Fire damages State Library building

State officials are trying to determine how much damage was done to the State Library after an overnight fire occurred in the building's boiler room on December 19th.

The building, officially known as the McKay Building is located a few blocks north of the state Capitol.

Joe Kafka, press secretary for Gov. Mike Rounds, says officials are not aware of any structural damage to the building at this time. Kafka says there is extensive smoke damage and officials are not sure if books, documents and resources may have been damaged.

The fire occurred on the library's first floor, which is under renovation. State Bureau of Administration Commission Jeff Bloomberg says workers had been using a saw to cut concrete and apparently sparks from the saw blade ignited cardboard lining used in the initial construction of the building.

The fire smoldered for some time and was discovered by an employee checking the building's boilers about midnight.

Pierre Deputy Fire Chief Ian Paul says the first floor was engulfed in smoke by the time firefighters arrived. He says crews had to break up the concrete to get to the fire.

Firefighters were on scene for about three hours. There were no injuries.

Report from Dan Siebersma to sdlal on December 19, 2008

Get Connected @ Your Library

2009 SDLA Legislative Day

7:45am - 9:30am Legislative Committee meetings - Capitol Building
   For more information visit:
   http://legis.state.sd.us/

9:30am - 11:30am SDLA Board meeting - Cultural Heritage Center

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Rotunda Display - Capitol Building

2:00pm - 4:00 pm Program - Cultural Heritage Center - Library Districts & CapWiz Demo

5:30pm-7:00pm Legislative Reception, Rawlins Library, 1000 E Church St., Pierre, SD
Have you renewed your SDLA membership? Have you recruited a new member? Remember that for each new member you recruit, your name will be entered in a drawing for a free conference registration.

Studies have shown that we join associations primarily for networking, advocacy and learning opportunities. SDLA provides all of these for members.

Networking and learning opportunities abound at the Spring Forums and the annual conference. Serving on a committee or participating on the SDLA Executive Board affords even more occasions to exchange ideas and interact with others.

As an association, we support libraries and librarians statewide and nationally. In January and February, we concentrate our attention on the South Dakota State Legislature. SDLA’s Annual Legislative Day is just one opportunity to be an advocate for the profession and for South Dakota’s libraries. In addition, members can count on SDLA to provide information about library issues and trends on the SDLA listserv and in this newsletter.

I know that I’m preaching to the choir here, but it never hurts to be reminded of the great things SDLA affords its members. Thanks to all of you members for making SDLA the wonderful association that it is!
The Advisory Council approved SDLN’s Strategic Plan 2008-2012 at its meeting in Chamberlain. It is available on the SDLN website at http://nickel.sdln.net/templates/about/documents/StrategicPlan.pdf.

SDLN staff members are now identifying specific steps to incorporate into an Action Plan. Once the plan has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee, it too will be available on the SDLN website.

Some of the proposed Action Plan highlights include:

- Get live with Aleph v.18
- Get live with ILL2
- Get ILL interface working with MINITEX
- Review and get Metalib/SFX more functional
- Discuss options to improve Aleph functionality and common projects with North Dakota and Minnesota
- Participate in discussions and demonstrations of potential solutions for small public and K-12 libraries
- Continue discussions with North Dakota and Minnesota regarding options for possible post-Aleph future
- Work with a sub-committee of the Executive Committee to review and recommend cost savings to keep SDLN affordable
- Continue creating and updating training materials, documentation and best practices guides
- Improve communications by utilizing a WIKI
- Identify and recommend Advocacy facts and program

Addressing the challenges of SDLN’s Strategic Plan will be an ongoing effort. After the Action Plan is posted on the SDLN website, feel free to send comments/questions to Warren Wilson at wwilson@sdln.net.

Win your conference registration!

Two lucky SDLA members will receive free registration for the 2009 SDLA Conference

To enter the contest
recruit a new member

Write your name on the membership form on the “recruited by” line. The drawing for the free registrations will be held on July 31. If your name is drawn, you and the new member you recruited will each receive free registration for the 2009 conference.

Prizes are not transferable.

S. D. Library Association
2008-2009 Officers

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Nancy Sabbe
Madison Public Library
nsabbe@sdln.net

Vice-President/President-Elect
Kay Christensen
Augustana College
kay.christensen@augie.edu

Past President
Robin Schrupp
Grant County Library
gclibrary21@hotmail.com

Secretary
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S.D. State Library
julie.erickson@state.sd.us

Treasurer/Executive Secretary
Brenda Hemmelman
PO Box 1212
Rapid City, SD 57709-1212
bkstand@rap.midco.net

ALA Councilor
Lea Briggs
Presentation College
Lea.Briggs@presentation.edu

MPLA Representative
Elvita Landau
Brookings Public Library
elandau@sdln.net

Academic/Special Section Chair
David Gleim
SD State University
david.gleim@sdstate.edu

Public Library Section Chair
Jane Norling
Beresford Public Library
libone@bmct.net

School Library Section Chair
Kerri Smith
SF Public Schools—Washington
kerri.smith@k12.sd.us

Support Staff Section Chair
Jennifer Meiners
Augustana College
jennifer.meiners@augie.edu

Federal Relations Coordinator
Dan Siebersma
S.D. State Library
dan.siebersma@state.sd.us

SDACT
Ann Smith
Sioux Falls School District
ann.smith@k12.sd.us
Pop Open a Good Book!
Kathryn Schulkoski Public Library hosted a “Pop Open a Good Book!” program using the popcorn bag and kernels from Upstart. Every time a child read a library book in the month of November, he/she wrote her name on the popcorn kernel to help fill the popcorn bag. Needless to say, it didn’t take long for the bag to overflow, and both adults and kids liked seeing the bright display on the door.

