INFORMATION IOWA
STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

FOOTNOTES

The Official Newsletter of the State Library of Iowa

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Libri Foundation provides new books for children

The Libri Foundation is accepting applications for its spring and summer 2002 Books for Children grants.

The Foundation will match any amount of money raised by a library's local sponsors from $50 to $350 on a 2-to-1 ratio. After a library receives a grant, local sponsors have four months to raise their matching funds.

Participating librarians select the books the library will receive from a booklist provided by the Foundation.

Libraries should serve a population of under 10,000, be in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and an active children's department.

For an application or more information, contact Barbara McKillip, President, The Libri Foundation, P.O. Box 10246, Eugene, OR 97440; (541) 747-9655 or e-mail librifdn@teleport.com. Their web site is located at www.librifoundation.org. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pacific Time.

Atlantic brings library to the children

He's only eight months old, but Kaden Osborn loves being read to. And his two-year-old brother Keegan considers books a prized possession.

Thanks to a cooperative project between the Atlantic Public Library and the local Parents as Teachers (PAT) program, both boys are learning the joy of reading and love of books though they seldom get to the library.

A little over a year ago, library director Carole Stanger and Cass County PAT coordinator Pam Cord devised a plan that would get books to kids who might not otherwise be able to visit the library.

PAT is a nationwide family education and support program that begins at birth and extends through age five. Through PAT, parents are supported by certified parent educators who use the "Born to Learn" curriculum that translates scientific information on early brain development into concrete suggestions on ways to teach and nurture children.

Components of the program include: Personal visits by certified parent educators trained in child development who help parents understand what to expect in each stage of their child's development; group meetings; periodic screening of overall development, language, hearing and vision; and a resource network for other community services that may be needed.

In particular, Cord and her associate, Kris Wernimont, extol the values of reading to children, beginning when they are infants. They model appropriate reading, social and language skills, then ask parents to try the same techniques with their children.

The benefits of reading to children from an early age have been well documented, but many parents cannot afford to purchase new books or even visit the public library on a regular basis.

When Cord and Stanger discussed the problem a little over a year ago, a solution began to form -- the library would go to the children.

Using a palm pilot designed for doing library inventory and working off site, Stanger agreed to send books out to the homes of families Cord and Wernimont visit monthly. Once there, they use the palm pilots to literally check out books to families and exchange them for new books at their next

(Cont. on Pg. 8)

Shown at the Atlantic Public Library are, from left, Pam Cord, PAT; Carole Stanger, library director; Daisha Osborn, holding Kaden; Royce Osborn, holding Keegan; and Kris Wernimont, PAT.

Free health information available to librarians

Public librarians across the country are facing an increasing number of requests for health information from their patrons. Reference librarians are receiving inquiries about alternative medicine, selecting a physician, wellness issues, or particular diseases or conditions. Patrons are also seeking free, high quality, electronic health information written in lay terminology.

The State Library of Iowa created *www.healthinfoiowa.org* in response to this demand. This free site provides access to consumer health web sites specific to Iowa, but in addition lists excellent sites for general health concerns, for health practitioners, for students, and for librarians.

MEDLINEplus, the most heavily-used consumer health site on HealthInfoIowa, was developed by the National Library of Medicine. Located on the campus of the National Institutes of Health, the National Library of Medicine is the world's largest medical library. MEDLINEplus offers authoritative, up-to-date, and totally private health information. Health topics, drug information, a medical encyclopedia, MEDLINE searches, clinical trials, and current news are just some of the features included at http://medlineplus.gov/.

The National Library of Medicine encourages public libraries to join the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Membership is free and offers public libraries the following advantages:

- Opportunities for continuing professional development by taking training workshops to search the National Library of Medicine's databases.
- Participate in funding opportunities for your library.
- Participate in interlibrary loan services available to the network.
- Receive special mailings of National Library of Medicine's posters, brochures, and other informational materials.
- Be considered for service on the Regional Medical Library's Regional Advisory Committee.
- Receive a certificate, which recognizes the institution as a member of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.
- Receive an invitation, on a periodic basis, to provide input to the Regional Medical Library on programs and services.
- Enroll on the Greater Midwest Region's electronic discussion list if requested.

Find more information at http://nnlm.gov/ or contact your Regional Medical Library at **1-800-338-7657**.

Certification Update

Congratulations to the following public library staff certified for the first time through the State Library's Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians.

