

Lonesome Pine Regional Library

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2009

LIBRARY UPDATE

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

Summer Reading 2009 ... Be Creative @ Your Library

Children in Lonesome Pine Regional Library branches have been enjoying a fun, action-packed creative summer. The 2009 Summer Reading Program kickoff featured Farmer Minor and Daisy the Pig from Connecticut. Daisy's mission is "To encourage youngsters to develop a love for reading." And, through her mission, the famous pig travels coast to coast toting fun stories and books. Little Miss Beylee Jenkins, daughter of Travis and Beth Jenkins from Norton, thinks there is no cuter pig in the world. "Daisy was my favorite; I loved her!"



Several libraries hosted magician, Eric Richardson, who entertained with his creative flair of illusion. Eric has a unique style of encouraging children to read and smile, and the kids thoroughly enjoyed his magical skills.

Maria Picasso Da Vinci Spaghetti and Luigi thrilled our young audience with storytelling, puppets, music, and lots of fun! Kids learned many exciting ways to experience creativity through everyday activities such as cooking, architecture, painting, and more.



Lonesome Pine's own storyteller, Charlie Engle from St. Paul, entertained young readers with local yarns and songs, and tales of Moon Pies and RC Colas.

Emus, crocodiles and frogs -- oh my! Closing the summer reading session will be Barefoot Puppets sponsored in part by the Virginia Commission of the Arts. Kids will enjoy the magic of "The Land Down Under" in "Dreamtime" inspired by Aboriginal folktales. Children will learn about some truly unusual animals such as a mother platypus who tries to get her young one to sleep by sharing stories from the Australian Dreamtime. In these "How and Why" tales, they'll learn how the emu became a flightless bird and why the platypus looks so strange. And, finally they'll meet a giant, bloated, ocean-swallowing frog!

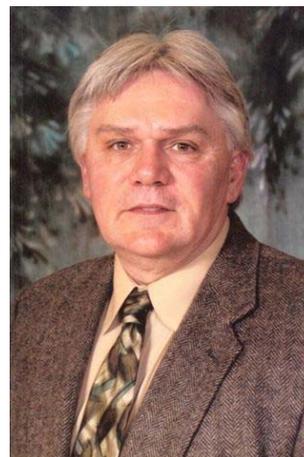
2009 Outstanding Library Trustee

The Virginia Public Library Director's Association recently awarded Larry Yates, Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board Chairman, the Outstanding Library Trustee Award for 2009. The award was announced May 1 at the Annual Spring Meeting of the Virginia Public Library Director's Association at Grave's Mountain Lodge in Syria, Virginia.

Yates was recognized at the award presentation for his dedication and leadership as a library board trustee and service as Chairman of the library board. He received special recognition for his hard work and perseverance as the driving force behind the building renovation and library relocation project that resulted in the new Haysi Community Library.

When asked to describe this honor, Larry exclaims, "Wow, it's hard to express how I feel about winning the award. I often look at it and think that really I only did what anyone who loves libraries as much as I do and who had the opportunity would have done. When I was first appointed to the Regional Library Board I knew that project would have priority for me, but had no clue how to make it happen. Lucky for me I had a great group of supporters

here in Haysi and all around the region. It was a team effort and I like to give credit to anyone who had anything to do with the project. It's great to get the recognition but even better to have been a part of a successful team effort. It really is **The Haysi Community Library.**"



Larry D. Yates, Virginia Public Library Director's Association Outstanding Library Trustee, 2009

Start Here—Go Anywhere!



Lecciones en Español



If you don't already know, that headline reads "Lessons in Spanish," which is exactly what UVa-Wise professor and Ecuador native Rut Roman is offering local children each week through fun storytelling and an approachable style.

By Kathy Still

This article originally appeared in the spring 2009 issue of The UVa-Wise Magazine and is reprinted with the College's permission.

Professor Rut Roman is wrapping up her first year of teaching language and literature at UVa-Wise, but already she is cultivating a new crop of scholars on Friday mornings at the public library in Wise.

On this particular Friday morning, the library doors swing open and the boisterous gang makes its way toward an inviting rug in the center of a colorful room.

"Hola!" some shout when Roman, a native of Ecuador, arrives.

Surrounded by more than a dozen preschoolers, Roman opens a book and weaves a tale in English with a hearty sprinkling of Spanish. The children are mesmerized by the sound of the unfamiliar words as Roman spins a story about "dinosaurios," or dinosaurs.

The youngsters need no coaxing to try out a new Spanish word or phrase. The words are fresh and tantalizing to their ears and tongues. Any restless fidgeting stops abruptly when Roman rolls her Rs.

An eager tyke bolts up from the rug, pumps his arm and shouts "la cola grande" when Roman points to a toy dinosaur's large tail. Parents, perched precariously on tiny chairs that ring the wall, gasp in awe as another boy masters the Spanish translation for the dinosaur's sharp claws. Roman simply smiles and continues the story.

The children are riveted by the "dinosaurios" as Roman seamlessly moves from English to Spanish. The adventure ends way too soon for the enthralled children as Roman softly closes the book. The preschoolers, blissfully unaware that they just had a Spanish lesson, get ready for a round of show-and-tell as Roman departs.

"I think this is a wonderful program," says Wise resident Sonya Vicars '94, mother of three-year-old Benjamin. "Benjamin

loves it. I think this is very beneficial for the children." Roman sees the benefits, too. Spending a small amount of time at the public library on Fridays is a small price to pay to introduce youngsters to a new language.

"One of my favorite things in the United States is the public library system," Roman says. "The children's sections are wonderful."

Roman, a graduate of the University of Maryland, spoke with the library staff and offered to read to the children. It was an offer readily accepted.

"I'm reading to my future students," Roman says. "It's remarkable how fast they catch on. The children have the best pronunciations and are not shy about rolling their R's. They are getting used to hearing their voices in another language."

She admits the time gives her a chance to clown around – something she can't do in the college classroom.

"I'm having a lot of fun," she says. "I think this is helping me, too, since English is my second language. It helps the children and their families see how a second language is beneficial. With today's job market, people will need a second language in this country. I can't think of an area where Spanish-speaking skills will not be needed."

Roman, who has lived in the United States for eight years, is participating in the College's second trip abroad to Ecuador. The students will learn Ecuador's oral traditions and will visit places they have read and heard about in their studies.

And about 12 years from now, there is a good chance that Roman's penchant to plan ahead will pay dividends when she walks into a Zehmer Hall classroom and hears a hearty "hola!" from a former preschooler she read to on Friday mornings at the library.

Lonesome Pine Regional Library & Books-by-Mail
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Wise, Virginia
276-328-8325

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C. Bascom Slemper Memorial Library, Big Stone Gap
Coeburn Community Library, Coeburn
J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library, St. Paul

Serving Dickenson County:
Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library, Clintwood
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