Meet the New State Librarian

By Paul H. Mark

Richard Burns, Branch Manager of Kapolei Public Library for the past four years, a former Public Librarian of the Year, and an avid sports fan “hit the ground running” as the new State Librarian of the Hawaii State Public Library System. The State Board of Education had appointed Burns to be Hawaii’s eighth State Librarian effective January 2008, succeeding Jo Ann Schindler, who retired in December 2007.

“We all thank Jo Ann Schindler for her 30 years of exemplary service to the people of Hawaii and the Hawaii State Public Library System and wish her all the best in her retirement,” said Burns. “I look forward to working with the Board of Education, our talented, creative and hard-working staff, and most of all our patrons throughout the state!”

Under the direction of the BOE, the State Librarian is responsible for the operation, planning, programming, and budgeting of the 51 public and public & school libraries statewide. The State Librarian oversees library services, collections, and programs that fulfill the mission of the Hawaii State Public Library System.

Burns, a 24-year veteran of HSPLS, was selected as the 2003 Public Librarian of the Year by the Hawaii Library Foundation, which merged with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii in the following year. He was nominated for his outstanding work as branch manager of the Waimanalo Public and School Library, where he served from January 1999 to June 2003.

In addition, Burns, who began his HSPLS career in June 1983, has served at seven other Oahu libraries as a library assistant, library technician, bookmobile librarian, children’s librarian, young adult librarian, and adult services librarian.

“There are so many new, valuable materials, programs and services libraries are able to offer our patrons that it is an exciting time to visit, and to work in, Hawaii’s public libraries,” Burns said. “If you have not visited a library lately, now is the time!”

Burns earned two Masters degrees from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, one in Library Science and the other in Political Science. He is a member of Beta Phi Mu, the International Library Science Honor Society, and a former President of the Librarians’ Association of Hawaii and the Hawaii Library Consortium. Burns received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from UCLA.

Kathleen Ageton (center) of Kihei Public Library was recently honored as the 2007 Friends’ Public Librarian of the Year at the Hawaii State Library. From left are two of three 2007 Excellence in Service Award winners Lawrence Nihoa (Kapolei Public Library) and Debra Wong-Yuen (Pahala Public & School Library). Not in photo: Lisa Cabudol (Naalehu Public Library). This annual awards program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii and Borders Books & Music.
New Teen Titles

By Edna Weeks, Section Head, Hawaii State Library-Young Adult Section

The following are selections from the American Library Association’s 2007 Teens’ Top Ten list:

Stephenie Meyer
NEW MOON
(Gr. 9-12) Bella and Edward find themselves facing new obstacles, including a devastating separation, the mysterious appearance of wolves roaming the forest in Forks, a threat from a female vampire, and an encounter with the Volturi, Italian vampires.

Sarah Dessen
JUST LISTEN
(Gr. 9-12) Annabel has been dropped by her best friend Sophie, and she feels like she has lost everything. When she meets reformed bad boy Owen, she is finally able to face what happened the night she and Sophie stopped being friends.

Simon Elkeles
HOW TO RUIN A SUMMER VACATION
(Gr. 8-10) The last thing 16-year-old Amy wants to do for the summer is head to Israel with her estranged Israeli father, who’s dragging her to a war zone to meet a family she’s never known...a summer with no friends, no shopping, no cell phone.

Susan Beth Pfeffer
LIFE AS WE KNEW IT
(Gr. 6-8) Through journal entries, 16-year-old Miranda describes her family’s struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

James Patterson
MAXIMUM RIDE: SCHOOL’S OUT – FOREVER
(Gr. 7-10) Bird-kid Max and her flock fly south on a perilous journey to find their parents. Just when they think they have escaped the Erasers, an FBI agent discovers them and forces them to go to school.

For the other Teens’ Top Ten titles and for more information, visit http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teensstopten.cfm.

TOPICsearch, from front page

search by clicking on “Limiters” and selecting among the following four ways:

Full Text: Check the box marked “Linked Full Text” if you only want full text articles.

Current Events: For a discussion on the 2008 Presidential Campaign, you may want to focus on one of the candidates. Type the candidate’s name in the “Find” window and highlight “2008 Presidential Campaign” in the “Current Events” window. For example, should you choose Mitt Romney, the results will be 18. Click on “Newspapers” and the results will be narrowed down to seven. Clicking on “Images” will give you a picture right before each citation.

Topics: Should you need to write a report on “drug abuse,” select it from the “Topics” window. To narrow this topic further, select an aspect of drug abuse to focus on, e.g. “Steroids.” Place this word in the “Find” window.

Lexile Reading Level: To select a reading level, go to the “Lexile Reading Level” window and highlight your level of interest. Three options are available: grades 5-8, 9-12 or choose “All.”

An Advanced Search will provide added abilities to search for each term within fields: Text, title, subject, journal, ISSN, geographic terms, abstract, and text.

TOPICS search is provided through Federal Library Services and Technology Act funding, which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Vivian Aiona, wife of Lt. Gov. James “Duke” Aiona, Jr., and author/entrepreneur Wally Amos, were special guest readers for the Hawaii State Library’s recent “Joy Luck Club” Adult Story Program. This program was part of The Big Read in Hawaii, a statewide celebration of special events from September - December 2007. The Big Read in Hawaii is coordinated by the Hawaii Capital Cultural District and its partner affiliates – the Office of the Governor, Hawaii Council for the Humanities, the Manoa Foundation, State Dept. of Education, and the Hawaii State Public Library System. Additional support has been provided by the Kellogg Foundation, State Dept. of Human Services and the Friends of the Library of Hawaii.