



Mountain Plains Library Association

Big Horizons Close Community

Newsletter

February 2018—March 2018

www.mpla.us

Volume 63, Number 1

Founding Top Ten!

Did you know?

1. The idea for organizing such an association grew out of the cooperative efforts already begun in the region by the Bibliographical Center for Research.
2. Invitations had been mailed to all librarians within a 600-mile radius of Denver.
3. 217 librarian delegates came together in 1948 to discuss creating a regional library organization.
4. On Sunday, August 29, 1948, Mr. Esterquest, assistant director of the University of Denver Library, gaveled the first general session to order.
5. Mrs. Ruth V. Tyler of Midvale, Utah made the motion that “this conference resolve itself into a regional association...”
6. In February 1949, the treasury contained \$205.
7. The Mountain-Plains Library Association was born after a 3 hour discussion.
8. Colorado Library Association agreed to publish the proceedings of this historical conference in the next issue of the Colorado Library Association Bulletin.
9. Only Colorado, Kansas, Utah, and Wyoming accepted the invitation of the special feature to hold their state associations’ annual meetings during this time.
10. The first officers were: President: Ralph T. Esterquest ; Vice President / President Elect Ruth V. Tyler; Secretary Miss Hail Fischer, University of Wyoming; Treasurer Mrs. Charles Hall, trustee from Hutchinson, Kansas.

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Message from the President

Happy Winter!



Autumn was certainly conference season all across the MPLA region, and soon we'll be in the Spring season of visiting, learning, and exploring the future of libraries. For the first time in years the American Library Association is holding Midwinter in Denver in February 2018. Many of our state associations, and our neighbors, hold spring conferences, too. I recently heard from 2011/12 MPLA President Dana Braccia who had some happy news for those of us who might be interested in an alternative to ALA Midwinter. Dana joined the Texas Library Association as Executive Director in late 2017. I'm delighted that

she'll be in Denver for ALA MW, and pleased that TLA is extending an offer to MPLA members that might appeal. Details follow.

The MPLA Executive Board is in the process of finalizing and implementing initial phases of the Strategic Plan developed by Presidents Eric Stroshane and Mickey Coalwell. That plan will inform the work of all our committees in the coming years. I am delighted that we can have guidance based upon the values that our membership holds most dear. Please check it out when you get the chance!

One more piece of happy news to share: the joint conference with Kansas Library Association promises to be a great time. MPLA Vice-president/President-elect Leslie Langley is in close communication with our Kansas colleagues to plan an edifying, exploratory, and entertaining meeting. In some respects the celebration of MPLA's 70th anniversary will be the centerpiece. I do hope to see you there.

Annie Epperson

Past president Dana Braccia sends this to all members of MPLA: The Texas Library Association invites the members of the Mountain Plains Library Association to attend the TxLA Conference at our local Member Rate. The TxLA Conference brings together thousands of innovative library leaders and specialist and features over 400 informative sessions and hands-on sessions along with a dynamic exhibit hall.

Conference brochure: <http://www.txla.org/sites/tla/files/conference/docs/2018ConferenceProgram.pdf>

TxLA Annual Conference

April 3 - 6

Dallas Convention Center

Rate: \$285 (+ \$9.12 processing)

REGISTER: www.txla-2018conference.eventbrite.com

Registration closes March 23 at 5 PM CST

Hotel Information: <https://compass.onpeak.com/e/62TLA18/0>

We hope to see you in Dallas!

Grand Forks Public Library Receives Generous Gift

The Grand Forks Public Library announced the receipt of its largest gift in memory disclosing a \$675,000 sum left by a local man who died in July.

Library Director Wendy Wendt said that's nearly a quarter of the library's \$2.8 million budget, making the gift something like winning a lottery staff didn't know they'd entered. The donor, Joe Neel Jr., has presented something of a mystery, as Wendt said he does not appear to have had a library card and is unknown to library staff.

"I know other libraries get left things and they know the people, and they're able to tell stories. ... We don't have any of that background," Wendt said. "It really does feel like a very miraculous kind of thing."



Herald archives show that Neel was the son of Joe Neel Sr., a nationally renowned UND professor of biology who died in 1990. Neel Jr., gave the library a \$50,000 gift in 1998 in remembrance of his father, and a Herald article from that time described him as a bachelor working a Civil Service position at Grand Forks Air Force Base. His death notice says he died July 31 at age 72, with no funeral services expected. It does not indicate if he had any living relatives.

