

BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
March 5, 2009

State Librarian's Report

1. Kaneohe Public Library Wireless

Kaneohe Public Library is now the Hawaii State Public Library System's (HSPLS) second wireless hot spot. The Friends of Kaneohe Library provided necessary funding and worked with our Electronic Services Support Section (ESSS) to install and fine tune the devices for public access as well as to maintain necessary statistics.

We are happy to be able to offer this very popular, in-demand service for our patrons even as we are struggling to meet further budgetary restrictions.

2. March Madness & Murder @ Your Library

The Friends of the Library of Hawaii (FLH) will sponsor three presentations by best-selling authors over the next week: this Saturday, March 7, McCully-Moilili Public Library will host Kelly Armstrong (kelleyarmstrong.com) author of Personal Demon and Exit Strategy at 10:30 am; Sunday, March 8, Kaneohe Public Library will host Dana Stabenow (stabenow.com), author of Blindfold Game and Prepared for Rage at 10:30 am; and on Tuesday the 10th, Kapolei Public Library will host Unnatural Selection author Aaron Elkins (aaronelkins.com) at 6:30 pm.

These presentations are coordinated with the Left Coast Crime writers conference on the Big Island from March 6-12.

3. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Programs and Exhibit at Hawaii State Library

Next Thursday, March 12th at 11 am the Hawaii State Library (HSL) will host a special preview event for the Lincoln Bicentennial Exhibit featuring the Ewa Elementary School Chorus under the direction of Nolan Santa Ana. The official opening of the exhibit will be the following Saturday, March 14 at 11 am. Dr. Mitch Yamasaki from Chaminade University will deliver the keynote address "Abraham Lincoln: a Man of His Time, a Man for All Times" and there will be a performance by the Marine Forces-Pacific Brass Band. In addition, poster contest winners, including artwork by seven public school students, will be on display in the library for the duration of the exhibit.

Future programs will be presented Saturdays from March 12 to April 4.

4. Tax Check-Off Box Campaign

Since 2004, Hawaii taxpayers have been able to designate a portion of their tax returns as a donation to HSPLS. Since then, thousands of taxpayers have expressed their support by donating \$2.00 from an individual return or \$4.00 from a joint return. These donated funds, which totaled \$99 thousand last tax year, have enabled us to purchase a variety of books published about Hawaii as well as additional copies of many children's books and other materials. Especially now, these funds will allow us to purchase materials which we would otherwise be unable to provide for our patrons, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to make a donation to Hawaii's public libraries.

5. State and Federal Tax Forms Available

Hawaii State Tax Forms are available at all our public libraries once again this year, courtesy of a continuing partnership between the Hawaii State Public Library System and the Department of Taxation. Library staff will supply forms, but are not trained to assist with tax questions or preparation.

Federal tax forms are available at 41 public libraries statewide including: Oahu – Aiea, Aina Haina, Hawaii Kai, Hawaii State Library-Federal Documents Section, Kahuku, Kailua, Kaimuki, Kalihi-Palama, Kaneohe, Kapolei, Liliha, Manoa, McCully-Moiliili, Pearl City, Salt Lake-Moanalua, Wahiawa, Waialua, Waianae and Waimanalo; Big Island – Bond, Hilo, Honokaa, Kailua-Kona, Kealahou, Mountain View, Naalehu, Pahala; Kauai – Hanapepe, Kapaa, Koloa, Lihue, Princeville, Waimea; Maui/Lanai/Molokai – Hana, Kahului, Kihei, Lahaina, Lanai, Makawao, Molokai, Wailuku.

For Federal tax information or to print/download forms, you may access the Internal Revenue Service's website at www.irs.ustreas.gov/formspubs/index.html.

Tax forms for Hawaii as well as Federal forms and forms from other states may be accessed around the clock remotely via our online database LegalForms, from Gale Cengage Learning. This database may be accessed at www.librarieshawaii.org: under "e-Resources" click on "Other Databases," scroll down to click on "LegalForms," then click on the appropriate link to individual state or federal tax offices.

6. Special Assistant to the State Librarian

Special Assistant to the State Librarian Claire Ikehara has graciously accepted appointment to one of our vacant Neighbor Island District Administrator positions. Staff in our branches across the state desperately need the direction, support, training, and mentoring these positions were created to provide, and we are fortunate Ms. Ikehara is willing to assume the challenges and opportunities they offer.

The Special Assistant, the second highest position in HSPLS, will remain vacant for the immediate future as we continue to confront the daunting prospect of closing libraries and laying off staff.

7. Hawaii State Public Library System Year in Review

Susan Nakata, Head of our Library Development Services Section (LDSS) will present the HSPLS Year in Review.