



Newsletter

Big Horizons Close Community

June—July 2016

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MPLA IIII ▶ TO THE FUTURE



Check out the [President's Message](#) for an update on MPLA's strategic planning process, and more.



Personnel (and K9s!) from Ellsworth Air Force Base were "Caught Reading" for Read Across America Day in March. The program was organized by librarians and staff from Douglas School District, based in Box Elder, SD.

Read about more great library programs in [Around the Region](#).

Arizona

Colorado
North Dakota

Kansas
Oklahoma

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South Dakota

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Utah

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MPLA IIII ▶ TO THE FUTURE



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Eric Stroshane

**Library Development
Manager, North
Dakota State Library**

Greetings, friends! Much has happened since I last wrote to you here, but I wanted to present just two highlights for you.

First, to update you on MPLA's strategic planning process: our ad hoc committee has made great headway through the vision and leadership of chair Mickey Coalwell. Those who have been following the saga closely will remember that we received excellent and compelling proposals from JM Strategies and Sage Project Consultants, in response to our initial RFP.

After much thoughtful and heartfelt discussion, the board decided we needed a new and non-traditional process (and also a cheaper one). We now have a contract in place with Sage to create a set of value-based strategic priorities for MPLA. In order to get there, we're conducting a series of focus groups via Zoom videoconference.

These will reach the key demographic areas we identified, ensuring the process is informed by emerging leaders in the profession, association veterans, representatives from all 12 member states, and by non-members. The first focus group is set to take place during our 2016 Leadership Institute, and we're busy crafting the questions with Sage now. I have great expectations for the process we're employing and earnestly believe it will help guide our organization into the future while cleaving tenaciously to the values that shaped our growth over the past 68 years.

Continued on page 3



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, continued...

Second, the American Library Association observed their 5th annual [Choose Privacy Week](#) from May 1 through May 7. As I was reminded by the Utah Library Association's key-note speaker, Martin Garnar, upholding the principles of intellectual freedom, and protecting library users' right to privacy and confidentiality is part of our professional Code of Ethics.

This code is a distillation of the values and principles forming the beating heart of librarianship and must never be Mola Rammed. Choose Privacy Week celebrates the special role librarians play in protecting privacy in the library and in society as a whole. If your library didn't join in, fret not—you can make any week Choose Privacy Week at your library using the resources assembled at [chooseprivacy-week.org](#). This year's theme is "Respect Me, Respect My Privacy."

The articles, presentations, and materials created for it seek to raise awareness of the growing threats to minors' personal privacy and to inspire a new regard for young people's civil rights and personal dignity. If your library celebrated CPW this year, or you're planning to, I'd love to hear about it! Please shoot me an email at: president@mpla.us.



MPLA Leadership Institute 2016

The 10th MPLA Leadership Institute was held in Estes Park, CO, May 15-20. The Institute was facilitated by Maureen Sullivan, who brings more than 25 years of experience in leadership development to the program.

This year's exceptional [Mentors](#), Robert Banks, Robin Clark, Samantha Hines, Mary Soucie, and Wendy Wendt, joined a diverse group of [Leadership Institute Fellows](#) from all over the Mountain Plains region, for five days of intensive networking and professional development.



Look for more about the 10th MPLA Leadership Institute in future issues of the newsletter. In the meantime, please join us in thanking Maureen Sullivan, the 2016 Mentors, Leadership Institute Coordinator Aubrey Madler, and the Leadership Institute sponsors for helping to inspire and develop emerging library leaders.

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Smith's



Awards Committee Seeks Nominees

by Patricia Frade, Awards Committee Chair



Do you know a deserving individual in the library field who should be recognized for their accomplishments? If so, please nominate them for an MPLA Award! The following awards will be given at the 2016 MPLA Joint Conference with the Colorado Association of Libraries in Loveland, CO, October 20-22, 2016. The MPLA Awards Committee is seeking nominees in all categories:

Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award: To be given to the individual, organization or company whose positive support of the Mountain Plains Library Association is demonstrated by repeated conscientious endeavors towards libraries, library staff, trustees and professional activities.

MPLA Distinguished Service Award: To be given to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession, or has furthered significant development of libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or has performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. In the case of retired individuals, the nominee may be a past member of MPLA.