Wendt said the library first learned of the gift about one month ago, but didn't dare trust it was real. Over the course of the library's attempt to build a new location, she said she'd heard before of the existence of wealthy donors, but they never materialized. She was excited to take a call from Edward Jones wealth advisers shortly afterwards, though.

"But we didn't want to get our hopes up, so we didn't really believe it was real until the checks arrived this week," Wendt said.

The gift arrives as library leaders have begun shifting away from expectations that they will immediately pursue the construction of a new library and more towards a belief they will remain in their aging building -- at least for now, Library Board member Justin Berry said recent projects include new boilers, sliding doors, exterior lighting and a new roof.

The Library Board will take up discussion of the gift at its December meeting, Berry said, and speculated that it might be spent on new carpet or furniture -- a visible improvement that patrons can enjoy. Wendt said it's unclear what the gift will be used for, but it won't be operating costs.

"It sounds like he was a very private person, and now is going to affect the community in a very beneficial way," she said. "I just think that's very generous, and I wish I could thank him."



SPREAD THE WORD

NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Authors

Published authors, including those who write for children and young adults, are eligible. Author membership includes a credit which can be used toward any advertisement or combination of advertisements in the MPLA newsletter.



MPLA MADNESS



What is it?

a unique opportunity for you to both contribute to 2018 MPLA Leadership Institute, partake in the fun and frenzy of an online bidding war, and or donate your own wonderful, creative and fun items in a Facebook auction and we need your help by donating items to the auction!

Please send pictures and a description of what you would like to donate to Mary at leadership@mpla.us by February 28.

Facebook Auction will happen

<https://www.facebook.com/MPLALibraries/>

Sunday, March 4 – Saturday, March 10

final bids will be due at

11:59 P.M. MT

40th Anniversary Celebration

H. M. Briggs Library on the campus of South Dakota State University celebrated its 40th anniversary on September 14. Festivities included afternoon opportunities to enter a jump rope contest, tie-dye a bandana, and enjoy a root beer float. An evening reception offered hors d'oeuvres and beverages and remarks from past library administrators. Following the reception, a "Wit of the Wosters" panel discussion featured Woster siblings Terry Woster, Jim Woster, Kevin Woster, and Mary Alice Haug discussing books, reading, and libraries.

On-site and online exhibits provided information about the library's history and about Dr. Hilton M. Briggs, the library's namesake and president of SDSU from 1958 to 1975. Also featured were 40 books written by SDSU alumni and faculty.

The library also marked the occasion by asking SDSU alumni, staff, and faculty for essays about influential books and meaningful library experiences. The essays were published on the library's Web site and gathered in the print publication *On the Shelf: A Collection of Essays Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Hilton M. Briggs Library*. The essay collection is freely available through Open PRAIRIE, SDSU's institutional repository (<http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/>).



Can you hear me now?

MPLA is seeking YOU to help guide the organization into the future through joining the Communications Team!

You'd assist in developing policy and uses, and in some cases content and procedures, for the four major communications tools used by MPLA: MemberClicks, the newsletter, the website, and social media.

Want to take a leap further into MPLA?

Annie

president@mpla.us

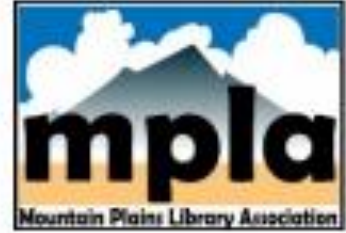
or

Leslie

[vicepresi-](#)



Guiding Principles



1. Pursue outreach opportunities

- Foster relationships
- Increase professional sharing
- Include diverse communities



2. Encourage caring, respectful relationships

- Mentoring
- Networking
- Collaborations
- Learning



3. Realize our potential

- Leadership development
- Professional growth opportunities
- Engagement with library community

Source: Agreement icon made by Grigor Chervan; Telescope icon made by Freepilly; Network icon made by Nadezhda from www.flaticon.com

www.MPLA.us



I Love My
Librarian!
2017 Award

Librarians touch the lives of the people they serve every day. The I Love My Librarian Award encourages library users like you to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians. Each year 10 librarians are selected. Each librarian receives a \$5,000 cash award, a plaque and a travel stipend to attend the awards ceremony and reception in New York City, hosted by Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The 2017 I Love My Librarian Award recipients include three academic librarians, four public librarians and three school librarians. This year's winners are:

