colorado — Adams County libraries shelving

**Dewey Decimal:** Library district in Adams County becomes first in the nation to ditch decimal system.  
06/08/2009

Plenty would say that about General Motors or other American icons badly in need of retooling. But officials at the Rangeview Library District in Adams County are calling out another cultural institution, saying it no longer meets the needs of a new generation of readers.

Say goodbye to the 133-year-old Dewey Decimal Classification. By the end of the year, all six Rangeview branches and the district's outreach office will dump the iconic Dewey and its numeric organizing system for one that relies on word categories such as "history" and "science." The district will be the first in the U.S. to go this route, which is controversial among some librarians. ...

By Monte Whaley, The Denver Post

Read more, or comment at:

[http://www.denverpost.com/ci\\_12542434](http://www.denverpost.com/ci_12542434)

Also...

From *Spark*, Volume 1, Number 1, June 26 2009:

<http://www.rangeviewld.org/sites/default/files/uploads/spark/sparkv1n1.pdf>

The Bennett Library is one of two branches in the district (Rangeview) that has replaced the Dewey Decimal System with the library's word-based organization system, WordThink. According to Swallows (Branch Manager), customers are finding the system easy to use...

## President Obama books Library of Parliament visit



President Barack Obama and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in the Library of Parliament in Ottawa, Canada

Earlier this year (on February 19), President Obama was given a tour of the recently renovated Library of Parliament in Ottawa.

The Library was completed in 1876 – just shortly after Confederation. It was the only Parliament building to survive a fire in 1916. It is built in the Victorian Gothic architectural style, and still retains its original octagonal shape, with a domed roof in the reading room.

The Library's function remains the same – to support the activities and decisions of the Canadian Parliament/government. The most recent renovations (2002-06) have helped this function by modernizing the Library's technology.

For more information, see:

<http://www.cbc.ca/arts/story/2006/05/30/library-parliament.html>

<http://www.collineduparlement-parliamenthill.gc.ca/modern/bblthq-lbrry-eng.html>

For a photo of the tour group in the Library, see:

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Barack\\_Obama\\_&\\_Stephen\\_Harper\\_in\\_Library\\_of\\_Parliament\\_2-19-09.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Barack_Obama_&_Stephen_Harper_in_Library_of_Parliament_2-19-09.JPG)

## Check out the top 100 Picture Books Poll

Results at School Library Journal Mobile blog, May 16-2009

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1790000379/post/540044254.html?nid=3713>



## Top 10 Things for Kids to Do @ your library

Find the great new books that other kids are reading

Curl up with your favorite magazine or book

Discover places you've never heard about on maps and globes, and in encyclopedias

Find music and books on CD, and DVD movies to take home

Be with your friends after school in a fun place

Take home a work of art that you make at an art workshop

Learn more about your favorite baseball player, artist, or animal

Do research for school and get help with your homework

Listen to storytellers, and authors and illustrators reading their books

Become a better reader by reading to a dog, joining the summer reading program or a book club, and asking the librarian for help finding a book by your favorite author or the next book in your favorite series

More at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/kidscampaign/kidspublicityprogtk.cfm>

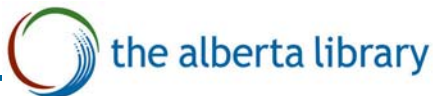
The Edmonton Public Library (EPL), in partnership with the Book Publishers Association of Alberta (BPAA), is proud to announce the creation of a new Alberta book publishing award. The Alberta Readers' Choice Award (ARC) will promote the works of Alberta authors and publishers, and encourage the reading public to support literary works published in Alberta. The Award will be worth \$10,000.

The annual award will be given to a work of adult fiction or narrative non-fiction (a work of non-fiction which lends itself to a public reading) published by an Alberta based publishing house, with the top book being determined by the public.

The first Alberta Readers' Choice Award will be presented at the 2010 Alberta Book Publishing Awards Gala in Edmonton.

Find award details and criteria at:

<http://www.albertareaderschoice.ca/portal.cfm>



### Are you serious? Books and beyond gets international laughs!

Very funny. That's the tagline for Turner Broadcasting System (TBS), the US cable network that focuses mainly on comedy. And that's TBS's verdict on The Alberta Library's *Books and beyond* TV spots. The network recently aired two Alberta library ads in a review of the funniest television commercials from around the world.

