FAREWELL FROM ALICE

As I go through my thirteen years of library files and mementos in preparation for retirement, I find myself awash in memories of time spent as library director here in Bozeman. I have spent 43 years working, first as an English teacher for 4 years and the last 39 in libraries—my passion. Working at this job has fulfilled my ambition of helping to create a striking architectural, literary, and cultural center for our residents. Lately, people I do not know have stopped me to thank me for my role in this Library; their words have brought tears to my eyes as I realize its significance to them and me.

It was not an easy building project, as the bond referendum only produced one-fourth of what we needed, and the rest had to be raised dollar by dollar. It obviously would not have happened without our Boards (Library, Foundation, and Friends), our staff, and our munificent donors but it was always for the public good that we progressed. So I feel great about the outcome and will always remember traveling to the White House to receive the 2003 National Award for Museum & Library Service given to our Library by First Lady Laura Bush for partnerships such as the one established with Yellowstone Public Radio.

The Library has grown in size, staff, collection, and many other services such as the museum pass, which residents use and appreciate, so I feel that it is indeed time to rest and travel (New York and New Zealand). But I cannot leave without a fond farewell to all of you for making Bozeman “the most livable city” and our Library an integral part!

— Alice Meister

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Once again the Library is dressed up for the holidays! Thanks to the Library Foundation, Library staff, donors, and volunteers, the Library is festively decorated, both inside and out—just in time for the Christmas Stroll activities on Saturday, December 4. The Foundation says “Happy Holiday” with free cookies in the lobby starting at 2pm, courtesy of Costco.

The schedule of events on Saturday:
2:00-4:00 Ornament-making (Children’s Room)
2:00 Singing Souls Senior Chorus
3:00 Whittier Elementary Choir
3:30 Rhonda the Rodeo Queen
4:00 BHS Kamerata Orchestra
4:30 Morning Star Choir
5:00 MSU Horns
5-7 Cookie Decorating!
5:30 Rhonda the Rodeo Queen

Please join us for a party on Friday, December 17 from 3-6pm at the Library.
6:00 SMS Girls Choir
6:30 BHS Jazz Choir

You can buy your $3 Stroll button at the Library to ride the horse-drawn hay wagon to festivities downtown. Also, drink specials at Lindley Perk! Thanks to Rosauers, Safeway, and Fancy Flours for cookie decoration supplies.

BOOK CLUBS MEET

The Friends of Bozeman Public Library Book Club meets Wednesday, December 1 at 7:30pm to discuss Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte in the Large Community Room. Jack Kligerman will lead the discussion. A classic novel of the turbulent love story of Cathy and Heathcliff, it is Bronte’s only novel, first published in 1847. For more information please call 582-2410 or visit our website.

The Great Books Discussion group will not meet in December. For more information, call Neil Lynch at 763-4380.

The Kids’ Book Club is open to all readers ages 8 and up, and parents are welcome. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 16 at 4pm in the Student Corner to talk about The School Story by Andrew Clements. For more information, please call the Children’s Desk at 582-2404.

Middle School Book Club A new book club for students ages 11-14 will meet on Thursday, December 16 at 4pm in the Teen Corner to discuss Mister Monday by Garth Nix, the first in the Keys to the Kingdom series. For more information email kholloway@bozeman.net.

GADGET FAIR

Are you looking for a cool gift for a friend or maybe something for Santa to bring you? Join us Dec. 11 from 1-3:00 pm in the Large Community Room to find out about some fun new electronics. The Library will be partnering with Vann’s and F-11 to show a variety of items including e-readers, helmet cams, iPad and accessories... and more!

JUNGIAN THEORY SERIES

Montana Friends of Jung and the Library offer the final program in a series of DVD seminars on the themes of Jungian-oriented theory by Murray Stein. The program will be held on Saturday, December 11 from 9am to 2pm. “Active Imagination & Use of Images in Jungian Analysis” is an important method for engaging the unconscious and promoting the more advanced stages of the individuation process. Continuing education credits are available, but you must call 587-9300 to pre-register.

EXPLORE THE PEACE CORPS

Peace Corp Volunteer Ryan Goehrung will be at the Library on Saturday, December 18 to discuss his experiences as a volunteer in the Philippines. Ryan will be in the Small Conference Room from 10:00 to 5:00 with information on Peace Corp service. He will answer questions and discuss some of his projects. At 1:00 Ryan will give a public talk on the Philippines, Philippine culture, and highlight some of the environmental issues he is working on.

Ryan has just completed his first year of service in a two-year assignment working as a Coastal Resource Management Specialist on the island of Palawan. He has worked with kelp farmers, established a mussel farm for the protection and propagation of mussels, and assisted in the drafting of legislation to establish sustainable fishing practices to discourage cyanide and dynamite fishing.

