

April 1—June 30, 2010

Written by Holly Davis



HAINES BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Early Summer Report

## Ryan Wins \$1000 for Library

Jolanta Ryan, the library's Education and Program Coordinator, entered the library in the nation-wide History Channel's contest "America: the Story of Us" and won second place and \$1000 for the library. The display at the front of the library showed Tlingit treasures, preserved traditional food, and numerous Tlingit culture DVD's. The DVD running on the laptop showed Gene Tagaban sharing Tlingit stories, Holly Davis telling the library's history from the library totem pole, and wisdom from Tlingit elder Joe Hotch.



Award-winning entryway display enjoyed by tourists and locals

## Record Number for Summer Kick-off



Holly Davis reads big book at Summer Reading Program Kick-off

The Summer Reading Program Kick-off on May 24 was attended by 104 people, a new record for the event. One reason kids and families may have come this year is there were many people in the show, and parents like to see their kids perform. Seventeen kids, two teens, and six adults performed, with five more teens working backstage making sure everyone came on in costume at the right time. The theme was "Make a Splash—Read!" The songs, stories, and skits were all water related.

### Inside this issue:

Seaweed Knowledge Brings Power	2
Ukulele Class Debuts at Library	3
Teens in Rock Band Have Reading and Rhythm	4
Visiting Artist Teaches Journaling Techniques	5
Young Actors Make a Splash Reading at the Library	6
Divers, Boaters, and Fishermen Immersed in Books	7
One Crazy Raven Wows the Crowd	8

### Did you know...

- Better reading ability in kids is linked to more books in the home.
- Children who see their fathers reading are more likely to become good readers.
- Early positive reading experiences have long-lasting effects.

## Seaweed and Beach Edibles Classes Share Traditional Knowledge

What could be better than gathering local, organic, nutrient-packed food in a traditional way right on the beach in Haines? Having someone else tell you how, while they share what they have already harvested with you!

Seaweed expert Sally Buratin did exactly that as she shared both her catch of seaweed and her knowledge with local residents at the library. People found out the best times to harvest seaweed (April) and why (the tides are the most extreme). They learned what important nutrition is in seaweed (iodine, among other things) and what it can do (keep the thyroid

working and keep you alive – that’s why iodine gets added to table salt in the store, though you do have to pay more for iodized salt).

This traditional knowledge of how seaweed can be gathered and used by people is very important to pass on to the next generation in Haines. In a time when Tlingit language is endangered and Tlingit culture is sometimes crowded out by popular culture, it is especially valuable to remember how those who have lived in this valley for thousands of years have survived by using foods that thrive here naturally.



Leanne Converse and Marlena Mooring learn about gathering and preparing red-ribbon seaweed

## New Daycare Delighted to Start Storytime Visits



Holly Davis reads and sings to children at Kelly Michinski's daycare

When Kelly Michinski opened her new daycare, she didn't know the library's grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services would provide a way for story time to come to her and her kids.

Thanks to IMLS, daycares like Michinski's and Kim Larson's receive a story-time library visit every other week. Holly Davis brings books, musical instruments, fingerplays, puppets, and songs to the

**The library connects us with insight and knowledge.**  
- Carl Sagan

children. These children would not otherwise be able to attend storytime because there are often too many of them to fit in carseats in a standard car.

One local daycare provider, Helen Mooney, enjoyed these storytime visits the first year of her. Then she bought a van this spring so she could transport all of her kids to storytime at the library. She and her kids have become hooked on books and their happy outings to the library!

## Giggles the Clown Brings Water Books, Bubble Show, & Fish



Giggles reads aloud at a story time



Giant bubbles outside library



Singing fish makes a splash

## Ukuleles Make Exciting Addition to Summer Reading Program



Back row: Kalani Kanahahe, Front: Aaron Jones on drum; 1st/2nd graders on ukuleles at the Summer Reading Program Kick-off party

For the first time ever, ukulele workshops were offered three times a week at the library as part of the Summer Reading Program. Thanks to a grant from the Alaska Council for Arts and Humanities, the school was able to buy 25 high quality ukuleles for students in first and second grade. Native Hawaiian Kalani Kanahahe taught first and second graders how to play during the school year, as well as teaching an afterschool program of kids and adults, and a six-week introductory course to sixth graders.

One of Kanahahe's students during the school year was Holly Davis, who went on to teach ukuleles in the summer. The school loaned ukuleles to the library for the summer.

Many times tourists, especially from the cruise ships, would look in the window and smile at the sight of kids happily singing and playing these ukuleles. They sounded pretty good, too, and sometimes attracted small audiences in the children's room.



## Generosity of Community Makes Treasure Chest and Book Boxes the Best Ever

This year an amazing number of people contributed to the treasure chest and to the golden book boxes of prize books for the Summer Reading Program. Two groups (Emblem Club and Haines Women's Club), four businesses, and nine individuals gave prizes and books for the children totaling \$4079. Kids were highly motivated by the fun prizes and books. They had to read forty books to win a beanie baby. Sometimes a child sat at the library table in the children's room and

*The student has his Rome, his Florence, his whole glowing Italy, within the four walls of his library. He has in his books the ruins of an antique world and the glories of a modern one.*

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

read for much of the afternoon. Parents reported back that their children were reading more at home and were more eager than ever to come to the library. It was wonderful to see the generosity of the people in Haines as they cleaned out their attics, collections, and junk drawers to find fun trinkets the children could win.