You can see the spots on TBS's website where they are attracting tens of thousands of hits (check out [www.veryfunnyads.com](http://www.veryfunnyads.com) – right now if you search 'Alberta' the ads come up).

[www.booksandbeyond.ca](http://www.booksandbeyond.ca) — Watch for the campaign to be taken to a new level this fall.

# Alberta's Libraries

**Books and beyond**



# great ideas from other parts of the planet

## “LEED”ING THE WAY – Green Library Buildings

‘LEED’ is the acronym for the ‘Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design’ rating system of the U.S. Green Building Council\*. Introduced in 2000, it is the performance standard for creating sustainable buildings. Achieving LEED certification requires meeting criteria in 6 areas (water savings, energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, sustainable sites, materials and resources, and design innovation). Buildings are ranked on a point system (within 32 categories), for a maximum of 69 points. There are 4 (progressive) levels of certification, each requiring a minimum number of points: Certified (26 points), Silver (33 points), Gold (39 points) and Platinum (52 points).

\*The equivalent in Canada is the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC).

Residential, office and civic buildings are going green, and libraries are no exception. LEED certified libraries are being built in Canada and the United States.

### Some LEED library buildings are:

- Semiahmoo Library/RCMP Office, Surrey, BC
- Grande Prairie Public Library, Alberta (just opened)
- Crowfoot Branch Library, Calgary
- Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (U of T), Mississauga
- City of North Vancouver, BC (in process)
- Waterloo Public Library (proposed)
- Canmore Public Library (proposed)

In Peace Library System

- William J. Clinton Presidential Library, Little Rock, AK
- Lake View Terrace Branch Library, Los Angeles
- Budlong Woods Library, Chicago
- West Englewood Library, Chicago
- Oriele Park Library, Chicago
- Bronx Library, New York
- Darien Library, Darien, CT
- LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT
- Rosemary Garfoot Public Library, Cross Plains, WI
- Blair Library Branch, Fayetteville, AR
- Bozeman Public Library, Bozeman, MT
- Central Library Branch, Seattle, WA



Lastly, here are some links to some green resources for libraries

- North Adams Public Library, North Adams, MA
- Portsmouth Public Library, Portsmouth, NH
- Santa Monica Public Library, Santa Monica, CA

<http://www.greenlibraries.org/resources.html>

<http://thegreenlibraryblog.blogspot.com/2008/11/bibliography-green-library-leed-and.html>

For more information on the above, including the various libraries listed, see:

<http://www.usgbc.org/>

[http://www.newwest.net/index.php/topic/article/bozemans\\_new\\_green\\_library/C57/L35/](http://www.newwest.net/index.php/topic/article/bozemans_new_green_library/C57/L35/)

<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/index.php?id=1567>

[http://www.ctlibraryassociation.org/conf2009/reports/Will\\_a\\_Green\\_Library\\_Be\\_a\\_Successful\\_Library.pdf](http://www.ctlibraryassociation.org/conf2009/reports/Will_a_Green_Library_Be_a_Successful_Library.pdf)

<http://repositories.cdlib.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1648&context=uclalib/egi>

[http://www.faylib.org/new\\_library/pdf/LEED.pdf](http://www.faylib.org/new_library/pdf/LEED.pdf)

[http://architecture.suite101.com/article.cfm/bronx\\_library\\_leeds\\_green\\_design](http://architecture.suite101.com/article.cfm/bronx_library_leeds_green_design)

<http://newsroom.lds.org/ldsnewsroom/eng/news-releases-stories/church-history-library-goes-green-with-leed-certification>

<http://www.scls.lib.wi.us/csp/LEEDtour.pdf>

[http://my.cagbc.org/green\\_building\\_projects/leed\\_certified\\_buildings.php?id=11&press=1&draw\\_column=3:3:2](http://my.cagbc.org/green_building_projects/leed_certified_buildings.php?id=11&press=1&draw_column=3:3:2)

<http://prairielibrarian.wordpress.com/green-libraries/>

<http://www.greenlibraries.org/directory.html>

[http://www.wpl.ca/site/about/new\\_branch.asp](http://www.wpl.ca/site/about/new_branch.asp)

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/buildsmart/resources/CaseStudies/semiahmoolibraryRCMPmcmcasestudy.pdf>

# Taking the Books and beyond campaign to a different level

## Customers bring dogs to the Rockyford Library

The purpose of the event was to give some hands-on advice to dog owners, as well as to remind patrons that the library is the source of resources on a wide range of topics and interests.

