



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

RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG



DIRECTOR'S REPORT **NOVEMBER 2023**

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

Sean attended a community forum on winter sheltering for the homeless population. The forum discussed local issues contributing to homelessness and explored options to address both short and long-term solutions. A summary report is expected to be forthcoming from the forum's coordinators.

Sam and I met with Jessica Afrank, coordinator of the Sheriff's Ignite program. The program is intended to provide educational resources and vocational experience to jail inmates, in order to better integrate them back into the community upon their release. During our meeting we discussed possible opportunities for collaboration and use of the library's resources for this program. Any collaboration developed would fit with the strategic plan goals of enhancing accessibility and investing in partnerships. We have a meeting with the Rebound program in mid-November for similar reasons.

NEW SERVICES:

During the strategic planning process the public expressed a desire for defined quiet zones in the library. This also contributes to our goal of creating a comfortable and welcoming environment for all. In late October, a Quiet Zone was implemented along the main floor's east and south walls. These areas typically have individual use study tables, and seemed to be logical locations to put this requested service into practice.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Kath, Adrian, Kim, Lisa and I toured the police department. The tour was conducted by Brendyn Medina, the police department's Community Relations Specialist and by Helene Duhamel, the county's Public Information Officer. They shared aspects of law enforcement and the police and sheriff's community interactions; our staff gained a better understanding of how we all work together in different ways to serve the community.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The driver of a small RV did not heed the height limitation sign and drove through the library's drive thru and into the garage, getting the vehicle stuck and causing significant damage to the ceiling. The driver remained nearby and shared her insurance details; we are working with the city and obtaining repair quotes in order to get the damage repaired quickly. In the meantime, facilities staff put up a temporary patch to stabilize the area and keep it safe for pedestrians and vehicles.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- October 2, KEVN Coverage: [Rapid City Library isn't just checking out books](#)
- October 2, KOTA Mention: [Miss South Dakota combines passions and authors book](#)
- October 3, KEVN Mention: [City offices closed for Native American Day, city services and operations adjusted](#)
- October 4, Newscenter1 Mention: [Closures, adjustments, and events for Native American Day in Rapid City](#)
- October 5, South Dakota Public Broadcasting Coverage: [Bookmobile to expand library access in Rapid City](#)
- October 5, Newscenter1 Coverage: [Learn and about view the annular solar eclipse at the Rapid City Public Library](#)
- October 7, Rapid City Journal Mention: [Rapid City adjusts hours for Native American Day holiday](#)
- October 9, KOTA News Mention: [Rapid City adjusts services on Native American Day](#)
- October 25, Live KOTA Noon Show: Reader's / Resource Advisory
- October 28, Rapid City Journal Mention: [Rapid City Christmas light recycling program expands](#)

ONLINE REVIEWS:

- October 4, Google 5-Star Review – Chele Wanjilapaha
- October 5, Google 5-Star Review: Love to read – Laura Kline
- October 6, NextDoor: The RC Library has an abundance of offerings for RC residents at no extra charge. We can download audio books, videos, magazines, research untold topics, access 3D printers, tools, etc. and they offer online classes to sharpen our skills in a myriad of subjects. You can reserve rooms for meetings & there are kids clubs galore going on at the RCL. The library is a true community gem and many of us don't know all the opportunities it offers us. They email a monthly newsletter and I thought you might enjoy seeing all that is available to us. They're also very helpful and patient with phone calls for our questions. – Judy A.
- October 8, [Travel Lens](#): There's something magical about stepping into the Rapid City Public Library. Nestled in the heart of downtown Rapid City, it's a place that is much more than just a repository for books. From the moment I walk in, I'm greeted by the friendly, helpful staff who are always eager to assist us in locating any material we need. The library is a treasure trove of not just books from every conceivable genre including mystery, adventure, and non-fiction but also a wide array of movies and console games. I remember the summer reading challenge, which was not just an engaging activity for the kids, but an equally rewarding experience for us adults. I'm particularly fond of the library's community-centric approach. They regularly host various public events and projects that add a touch of community involvement. And it's not just about reading and borrowing books. The library offers well-maintained computers for catalog searches, research and school work. What strikes me most about Rapid City Public Library is its ambiance. Despite its spacious interior, it exudes a warm, inviting atmosphere. The décor is a tasteful blend of the traditional and the unique, with historical artifacts and relics beautifully displayed to honor the native cultures and tribes that call the Black Hills home. – Blake Walsh
- October 18, Google 5-Star Review – Frank Yellow Hawk
- October 20, Google 4-Star Review: a lot bigger than I thought great spot for meeting. RC Public Library – Star Power

VACANCY REPORT:

Vacancy Status as of 11/1/23					
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	15.75	0	<i>Offer was made and accepted; tentative start date November 20.</i>
Library Associate II	Bachelor's Degree	8	5	3	<i>Advertising was put on hold due to lack of qualified candidates and budget issues. Advertising positions will resume closer to the end of the year.</i>
Library Technicians	Associate Degree	2	2	0	
Outreach	Bachelor's Degree	2.75	2.75	0	
TOTALS		39.25	36.25	3	