What a great way to reuse and recycle!



Jacob, wearing his new ears from treasure chest, and choosing a book to take home

## Kids Enjoy Activities and Become Dedicated Readers

A good book needs a good hook. A good Summer Reading Program needs a good hook, too. For kids who live here, the hook is each class kindergarten through fifth grade gets to have a spring visit to the library right before school is out. They hear from Holly Davis about all the fun activities that will be going on all summer. They see what's inside the treasure chest, receive a weekly summer calendar with a magnet for the fridge, and make their summer reading goals.

Often an optimistic 200 books is the goal of an avid reader, but surprisingly, many kids do read nearly that many in one summer when they get caught up in the excitement of reading and winning.

For children who are tourists or visiting family here during the summer, they get drawn into the library once they arrive in Haines and find out about the variety of different summer programs offered.

Initially, many kids like the activities like art, knitting, puppets, nature walks, or ukuleles. What surprises families is how much the kids get hooked on books once they are in the library and have fun reading. A quote from one grandmother with visiting grandchildren: *"You have made the summer for our granddaughter! The first thing she wants to do when she wakes up in the morning is read!"*



Anna loves reading and the library

## Puppets and Songs Make a Successful Combination

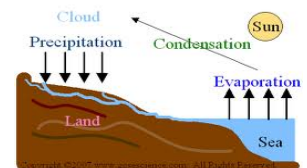


Mark Davis, Brennan Palmieri, Dylan Chapell, Claire Waldo, Emma Gillham, Keva Shull, Lydia Andriesen, and Taiya Bentz lead the crowd in a song about the water cycle to the tune of Frere Jacques while puppets sing back up at the Summer Reading Program Kick-off: “Make a Splash—Read!”

The puppet stage purchased by the Friends of the library continues to delight the young and the young-at-heart. Songs have proven themselves to be an especially effective way for new puppeteers to have a chance to try their hand at the art of making a puppet move and sing, while not having the pressure of a script. Singing puppets, especially ones that are led by a chorus in front and joined by the audience, are a forgiving, safe medium to work with when entering the world of puppetry. Fitting with the theme of “Make a

Splash-Read!” the kids and puppets performed this song, complete with sign language and important scientific information:

**The Water Cycle Song**  
(to the tune of Frere Jacques)  
**Precipitation, precipitation,**  
**Accumulation, accumulation,**  
**Evaporation, evaporation,**  
**Condensation, condensation.**



## Friday Story Time Celebrates May Day with May Pole Dancing

On the Monday closest to May Day, the storytime crowd had fun dancing around a May Pole made of PVC pipe, leftover crepe paper, and tape. Children and adults sang old songs like “A Hunting We Will Go” and “A Tisket, A Tasket” as they wove the bright colors around the May Pole.

The library May Pole actually had three

**Babies’ and young children’s cognitive abilities far surpass those attributed to them.**

- Scientific American July 2010

chances to shine that Monday. It started in Ms. Kitayama’s first and second grade classroom as the children danced and sang and wound their paper ribbons. Next it traveled to Headstart where those preschoolers had the opportunity to practice skipping, weaving, and singing. Finally, it ended in

the big room of the library where the youngest story-lovers and their parents enjoyed the fun of May Day.



Children and families have fun with May Pole

## Rock Band Program Builds Music-Reading Skills and Rhythm

Rock Band is a computer program which trains users to read music notation and respond on the drum set, guitar, or vocally to the notes and words. Teens enjoy getting to play a game where they create their own avatar to play in the fictional world of the Rock Band. The program is made so that as each player improves, the level of musicianship required becomes more difficult. The entry level is easy enough for a novice to have a good time. Gradually as their skills level increases, more advanced players find themselves being challenged

in new ways and given new ways to play harder music. For example, the guitar part starts out showing five frets. When the guitar player has become proficient with five, the program allows the player to expand to ten frets and he or she gets to play solos. The library reaches out to people of all different ages and interests to give them a chance to learn and access information. Teenage Rock Band is just one more of the amazing and surprising ways the library educates and inspires.



Aly Zeiger, Jolanta Ryan, and Kate Maxwell

# Beach Combers Go on a Nature Walk and Learn about Local Flora

Have you ever wondered how many different species of edible plants you can find within a fifteen-minute walk from the library's front door? Kids each week on Wednesday afternoon at 3 P.M. had to guess the answer to that question. Estimates ranged from five to "a million," but the seasoned nature walkers had the most educated guess: nine!

