

# Mountain Plains Library Association

*Big Horizons Close Community*

# Newsletter

June 2020—July 2020

www.mpla.us Volume 65 Number 3

## President's Message

To say our times are uncertain is something of an understatement. Because of the unique nature of our residential model, my institution kept all the students through the end of term on May 1. Because of the transition to online learning, students were able to stay in their 'homes' as were the teaching faculty. This change provided a focus shift in the Library. Participating in online meetings, podcasts, and other development opportunities online have become part of my routine. Flowing through this new routine, three themes have emerged for me. They are leadership and the crisis, the Board's role and responsibilities during this time, and innovation that comes out of the crisis.



A recent InTrust blog post (link: <https://www.intrust.org/Blog/entryid/777/how-to-lead-out-of-a-crisis>) proposes the question "How do you lead during a crisis and simultaneously lead out of one?" To that question, they have three suggestions that were taken in part from a Harvard Business Review piece (link: <https://hbr.org/2020/04/executives-and-boards-avoid-these-missteps-in-a-crisis>). The first is to avoid narrow thinking. Think broadly, collaborate with new partners, work together. The second proposition is to avoid deferring to the leader. This time presents a unique space for collaboration. Finally, they posit avoiding conformity. It is important to follow the guidelines imposed on us by municipalities, states, etc., but sometimes the dissenting voice offers new ideas.

Reflecting on Board roles and responsibilities during this time, I think in a couple of different directions. First, we really ramp up the season of planning a conference, hosting board meetings, like that. "Now" becomes an exciting time, even while realizing the reality of much of the world and the pandemic and our conference which will be (we hope) held in Utah in the Spring of 2021.

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North Dakota Oklahoma South Dakota Utah Wyoming

Reflecting on the work of our Board and watching the information landscape, now seems to be a particular time for innovation. Perhaps you know Llewellyn King; the British-American journalist, publisher and television producer. In a recent conversation, he submitted that a new era of innovation is coming (<https://www.insidesources.com/a-new-age-of-innovation-will-follow-covid-19/>). Very impactfully, he writes, “Many industries will be severely contracted, including...small colleges and universities. This will throw a great deal of talent out of work. Those are the people, I believe, who will create a new innovative wave in society and bring about a new prosperity, after some very hard times.” Food for thought, right?

All of these thoughts bring me back around to MPLA, our mission and goals to promote the development of librarians and libraries (insert link: <http://www.mpla.us/>), and the future. In this uncertain, difficult, even scary time, there is reason for hope. I say this, of course, in large part because I am a hopeful person. I also see the great opportunities that can emerge from this time: the collaboration with new partners, fresh thinking about our mission, the path to the future.



**Stephen Sweeney**  
Mountain Plains Library Association President

St. John Vianney Seminary, Cardinal Stafford Library  
Denver, Colorado



**Big Horizons, Close Community**



## Thanks for the Memories...



By: Paulette Nelson, Newly Retired

Thanks for the memories MPLA. Little did I know that when I joined MPLA in 1981 as a “newbie” librarian with essentially no library training at all, that this organization would have such a positive influence on my life and my career. My first MPLA conference was in Las Vegas and it was just the start of many conferences that I attended. Many of my best memories are of the conferences that ND librarians would drive to in van driven by none other than long time member Jerry Kaup.

Some of the most memorable conferences were:

- ◆ The one in Oklahoma where organizers had a fashion show featuring garments made from library materials. It was a fundraiser and I think that the ND librarians spent a LOT of money so that our entry would win!
- ◆ In Sioux Falls, we rented a deluxe house that slept 9 people and we had a barbeque and invited some of the vendors to make the trek to our little villa. Joe Edelen

like it so much he came twice!

- ◆ In Phoenix, we stayed in Jerry’s condo and drove each day to the conference site. In addition, Jerry acted as our tour guide before the conference and took us to Sedona where he got a lesson in shopping!

For many of the conferences I attended we were truly road warriors who hopped in a mini-van and drove for a day or so to the conference. It was a great way to know librarians from other libraries in the state and find out what they were doing in their libraries.

Not only were the conferences great, the people in MPLA are what makes the organization. It may be a regional organization, but members make it welcoming for everyone. I served on the board for six years and I looked forward to attending conference each year so that I could see old friends and make new ones. To all my friends, I will truly miss you.

If the quilt looks familiar, it is because after each conference I would put the bandanas in a drawer in my office. Last fall I opened that drawer and discovered I had quite a collection and wondered what to do with these. I contacted a quilter in our community and she said she could make it into a quilt. I needed a few more bandanas so I put out a call to members and lo and behold I got the last few that I needed. I was so excited when I picked it up from the quilter to see the great job she did on it.

So I may be retired but I will always be a MPLA member!

# EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

*School of* LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

## Earn your Master of Library Science

A graduate degree in Library and Information Management complements previous education, offers prospects for increased earnings and provides flexible skills for the future. Be a part of the information profession that has exciting career opportunities such as public or academic librarian, media specialist, data manager, archivist, and many more.

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Enjoy personal interaction between students and faculty as you combine your MLS studies with an active life. Cohort locations include:

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# Awards Committee Seeks Nominees

Do you know an individual, group, or organization in your state or library who is deserving of recognition? Please nominate him/her for an MPLA award! You must be an MPLA member to nominate, although only some of the awards require membership of the honoree.

**MPLA Dan Chaney Unsung Hero Award:** To be given to an MPLA member who has consistently worked behind the scenes to create, administer, or support a library-related organization or project and who has not previously been recognized to the degree their work merits.



