

BAHAMAS PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2009



News Notes

International Literacy Day

September 8th 2009 is designated International Literacy Day under the theme: "Literacy and Empowerment". Libraries have been and still promote literacy everyday as we encourage users to read for information and pleasure. Unfortunately, there are many here and around the world who are unable to read, write and compute simple Arithmetic. Although the school is the main institution that teaches students reading, writing and numeric skills, we as family members and workers at the library also assist by either becoming qualified literacy tutors or providing space for literacy

tutors and students who need help with fundamental reading skills.

According to UNESCO "On a global scale, one in five adults cannot read nor write. According to the latest estimates, 776 million people are illiterate and two-thirds of these are women. In a modern world, such levels are unacceptable" <http://www.unesco.org/en/literacy/why-the-literacy-decade/>

Ministry of Education has declared September as Literacy month. National Library and Information Services

(NLIS) will focus on a number of activities such as displays / exhibitions, music, and skits featuring not only basic literacy skills such as reading, writing and Arithmetic often referred to as the 3Rs but also information literacy skills. Information literacy is usually described in the field of Library Science as the ability "to recognize when information is needed and the ability to locate, evaluate and use effectively the needed information" (Presidential Committee on Information Literacy. 1989, p. 1). In light of this, information literacy is the basis for life-long learning.

Influenza A H1N1

To prevent the spread of Influenza A H1N1 virus, please advise staff and patrons to be vigilant and adhere to strict basic hygiene such frequent washing of the hands. Custodian staff are advised to use one part bleach to ten part water in cleaning desk and chair surfaces, doorknobs and the like. Ministry of Education through a special programme will provide more information

concerning precaution to be taken. Visit the MOE Website at www.bahamaseducation.com to learn more on this important subject.

NEWSLETTER

September 2009

Special points of interest:

- International Literacy Day- 8th September 2009
- Deadline for Library Reports - 11th September 2009
- Information Literacy Club and Library Cadet Meeting and Training- Under the Reading Tent (On the grounds NLIS Administration and BLS Info-Ref Centre) Friday, 25th September 2009 3:15-5pm
- Visit of author and motivational speaker 25th September 2009 under the tent- NLIS, College Avenue
- Bookmark Competition and exciting prizes open to all students between the ages 5-17 years- Fabulous prizes. See www.bahamaslibraries.org website (home page right column) for details

Inside this issue:

Bookmark Competition	2
Booklist -Read To Lead Programme	2
Library Outreach Committee Meeting times	2
Announcements	3
NLIS Organization Contact Information	4

Bookmark Competition

Bookmark competition opens to all students between ages 5-17 years. Exciting prizes would be given to winners in three categories. For more details, please see our library system's website www.bahamaslibraries.org

Deadline for submission of bookmarks at your nearest public library or NLIS Central Office, College Avenue is 30th October 2009.

New Books for 'Read to Lead' Programme

The new selection of books for the MOE-READ TO LEAD Programme conducted weekly during the first two terms of the new year in Primary Schools Grades 4,5&6 (volunteers visit schools once a week to read for half hour to students excerpts of the books followed by

questions and answers)

Book Selection
Riding the Storm
By Ben Baglio

Tale of Despereaux
By Kate DiCamillo



Library Outreach Programme Committee

Suggested Time for future Meetings

It was the general consensus that for future meetings that the time to be considered is 9 a. m. so that members would be able to get to work closer to their starting time. Next meeting will be held 7th Oct. 2009 (BLS) All library staff wishing to be a part of the **Out-reach Programme** are asked to give names to Mrs. Bowler, Head librarian/ Director of Libraries or e-mail Mrs. Ivy Campbell (ivycam@hotmail.com) at Elizabeth Estates Library.

Current Members of the Committee are:

Mrs. S. Cartwright..... Lillian G. Weir-Coakley/formerly Southern Public Library

Ms. C. Ingraham.....Elizabeth Estates Library

Mrs. T. McKinney.....BLS

Mrs. A. Stubbs.....Elizabeth Estates Library

Ms. G. Stuart..... Lillian G. Weir-Coakley/ Southern Public Library

Mrs. S. Coleby..... Coconut Grove Library

Ms. I. Campbell.....Elizabeth Estates Library

Mrs. Murphy.....Nassau Public Library

Mrs. P. Clarke...Consultant, Eliz. Est. Lib.

Announcements

The next Library Cadet Meeting will be held September 25th 2009 at the Bahamas Library Services Building at the usual time.

ALA (American Library Association) Conference will be held in Washington D. C. June 24-29, 2010.

Members of the Public Libraries are asked to indicate their interest by contacting BLS for the terms and conditions.

Supervisors should suggest nominations of employee of

the month and additional Categories for upcoming Library Conference to be held in The Bahamas.

Long serving members, Friends of the Library, Library Trustees and others will be recognized at this conference.

Librarians should think of possible sponsors for the next **Library Conference** which will be held on a date to be announced.

Want to find out how students get An A on exams? Or decide on the right career?

Attend the next Library Cadet meeting/Seminar 30th October 2009 on the above subjects at the usual time and place. (BLS, College Ave.) at 3:15-5pm.

Condolences are extended to:

Mrs. Marina Moultrie-Farrington and family, Coconut Grove Library on the passing of her son.

Ms. Laurine McPhee, Carmichael Road Library and family on the passing of her mother.

Mrs. Arodeanna Turnquest Stubbs, Elizabeth Estates Library, close relative

passed.

Dr. Leon Higgs, Director of Higher Education and Lifelong Learning (DHE&LL), Ministry of Education (MOE) on the passing of his sister.

Other staff members have lost loved ones but prefer that no announcements be made. We respect their privacy and extend our heartfelt sympathy.

Retirement

Mrs. Shirley Whyllly, Carmichael Library and Mrs. Maude Neely, G.K. Symonette retired recently. We wish them all the best and a life of enjoyment with their families.



**NATIONAL LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION SERVICES**

**P.O. Box N-3913/14
Nassau, Bahamas**

Phone: 242-326-0162-4/322-4973

Fax: 242-326-0165

Email:

info@bahamaslibraries.org

Visit us at
www.bahamaslibraries.org

National Library and Information Services provides advocacy for public libraries in The Bahamas and also has the task of uniting over 34 public libraries in New Providence and the Family Islands into one modern, automated system, offering quality, standardized services in all islands.

CELEBRATION OF LITERACY MONTH

National Library and Information Services will direct users to view posters, and take along pamphlets, brochures and book marks promoting reading as a way of life. The annual International Literacy Day speech will be heard via ZNS and our local Community Library radio station InfoLight 91.1 FM on the 8th September 09. There will also be an abundance of literature featuring AIDS, the environment and hurricane preparedness in the foyer of the NLIS during the month. In addition, success stories of how individual public libraries and library staff promote reading through various activities including, Summer Reading programmes, personal assistance given to students on a daily basis by hardworking library staff and the establishment of monthly enrichment reading initiatives in various libraries throughout the country will be highlighted. The month climaxes with a special Library Cadet Programme scheduled to be held under the tent at NLIS, College Avenue on Friday 25th September 2009 from 3:15 to 5pm with special guest author and motivational speaker, Quamme Joseph highlighting his book "The Power Of A Dream".