Julie Bill

Musicians Institute College of
Contemporary Music
Los Angeles

Sheikla Blount

Columbiana (Alabama) Middle School

Annie Cipolla

Los Angeles Public Library

Rosemary Cooper

Albert Wisner Public Library
Warwick, New York

Laurie Doan

Tredyffrin Public Library
Strafford, Pennsylvania

Mary Jo Fayoyin

Savannah (Georgia) State University

Natalia Fernández

Oregon State University
Corvallis, Oregon

Marcia Kochel

Druid Hills Middle School
Decatur, Georgia

Rita Platt

St. Croix Falls (Wisconsin) Elementary

Timothy Ryan

Rochester (New York) Public Library

For more information regarding the 2017 I Love My Librarian Award recipients, please visit
<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/lovemylibrarian/2017/17winners>



I'M NEW! NOW WHAT?

A BI-YEARLY MEETING OF THE MINDS!

WHO'S INVITED?
EVERYONE IS WELCOME BUT OUR FOCUS IS NEW/POTENTIAL MEMBERS!

WHAT'S COVERED?

- MPLA HISTORY
- WAYS TO MAKE YOUR MARK
- COMMITTEES; OFFICERS; PRESENTING
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
- GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED HERE!

WHEN'S IT HAPPENING?
EARLY SUMMER/LATE FALL
UTILIZING ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

I'M NEW! NOW WHAT?
Inaugural meeting (July 6th Recording)
will be up on mpla.us soon!

Want to know more?

Jake Rundle Membership, Chair

E: membership@mpla.us P: 402.461.2346



Support MPLA!

GROCERY CARD PROGRAM

KING SOOPERS/KROGERS

Buying and reloading a grocery gift card purchased through MPLA raises funds for MPLA's professional development, leadership, and educational programs.

MPLA will receive an amount equal to 5% of your grocery purchases. There is no additional cost to you!

<http://www.mpla.us/forms/grocery-card-program.html>

Cards Are Accepted By

- Kroger
- Fred Meyer
- Ralphs
- Fry's and Fry's marketplace
- King Soopers
- Dillons
- Smith's Food & Drug City Market
- QFC
- Food 4 Less
- Owen's
- Foodsco
- Hilander
- Pay-less Cala-Bell
- Bakers
- Jayc
- Fred Meyer jewelers
- Littman & Barclay Jewelers
- Loaf and Jug



Around the Region



SolarSpell

On January 4, MPLA member Dan Stanton went to Rwanda with Dr. Laura Hosman, Lisa Kammerlocher, and several Arizona State University Engineering students to introduce the SolarSPELL to Africa. SolarSPELL, developed by ASU Assistant Professor Hosman, is a portable, solar-powered digital library that



SolarSPELL

comes with its own digital Wi-Fi hotspot, able to function without electricity or existing internet connectivity. In addition to working with Peace Corps Volunteers in Rwanda, Dan and Lisa worked with educators and university-bound students from Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo on information literacy and research strategies. Dan's role with the SolarSPELL has been to find quality, open access resources geared towards East Africa, to replace the existing resources focused on Micronesia and the Pacific Islands. He says he is grateful for the opportunity to work with Peace Corps Volunteers in the field and visit Rwanda. "This is an exciting technology and there has been some discussion/ planning to bring it to Latin America and possibly to Puerto Rico, in the wake of the hurricanes!"

Stories behind the Library Statistics



**SEDONA
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

As with all libraries, people come on a quest of one sort or another, whether to find a recent article, download a book, finish a job application, listen to an author, or meet with a business partner. The needs of the patrons serve as directives, and we provide the resources, assistance, and information you seek, as well as the space. Here are just a few stories of how Sedona Public Library, with its two locations, made an impact to the 198,00 visitors in 2017.

- A Vietnam veteran, up against hard times and without transportation, believed if he could sell his collection of valuable books he could afford a down payment on a new car. But he didn't know how to do it. Sedona Public Library helped, and he sold the books as hoped, made a down payment on a vehicle, and he was back on his feet in no time.
- A Hungarian woman, an avid reader and patron, felt isolated, and she dearly needed to read a book in her native language. Sedona Public Library found books for her via Interlibrary Loan, and at last she felt connected to the country of her birth where she hadn't set foot since her childhood.
- An immigrant mother of three worked diligently with Sedona Public Library staff to complete her citizenship paperwork. Finally, she attended her naturalization ceremony, put her hand on her heart, and took her Oath of Allegiance.