Rockyford Library hosted an unusual program on Saturday, May 30 as eleven dogs and their handlers gathered in the parking lot for the “Bring Your Dog to the Library” event. The purpose of the event was to give some hands-on advice to dog owners, as well as to remind patrons that the library is the source of resources on a wide range of topics and interests.

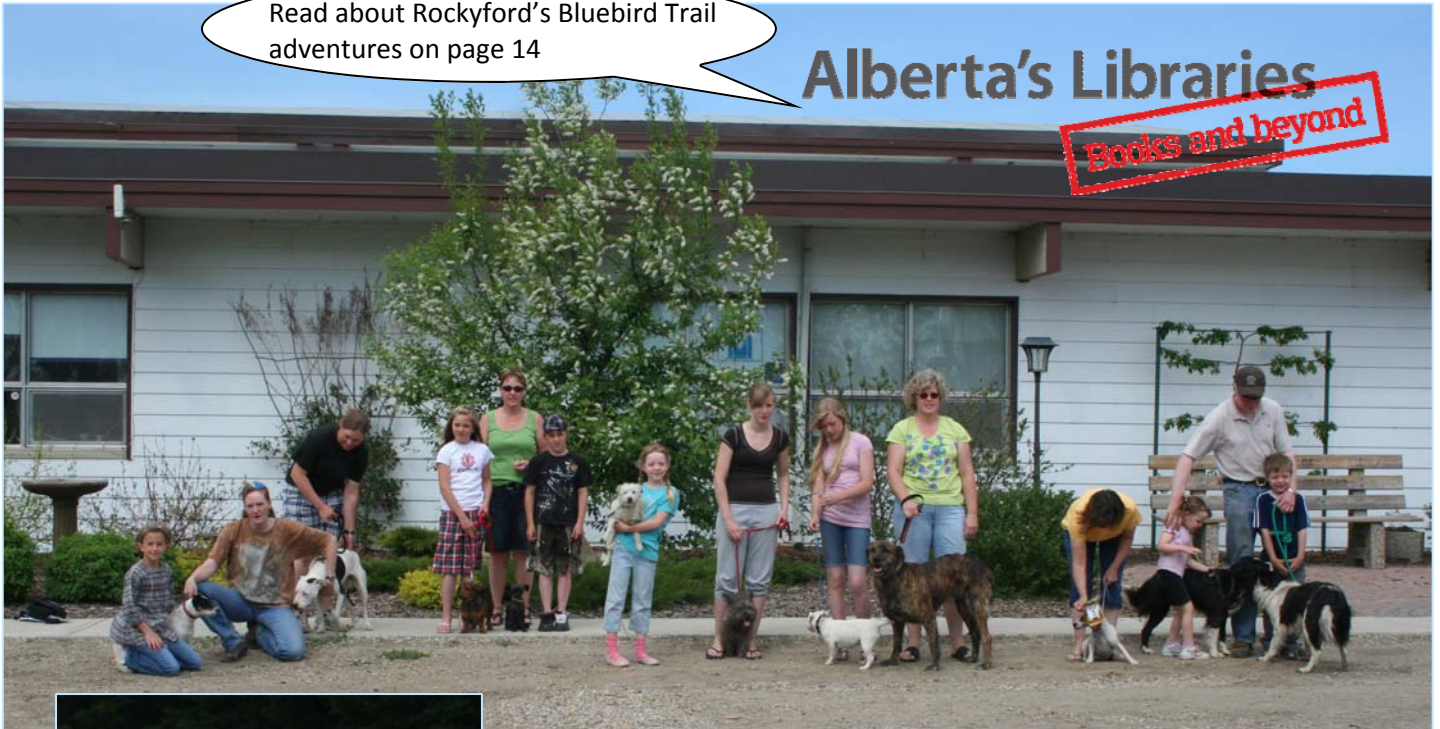
Leah Smith of Modern Dog Obedience and Training took the dogs and their handlers through their paces, learning how to use treats to train dogs and reinforce behaviour. The first lesson was “name attention”, which is the first step in training other commands and tricks. During the hour-long session, the dogs also learned “sit”, “down” and two tricks: “shake a paw” and “roll over”.

