



DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
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NORTH PARTNER LIBRARY
10 VAN BUREN ST. | RAPID CITY, SD 57701 | 605.716.4098

RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG

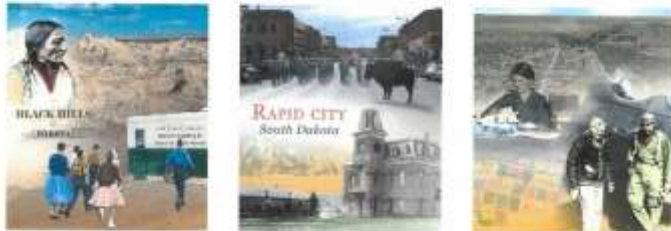


DIRECTOR'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2019

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

The library had a presence at the Central States Fair, engaging over 2,500 young fairgoers and their parents in a STEAM activity by teaching chemistry through creating slime. Staff also talked with library users and non-users alike about the library's services and collections, including the new laser engraving. Appreciation is extended to Ron Jeffries and his staff at the fair, who largely subsidized the cost of supplies.

On September 3, Mayor Allender read a proclamation declaring September to be Library Card Sign-Up Month in Rapid City. The Mayor registered for his library card at the downtown library, and the event was posted to Facebook.



Wells Fargo used a photo from our archives collection for a mural at their Robinsdale branch; they colorized the original black and white image of a bookmobile:

NEW SERVICES:

A new aquarium purchased by the Friends of the Library has been installed in the solarium; this replaces the old aquarium which had been a second-hand donation and had worn out. Live plants were added as the first step with the new tank, and fish will be added when the plants are established.



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STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

We are looking to revitalize our orientation process for new employees, initially by reconfiguring group orientation sessions. These sessions provide insights about the library's organization and governance, affiliations and relationships, and overall service philosophy.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Sturgis Library Board has approved the extension of the reciprocal borrowing MOU. Julie Moore Peterson, the Sturgis Director, said *'Everyone is very excited and grateful to you and your board for the opportunity to better serve all of our patrons.'* We hope that the extension of this agreement continues to provide seamless service to library users in our area.

Negotiations are continuing between the City and the AFSCME unions. The library AFSCME contract will likely be completely absorbed into the regular AFSCME contract, thereby eliminating the need for the Board to approve a contract. This is a positive move overall, as there were only a few points of difference between the two contracts; those points will now be delineated in the single contract.

On an almost daily basis, people bring dogs into the library. While service dogs are welcome, some people also claim their pets are service animals. Staff are aware of the questions they can ask as authorized by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Because of the prevalence of this issue, many states have enacted laws regarding individuals who falsely claim service animal status for their pets.

Janet Parr has resigned her position as Events Coordinator effective September 27. Because this position coordinates our popular events, the vacancy is being advertised right away, and we have put an interim plan into place. Janet will be taking time off to spend with her family and traveling, then work on curriculum development and her interior design business. Dorothy Richards, Facilities Maintenance Worker I, has resigned effective September 30. Doe plans to help with her sister's business, and we are working on interim plans for facility cleaning. We wish them both well on their new ventures!

Initial steps have been taken towards a new library website with the creation of a survey to be conducted in September. Patron feedback, user experience, and smart phone accessibility are anticipated as driving forces for the new design.

Rapid City has been tentatively selected to host the 2023 South Dakota Library Association conference. We have hosted this conference in the past, and although it requires a significant expenditure of time and energy, it is a worthwhile opportunity for staff leadership building and showcasing the library and services to our statewide colleagues.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

August 3: [Rapid City Journal COMPASS August Events Article](#)

August 4: [Rapid City Journal COMPASS Six Picks Event Promotion](#)

August 11: [Rapid City Journal COMPASS Reader's Advisory](#)

August 13: [KOTA News Coverage – RCPL Introduces a New Training Program for its Employees](#)

August 13: [KEVN News Coverage – Homeless Training](#)

August 19: [Rapid City Journal COMPASS Job Skills Series Article](#)

August 27: [Rapid City Journal COMPASS Reader's Advisory](#)

August 28: KOTA Live Noon Show – Job Skills Series



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