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DIRECTOR'S REPORT AUGUST 2018

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

I spoke to the Rushmore Rotary group on July 24. It was a large and appreciative group; they asked relevant questions about library services, and many of them are frequent users of the audio book collections.

A number of community professionals are collaborating with us to present the job skills training events. Representatives from WDT, Rapid City Economic Development Partnership, NAU, Kelly Services, the South Dakota Department of Labor, and Black Hills Federal Credit Union are sharing their time and talents for our pilot job skills series. This series will continue through September, after which we will assess, revise, and relaunch the program.

Thirty-eight library cards have been issued using the Ellsworth vouchers. Ellsworth reports they have distributed about sixty vouchers, and we anticipate the number of card registrations to increase with the start of school.

NEW SERVICES:

The new Computer Access cards were initiated on July 16. Patrons who were using limited daily guest passes have been signing up for the annual card, which will expedite their access to the public computers. Per the Board's prior approval, this Computer Access account is limited to computer use, and will not be valid for checking out library materials.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

A webinar training opportunity for the Board will be held on August 22, from noon – 1 pm. *Getting Unstuck: Help help your Board, staff, and town talk about library funding* will be hosted by the Association for Small and Rural Libraries and EveryLibrary:

Library leaders have been trained to 'do more with less' for so long that it's become a virtue. Though talking about budgets is a challenge, library staff need better funding to provide the public with needed services and expertise. If your budget is stuck, and your board, staff and stakeholders are having a hard time talking about new taxes or levies, this webinar can help. Please join us for real-world, practical, actionable advice on how to overcome local political problems, negative feelings, and unmotivated stakeholders, to move your library toward a more financially secure future.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The library's leadership team held a follow-up retreat facilitated by Leah Braun; this followed two previous sessions from November and December 2017. The team identified and prioritized a number of goals to continue to evolve the library work culture. We will review and discuss these goals monthly throughout the coming year.

Chutima Supboon was promoted to a Library Associate II for Events. She will support all library events and outreach activities, with a focus on children and early literacy events. Because of the projected budget cuts for 2019, we do not anticipate filling her vacated Library Associate I position.

Mackenzie Betcher has been promoted to a Customer Service Specialist position. He has been working as a page for a few years, and is a graduate of the WDT Library Technician program.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Securitas has added a local supervisor headquartered in Rapid City, and we appreciate this proactive attention to address the needs of their clients in this area. The new supervisor has attended several library leadership meetings to discuss the library's security services. Additionally, security staff are now submitting reports electronically and library management will soon be able to view security schedules online.

Due to a number of factors, I didn't attend the Research Institute of Public Libraries conference. I have been invited to apply as a facilitator again next year, and am also planning to attend the Mountain Plains Library Association conference this October.

The CIP Committee approved the revisions to the 2019 – 2021 CIP funding requests for HVAC systems. As approved at the May Board meeting, three separate HVAC projects have been combined into one, for replacement of Air Handler 1 in 2020.

The *STAR_Net Explore Tech Hands-on* exhibit closed July 27. Patrons responded favorably to the exhibit with 688 visits over a two-month span. Events held in conjunction with the exhibit ranged from children's engineering challenges to adult speakers from NASA, with over 300 attendees.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

June 12: [Rapid City Journal Compass Article](#)

June 26: [Rapid City Journal Compass Article](#)

July 3: [Rapid City Journal Compass Readers Advisory](#)

July 10: [KEVN Truth in the News event coverage](#)

July 10: [Rapid City Journal Compass Article](#)

July 13: [KEVN Cody Blackbird event coverage](#)

July 15: [KEVN Jennifer Pharr Davis event coverage](#)

July 19: [KOTA Engineering Challenge event coverage](#)

July 24: [Rapid City Journal Compass Article](#)

July 24: [SDPB Jugglers & Unicyclists event coverage](#)



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