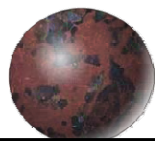
Patrons were reminded that while Rockyford Library houses many books on the topic of dogs and dog training, a Library card also allows access to e-resources and books from other libraries through the Marigold Library System and its TRAC partners.

Read about Rockyford’s Bluebird Trail adventures on page 14

Alberta’s Libraries

Books and beyond





# news clips — member libraries

## Acadia Municipal Library

### ... meeting the needs of our community

This summer we will be running the Summer Reading Program for children in grades K-6. The program will be running on July 2 and 9 and then every Thursday from July 30-August 20 from 2:30-4:00 p.m.

## Airdrie Public Library

<http://airdriepubliclibrary.ca/>

### ... creating a welcoming virtual space

Airdrie Public Library's new Website is now easier to use – and keep current!



APL's Website has a new look! The new site is bolder and more intuitive and interactive than its predecessor.

Our visitors are now able to access the online catalogue from every page on the site by using the Search the Catalogue feature at the top left. Need to do a more advanced search or just want to browse? Those options are available on every page, too, right under Search the Catalogue.

The home page allows us to feature important links or programs—up to five linked graphics to important current programs and events appear on the right hand side, along with a handy link for customers to quickly access their accounts and another to our online Events and Programs Calendar.

There are six sections to the main menu, located on the left: About Your Library, Using My Library, Programs,

Services and Resources, Support Your Library, and the Newsroom. This dynamic main menu is clickable and opens up to reveal sub-pages.

Cardholder information is available under Join the Library, while our Virtual Library provides users with loads of links to important information and resources. Cardholders have quick access to our e-resources from the home page while kids can get help with their homework via our extensive Homework Resources links.

APL's new website uses the content management system, Joomla, allowing staff to make quick and easy updates and additions simply by logging in via a web browser. This ability to make quick changes means that APL's site is dynamic and always current. Our new Website will continue to evolve over the coming months. Please take some time to have a look around and let us know what you think!

### ... there is lots going on at APL this summer

Fridays from June 12 to August 21, teens have a place to come "chill" at APL during Chill Zone Fridays. From 3 to 4:30 pm, teens can come and participate in programs just for them. On June 12, it's time to play HALO. June 26, it's all things anime. We have over 20 different subtitled anime series for teens to choose from, and we'll also feature beginner Japanese lessons with Sarah and Ryan, Japanese snacks and munchies, new manga titles available for loan, and even a chance to learn how to draw manga. Subsequent Chill Zone Fridays will feature more great fun things for teens to do.

On June 5, our Teens After Hours program will feature the launch of the TeenRC program. We'll have the computers humming and our great staff will help teens to register for TeenRC online. Also that day, our new Teens Book Club will get together to talk about a great bestseller.

Agent 009, this year's Summer Reading Program, will be in full swing starting July 6. We continue to offer pre-school literacy programs throughout the summer so the younger siblings of SRP participants can come have fun at the library, too.

We have our annual Canada BBQ coming up on July 1, and our Fun Fridays, featuring magic and puppet shows, a visit by author/illustrator Carolyn Fisher, and more, start up on July 3. It's going to be a busy place at APL this summer!

# Drumheller Public Library

<http://www.drumhellerlibrary.ca/>

This is starting out to be the Year of Grants for our Library. So far we have been the delighted recipients of the Drumheller Family Grant through the Royal Tyrrell Museum Cooperating Society (\$5,000), the RBC Foundation (\$5,000), the Legacy Fund of the Drumheller & District Chamber of Commerce (\$4,000), Canada Summer Jobs (\$5,940), Summer Temporary Employment Program (\$2,695), Community Spirit Program (\$8,606), the RISE equipment, and we hope to receive funding through the CAP 2009-2010. Added to all this of course is our increase in provincial funding.

And we have plans for the money! CJS, STEP and RBCF go towards summer staff and the Summer Reading Program. The Drumheller Family grant goes towards the children's collection and some new shelving for it. The Chamber funds will go towards modifying our Gallery, so that the RISE videoconferencing equipment can be used in relative quiet and privacy. The CSP money has gone towards a first-rate portable sound system with digital light projector and loaded laptop, all of which will be especially appreciated by seniors and the hard-of-hearing.