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Looking for another way to support MPLA? Just visit [Amazon Smile](#), select the Mountain Plains Library Association, and automatically donate .5% of the purchase price of eligible goods to MPLA.

MPLA PRESENTS...

WHAT IS IT? A new initiative that utilizes the zoom meeting technology to discuss topics of interest

WHO'S INVITED? EVERYONE! It's an opportunity to build your network.

WHAT'S COVERED? It'll be new each time!
Meet ups could be presentations that were received well at Conferences, or guest speakers on a variety of topics such as:

- Solo Librarians
- Library Directors
- Librarians serving less that 10,000 population
- Professional Development
- and more

INAUGURAL MEETING TO BE DETERMINED

Want to know more?

Jake Rundle Membership, Chair

E: membership@mpla.us P: 402.461.2346

CO COLORADO

Playful Pets Playscape

Douglas County Libraries in Lone Tree introduced its new Playful Pets Animal Clinic and Animal Grooming playscape, a fun, interactive space for children that inspires imaginative play and self-guided learning. Playful Pets is a museum-quality installation near the children's area in the library where kids can discover and act out various aspects of veterinary-style pet care using provided tools, devices, and their imaginations. "The kids are having a blast with our new Playful Pets playscape," says Lone Tree Branch Manager Susan Byrne. "They're super busy checking out the X-ray machine and grooming the stuffed cats and dogs. The best part is, they're learning while they're playing."



KS KANSAS

Technolo-Free: A Time to Unplug

The Dodge City Public Library recently held a free time event where those attending had an opportunity to step away from technology and engage with their family and friends through games, reading, puzzles and crafts.



Kansas Fossils



The Mr. and Mrs. F.L. Schlagle Library held a children's educational program on Kansas fossils. Where those in attendance examined real fossils from the area and learned about the animals and what they left behind. There was a chance to engage through the making of replica fossils out of plaster of paris for the kids to take home.



MONTANA

Special Collections Addition

The Montana State University Library's Special Collections recently received a donation of 40 years worth of notes, letters, photographs, and documents pertaining to the career of Former head of Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Mike Clark.



Clark is widely credited for brokering for federal buyout of the Crown Butte Mines company in 1996 to protect areas of the Yellowstone National Park. "We are proud to host this chronicle of an influential activist from our community," said Kenning Arlitsch, dean of the MSU Library. "Mike Clark's archive helps tell the environmental and political history of the West, and it will be available for anyone to view."

MSU University Archivist Kim Scott said MSU Library Special Collections' staff is currently processing Clark's materials, and a comprehensive inventory of those materials will be available in June.

Collaborative Art @ Dobson Community Library

The Dobson Community Library has a new public space art installation in their library in due to art students from Surry Central High School. Art Teacher, Stephanie Miller, said "This is the student's first time to do a [mural] project in a public space." Cindy Puckett, Dobson librarian, and Miller credit Renee Moore, a member of Dobson Friends of the Library and an administrative assistant at Surry County Schools, with conceiving the mural project.

"It started with the Friends of the Library trying to think of different things we could do to spruce up the library that would be inexpensive," added Moore. "I suggested we contact the local art teacher to see if any of the students might be interested in a service project. I understand it has become much more."



Ryan Buller
Professional Development, Chair
E: prof_development@mpla.us
<http://mpla.us/quick-links/grants.html>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Grants are awarded to support the following:

- Formal course work leading to an advanced degree in library science or a related discipline.
- Formal course work not leading to an advanced degree but directly related to an individual's library position.
- Attendance as a participant or a presenter at a library or scholarly workshop, seminar, or conference, including the MPLA annual conference.
- Visits to another library to receive or provide significant advanced training in library services or procedures.
- Library related research projects.

DEADLINE FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

March 28	May 30	July 25
September 26	November 28	



Innovation Studios in Ashland



The Ashland Public Library has begun training for the public on the new “makerspace” equipment. The goal is to stimulate creativity and innovation, facilitate entrepreneurship and spark local economic development. Library Director Heather St.Clair said the library was one of 18 chosen in the first round of the state’s Library Innovation Studios: Transforming Rural Communities project to create makerspaces in public libraries throughout Nebraska.

An open house was held December 30th to mark the official start of the makerspace at the library. A showcase will take place at the end of the makerspace tenure at the library sometime in April. There the community will have a chance to show off the items they created with the tools and equipment.

