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Montana State Report

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The 3rd annual Children's Festival of the Book will be held in Bozeman November 6, featuring Newbery Award winner Lois Lowry. She will be joined by authors Karma Wilson, Elaine Marie Alphin, Michele Corriel and Jeanette Ingold. New this year is lunch with the authors, where people can bring their own or purchase a sack lunch. This free event is sponsored by the Bozeman Public Library Foundation.

The Montana State Library is preparing to offer downloadable e-books as part of the downloadable audio project through OverDrive.

Bozeman Public Library Director Alice Meister plans to retire December 31. Terri Dood, Head of References, and Lois Dissly, Head of Technical and Automated Services, will be interim directors until a new director is hired. A search committee has begun the process.

Three other public libraries in the state have new directors. Hearst Free Library in Anaconda has hired Mitch Grady to replace former director John Finn, who moved to Beaverton OR to take the director position of the Murray Scholls branch of the Beaverton Public Library system. Bitterroot Public Library now has Trista Smith, replacing retired Gloria Langstaff. Lewistown Public Library hired KellyAnne Terry to fill the director position left vacant by Bridgett Johnson, who is now working for the Montana Shared Catalog in Helena.

Program proposals have been received and will be discussed Saturday, October 16 to decide on programs for the joint conference next April in Billings.

The Montana Library Association board will meet Monday, October 18 following the ASLD/PLD fall retreat at Chico Hot Springs.