Donald Fischer, Eureka

New Librarian Joins
H.M. Briggs Library Staff
Welcome to Fei Xu who has joined the H.M. Briggs Library Staff November 10th as the Integrated Systems Librarian. He will primarily provide support and development assistance for serials, cataloging, and acquisitions. He will serve as chemistry and computer sciences bibliographer. Fei Xu was previously employed as a librarian at Barry University Library and at Yellowhead Regional Library. He completed his Masters of Library and Information Studies at McGill University in 2005 and his Master of Science degree in Physical Chemistry from the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1995. He left Florida’s hot tropical weather and hurricanes to brave the snowy Brookings winter. Fei enjoys classical music, table tennis, badminton, and bridge. He can recommend amazing places to visit in China.

Mary Caspers-Gnaper, Brookings

Faith Library hosts Book Fair Safari Family Event!
Get ready...get set, for the 2008 Book Fair Safari...Soma! (Read) Ota! (Dream) Kua! (Grow) is the theme for the book fair this year!

There were no giraffes or elephants stampeding into the library but rather anxious readers. The Faith Library hosted the Book Fair Safari Family Event on Nov. 11 with over 100 people attending the open house. Participants received Safari sunglasses and a chance win a poster. Youth made animal masks, participated in tattoo stickers, and enjoyed looking at the books. The Book Fair continued until Nov. 26 with the Faith Library receiving $500 worth of free books!

Angela Ostrander, Faith

Retirement in Spearfish
Sharon Henry, library director and children’s librarian at Grace Balloch Memorial Library in Spearfish, retires Jan. 2, 2009. In her retirement, she plans to travel and visit her children, grandchildren, and other family, with an immediate trip planned to California, Hawaii, and Australia. Following her travels, she hopes to continue her work with the children’s programming at the library part-time. The new library director will be current Spearfish reference librarian Amber Wilde, formerly of the Vermillion Public Library, the South Dakota State Library, and Black Hills State University Library.

Amber Wilde, Spearfish

Big Stone City School news
Big Stone was one of the many recipients of the “We the People” Picturing America. We display five new pictures in our hallway wall each month. They are gorgeous pictures of America’s history. With the help of 6 volunteer ladies, the library will begin using our new automation system after Christmas break.

Janelle Kelly, Big Stone City

Gregory librarian retires
Janice Tilton retired as the librarian in Gregory as of December 6th. Diane Altoff is acting librarian until the board chooses someone to take over. The library staff consists of Diane, Marge Diedrichsen, Karen Knudsen, and our newest member, hired at the end of November, Ev Jess. Diane Altoff, Gregory

Watertown seeks new Assistant Director
Ann Bailey, Assistant Library Director at Watertown Regional Library since 2004, will be leaving as of January 6th. Ann is moving back to Kansas to join her husband Kevin, who recently started a new job at the Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene Kansas. Ann will be greatly missed!

Mike Mullin, Watertown

In Memory
Pam Lingor

Pam Lingor, director of the Alexander Mitchell Public Library in Aberdeen, passed away Saturday, November 8, 2008 at her home after a 5 year battle with cancer. Pam began her career at the library as a part-time shelver while in high school and worked in every department within the library. She resigned her position in August due to her illness.

An active member of SDLA, Pam served as the Secretary of SDLA from October 2002 - October 2004, a member of the Finance/Membership Committee and the Secretary of the Public Library/Trustees Section.

Pam is survived by her husband, Greg, two sons, Jonathon and Ryan and one grandson, William. Her obituary can be viewed at www.schriversmemorial.com/obits/lingorp.html

State Library adds staff
Brenda Hemmelmen will be joining the State Library in January 2009 as Research/ Government Documents Librarian.
THE ONLY NATIONAL CONFERENCE DEVOTED SOLELY TO THE NEEDS OF SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS.

GET REVVED UP FOR THE AASL 14TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

OVER 100 CONCURRENT SESSIONS
PRECONFERENCES
AUTHOR SIGNINGS
BOOK DISCUSSIONS
SCHOOL TOURS
SPECIALS EVENTS
AND MUCH MORE!

DON’T MISS — Opening General Session Speaker
danah boyd
Dubbed the “high priestess” of networked social media. Expert on online social network sites—interdisciplinary research related to technology, communication, identity and social behavior.

Closing General Session Speaker
Marco Torres
Filmmaker, author of a wide variety of digital content, and high school social studies teacher in California.