MPLA Literary Contribution Award: To be given to an author whose published writings have successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region. The author need not reside in the region, and the selection may be based on either a single work or a body of works. Published works will be evaluated on the basis of literary worth, readability, and evidence of responsible research.

MPLA Beginning Professional Award: To recognize an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist within the first five years after receiving a library/media masters degree, has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service. Factors such as innovative programming and planning, use of resources, and special projects will be considered.

MPLA Innovator Award: To recognize an up-and-coming individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region for a creative, inventive, trail-blazing project that has significance to the library community.

MPLA Unsung Hero Award: To be given to any library individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region who have worked on a special project that has some significance to a community but which has not been eligible for a library award, or which has for other reasons specified by the nominator not been recognized to the degree that it merits, by any library organization.

The Awards Nomination Form is available on the [MPLA website](#).

Nominations are due by August 15, 2016.



October 20—22, 2016

Embassy Suites, Loveland, Colorado

CALCON generally attracts more than 500 members of the Colorado library community. The 2016 conference, which includes MPLA, promises to be even more dynamic.

Join your friends and colleagues from Colorado and throughout the twelve state Mountain Plains region to learn, collaborate, and expand your professional network.

Look for conference information [here](#), and registration [here](#). Register early to save on one-day or full conference registration.



The Embassy Suites Loveland is located at 4705 Clydesdale Drive, Loveland, CO 80538. Look for booking details [here](#).

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Nicolle Davies
Arapahoe Libraries

Steven Bell
Temple University



Donna Scheeder
International
Federation of Library
Associations

Around the Region

AZ ARIZONA



Prescott Public Library has been a free public library for well over 100 years. Now, in response to an ongoing budget crisis, city officials have proposed new fees for basic library services including checking out books and entering the library building itself.

Along with other city departments, the library weathered a significant round of budget cuts which took effect in January, cutting staff and hours of service. The proposed fees, outlined in a letter from City Manager Craig McConnell in March, are intended to make the library a revenue center. According to the [Prescott eNews](#), the City Manager asked the Arizona State Librarian and Yavapai County Free Library District Director to review the fees and indicate which, if any, would endanger the library's access to state and county resources reserved for "free public libraries."

Responses from State Librarian Holly Henley and YCFLD Director Barbara Kile indicated that charging fees for "core" library services would jeopardize state and county financial support for the library. Their replies were reported in an April 26 article in the [Prescott Daily Courier](#).

ARIZONA, continued...

A new Writer In Residence program, offered through the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records, is bringing published authors to selected libraries around the state for three month residencies. The first round of the program has placed authors in libraries in Glendale, Avondale, Mesa, and Tucson. According to Arizona Public Radio station [KJZZ](#), future rounds will be determined by the availability of federal funding.



and publications in spring 2016. Read more [here](#).

The Arizona Library Association annual conference, *Libraries Transform!*, will be held in Tucson, November 2-4. Look for details [here](#) as they become available.



CO COLORADO

The Colorado State Library has announced that the FY15-16 LSTA grant application process has been cancelled due to budget constraints.

Colorado State Grants to Libraries have not been affected, and the State Library offers links to [other funding opportunities](#) that may be of interest to libraries.



UNC's James A. Michener Library Hosts Native Voices Exhibit

by Annie Epperson



This spring, the University of Northern Colorado's James A. Michener Library hosted *Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness*, a traveling exhibition created by the U.S. National Library of Medicine. On display from March 31—May 11, the exhibit prompted innovative programming in the region.

A group made up of students, staff, and faculty collaborated in the planning of an opening event on April 1. Catered by acclaimed New Mexico chef Freddie Bitsoie, the opening celebrated indigenous cuisine. Additional campus

programming included a screening of *For the Generations: Native Story & Performance*, a documentary exploring the role of the arts and movement in contemporary native identity, health and fitness; the screening was followed by a Q & A session facilitated by Denver artist and educator Rose Red Elk. Red Elk, an accomplished musician and artist, shared stories from her own life, and sang an original song while playing the guitar. A Read-In of Native Literature was held during the month as well.



Collaborating with the University Libraries on programming to support the exhibit, High Plains Library District (HPLD) planned a workshop on herbal remedies to be held at Centennial Park Library. HPLD's Carbon Valley Regional Library hosted a presentation by Erin Smith, herbalist and ethnobotanist, on historical and modern uses of Colorado plants that have been used as food and medicine. This library location boasts a native plant garden through which the group walked with Smith to "meet some plants."

