



# HoloIMua

Hawaii State Public Library System

August 2009

## E-mail Notification Offered to Patrons

*The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) now offers a faster and more efficient way to notify patrons of reserves and items overdue.*

**H**SPLS has implemented an e-mail option allowing patrons to receive electronic notices rather than post cards. In addition to being environmentally-friendly, patrons who switch to e-mail notification will receive notices sooner than if they were sent via U.S. mail. The e-mail notification program is expected to significantly reduce HSPLS paper and postage expenses.

To receive e-mail notices, patrons may visit any public library, present their valid Library card and PIN, and staff will start the notification process.

Patrons may also register for this option online but must go in-person to any HSPLS Library to activate their account. Here are the steps to sign up online:

1) visit the HSPLS Homepage: [www.librarieshawaii.org](http://www.librarieshawaii.org), click on "My Account" on the sidebar menu; 2) enter your library card barcode and PIN number to login; 3) select and click on "Profile" from the menu; 4) scroll down to "E-mail information." Enter the e-mail address where you want to receive your library notices. If your e-mail address is already entered, double check to make sure that is the e-mail address where you want your library notices sent. Enter any correc-

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### Mark Your Calendars

All libraries will be closed to observe the following holidays; visit [www.librarieshawaii.org](http://www.librarieshawaii.org) or call your local library for more information:

**Aug. 21 – Statehood Day Holiday**  
**Sept. 5-7 – Labor Day Holiday**

## HSPLS Exploring Alternatives to Library Closures

**I**n July, the Board of Education (BOE) voted not to close libraries at this time. An alternate plan that does not include closing any libraries is scheduled to be presented to the BOE's Committee on Budget and Fiscal Accountability on August 26.

What other options are being considered? "The total budget cut for HSPLS this fiscal year is approximately \$5.7 million, which amounts to almost a 20 percent reduction," said State Librarian Richard Burns. "Alternatives being considered include freezing all current vacancies, reducing temporary and student hires, and negotiating a furlough plan with the public employee unions. These actions will definitely impact public services."

"If staff furloughs are implemented," Burns continued, "all public service days and hours will be impacted. The new schedule will be part of the negotiations with the public employee unions."

How can the public help the Library System? "The public can best assist HSPLS by joining a local friends group that supports the library; making a monetary donation of any amount (checks may be made payable to the branch or to the Hawaii State Public Library System c/o the Office of the State Librarian, 44 Merchant St., Honolulu, HI 96813); donating new, quality materials to the library; and advocating for the library system with your local legislators and the governor," said Burns. "We have always appreciated strong support in our communities across the state, even more so during these challenging times."



Burns

## Libraries Eligible for \$582,000 Gates Foundation Grant

**T**he Hawaii State Public Library System is eligible for a \$582,000 Opportunity Online hardware grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help provide free, high-quality access to computer workstations in Hawaii's public libraries.

The two-year Opportunity Online hardware grants program will provide funding to replace, and in some cases add, up to 373 public computer workstations in libraries, as well as for associated training and tech support. The program is focused on helping libraries serving populations most in need and which are vulnerable to having their technology services become obsolete. Eligible libraries must obtain local funding commitments that demonstrate community support for maintaining computer upgrades.

The Friends of the Library of Hawaii (FLH) will play a leading role in providing matching funds of about \$388,000 required by the grant program. "Funding provided by this grant will dramatically improve computer access at public libraries and provide the technology required to meet the growing needs of our communities," said Byrde Cestare, FLH Executive Director.

With almost 40 percent of Americans still lacking Internet access at home, libraries are a critical link to technology for many who cannot afford the service on their own. Millions of Americans use computers and the Internet at public libraries to earn

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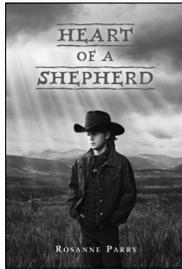


## Recommended Children's Books

By Vicky Dworkin and Donna Tokumaru,  
Children's Librarians, Hawaii State Library

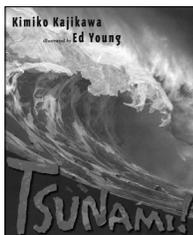
**Rosanne Parry**  
**HEART OF A SHEPHERD**

(Gr. 4-6) Everyone calls him Brother. His dad's reserve battalion has been sent to Iraq. His brothers are away at school or in the military. That leaves Brother and his grandparents to run the ranch. Is it all going to be too much for them?



**Kimiko Kajikawa**  
**TSUNAMI!**

(K-Gr. 3) Ed Young's breathtaking artwork illustrates the story of Ojisan, a Japanese peasant who saves his entire village from a tsunami – by setting his crops on fire, sacrificing his livelihood.



**Robert Burleigh**  
**ONE GIANT LEAP**

(Gr. 1-3) The author introduces young readers to the moon landing of astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on July 20, 1969. Compelling imagery and poetic language recreate the exciting moments of the historic event.



Other recommended books:  
**Kate McMullan**  
**I'M BAD!** (Preschool-Gr. 2)

**Graham Salisbury**  
**CALVIN COCONUT: TROUBLE MAGNET** (Gr. 3-5)

**Marion Lyman-Mersereau**  
**EDDIE WEN' GO: THE STORY OF THE UPSIDE-DOWN CANOE** (Gr. 3 and older)

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long-distance learning degrees, start and advance small businesses, obtain critical health information, research employment opportunities, learn English, find e-government information, and more.

"Computer and Internet access have become essential services that our patrons demand" said State Librarian Richard Burns. "It is critical that we have the resources necessary to properly maintain these technology tools so that our libraries can help all people in Hawaii access the information they need to succeed and to contribute to our community."

While nearly 100 percent of U.S. public libraries now offer free computer and Internet services, many struggle to maintain them as budget cuts threaten to close libraries, reduce operating hours, limit access to staff training and technical support, and make it difficult to keep pace with new technologies. Locally, infrastructure for HSPLS' 51 branches is inadequate to support the growing Internet demand because the average Hawaii public library has a 256 KBPS connection to the network and the Internet. At present, libraries are unable to support high bandwidth uses such as MP3 (video and sound files), video-streaming (news video clips), and interactive communication.

"Fast, reliable online access can open a world of economic, educational, and social opportunities," said Jill Nishi, deputy director of the U.S. Libraries Initiative at the Gates Foundation. "It is imperative that all communities acknowledge the role our libraries play in providing this service and give libraries the support they need to continue providing critical technology tools long into the future."

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tions or changes, if necessary; 5) click on "Update"; 6) logout; 7) go to any HSPLS Library Circulation Desk and ask the staff to activate e-mail notices for your account. For verification purposes, show your Library card and provide your PIN to the staff.

Join more than 1,000 satisfied HSPLS patrons who have already taken advantage of this cost-effective and time-saving method!

# Donations of Tax Refunds Exceed \$90,000

Hawaii's public libraries received \$90,304 in tax refund donations for the first half of 2009 as thousands of taxpayers demonstrated their support for the Hawaii State Public Library System by donating a portion of their 2008 tax refunds to the HSPLS Special Fund.

"We would like to send a special thank you to all those who have contributed to Hawaii's public libraries through this annual donation program," said State Librarian Richard Burns. "Your continued support will make it possible for HSPLS to purchase books and other materials that will benefit library patrons of all ages."

While HSPLS faces challenging economic times, the public can make a difference by spreading the word about this effortless fundraising campaign and by contributing a portion of their tax refunds to the HSPLS Special Fund.

Thank you for your continued support and generous contributions!



**Holo I Mua**

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