In addition to working with fisherman and governmental offices, he has also been working with the World Wildlife Foundation on coral reef restoration and protection. For more information, call 582-3232.
HANUKKAH PROGRAM DEC. 11

On Saturday, December 11 at 2 pm in the Children’s Room, a group of children from Congregation Beth Shalom in Bozeman will put on a puppet show that tells that story of Hanukkah, the Jewish festival of lights. Come learn about the customs, foods, and traditions associated with this holiday.

FREE YOGA CONTINUES

Join other babies, moms, dads, and caregivers on Tuesdays at 11:00 am for yoga with Karen Averitt. It’s open to all levels; bring your own mat. Call 582-2426 for more information.

FROM THE FRIENDS

The Friends’ Fall used book sale was a wonderful success. Thanks to the many volunteers, the patrons, and the community members who donated books. The used book sales are only possible because of the tremendous efforts and the very generous donations of so many—thanks for making this fun and worthwhile event happen and, by doing so, benefitting our library. A whole range of books went out the door to new homes far and wide, including some special "collectibles" and a mass of children's literature. Stay tuned for the Spring sale in March.

Used books and other items continue to be available for sale at Lindley Perk Coffee Shop. The assortment of used books available for purchase present a nice range of gift-giving options for the upcoming holiday season, and their purchase raises money for the Friends. Consider picking up some good books for yourself or as gifts this year!

FOUNDATION BOARD

The Library Foundation says goodbye to three board members: Rick Allen, Heather Jernberg, and Jennifer Morrical. All have brought skills, experience, and energy that will be missed as we move into 2011. Their guidance and commitment during their terms served the Library well. Please join with us in thanking them for their years of volunteer service. A book for each will placed in the permanent collection in their honor.

SAY THANKS WITH A DONATION TO THE LIBRARY

The Library Foundation provides many of the “extras” that simply aren’t possible within the Library budget. This year, the Foundation sprung for the last big-ticket item—the stack lighting, which completes the capital campaign purchases. The need for lights has become very apparent with the early change to darkness. Be sure to stop in one evening to become "illuminated” at the Library!

In addition to the lights, this year the Foundation added more park benches, helped with landscaping needs, purchased materials requested through memorials, paid for staff to attend regional and national conferences, and provided the funding to upgrade the Library’s website to ADA standards, among the many other projects. On top of helping to meet these concrete needs, the Foundation also hosted over 100 free programs for the community throughout the year!

If you would like to share in this success, please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Bozeman Library Foundation to continue the support of our great Library. How many times have you heard someone say “I love the Library!” or said it yourself? Please show your love with a contribution. To give a gift, please visit our new website at www.bozemanlibraryfoundation.org. If you’d like to consider a planned gift or memorial to the Foundation, please talk to your financial advisor and Paula Beswick, foundation director. Please call her at 582-2426 or stop by her office upstairs. Your tax-deductible contributions are needed and appreciated.

The Library is CLOSED
on Friday, December 24
and Saturday, December 25
TAX RELIEF & PLANNING

A two-hour workshop, “End-of-the-Year Tax Relief and Tax Planning for the Future” will be held on Thursday, December 9 at 7pm in the Conference Room. Presented by John Shellenberger, the free program will offer tips on reducing reportable income, deductible retirement savings options, and information on tax deductions, tax credits, and tax deferral. You will learn about tax-advantage investment instruments and profitable tax savings steps that you can take now. This is not a sales presentation; no products will be offered for sale. John Shellenberger has been a Certified Financial Planner for 30 years. He is an Investment Advisory Associate with Pacific West Financial Consultants with securities offered through Pacific West Securities, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC.

SHOW BENEFITS LIBRARY

Bozeman artist Vicki Fish is known for her sometimes serious, sometimes whimsical mixed media constructions that tell stories, reflect on the human condition, and relay the ironies of life’s situations. A new series of pieces utilize vintage family portraits irreverently modified by the artist. A percentage of the proceeds from this show will be donated to the Friends of the Bozeman Public Library.

The opening reception is on Friday, December 10 from 5-8pm in tartoo, tart’s new gallery space in room #107B of the Emerson Center. The show will be on display through February 9.

SECRET GIFT SHOP

The annual Secret Gift Shop for children ages 3-8 will be held on Thursday, December 23 at both 3 and 4pm. Parents drop their child off in the Community Room so they can make two small gifts for family members. Registration is required; please call 582-2404 to sign up.

READY 2 READ GOES WILD!

You can check out an owl trunk, with puppets, books, and more by calling the Children’s Desk at 582-2404. More information at our website!