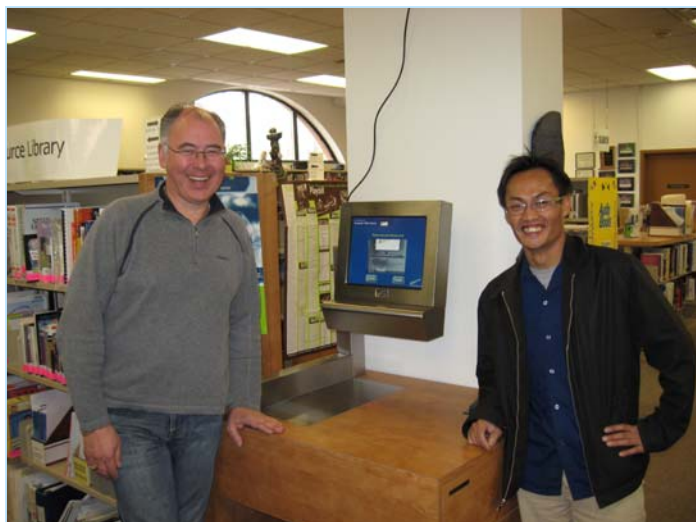


The new RISE videoconferencing equipment beside the new Seville Anchor lectern sound system with laptop and digital light projector (Community Spirit funded).



Cindy Clark, President of the Drumheller & District Chamber of Commerce presented \$4,000 to modify the Library Gallery for the RISE equipment, seen here with Director Linde Turner.

We have acquired the final part of our Circulation Services Upgrade Project—a Self Check Out Terminal from Libramation of Edmonton. It was installed May 4, but can't be connected until the business with Polaris is finalized—hopefully in early July. The preliminary testing was very good, and we are anxious to have this great Alberta product actually working for us!



Libramation owner Frank Mussche and Technician Ricky Phoon came from Edmonton to install the Self Check Out Terminal (SCOT) May 4<sup>th</sup>.

The "artsparks in Drumheller" expanded 2009 program saw 15 of 17 proposed classes run in 71 sessions with 133 participants. We are meeting the mandate of bringing together people of all abilities to enjoy many forms of the arts, and we are able to pay instructors rather well.

Chelsey Merkel returns to lead our Summer Reading Program, accompanied by Shelby Elkes and Jenny Pallesen. They are all enthused about the theme, and advance school presentations are going well, judging from the registration coming in already.



Chelsey Merkel and Shelby Elkes ham it up with SRP mascot "Clues" (AKA Agent 009).

Best wishes for the summer

Linde Turner, Debbie Laplante, Charlotte Green, Penny Bethel, Lachie Macfadden.

## Carbon Municipal Library

... **increasing awareness** Library Manager at Carbon gives a presentation about what the library has to offer to the Kindergarten parents at Carbon School.



## Hussar Municipal Library

The end of the school year is almost here. The kindergarten classes have already finished. All of which changes the routine of the library. Eighteen new preschool students came for an orientation to prepare for the new kindergarten year in September. Many of these—in fact I am sure only about 5 of them—had never been to a library before. So they were quite amazed and excited about it. They were read a story, and they also took part in it in the effort to make books fun for them and interesting also.



Next is the summer reading program. The kids are asking if they can have another spaghetti fight. I am trying to tie in a detective theme with a food fight. It should be doable somehow. We will be closed two weeks in July and then open two days a week thereafter. We haven't decided which yet.

This year I was able to go to the Albeta Library Conference in Jasper and really enjoyed it. I learned a lot, made new friends, made library business contacts and had a great time.

The May workshop in Strathmore was also most informative and enjoyable. I was very nice to receive my five year pin. Boy does time ever fly when you're having fun.

Gay Harms, Library Manager

**RISE**  
Rural Information Services initiative

Phase Two is well underway. We expect to have all remaining libraries up and running by fall, 2009.


Read the RISE Review and check out upcoming events at: <http://wikirise.pbworks.com>

# Irricana Municipal Library

The Irricana Municipal Library and its Spring Flingers wrapped up the winter reading program Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> with crafts games and some treats. Congratulations to all the draw prize winners.



Kelly Saunders, acting mayor for the town of Irricana, wrote a letter for each of the participants. Kelly said:

 The dedication and hard work shown by all is an example of what young people can achieve when they set a goal for themselves. The ability to read is the most important skill we can have and is the key that opens the world to our imagination and is only limited by the size of your dreams.