The project is funded by a grant from the Nebraska Library Commission. The library commission received a National Leadership Grant of over \$500,000 for the project, which is a partnership with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Innovation Studio, Nebraska Extension, Regional Library Systems and local public libraries.



Featured Artists

The Churchill County Library is currently displaying artwork. "Kaleidoscope Color Wheels" created by the Churchill County High School Art 1 students under the direction of art teacher Jaime Lynn Shafer. A meet the artists' event was held on January 16th.



1. Professional Development Grants for course work, institutes and workshops.
2. Continuing education opportunities including conferences, workshops and special seminars.
3. Information exchange and educational programs about technological developments and innovative library programming undertaken by MPLA libraries.
4. MPLA Awards recognize outstanding contributions to local, state and regional library services.
5. Joint annual conferences with member states providing a marketplace of ideas where individuals can share their experience and talent with other librarians.
6. Forums for personal contact among members and national leaders in the profession.
7. MPLA Newsletter providing information about continuing education available throughout the region and outstanding library programs through news and feature articles.





NEW MEXICO

30th Anniversary Celebration of the opening of the Santa Fe Main Library

The Library invited those who helped move the old Library from 120 Washington Avenue across the street to its current location in 1987 as special guests for the Celebration! The celebration featured live music from the MARC Record Trio. The band plays a bohemian mix of covers from everywhere, on guitar, bass, accordion, and percussion.



Members of the community and staff formed a chain across Washington Avenue and 20,000 books were placed in the new Library building. Over 1,100 residents joined the chain and helped open the Library in 1987. The Library was assisted in the celebration by the members of the Santa Fe Woman's Club and Library Association. The original Library in Santa Fe was founded by the Woman's Board of Trade and Library Association in 1896 in the barracks at Fort Marcy.

The current Library was formerly a Court House and then redesigned as City Hall, with the fire department and police department in the building. City Council met in the old judges' chamber which today is the Southwest Reading Room. The original Berardinelli Building was designed by the famous architect John Gaw Meem and completed in 1932. His design of the Southwest Reading Room includes a parquet floor, library tables, and floor to ceiling glass cases for rare books. The high plaster walls support a wooden ceiling of boards laid over with carved wooden vigas and carved crossbeams. The wrought iron lamps and tin chandeliers add a soft glow to the room. The room is popular for readers and computer users today.

Rio Rancho promotes Small Business Saturday

This year the Rio Rancho Public Libraries participated in the American Express Small Business Saturday Initiative. They partnered with the City's Economic Development department, as well as with the Santa Ana Star Center (local events venue).

The two library branches along with the collaborating City departments registered as ambassador sites which made us recipients of the AmEx Event Kits (bags, posters, balloons and other branded items). These were distributed to the businesses and also at the library branches. There were 17 participating businesses; they agreed to give a 10% discount to customers who showed their library card. There were raffle tickets available at each of the participating businesses, to win one of four \$50 Visa cards (courtesy of the Friends of the Library) or a pair of tickets to the upcoming Cirque du Soleil show (courtesy of the Santa Ana Star Center). The Library extended the program to a week to give both the businesses and customers longer to participate.



The event was promoted by the City and Libraries alike. The Mayor recorded a video and we promoted it across available social media channels, as well as internally in the branches. The Economic Development team also ran an ad on AdWallet, which was shared by nearly 40% of those who viewed it. Details can be found on the City website: <https://rrnm.gov/shopsmall>.

The program reinforced the idea that your library card has a number of benefits, one of which is getting a discount while supporting the local economy.



NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Library Adds Young Adult Category to Flicker Tale Award

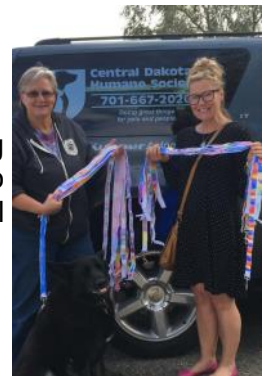
The North Dakota Library Association's School Library And Youth Services section voted to add a YA (Young Adult) Fiction category to our annual Flicker Tale award this year. Through much spirited conversation and cordial discussion, the YA Flicker Tale committee has chosen 4 titles for 2018 to be voted on by North Dakota's readers of YA fiction. We are very excited to see how our teen readers react to these novels and can't wait to see which one is voted their favorite!

