



DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
610 QUINCY ST. | RAPID CITY, SD 57701 | 605.394.4171

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

RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG



DIRECTOR'S REPORT DECEMBER 2019

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

The library was invited to participate in the 8th Grade Career Fair at WDT. Throughout the event, all 8th graders from each middle school visited with a wide variety of businesses to explore potential career paths. Library staff interacted with many attendees that were interested in a career in library, discussing education, customer service, reference skills and technology as key services provided. We also gave away keychains that were designed by librarian Carrie Bond and crafted on the 3D printer and laser engraver.

General Beadle hosted a STEM night for their students and families and invited the library to set up an activity table. Students excitedly crafted slime, and materials were soon exhausted due to the demand. One student had never made slime before, and was quite upset that he didn't have a chance; so Principal Cary Davis asked if more materials could be sent to her the following week so she and the student could make slime.

I met with staff from the city's Community Development department and a representative of a local arts non-profit for preliminary talks about the library's possible role as part of the proposed 'Promenade' from Memorial Park to the Performing Arts Center. We discussed the feasibility of having a small public plaza at the southeast corner of the building, or painting a public art mural on the east façade. The city and arts non-profit will request authority from the Council to apply for a grant for this project.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Both library locations were closed on November 30 due to the weather; the library at General Beadle was also closed on Friday afternoon, November 29. The downtown library opened two hours late on Sunday, with the majority of scheduled staff able to make it to work. They deserve kudos for helping to shovel and salt the front entry and sidewalks.

Dan Thomas was promoted from Library Associate I to Library Associate II as of November 10. Dan's focus is assisting staff with technology troubleshooting and creating and maintaining an inventory and replacement schedule for the library's technology.

Four candidates were video-interviewed for the Events Coordinator position. Two of those candidates were interviewed in-person, and a hiring decision is forthcoming.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Staff were invited to watch the webinar “Burnout, Compassion Fatigue and Vicarious Trauma” presented by Ryan Dowd, author of the Homelessness Training Guide for Librarians and the director of one of Chicago’s largest homeless shelters. Ryan discussed why traditional advice around burnout is inadequate and how a book written about the holocaust can teach an important method for reducing compassion fatigue and burnout.

A new training initiative for makerspace skillsets was launched. Each month, staff will participate in fabricating a portion of an assigned project. In the first project, staff used the 3D printer and vinyl cutter to make their own nametags to be used during outreach events. The next project will be to do vinyl cutouts that will be placed on the stairs.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:



Librarians Lisa DaSilva and Sam Slocum attended the Mountain Plains Library Association’s annual conference in Albuquerque, NM. They presented a session to a packed room on De-Escalation, sharing insight on mediating incidents in libraries and interacting with patrons in crisis.

With approval issued by the City Council on November 18, the library is Renewable Ready. This initiative from Black Hills Energy will allow the library to draw 100% of its electricity from renewable sources, upon completion of BHE’s wind farm.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

11/4/19 Rapid City NOW KOTA 1380 AM/100.7 FM – live afternoon broadcast at downtown library

11/6/19 [KOTA News Coverage – Board Games Available at Rapid City Public Library](#)

11/6/19 [KEVN News Coverage – Board Games Available at Rapid City Public Library](#)

11/8/19 [KEVN News Coverage – Audio booth important for making local media available to the vision impaired](#)

11/12/19 [Rapid City Journal Two Cents Mention](#)

11/13/19 [Rapid City Journal Mention – Renewable Energy](#)

11/17/19 Rapid City Journal Commentary by Kevin Woster – Today’s library is a lot more than books, ‘a lot more’

11/20/19 [Rapid City Journal Mention – City Thanksgiving Hours](#)

11/26/19 Rapid City Journal Promotional Article – December Events

11/27/19 KOTA Live Noon Show – Language and Music Education Resources



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER