

# BookBytes

Volume V, Issue 3

Compliments of the Friends of the Library

July-September, 2004



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## Library Awarded a \$50,000 Federal LSTA Grant

The Fairfield County Library will receive \$50,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act funds which will be used to upgrade the library's Dynix automation system.

The grant is funded by the South Carolina State Library through the LSTA state administered program under the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Public Library Automation grants are competitive and are awarded once a year. Matching funds for the grant will come from South Carolina Education Lottery funds and local in-kind staff time.

The library automated its circulation, cataloging and public access catalog in 1990 using Dynix Classic software. Over the years, that software has been upgraded incrementally to keep pace with new developments in library services. Within the next six to eight months the library will move to a new genera-



*System Administrator Mike Poole prepares to take on the Dynix upgrade!*

tion of Dynix software named Horizon.

Horizon is a client server system which will run on a Windows-based platform. PC's will replace the current catalog and circulation terminals. The online catalog will have a new, more graphical look displaying book jackets and links to book reviews. Patron information and library holdings information will transfer to the new software, so current library cards will still be valid.



Summer Youth Program workers Lizzy Fowler and Jennifer McGriff shelve new DVD's.

## Library Adds DVD's to Collection

The library will soon add approximately 150 DVD's to its collection of audio-visual materials. Here is some information about the new service.

- DVD's will circulate under the same policies as videos.
- DVD's will be shelved in the new book area and housed in security cases that must be unlocked at the circulation desk during checkout.
- Patrons are strongly encouraged to limit their checkout to two DVD's per visit so that everyone will have a chance to use the new materials.
- The DVD collection will include movies for adults and children.

# DIRECTOR'S DESK

SARAH MCMASTER

The legislative session that just ended demonstrates that South Carolina citizens value their public libraries and that legislators do listen to their constituents.

The Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA) worked very hard to advance an agenda that would restore funding for public libraries. State Aid to Public Libraries has been cut by over 50% in the last several years. (Fairfield County receives the minimum grant of \$40,000 so the cut has not been as drastic for us as for larger counties.) State Aid comes from the state's general fund budget and the prospect of any increase there was slim.

So APLA turned it's attention to funding from

the South Carolina Education Lottery. Libraries were already receiving 1.5 million in lottery funding for technology. For FY 04-05, the legislature approved doubling that to 3 million with a proviso that would allow up to 50% of the funds to be spent for library materials such as books. In addition, a one-time appropriation of \$50,000 per county will come from surplus lottery funds.

Many library supporters all over South Carolina called or wrote their legislators. I'm proud to say that Rep. Creighton Coleman and Sen. Linda Short were both very instrumental in helping to get this improved funding for public libraries. Make sure to say thanks when you see them! *As always, feel free to reach me at the library by phone (635-4971) or by email (sarah@fairfield.lib.sc.us).*

## Just for Kids

- Summer Reading activities will wrap up on July 13th at 10:00 a.m. with a performance by the Patchwork Players (see more information below)
- Remember to complete your reading records and return them to the library in order to receive your summer reading medal.
- A brochure of school year library activities for children will be available in August. Look for it at the circulation desk.



Scenes from Summer Reading Kick-Off



## Patchwork Players to Perform

The Patchwork Players will present "Aladdin and the Genie" at the Fairfield County Library on Tuesday, July 13th at 10:00 a.m.

Founded in 1980 by Genie Eaker, the Players tour schools and community arts centers with theater for young children and families. The plays offered by the company are original adaptations of classic dramatic literature, written and directed by playwright and Artistic Director Catherine Eaker exclusively for the Players. Although its primary base is in the midlands of South Carolina, the group also performs extensively in the Clearwater, Florida, area.



## From the Friends

The Friends enjoyed a successful Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 25. The following officers were elected to serve during 2004-2005:

President	Frankie O'Neal
Vice-President	Jane Haynes
Secretary	Lanna McMeekin
Treasurer	Peni Chandler

The Annual Friends' Book Sale was a great success and netted over \$1500.00. A special thank you to everyone who helped sort and price books and who manned the cash box during the sale.

The Friends are helping support the library's "Step to the Beat...Read!" Summer Reading



Program this year by sponsoring two special performances. Pictured at left are children enjoying The Columbia Marionette Theater's adaptation of "Rumpelstiltskin." The Patchwork Players will perform in July (see article on page 2).

*Coming in the October newsletter: Information about fall programs from Dr. Clyde McCants.*

**Check the date above your name on this newsletter's mailing label. If the first number is 2004, your membership in the Friends of the Library is current.**

## RIDGEWAY UPDATE

As was reported in the last issue of **BookBytes**, the library's branch in Ridgeway is closed temporarily due to some structural problems at the Century House.

We were hoping to relocate to space in the old Charm Manufacturing plant, however, insurance issues became complicated and that plan has had to be abandoned. Several other locations have been considered, but were either not

suitable or not available. The Library Commission, County Council, and Ridgeway officials are still seeking a solution to housing for the branch.

**In the interim, the bookmobile will be at the Century House every Thursday afternoon from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. beginning July 1. For more information, contact Margot Kuebler at 635-4971.**

## WebLinks

The library has recently subscribed to LearningExpressLibrary.com. This interactive online database features several hundred practice tests based on official school and career exams including ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, U.S. Citizenship, Civil Service Careers, and more.

Log on, select and then take the test you want. You'll get immediate scoring and detailed answer explana-



tions. Users set up a personal login that allows them to store test results.

The LearningExpress database is available on library computer workstations. A staff member can show you how to find it. It may also be accessed from home using your library barcode number and the library's Remote Patron Authentication process which is located at <http://www.fairfield.lib.sc.us/remote.html>.

# FAIRFIELD COUNTY LIBRARY

## Main Library

300 Washington Street  
Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180  
Phone: 803 635-4971  
Fax: 803 635-7715  
Hours: M,Tu,W,F 9-6 Th 9-9 Sat 9-1

## Ridgeway Branch Library

P.O. Box 160  
Ridgeway, South Carolina 29130  
Phone/Fax: 803 337-2068  
Temporarily Closed

## Bookmobile

Phone Main Library at 803 635-4971

Dial-A-Story 803 635-2020

[www.fairfield.lib.sc.us](http://www.fairfield.lib.sc.us)

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Winnsboro, SC  
29180

## Library Events ~~~ July-September, 2004

### Main Library

July 1, 7:00 p.m.	Story Hour: Musical Instruments
July 6, 10:00 a.m.	Cartoon: Make Mine Music
July 8, 7:00 p.m.	Cartoon: Make Mine Music
July 13, 10:00 a.m.	Patchwork Players (see article)
August 5, 7:00 p.m.	Family Night
August 25, 5:00 p.m.	Friends Board Meeting
September 2, 7:00 p.m.	Family Night
September 29, 5:00 p.m.	Friends Board Meeting
October 2, 10:00 a.m.	Friends of Libraries SC Annual Meeting in Columbia at RCPL

*September is  
Library Card Sign Up  
Month!*

### Ridgeway Branch Temporarily Closed



**The Library Will Be Closed  
Monday, July 5th  
for Independence Day  
and  
Monday, September 6th  
for  
Labor Day**