The nominations are:

- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
- *The Lost Girl of Astor Street* by Stephanie Morill
- *This is where it ends* by Marieke Nijkamp
- *The Perilous Journey of a not-so-innocuous girl* by Leigh Statham

Miss Sparkles' Kindness Club

The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library has a group dedicating to making positive impact called Miss Sparkles' Kindness Club. This is a club for children who get to do something different each meeting. They have decorated leashes for the Central Dakota Humane Society and many more types of activities.



“The Oklahomans: The Story of Oklahoma”

The McAlester Public Library hosted Will Rogers Medallion award-winning author John J. Dwyer who delivered a new presentation about Oklahoma History. A Duncan native and Norman resident, Dwyer has taught history and ethics at Southern Nazarene University since 2006. Dwyer’s historical epic “The Oklahomans: The Story of Oklahoma” and “Its People, Vol. 1, Ancient-Statehood,” won first place for the category of Western nonfiction in Fort Worth Oct. 28, at the 14th annual national Will Rogers Medallion Award banquet. The event attracted authors and publishers from as far away as California, Utah, Nevada and New York. The book’s Norman-based publisher, Red River Press, also earned a gold medal for the book’s design and layout. “These evening programs give the public a chance to engage in cultural events, meet new people and consider joining our very active Friends group.” said Head Librarian Kathy McGilberry.



Moore Holiday Gala



The Moore Public Library's hosted a Holiday Gala double celebration event, which observed the beginning of the holiday season and marked the library's 50th anniversary in its building. Chris Manna, library branch manager, estimated 800 to 850 people attendance. Entertainment included the handbell choir from St. Andrew Catholic Church, and the student choirs from both Bryant Elementary School and Heritage Trails Elementary School. Pastry students from Platt College helped children and adults decorate gingerbread man cookies. Santa Claus was on hand to hear children's Christmas gift wishes.



Making and Changing in Wilmot, SD

Wilmot School District was one of the 25 schools to receive the Classroom Innovation Grant provided by the SD Department of Education in 2016. The \$50,000 grant enabled the school to develop a makerspace, which has been dubbed the “Creation Station” by Wilmot students, to encourage STEAM experimentation and hands-on learning for grades K-12.

The application for the grant was a collaborative effort between librarian Cindy Argo, technology coordinator Melissa Jurgens, and 2nd grade teacher Darren Prisigner. The team worked together to coordinate a space renovation and purchase equipment and supplies. They are now actively implementing a maker learning atmosphere within the library. It is Argo’s hope that the innovative space will foster a sense of exploration and encourage student-led discovery of interests beyond their comfort zones.



The Wilmot Public Library has a new Librarian, Janelle Kelly, who lives in Big Stone City, and is also the Branch Manager of the Big Stone City Branch Library, one of three branches of the Grant County Public Library System. A [“Holiday Open House/ Meet & Greet the New Librarian”](#) was held to welcome Kelly who has worked in a library setting since 1992 and is very excited to now serve the patrons of the Wilmot community.

Star Wars Talk

Approximately 135 people gathered to hear “Light Sabers, Failures, and Vanishing Acts: The Visual and Thematic Hero’s Journey of Luke Skywalker,” a talk by SDSU Alumnus and Brookings High School English teacher Ricky Ganci. Mr. Ganci examined the defining characteristics of Luke Skywalker’s heroic journey in the *Star Wars* films. He reflected on the films’ visual and thematic storytelling during Luke’s exchanges with Darth Vader and on Luke’s relationships with friends and mentors. The presentation featured illustrative film clips and provided an example of approaching media in an analytical as well as an appreciative manner.



Ricky Ganci Discusses Luke’s Journey
Photo Credit: Wyeth Lynch, Briggs Library

New Year, New Kid's Section

The Big Piney Library switched up the shelving for the easy to read picture books and the audiobook section. The staff love how the kids can really see the covers as they flip through the collection.



#staffpickFriday @ Albany County Public Library



Liz, who works in our circulation department recommends "The Traitor Baru Cormorant" by Seth Dickinson. "It is perfect for new and old fans of sci-fi. Seth Dickinson builds a complex yet grounded world through which we can analyze our own. Heart-wrenching and fast-paced, this book will hit the spot." #staffpickFriday

Allison, who works at the circulation desk and part time for the Albany County Public Library Foundation, recommends Rat Queens by Kurtis Wiebe! "If you like D&D, WoW, or general medieval debauchery, Rat Queens is for you. Experience a cast of diverse female characters who kill, drink, and know how to have a good time." #staffpickFriday



Discovery Kits

Springville library patrons can now check out new discoveries with the library's new Discovery Kits, which allow people to reserve items like a Super Nintendo Classic, a



telescope and ukuleles. "We are hoping this sparks an interest to learn more about a topic," Dan Mickelson, library director, said. "Then we've got some books right there in the kit bag that they can explore or they can search our catalog." The black and yellow bags contain the item or items people are checking out, a binder with instructions or information about the topic and some books.