The *Native Voices* exhibit is slated to visit all 12 states in the MPLA region between now and summer 2020. Visit the [National Library of Medicine website](#) to learn more about this fascinating exhibit and the cultural connections of native peoples with health, wellness, illness, and healing.

Photos (courtesy of Annie Epperson), clockwise from top: Chef Freddie Bitsoie describing the indigenous contemporary cuisine he prepared for the exhibit opening; Rose Red Elk sharing a story; Erin Smith describing the nutritional and medicinal properties of chokecherry.

COLORADO, continued...



Bestselling author [Jennifer Weiner](#) spoke at Durango Public Library's annual Literary Festival in April. Weiner's extremely funny address, which touched on topics ranging from feminism to how to get a tranquilized bear into the bed of a pickup truck, drew a record crowd.

The University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, has undertaken a digitization project to make more than 100 years of student newspapers available to students and researchers. Roughly 67,000 pages have been scanned and digitized since spring 2015. The newspapers will be made available through [Digital UNC](#).



Denver Public Library's Central Library Vida Ellison Gallery is hosting a [Celebrating Colorado Women](#) exhibit, through June 30. The exhibit features all 152 inductees to the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame since its founding in 1985.



More than 8,000 library professionals attended the [Public Library Association conference](#) in Denver, April 5-9. The conference theme was *Be Extraordinary*, and the program included an opening session with Anderson Cooper, and a closing session with Tig Notaro.

The Colorado Association of Libraries conference will be held jointly with MPLA, October 20-22, in Loveland. Read more [here](#).



The Kansas Library Association and public library supporters throughout the state came together in March to oppose Kansas House Bill 2719, which jeopardized funding for library districts. Thanks to their unified and vocal advocacy, all mention of libraries has been removed from the bill.

That is a substantial victory, but it does not mean smooth sailing for Kansas libraries. According to the [Topeka Capital-Journal](#), state aid to public libraries has dropped by an inflation-adjusted 60 percent between fiscal years 2008 and 2014. The decline has had particular impact on small and rural libraries.



Kansas State University Libraries are proud to present the 10th annual [Hale Concert Series](#), featuring Jazz in June, on June 10. The concert will feature the KSU Jazz-tet, a jazz band composed of faculty members Kurt Gartner, Wayne Goins, Paul Hunt, Tod Kerstetter, and Gordon Lewis, with pianist Beau Thomas Jarvis.

In less jazzy news, KSU Libraries have been forced to cut serials subscriptions and suspend monograph ordering for the remainder of the fiscal year due to state budget cuts and callbacks. Read more [here](#).



The Kansas State Library will offer a number of [training sessions](#) for library staff in June and July, including "Top 10 Android Apps," and "Total Boox for Academic Libraries."



Billings Public Library

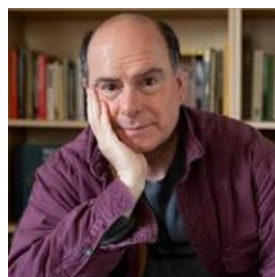


The University of Montana's Montana Museum of Art and Culture hosted the national touring exhibition, [*First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare*](#), May 9-31. The exhibition was open to the public.

Billings Public Library, pictured above, was one of seven libraries around the country to receive a 2016 AIA/ALA Library Building Award. The awards recognize excellence in the design of modern libraries, and their ability to serve evolving social and civic needs.

Designed by Will Bruder Architects with O2 Architects, Billings Public Library is the only public library available to the state's largest metropolitan community. The 66,000-square-foot building is LEED Platinum Certified and anchors the north end of downtown Billings.

MONTANA, continued...



Bozeman Public Library hosted the Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau program "WordSongs: Bringing Poetry to Life," with poet Dave Caserio and musician Parker Brown, on April 25.

The duo presented a dramatic, high-energy performance of poetry and music, designed to invigorate and rekindle the listener's passion and interest for poetry. The performance was followed by a question and answer session.



Montana Library Association
From the Mountains to the Prairies

The Montana Library Association offers a mentorship program for new library directors. The program is designed to support new directors and assist with their professional development, while building engagement with MLA. Information for mentors and mentees is available [here](#).