There are nine species of edible plants just across the street from the library and on the way to the beach:

1. Salmon berries
2. Strawberries

3. Raspberries
4. Sorrel (known as "sweet-n-sour grass")
5. Dandelions
6. Clover (suck the nectar)
7. Rosehips from the Sitka rose bushes
8. Pineapple chamomile (good for tea and for eating the little yellow "pineapple" top)
9. Fireweed (also called "Wild Asparagus")



Dr. Reece, Katelyn, Caleb, Kaden, Mark, Elena, and Journey

# Visiting Artist Teaches Kids about Journaling Techniques



Melba Cooper, a writer and artist from South Carolina, met with kids in the library's after-school program as well as in Klukwan and at Mosquito Lake School. Here for a month as an artist-in-residence, she brought new questions and ideas to the people in Haines.

One series of thought-provoking questions she encouraged students to ask as

they look at art was the following:

**The purpose of an education is to make your mind a more interesting place to live for the rest of your life.**  
—Mary Patterson McPherson

1. Has your sense of beauty been altered?
2. What do you find fascinating/curious?
3. Does the work inspire you? In what way?
4. Which works did you feel "invited in"?
5. Which works puzzled you?

# Gardeners Make Library Grounds More Beautiful



Elena and Skyler weed garden, a never-ending task

Adults and children worked hard this year to make the library landscaping more beautiful. As clover took over many patches of the back of the library's garden, the Gardener's Club focused on pulling out mainly three types of weeds: dandelions, thistles, and horsetails. There were almost no horsetails this year. The dandelions were plentiful, and the thistles growing behind the library reached new heights.

The Friends of the Library brainstormed ways to cut back on the amount of weeding necessary, and the best solution for the future seems to be to plant more desirable plants that will



take up the space where weeds would have grown. New plants would be great to add to the library landscaping include blueberries, raspberries, pansies (an edible flower), delphiniums, and more strawberries.

The only edible berries now growing on the library property are the little patches of strawberries nearly choked out by weeds. With a growing nationwide emphasis on eating locally, it would be an excellent investment of time and/or money to transplant some hardy edible Alaskan plants for library patrons to enjoy.



# Scenes from Summer Reading Program Kick-off: Make a Splash—Read!



In the jungle,  
The mighty jungle,



Even surfer dudes  
know books are cool



Ready to splash



Floating  
and  
reading:  
two great  
ideas!



Captain Jack  
tells how reading  
can actually save  
your life!

Bait a fish can't refuse: a great book!



Ballerinas  
dancing in  
the rain  
come into  
the library  
to dry off  
and find a



# More Scenes from the Kick-off Make a Splash—Read!

One-dog canoe turns out almost big enough for all the friends



These scuba divers want to dive into a good story



Singing "All the creatures swimming in the ocean...."



Mermaids find non-fiction on sharks



A flower needs water to keep her good looks, Like a brain needs the fun of some really good books!



Where do Alaskan commercial fishermen go when they get back to the harbor after fishing? Straight to the library!



Kids leading the sing-a-long: "I've got peace like a river... joy like a fountain... love like an ocean in my soul!"





## HAINES BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

P.O. Box 1089  
Haines, AK 99287

Phone: 907-766-2545  
Email: [yaks@aptalaska.net](mailto:yaks@aptalaska.net)

These programs are cooperatively supported by the Chilkoot Indian Association Tribal Government, the Haines Borough Public Library, Friends of the Haines Borough Public Library, the Waldo grant, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and lifelong learning.

***Communities thrive @ your library.***

**haineslibrary.org**

## Gene Tagaban Enchants Crowd



Gene Tagaban's program (One Crazy Raven) brought words of praise from many. This letter from a former English teacher sums up what so many appreciated about his musical story-telling program of wisdom and culture:

*Dear Friends of the Library, The Gene Tagaban event at the library touched all ages and most sensibilities. I particularly enjoyed seeing children's and teen's faces of delight and engagement with the performer. One tween totally*

*abandoned his tough veneer and slouch and smiled broadly much of the performance. I love that transformation.*

*Thank you for all you do to enrich our community through programming such as this and more. It matters that you offer such possibilities of transformation and I thank you.*

*Sincerely,  
JoAnn Ross-Cunningham*

## Library Statistics at a Glance for April through June 2010

- **Volunteers working with programs:** 15 adults and 11 teens contributing 61 hours worth \$938.00  
(Thank you, Sally and Val Burriton, Marlena Mooring, Melissa Aronson, Nancy Wenner, Kate Maxwell, Jenty Fowler, Eli White, Pam Moore, the 10 teens assisting at the kick-off, Melba Cooper, the kick-off cookie-bakers, and Tim McDonough).
- **Amount of in-kind donations in money, supplies, & loaned objects:** \$9944.00  
(Thank you, Emblem Club, Olerud's, Haines Women's Club, Happy D Ranch, Leanne Converse, Sara Chapell, Leslie Evenden, Carol Waldo, Irene Hofling, Joy Adams, Lisa Andriesen, the Hospice sale, Mountain Market, Julie Folta, all those who made the Tlingit art display possible, and several anonymous donors)
- **Total number participating:** 190 kids, 15 teens, 75 adults
- **Total programs:** 193 programs
- **Total number of visits:** 1510 youth, 509 adult visits
- **How do you make a splash? Read!**