NOVEMBER 5-8, 2009
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
Register early and save! www.ala.org/aasl/charlotte

For general information contact the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) at 800-545-2433, ext 4356 or aasl@ala.org
Tricia Currans-Sheehan’s new book *The River Road* is a literary treasure for all of us who grew up surrounded by Midwestern landscapes and rural people. Like her main character, Currans-Sheehan was raised on a rural Iowa farm in the 1960s. This novel captures the essence of rural Iowa, and Currans-Sheehan develops stories that could happen absolutely nowhere else. In this book, we see all the simple beauty, all the tragedy, all the surprises of rural farm living.

*The River Road* offers an unflinching look at rural life. While the storyline focuses on the development of Brigid O’Connor, the main character, it also reveals many unspoken truths that anyone who grew up in such environments will find familiar. In nearly every story, for instance, we meet a family on the river road working to hide family secrets from neighbors—neighbors who already know the truth. Life on the river road is not nearly as simple and mundane as outsiders would suspect. Yes, days revolve around baking angel food cake, harvesting corn, and attending inherently rural events like trap shoots and 4-H meetings; however, there is much, much more going on under the surface.

The most appealing aspect of this novel is its honestly portrayed and endlessly endearing main character. The reader follows Brigid as she matures from a child to a woman despite being deserted by her mother and raised by a reticent farm-working father. Without a mother figure, Brigid seems half child and half adult throughout most of the stories. She makes mature decisions and mature statements, but she is still a child wanting acceptance and searching for her identity. Every step in Brigid’s development is shown to us through a short story—each of which depicts an episode or set of episodes that moves her forward toward understanding herself, her family situation, and her rural existence.

Like the Iowa landscape, Currans-Sheehan’s book has unexpected twists. Readers learn to quit expecting what will happen because they just never know. The odd gets odder and the truth is rarely what was anticipated. This novel takes the reader on a journey compiled of both the simple and the strange, captivating its readers with variety, honesty, and surprises. From beginning to end, the stories never disappoint.

Nicki Yackley-Franken
Lake Area Technical Institute

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**Job Advertisement**

**Assistant Librarian — Watertown, SD — Grade 5**

Starting Salary: $34,663.00 per year

Position is responsible for performing administrative, supervisory, reference, and interlibrary loan functions for the Library. Work includes providing reference services, assisting patrons in the use of computers, selecting materials, and responding to inquiries, requests and complaints from patrons.

A candidate for this position should have a Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science from an accredited college or university and have two (2) years of library experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and a completed city application to: Michael Mullin, Director; Watertown Regional Library, PO Box 250, Watertown, SD 57201-0250. Position is open until filled. Job description and a copy of the city application may be obtained at the Watertown Regional Library 160 6th Street Northeast, Watertown SD or on the library website @ http://watweb.sdln.net/jobopenings.html

Successful applicant must establish residency within Codington County and ten miles of the intersection of Kemp Avenue and Broadway Street within 6 months of being hired.

The City of Watertown does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. The City is an equal employment opportunity employer.

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**South Dakota Library Association**

Make plans now to attend a Spring Forum. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather with colleagues to learn and share.

**Sturgis Public Library**

Watertown Regional Library

Dates will be announced soon!

If you have a program idea or presenter suggestion or would like to present at one or both of the forums, contact Nancy Sabbe (nsabbe@sdln.net) or your section chair (see pg. 3)!
SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership year runs January through December. Dues received after September 1 will be credited to the following year.

PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP: Librarians, support staff, retired members, trustee, friends of libraries, and other individuals. New members are those who have not been active for the past five years. Only personal members receive member rates at conference.

DUES SCHEDULE: Sliding scale based on income for library-related position.

New members use following schedule then deduct 50%.

New membership _____ or renewal ______?

If new, please tell us who recruited you ______________________________________________

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ENTER PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP DUES HERE (Minimum: $15) .........................$____________

SECTIONS: Select two FREE sections with personal membership. Additional sections are $5.

___ Academic//Health/Special       ___Public and Trustee       ___SDACT
___ School Library Media          ___ Support Staff

ENTER ADDITIONAL SECTION MEMBERSHIP DUES HERE ........................................$____________

COMMITTEE INTERESTS: Please check committees on which you would like to serve:

___ Certification and Accreditation
___ School Standards
___ Finance / Membership
___ Public Relations
___ Bylaws and Procedures
___ Library Issues
___ Nominating
___ Professional Development
___ Intellectual Freedom

TOTAL DUES: ..............................................................................................................$____________

Make checks payable to the SDLA. Canceled check is your receipt.

Mail form & check to: SDLA, PO Box 1212, Rapid City, SD 57709-1212.

Full Name ___________________________________________________________________
Position/Title __________________________________________________________________
Institution _____________________________________________________________________
Street _________________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________ State ______________ Zip ______________
Phone __________________________ Email ________________________________________

Would you be willing to run or be nominated for an SDLA office? Yes No
Check here if you do not want your name sold with membership lists ______
Renew your SDLA membership today!
You can renew online and pay by credit card or use the renewal form on the front of this page.

Check out the SDLA web site for more information
www.sdlibraryassociation.org
Click on Join SDLA

Don't Forget

Happy New Year

South Dakota Library Association
Rapid City, SD 57709-1212
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