NE NEBRASKA

The Nebraska Library Commission will present a workshop



Nebraska Library Commission

entitled “Making Room for a Makerspace,” in Lincoln, on June 7. Presenter Craig Lefteroff will examine the elements of a makerspace, cover possible policies and problems, and discuss costs and fundraising. Participants will also get some hands-on experience with 3D printing. Look for details [here](#), or check out the [full calendar](#) of NLC training and professional development offerings.



LIBRARIES

The University of Nebraska Libraries' Archives & Special Collections have digitized several collections of historical photographs, including an extensive collection of WWI images by J.

Patras, and a collection

of photographs by author Willa Cather. Explore the collections [here](#).

The Nebraska Library Association [annual convention](#), Libraries Transform, will be held in Omaha, October 19-21.



NV NEVADA



University of Nevada, Reno

The University of Nevada, Reno's Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center and DeLaMare Science & Engineering Library have announced that their

NEVADA, continued...

locations hosted more than 1.2 million in-person visits in fiscal year 2015. The libraries saw more than 25,000 equipment checkouts and nearly 2.7 million database searches. The UNR libraries have wholeheartedly embraced a range of innovative services, and their usage numbers clearly reflect that dynamic approach. Read more [here](#).

In April, the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District teamed up with DISCOVERY Children's Museum to present a library card sign-up campaign called “Love

your Library? Tell a Friend!” Library patrons who got a library card or liked the library district on Facebook were entered to win a DISCOVERY Children's Museum gift basket, including a family membership.



NM NEW MEXICO

Lori Thornton, the Depository Coordinator and Public Services Bureau Chief for the New Mexico State Library's Department of Cultural Affairs, has been appointed to the Depository Library Council (DLC). The DLC is composed of 15 members, each of whom serves a three year term. DLC members advise the Director on policy matters relating to the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Thornton has more than three decades of experience working with government documents. She is active in the American Library Association's Government Documents Round Table and Map & Geospatial Information Round Table.





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NEW MEXICO, continued...



The New Mexico Library Foundation has sponsored a statewide assessment to identify the current state of the New Mexico school, public, tribal, academic, and special library sectors. Opportunities for involvement include a survey in May, and

participation in focus groups for library directors and community members. The assessment will be conducted by Penny Hummel, a national library consultant based in Oregon. Read about the process on the New Mexico Library Foundation [website](#).

NEW MEXICO, continued...



New Mexico Highlands University's Donnelly Library offered a variety of programs in honor of Preservation week in April. Programs provided information on preserving family history and documents. Topics included book repair, digital preservation, family story preservation, and hidden treasures in the NMHU library. The Library partnered with the Las Vegas Museum, and invited residents to bring in family treasures that might help document the history of northern New Mexico. [See more](#) at Albuquerque television station KRQE.

NEW MEXICO, continued...



In May, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library invited Doña Ana County residents to submit entries for the 2016 [Design a Library Card Contest](#). Entries will be judged by staff from the Las Cruces Museum of Art. Ten finalists – five adults and five children – will be chosen, and those entries will be voted on by the public to select one winning design in each category. The Friends of the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library will host an unveiling party for the new library cards on September 10.



The New Mexico State University Library Archives and Special Collection Department has completed processing 18 boxes of the defense subseries of the Pete V. Domenici Senatorial Papers. Researchers can now use the materials, which focus

on legislation, and reports and policies related to the United States departments of defense and homeland security. A regularly updated finding aid for the Pete V. Domenici Papers can be found [here](#).

Roswell Public Library celebrated its 110th birthday on April 2, with cake, punch, music, and visiting authors.

Anne Hillerman signed books, and musicians Tina Williams and Kent Taylor provided musical entertainment. City officials read official proclamations, and kids enjoyed a photo booth. Festivities continued with several other special events in April.



ND NORTH DAKOTA



Grand Forks Public Library celebrated National Library Week in April with a colorful display of decades worth of GFPL t-shirts.



Mike Jacobs, former editor of the *Grand Forks Herald*, visited Grand Forks Public Library in April to discuss his Pulitzer Prize winning coverage of the flood that devastated the city in 1997.

Coloring is all the rage in North Dakota libraries this spring, with coloring clubs meeting at libraries around Wahpeton and Breckenridge, as well as public libraries in West Fargo and Minot.