We love seeing the kids come in with smiles on their faces and telling us about the stories they have read. Please keep reading and thanks for participating.

A big thank you to all the participants and supporters of the Winter Reading Program.

Also watch in the news about Irricana Municipal Library book sale to help support us in giving you new books. The Summer Reading Program will start up some time in June .

Nancy Vance, Library Manager  
Ayra Kelly, Assistant

# Linden Municipal Library

Our pictures are from our open house/plant exchange. Fun was had by young and not so young alike as you can see by the picture of our chair Betty Ann and her little friend. Everyone attending was treated to great punch, snacks, and a free marigold. Some local collections were on display as well. Due to the prolonged cold this spring

we didn't have as many plants brought in as past years, so what was there was quickly grabbed up. The evening ended with door prize draws. Stampede Steel donated a picnic table, TNT Pizza donated a pizza dinner and the MountainView Credit Union gave a stuffed bear and travel mug. I should also mention that I did a *Tell Me More* demo that was a great hit with the crowd





Richard Lemonde puts the finishing touches on the new Linden Library Book Drop located on the north side of the Dr Elliot School. Now library materials can be returned to the Library at anytime. Linden Home Hardware Building Center donated the plywood and Mr Lemonde donated his skills to build and install it.

Kathie Putman, Marigold Board Rep

## Oyen Municipal Library

[www.oyenlibrary.ca](http://www.oyenlibrary.ca)

### ... kids respond to reading challenge

We have just wrapped up our pre-school storytime sessions until fall. We concluded with a Teddy Bear's Picnic party. The children brought in their favourite teddy bears and listened to stories from our guest speaker. After doing a bear craft and having a picnic, the kids had the chance to search for hidden teddy bears in the library, receiving suckers for each one they found. We also had a draw and the winner took home a picture book and teddy bear. From March until May we challenged our small group of kids to read 100 books. They did even better and ended up reading over 200. We're very proud of them!

### ... students give library high marks!

Our library is housed in a school and in March our school division sent out surveys for the students and their parents to fill out. When the results came back, the library was ranked the highest section in the school with 100% satisfaction. The assistant superintendent was very impressed with how well the public and school libraries work together and called it a win-win situation. He mentioned that the students come out ahead having two collections to choose from. We are very pleased that we have managed to create and maintain such a winning combination.

In May a former Oyen resident, Brad Kuich, dropped into the library to sign a copy of a book he had recently written. It's titled *Hag'em: Memoirs of a Police Dog Handler* and it details his career as a police dog handler for the R.C.M.P. The book is full of very interesting stories and we are proud to have a published author come from Oyen. It is available from our library or can be purchased online at Barnes & Noble, Amazon, or [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com).

Right now we are gearing up for our Summer Reading Program and Teen Reading Club. We were happy with our turnout last year but hope to have even more kids participate this year! We have included more prizes this time in the hopes more kids will read this summer.

Tricia Fischbuch, Library Manager

## Rockyford Municipal Library

... more Books and beyond adventures

### The Bluebird Trail

Rockyford Library was delighted to have Andrew Stiles visit our library on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> to tell us a little about the Bluebird Trail, bird-watching and conservation. Over thirty patrons were able to enjoy his presentation, which included photos he had taken of various birds and animals in Alberta. The presentation ended with patrons assembling bird houses that they were then able to take home with them.





### **Rise videoconferencing — praises, challenges, and tips**

There's a new communications medium in town. Some of us have already made its acquaintance; some of us are waiting (no doubt with some trepidation). So I thought I would share some of my "hard-earned" knowledge with you.

First, let me say that I am very grateful to the RISE crew and our support staff at Marigold HQ for making this possible. There is no doubt in my mind that videoconferencing is a boon, especially to the rural communities. That is not to say that it doesn't come without some challenges.

We were very excited to be included in the pilot program and delighted when we received our equipment. Training took one-half hour that, at times, was quite simple and straight-forward, and, other times, was more like learning a foreign language (That was easy....Uh-oh. Wrong button... What did I do? Did I break it? Okay... Cool! How do I do that again? Oops! Not that button... Which one do I press? Hmm, that worked... How do I get back to that other screen?)