Jennifer Bledsoe, Gladbrook
Fran Bonderman, Lime Springs
Melissa Brown, Guttenberg
Lorna Christeleit, Volga
Nathan Clark, Ruthven
Janet DeVries, Lime Springs
Jean Donham, Mount Vernon
Debra Garman, Aurelia
Georgia Heald, Coralville
Dorothy Highland, Earlham
Cheryl Hoekstra, Alton
Virginia Howell, Dallas Center
Marsha Hunter, Agency
Andrea Imel, Crystal Lake
Maureen Ingalls, Bancroft
Carol Ann Irons, Waukon
Demi Johnson, Humboldt
Cynthia Miller, Griswold
Erika Muecke, Rockwell City
Lisa Poffenberger, De Soto
Elizabeth Trippler, Shenandoah

Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY
Registration for Spring Public Library Management 1 and 2
February 5 - Iowa Library Association Legislative Day (ILA) / North Central
February 12 - ILA Legislative Day (rescheduled) / ILA Central Legislative Day
February 19 - ILA Legislative Day / Southeast
February 26 - ILA Legislative Day / East Central

MARCH
March 5 - ILA Legislative Day / Northeast
March 12-16 - Public Library Association National Conference - Phoenix
March 19 - ILA Legislative Day / Northwest

WHSLA Newsletter

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Health Science Library Association

Issue 303

Jan/Feb 2002

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Column	1
WHSLA 2002 Annual Meeting	2
WHSLA Visits WI Nurses Association	2
CE Survey Results	3
2001 Meeting Financial Report	3
NN/LM Makes Contact with Public Libraries	4
Whonamedit.com	4
2001 Meeting Scholarship Report	4
WISCAT Transition	6
Call for Papers/ Posters for 2002 Midwest Chapter	7
MCW Libraries Staff Changes	8
New Humanities Collection at MCW	8
Job Ad: GMR	8
Job Ad: MCW	9
Goodbye from a WHSLA Member	10
Newsletter Deadlines	10

WHSLA President's Column

WHSLA is moving right along with the times with the transition to electronic format of our newsletter. Hats off to Jennifer Friedman and the rest of the Communications Committee for their hard work and efforts in this evolving process.

The Nominations & Elections committee has been hard at work, and has rounded up some really great candidates to lead WHSLA into the future. Watch your mailboxes in February for the election ballot, and make sure you take time to vote for your favorite candidate. A big thank you goes out to the Nominations & Elections committee for their work in getting candidates, and to the candidates themselves for stepping up and volunteering to take on a leadership role in this organization.

I hope all of you were able to take part in the MLA "Sync or Swim : Managing the Flood of PDA's in Health Care." This program was co-sponsored by WHSLA and the GMR, and took place at 5 different sites across the state of Wisconsin. If you didn't get to attend the teleconference, videos of the teleconference will be available.

Also be sure to mark down on your calendars the dates for the WHSLA 2002 annual meeting which is taking place April 22-23 in Wausau, Wisconsin. The planning committee is busy getting together a wonderful program with CE opportunities such as "Proving Your Worth" by Michelynn McKnight and "Website Usability" by Chris Shaffer. Be sure to watch for the registration packet which will be mailed out at the end of February.

Stay warm....Spring will be here before we know it!

—Mindy LaBonte
WHSLA President

NN/LM Makes Contact with Public Libraries

Public librarians may contact your institution to ask questions about GMR's funding and training opportunities. Why? In the next few weeks the GMR staff will be mailing public libraries in the region an informational package that contains a brochure about the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and a MEDLINEplus poster. The package will also include an invitation to join the network as an Affiliate Member (view the letter at http://nnlm.gov/gmr/newsletter/3/publiclibraryletter.pdf). At the same time the GMR staff will be submitting an article, "Looking for Free Health Information to Better Serve Your Patrons," to state newsletters in the region. This article will encourage public libraries to become members of the GMR and to participate in regional, state, and local consumer health information programs.

The GMR needs your assistance with our public library recruitment effort:

- Encourage your local public library to join as an affiliate member.
- Highlight the benefits of receiving free training workshops and the funding opportunities.
- Inform public libraries of NLM's consumer health initiatives such as MEDLINEplus and ClinicalTrials.gov.

Thank you in advance for helping to welcome public libraries to the NN/LM.

Tammy Mays, Consumer Health Librarian, NN/LM Greater Midwest Region

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Website Spotlight: Whonamedit.com

Whonamedit.com, at http://www.whonamedit.com , is a free website that aims to be "the most comprehensive dictionary of medical eponyms". It is not associated with any print dictionary. As of the end of January the database contains nearly 5,000 entries, and can be searched by keyword, alphabetically by last name, or in a category or country listing. While some entries are brief, others list full information such as synonyms, associated persons, descriptions, and a bibliography. The website, which does take ads (but no health-related ads are apparent), is the project of a Norwegian company.

Review by Jennifer Friedman

The 2001 Midwest Chapter/MLA Conference

a report by Barb Benisch, Librarian at the UW-Madison Department of Surgery Library, the recipient of the 2001 WHSLA attendance grant

The joint meeting of the Wisconsin Health Sciences Library Association and the Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association, held at the Wyndham Hotel, Milwaukee, WI, Oct 5-9, was a wonderful experience. I was very happy to have been able to attend the entire meeting, as well as having had a small part in the coordination by serving on the CE committee. First and foremost, I have never been so well fed at a conference before--kudos to the food people! Second, this conference was funded for me in part from a $250.00 attendance grant from WHSLA, and I would like to express my gratitude to WHSLA for making this award available. I'm not sure that I would have been able to attend the entire conference, beyond what I was committed to be there for, without the assistance. I'd like to encourage WHSLA members to apply for