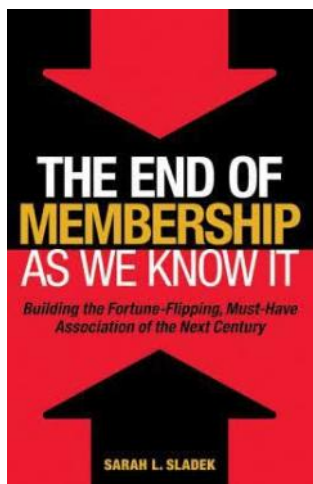


NORTH DAKOTA, continued...



Librarians, teachers, and literacy advocates in Minot have come together to create a permanent story walk in Minot's Oak Park. Students in the local Job Corps program built and stained 32 story boards, which will be placed at intervals around the park. Stories will be changed on a regular basis so that the story walk can attract return visits from children and families. The new attraction will be introduced with a special event on June 9, featuring a picnic, an inaugural story stroll with a Minot-area celebrity, and a children's concert with Jack and Kitty.

Since November 2015, the North Dakota Library Association has hosted monthly discussions via Zoom to talk about the book, *The End of Membership as We Know It: Building the Fortune-Flipping, Must-Have Association of the Next Century*, by Sarah L. Sladek. The book sparked dialogue about the future of NDLA and its mission, structure, and vision.



The book discussion series culminated in an in-person gathering of interested librarians at Bismarck State College on May 6. Attendees brainstormed and shared ideas about NDLA, and also took the opportunity to tour BSC's new library facilities.

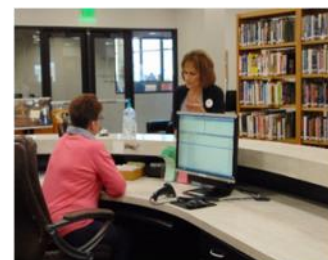
NORTH DAKOTA, continued...

Bridget Burke, Dean of Libraries at North Dakota State University, has accepted a new position as Director of the American Heritage Center (AHC) at the University of Wyoming. Burke will transition to her new position at the end of the spring semester.



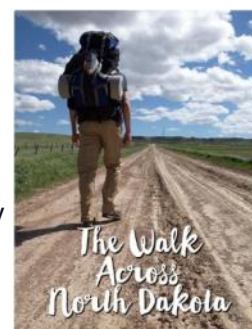
Barnes County North Public School has been awarded a Patterson Pledge grant from best-selling author James Patterson. The \$3,000 grant will be used to build and install Little Free Libraries in each of the nine towns in the district, since none of them have a public library. Scholastic Reading

Club will match Patterson's donation with "bonus points" that can be used to acquire books and other materials for the library.



Ward County Public Library held an open house for their new library in April. Nearly 100 patrons enjoyed refreshments and toured the new library.

Bismarck native authors Gwen Hoberg and Jeremy Bold visited Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library in April to talk about their book, *The Walk Across North Dakota*, a true story about an adventure to discover what it means to be from North Dakota.





SnapShotND!

ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF ND LIBRARIES

20 Libraries participated in the
2016 SnapShot Day

	Public	School	Academic	Special
#	13	4	1	2

5,118 people visited
these libraries & **1,506**
of those used the
libraries' computers.

828 children and **278** adults participated in
programs at the libraries.

Library
Cardholders
=
158,610

? **672** Reference
Questions
were answered

6,069 items
were
checked out

Libraries around North Dakota were invited to participate in the 2016 Library Snapshot Day, and 20 libraries of various types collected stories, photos, and statistics for the occasion.

NORTH DAKOTA, continued...



The annual North Dakota Library Association conference will be held September 21-24, in Dickinson. The theme is *North Dakota Librarians: Rebels with a Cause*. The program will feature keynote speakers Jim Gill, a children's musician, and author Taylor Brorby. In addition, the conference will feature an adult spelling bee! Look for conference details and registration on the [NDLA website](#) as they become available.



Between 2009 and 2016, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries budget appropriation from the state fell by more than 33%, according to the [Wagoner Tribune](#) and other sources.

That daunting statistic is offset to some degree by a recent quarterly poll by SoonerPoll. The poll results, released in May and reported by Tulsa's [KOTV 6](#), indicate that an overwhelming majority of likely voters in the state, 89.5%, believe library services are important and should be funded. Further poll results indicated strong support for libraries among every age group, and across the political spectrum, including Republicans, Democrats, and independent voters.



Artist Jennifer White unveiled three new paintings in April at South Dakota State University's Hilton M. Briggs Library. The library commissioned the artwork, which represents Native American women past, present, and future. Photo courtesy of Ruby Wilson, Briggs Library.