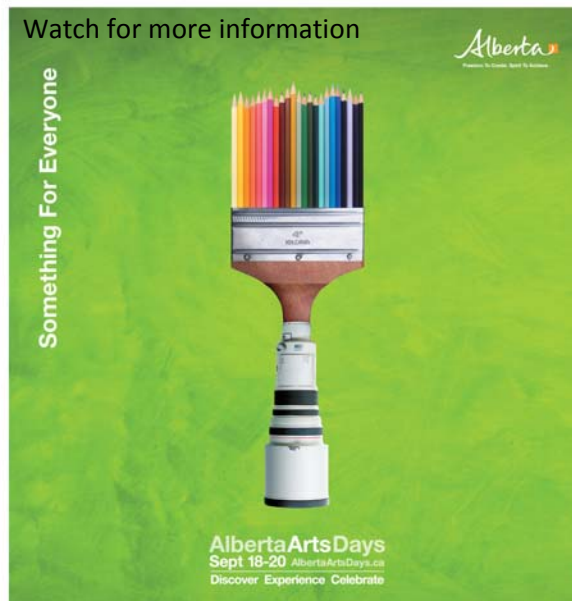
More about videoconferencing...

## So, what have I learned so far?

1. Punctuality is really important. If the support staff at Marigold is involved in the video-conference, or having to address other IT issues, they may not be able to get away to connect you once the conference has begun. Sometimes they can do it; sometimes they can't (see also Items #3 & #5).
2. Breathe! Relax. There's really not much you can do to mess up the equipment permanently.
3. Your first video-conferencing experience probably should not be one to which you invite local government representatives and/or board members to showcase the new equipment — especially if you want to impress them! Stuff happens! If in doubt, get the equipment up and running early (like an hour earlier) so you can test it with our great Marigold HQ IT and RISE guys. In fact, that's probably a good operating procedure before any video-conference.
4. Play! Don't be afraid to experiment a little bit. How else do you expect to get comfortable with the features of this awesome tool?
5. Do not try to figure out how to link your DVD player to the plasma screen the day before a video-conferencing session occurs (Remember Item #3?), especially if you tried to "adjust" some settings, believing that would make the DVD picture and audio come through. Not so! Connecting your DVD to the equipment is quite simple (if you have the right connectors) and DOES NOT require changing any settings via the remote controls. If the picture or sound isn't coming through, then it's probably not hooked up right! It really is quite simple once you've caught on. If you do find yourself "playing with buttons" for some reason, take careful note of the settings you are changing so that you can reset to those that worked when the equipment was first installed and demonstrated for you. You don't want to have to figure out what you changed on the day you are setting up for the video-conference.
6. Enjoy! Think about all of the opportunities that video-conferencing will allow you to explore with your staff/patrons/community.
7. If you encounter problems, contact the appropriate Marigold support staff member. What may be new to you may not be to them. And if it is, great! Then we can all learn something new.

You may have guessed from the above that the Rockyford Library has encountered a couple of challenges. That is very true, but overall the experience has been great so far.

Jocelyne Kisko, Assistant Librarian



## “ Within the library can be found the seeds of a better tomorrow” -Lois Hole

- Dress up as a gardener (overalls, straw hat, gloves, rubber boots or clogs) and share gardening stories with your story time group. Children can design their own seed package. Distribute sunflower or other seeds as a “take home” project. Or, ask the staff to wash out tomato soup cans, fill with dirt and let children plant a tomato seed. See *Help Grow Your Soup*—Campbells Soup Company at: <http://www.helpgrowyoursoup.com/>
- An “Art From Your Garden” program can include printmaking with potatoes. Cut the potatoes in half and carve designs in each open end. Lay the potatoes on a tray and let children choose, dip in paint, and stamp on paper.
- Colourful collages can be made out of different types of seeds or beans. Children can dip their seeds in glue or an adult can paint the glue on the paper. The child then just has to stick the seeds and/or beans in any design they want to create.
- A scavenger hunt around the library lawn might result in a number of nature treasures being collected for a nature collage. Children can glue leaves, grass, twigs and acorns in a number of designs.
- Smearing pinecones with peanut butter (be careful with peanut allergies) and rolling with birdseed makes fun bird feeders to set outside.

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This publication, issued quarterly, is designed for the staff and volunteers of the member libraries of Marigold Library System.

The opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the Marigold Board.

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