"We are providing a spark of discovery through an object that hopefully connects to what we have with other resources," Mickelson said. The kits were provided by a grant from the Utah State Library, and they are free for patrons to check out for a week with a overdue fine of \$1 per day.



Dan Mickelson, Springville Public Library Director cuts the ribbon.



Welcome, New Members!



Joyce K. Abbott
Adult Services Lead Librarian
Scottsdale Public Library
Scottsdale AZ

MaLynda Kramber
Director
Garrison Public Library
Garrison ND

Lane Talkington
Library Media Specialist
South Middle School
Grand Forks ND

Ellen M. Cummings
Managing Librarian
Tulsa City-County Library Zarrow Regional Library
Tulsa OK

Jesse Leraas
Library Director
Sanford Health
Hendrum MN

Diane K. Trinkle
Library Director
Nortonville Public Library
Nortonville KS

Terri Davis
Library Director
Rapid City Public Library
Rapid City SD

Lindsey D. Miller-Escarfuller
Director
Salina Public Library
Salina KS

Stephanie Walker
Dean
University of North Dakota Library
Grand Forks ND

Leanne Falconer
Teacher Librarian
Wayoata School
Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada

Allison Radermacher
Library Media Director
Ellendale Public School
Ellendale ND

Allaina Wallace
Head Librarian
Denver Botanic Gardens Helen Fowler Library
Denver CO

Anna Foote
Children's Services & Continuing Education Consultant
Northeast Kansas Library System
Lawrence KS

Carmen Redding
School & Youth Services Specialist
North Dakota State Library
Bismarck ND

Troy Hamre
Interlibrary Loan Manager/Mobile Librarian
Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library
Bismarck ND

Jennifer Senger
Assistant Director/Children's Librarian
James River Library System
Jamestown ND

Megan Klein-Hewett
Borrower Services Manager
Omaha Public Library W. Dale Clark Library
Omaha NE

Dan Syljuberget
School District Librarian
North Border School District - Walhalla
Walhalla ND

2018 Conference Calendar

American Library Association Mid-Winter

February 9-13; Denver, CO

Montana Library Association

April 11-14; Bozeman, MT

Oklahoma Library Association

April 23-25; Tulsa, OK

Utah Library Association

May 16-18; Provo, UT

American Library Association

June 21-26; New Orleans, LA

Colorado State Library Association

September 13-15; Loveland, CO

South Dakota Library Association

September 26-28; Sioux Falls, SD

North Dakota Library Association

October 3-5; Minot, ND

Nebraska Library Association

October 4-6; Lincoln, NE

MPLA / Kansas Library Association

October 23-26; Wichita, KS

Arizona State Library Association

October 24-26; Mesa, AZ

New Mexico Association

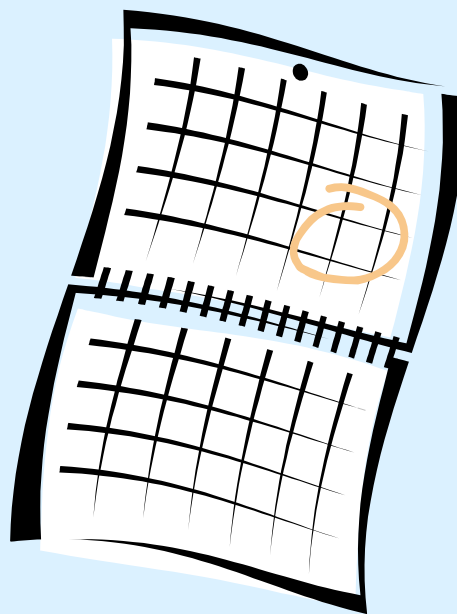
October 31– Nov 2; Albuquerque, NM

Wyoming State Library Association

August 2-3; Casper, WY

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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.

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ISSN 0145-6180

Editor: Melanie Argo,
Madison Public Library

Copy deadlines for articles, news, and advertisements:

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

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