OKLAHOMA, continued...



include four branches around the county, according to the [Tulsa World](#).

The 109th annual Oklahoma Library Association conference was held in Tulsa, March 30—April 1. The program featured a keynote address by library consultant Jamie LaRue, and sessions on a wide range of topics.



Along with other community members in the Douglas School District, personnel from Ellsworth Air Force Base were "Caught Reading" on Read Across America Day in March. The program was organized by librarians and staff from Douglas School District.



SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...

Sioux Falls Storm football players and cheerleaders visited the Dell Rapids Carnegie Library in March to promote reading with stories, crafts, and autograph signings.



Custer County Library Director Doris Ann Mertz received the Yellow Rose Award from the Zonta Club of the Southern Black Hills this spring. The award was given to

Mertz in recognition of her work promoting education and opportunities for women.

The law library in the state Capitol is being restored to its original appearance, uncovering designs on its walls not seen in nearly a century. Work crews found a strip of ornate stenciled decorations near the ceiling, under a coat of paint. The artwork includes the names of several territorial judges.

SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...

Sturgis Public Library has established a Girls' Code Club. Participants learn computer science concepts and write code in HTML, CSS, Java, and more.



Siouxland Libraries

Siouxland Libraries' Caille Branch, one of Sioux Falls' busiest public libraries, could be closed for as long as four months this year while it undergoes a million-dollar makeover. The project will focus on maintenance and modernization of the branch.

The South Dakota Library Association annual conference will be held in Watertown, September 28—30. MPLA President Eric Stroshane will be among the keynote speakers. Look for details and registration on the [SDLA website](#).

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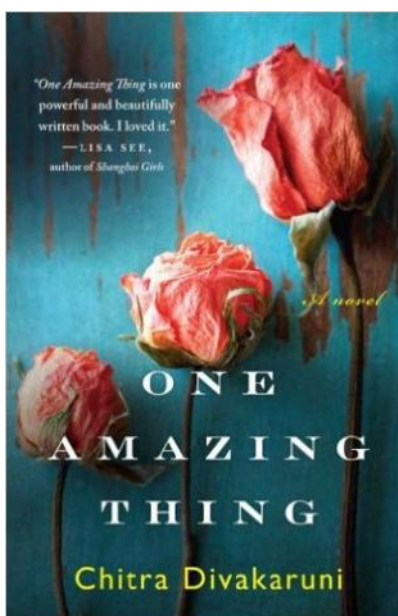


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SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...

One Amazing Thing, by Chitra Divakaruni, was this year's All-Campus Read selection at Lake Area Technical Institute. The book inspired a video project where students, staff, and faculty were invited to answer the question, "What's your one amazing thing?" LATI Librarian Nicki Yackley Franken was featured in one of the videos. All of the videos may be viewed [here](#).



Washington County Library plans to open a branch library in Hildale this summer. Hildale, best known for its association with the Fundamentalist Church of Latter Day Saints, has never had public library service. Washington County Library Director Joel Tucker told Utah's [KTVX News](#) that the new library is an important step forward for the community.



The University of Utah's J. Willard Marriott Library and other members of the University community partnered with a variety of local groups to present a Do-a-thon in honor of Community Engagement Day in April.

UTAH, continued...

The Utah Library Association annual conference, *Open the Doors*, was held in Layton, May 4-6.



**ULA 2015-2016
OPEN THE DOORS**



Laramie County Library System is one of 50 libraries nationwide selected to host *Thinking Money*, a traveling exhibition created by the American Library Association. The program is intended to boost financial literacy and engagement among tweens, teens, and their families. Read more [here](#).

Lincoln County Library System has announced the appointment of Michael Burris as its new director. Burris, a native of Iowa, is excited to take the helm of the six branch library system. He started work in April.



Voting is open for Wyoming's Top Ten Artifacts of 2016. The Most Significant Artifacts Program is a partnership between the Wyoming Historical Society and the University of Wyoming Libraries, established in 2015. Read more, and cast your vote, [here](#).

WYOMING, continued...



On April 20, author [Erik Larson](#) presented a free afternoon talk and book signing at the University of Wyoming. The event was open to UW students, staff and faculty, and to the public. This talk was very well attended. That evening, Larson was the keynote speaker at a fundraiser dinner for UW Libraries.

