

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT
August 2011

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT:

Library Warehouse/Parking Update

The City of Boise is in the final stages of drafting a lease agreement with Wilcomb, L.L.C. for warehouse space at 762 W. River Street. This space is located across the street from the Main Library, adjacent to the Foothills School. The Library will be utilizing this space for minimal storage of book shelving, with the bulk of the space being utilized by the Friend's of the Library for its annual book sale. Rocky Mountain Development/Biomark will be leasing the library warehouse effective August 1, 2011. They will be doing major renovations including replacement of the roof and several other tenant improvements.

Library parking will be affected by this change of occupancy. Administration staff has secured 30 parking spaces offsite for Administration, Acquisitions & Technical Services, and other staff members. Maintenance staff has installed new signs in the back parking lot adjacent to the Main Library, converting 18 public parking spaces into staff-only parking. The resulting changes in occupancy of the library warehouse and parking conversion will mean less parking for library customers.

New Arrangement on the Main Library's Second Floor

The adult public PCs on the first, second, and third floors have been consolidated to the second floor with a new arrangement. The entire oversize and reference collections have been shifted to the opposite side of the second floor. The collections are now more visible for the public to see as they enter the second floor.

New Mango Database

Mango is a teaching database for many languages that greatly enhances the other learning tools in print and audio that Boise Public provides to its customers. Library staff assist folks who plan trips abroad, educators, and business people working in other countries, as well as folks whose first language is not English, to learn English. Mango provides support for all of these users. The database is available at the three library branches and may be used from home or school as well.

Teen Summer Reading

There is exciting news in the teen Summer Reading entries. The number of teens participating in this year's program has increased by 12%, but total teen entries has increased by 85% (bonus entries are huge)!