



**DOWNTOWN LIBRARY**  
610 QUINCY ST. | RAPID CITY, SD 57701 | 605.394.6139

[RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG](http://RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG)



## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT OCTOBER 2023**

### **COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:**

Several library staff members were fully involved in planning and implementing the recent South Dakota Library Association conference held at the Ramkota. Sean handled technology issues, Juliet was co-coordinator of exhibits, Laurinda arranged a reception, and Brent created the signage and posters. Other area librarians involved were Nicole Larrabee from Southwest Middle School and Jennifer Williams-Curl of WDT. Feedback regarding the conference was positive, despite the extended layout of the Ramkota facility.

The city's IT department is consolidating network security options. While I can't fully describe all the technical issues, their actions will save the library about \$3,800 annually.

As part of the mayor's proclamation of Diaper Need Awareness Week and the push by Volunteers of America, the library participated for the first time as one of the drop-off points for donated diapers. A record number of diapers was collected city-wide.

There were multiple opportunities for community outreach in September. Outreach Specialist Steph promoted the library and services at Holiday Hills Estates, St. Martin Village, and Westhills Village senior communities. Steph spoke about the library's Home Delivery service, signing up eligible attendees. She also educated groups about general library services and renewed and issued library accounts. She also helped troubleshoot some residents' Kindles. Her engagement helps form community contacts with the staff who oversee these senior communities and expands library access to individuals who may have barriers to visiting the library. The library also participated in Youth and Family Service's Harvest Festival and The Rapid City Rush Fan Fest. Library Card Sign Up Month was promoted at these events and many fun activities and conversations were had!

The Pop-Up library had its final stop on September 30; this service will transition to the bookmobile after the first of the year. Over 2,300 people visited the pop-up during its 86 stops. Library staff checked out over 800 items and registered or renewed almost 200 library cards.

Jolene, Kim, and I attended the Municipal League's Hall of Fame luncheon, and were recognized for having more than 20 years of service in South Dakota municipalities. Jolene has served for 28 years, and Kim for 20 years, all at the library. My 38 years of service in South Dakota has been split between Brookings, Deadwood, and Rapid City.

### **NEW SERVICES:**

The library implemented Stackmap, an add-on for the online catalog that pinpoints an item's location in the library. A link to a map of the library's layout is shown in the catalog, indicating the location of each item. This new feature is intended to improve patrons' library experience, making it more efficient and enjoyable.

### **STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:**

Bookmobile librarian Brady Jones received the South Dakota Library Association's Support Staff of the Year award at the recent SDLA conference. Brady was nominated for his initiative, leadership, and positive attitude. Outreach Specialist Steph and Library Associate II Scott Hall both presented informational sessions. Library Associates Jules and Christine developed and presented poster sessions, with Christine receiving an award for her poster.

Archie Booker and Violet Baker started as new library pages. The library now has 3 pages who work a combined total of 40 hours per week, re-shelving materials and pulling reserved materials.

Makerspace Library Associate II Jim Leuthold resigned to take a position as Education and Professional Development Specialist with Monument Health. In his tenure here, Jim made several enhancements in the makerspace and helped to outline makerspace training and procedures. We wish him well in his new position.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

The Library Foundation voted to fund the library's second floor acoustical remediation project. The materials have been ordered, and some of the installation was completed while the library was closed for Native American Day; the remainder will be scheduled as soon as the materials arrive. Once complete, we hope to have SDSMT return to measure the sound levels again, and compare that to the pre-remediation report submitted by the engineering students. If additional remediation is needed, that can be added later, as this has been planned as a phased project.

### **MEDIA COVERAGE:**

- September 2, KOTA Mention: [City offices closed Labor Day](#)
- September 3, Newscenter1 Mention: [City of Rapid City offices closures](#)
- September 6, SD Public Radio Mention: [Elevating Native Voices: Dale Pine Jr's inspiring journey of empowerment](#)
- September 13, Newscenter1 Mention: [10 FREE or Cheap Things To Do In The Black Hills](#)
- September 15, Newscenter1 Mention: [Diaper Need Awareness Week begins with proclamation and diaper drive](#)
- September 15, KOTA Mention: [Rapid City mayor challenges community to beat last year's diaper drive](#)
- September 22, Newscenter1 Coverage: [Empowering creativity: exploring the makerspace at Rapid City Public Library](#)
- September 27, Live KOTA Noon Show: Makerspace

**ONLINE REVIEWS:**

- September 7, Google 5-Star Review: Very helpful staff - Tom Parisi
- September 8, Google 5-Star Review - p meloy
- September 10, Google 5-Star Review - CWides22
- September 12, Google 5-Star Review - Wynter-Becca Christian
- September 12, Google 1-Star Review: I was charged 25.00 on return of a book they said I "damaged". Truthfully it was hard to tell from all the wear and tear on this paperback, however upon inspection of the book, I noted the original price new, many many years ago said 18.00 US. Im sorry this economy sucks but maybe if you didnt let multiple, multiple people in with big sacks of food and beverages, and allow them to camp out at all the tables and leave their trash everywhere, you wouldnt have such damage issues. - Sherry Beck
- September 13, Google 2-Star Review: I am disabled and I have been bringing my well Trained and very well behaved Emotional Support Dog with me, into the Library for 8 years. Many many times and nobody has said a word to me. Today, while going in to check out some books, we were stopped and questioned and I was asked to leave with my support dog. I understand the legalities if this. I do wonder why now the rules are being enforced. I can longer use the library as my dog has been trained to stay by my side 24/7 and will not be left by herself. The Rapid City Public Library lost a loyal patron and supporter today. 😞 - Joan Byrd
- September 15, Google 5-Star Review: Library staff are consistently friendly and very helpful. - Prairie Sky
- September 17, Google 5-Star Review - Rosie Ahmed

**VACANCY REPORT:**

Vacancy Status as of 10/1/23					
DEPARTMENT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL POSITIONS	CURRENT EMPLOYEES	VACANCIES	STATUS
Management	Master's in Library Science	2	2	0	
Senior Librarians	Master's in Library Science	2	2	0	
Coordinators	Bachelor's Degree	3	3	0	
Business Office	Associate's Degree	1	1	0	
Facilities	Custodial experience	2.75	2.75	0	
Library Associate I	Bachelor's Degree	15.75	14.75	1	<i>One offer was made and accepted; that person will start later this month. Interviews are continuing for the remaining position</i>
Library Associate II	Bachelor's Degree	8	5	3	<i>Applications continue to be reviewed for the training position; the early education position has been posted. The makerspace vacancy is new as of October 14.</i>
Library Technicians	Associate Degree	2	2	0	
Outreach	Bachelor's Degree	2.75	2.75	0	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>39.25</b>	<b>36.25</b>	<b>3</b>	