University of Wyoming Librarian Cassandra Messersmith Kvenild, head of the [UW Learning Resource Center \(LRC\)](#), is the 2016 recipient of UW's [Agnes Milstead Distinguished Librarianship Award](#). The



award, named for a former professor of education and library science at UW, was established in 1993 to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the UW Libraries.

The 2016 Wyoming Library Association conference will be held at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, September 21-23. Look for more information [here](#) as details are finalized.



ME AND MY PET:

Junior Bonner



Junior Bonner is an eight-year-old cat who lives in SW Colorado with Newsletter Editor Amadee Ricketts. He is a nice shade of gray, and is named after a Steve McQueen movie from 1972. Junior enjoys sleeping, scratching up the back of the couch, and chasing string. He is not interested in catching mice, but has been known to eat a moth every now and then.

SEE YOUR PET HERE

Do you have a pet that should be MPLA famous? It's probably not as handsome as Junior Bonner, but that's okay! Just send a picture or two, and a bit about what makes your cat, dog, bird, hamster, or hissing cockroach a star, to editor@mpla.us.



Welcome, New Members!

Kirsten Bryson

Librarian Technician II, Montana State University
Great Falls College of Tech
Great Falls, MT

Carole Carlstrom

Librarian
Alberton School
Alberton, MT

Yvonne Chandler

University of North Texas Library &
Information Sciences Department
Denton, TX

Dianne Cooper

Librarian Tech II
Northeastern Junior College
Monahan Library
Dalton, NE

Conor Cote

Electronic Resources Librarian
Montana Tech Library, Montana Tech
Butte, MT

Tricia DesJarlais

Teacher-Librarian
Arlee School District
Arlee Elementary Library
Arlee, MT

Christine A. Egger

Student
Emporia State University
Emporia, KS

Michelle Fenger

Library Director
Ronan Library District
Ronan, MT

Jessie Goodwin

Montana Shared Catalog Director
Montana State Library
Helena, MT

Ashia L. Gustafson

Library Director
Brookings Public Library
Brookings, SD

Niki Keuch

Teacher-Librarian
Chief Joseph Middle School
Bozeman, MT

Sandra Larson

Assistant Librarian
Chouteau County Library
Fort Benton, MT

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Deborah M. Ludwig

Dean
Fort Hays State University Forsyth Library
Hays, KS

Joshua Ryan Pikka

Technology Coordinator
Minot Public Library
Minot, ND

Lynda Reynolds

Library Director
Stillwater Public Library
Stillwater, OK

Darrah Rogers

Interlibrary Loan Technician
University of Montana Mansfield Library
Missoula, MT

Debbie Wellman

Director
Chouteau County Library
Fort Benton, MT

2016 Calendar



**Mountain Plains Library Association
Leadership Institute**
May 15—20; Estes Park, CO

**American Library Association Annual
Conference**
June 23—28; Orlando, FL

**North Dakota Library Association
Conference**
September 21—24; Dickinson, ND

South Dakota Association Conference
September 28-30; Watertown, SD

Nebraska Library Association Conference
October 19—21; Omaha, NE

**Mountain Plains Library Association /
Colorado Association of Libraries Joint
Conference**
October 20—22; Loveland, CO





The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a twelve state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Its purpose is to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities.

Quick Links:

Website: www.mpla.us

Executive Board – Officers, State Representatives and Staff:
www.mpla.us/personnel/executiveboard.html

Join MPLA or Renew Membership:
www.mpla.us/membership/index.html

Professional Development Grants:
www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grantslinks.html

Calendar: www.mpla.us/calendar.html

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Grocery Card Program: www.mpla.us/projects/grocerycard.html

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Professional Forum information:
www.mpla.us/events/mplaprof2014.pdf

MPLA on Facebook: www.facebook.com MPLALibraries

The MPLA Newsletter is published bimonthly online by the Mountain Plains Library Association:

<http://mpla.us/documents/newsletter/index.html>

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Copy deadlines for articles, news, and advertisements:

- January 1
- March 1
- May 1
- July 1
- September 1
- November 1

Advertising:

There is no charge to MPLA personal or institutional members for classified advertising.

Non-members are charged \$1.25/line. Display advertisement copy rates are available from editor@mpla.us.

MPLA Membership:

For matters pertaining to individual or institutional memberships and address changes, contact:

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