*At his death at age 52, Dan Chaney was Associate Professor and Social Sciences Librarian at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. He had been an MPLA member for over 20 years. He served as MPLA Webmaster, unofficial photographer and social media contact, and received the Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award in 2009 for his service to MPLA. Witty, profane, probingly intelligent, creative, irascible, and deeply caring, Dan was beloved by his students and his colleagues.*

**In 2017, MPLA's Unsung Hero Award was renamed the MPLA Dan Chaney Unsung Hero Award, and a \$100 stipend was added in Dan's honor.**

**MPLA Beginning Professional Award:** To recognize an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist within the first five years after being awarded a library/media 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.

A link to the Award Nomination Form is available at <http://www.mpla.us/services/awards/>



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

**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 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. The nomination 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.

**A link to the Award Nomination Form  
is available at:**

<http://www.mpla.us/services/awards/>



## Grocery Rewards—King Soopers/Kroger

There are no longer grocery gift cards linked to MPLA. Instead, you can link your loyalty card to our MPLA Community Awards Program account.

To do so: Go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>

**Once logged into your King Soopers/Kroger account, search for Mountain Plains Library Association by name or our account: KK820.** Then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card. If you previously purchased grocery cards they may still be used and reloaded but they will no longer provide rebates for MPLA. Instead, there is a quarterly designated funding amount which is shared by all Community Rewards organizations. Amounts are determined by the percentage of purchases by each organization.

If you are in an area with Kroger stores this is an easy way to support MPLA!

### King Soopers/Krogers

#### COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM

There is a change!  
There are no longer grocery gift cards linked to MPLA.  
Instead, you can link your loyalty card to MPLA to continue raising funds for MPLA's professional development, leadership, and educational programs!

**SUPPORT  
MPLA!**



#### 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

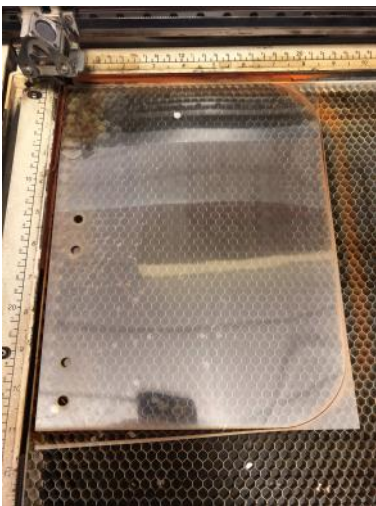
# Meeting PPE Demands in Nevada

When University of Nevada Reno President Marc Johnson announced alternative operations on March 16, Nick Crowl from the University Libraries' [DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library](#), along with Daniel Smith from the [Innovation Center](#), several faculty members from the [Computer Science and Engineering Department](#), and [The Department of Art Fabrication Lab](#) worked together to help identify potential solutions to the PPE shortage many hospitals and healthcare workers in our area are experiencing.

“This is what makerspaces and makers do,” Head of DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library, Tara Radniecki said. ***“Makers are predisposed to create or design a solution with the materials they have on-hand when a problem arises. In this instance, we are leveraging our 3D printers, plastics and book binding materials and have already delivered an initial run of 100 PPE protective face visors in partnership with our University’s community of makers.”***



Crowl, DeLaMare’s [Makerspace](#) and Dataworks manager, has been working over the past week to 3D print the PPE protective face visors. The 3D printed visors being created by this interdisciplinary group of University faculty and staff are modeled after a successful [Swedish protective](#) visor. It is composed of a durable plastic headband and a snap on plastic, wraparound face visor. The design is modular. It can be taken apart, sanitized and reused.



“The material we selected for the clear visor came from the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center’s [@One](#) printing department,” Crowl said. “We needed a somewhat flexible, but thick and durable plastic to create the visor piece. We decided to repurpose our book binding report cover material to fabricate the visor piece. We ran a test and it worked perfectly for what we needed.”

Crowl delivered the first 100 of these protective face visors to the [Nevada Rural Hospital Partners](#) last week.

“Contributing to something meaningful in a time like this feels really good,” Crowl said. “I wanted to be sure that the rural hospitals were being supported. I have a personal connection to this group and know they are struggling and in need of PPE, as are the larger hospitals here in Reno.”

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The Department of Art is helping to proactively support possible PPE shortages in Northern Nevada by re-tooling equipment in our Fabrication Lab (FabLab) from art and design production to the fabrication of personal protective equipment (PPE) including 3-D printed face shields, community-crafted mask covers, surgical caps and isolation gowns. The Fablab is uniquely equipped to produce large volumes of stacked 3-D prints and rapidly cut fabric in mass quantities with the large-format Zund CNC Cutter. Our goal is to maximize the potential of our equipment and share our creative expertise in support of new and innovative solutions to combat the spread of COVID-19.



You can help by donating to cover supplies needed to create the PPE shields for our very deserving and hard working local health care workers. Your support will help them stay healthy as we all fight the COVID-19 virus together. Source & where you can donate: <https://unr.scalefunder.com/cfund/project/20780>

### About the University Libraries

*The University Libraries embrace intellectual inquiry and innovation, nurture the production of new knowledge, and foster excellence in learning, teaching and research. During each academic year, the Libraries welcome more than 1.2 million visitors across its network of three branch libraries: the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, the DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library and the Savitt Medical Library. Visitors checked out more than 80,000 items and completed more than 2 million database searches.*

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You shop. Amazon gives.



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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.

# Professional Development Grants

*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.

## *Value of Grants*

Annual budget equals the funding for grants approved but not yet awarded from the previous year plus the funding awarded for grants in the coming year. Funding for grants that have been approved but are not awarded is returned to the MPLA general fund.

*MPLA sponsors the two categories of grants:*

### **Mini-grant**

Funding for projects requiring minimal financial support. (Maximum amount: \$150)

### **Regular grant**

Funding for projects requiring substantial financial support, and for occasional funding of professional development opportunities requiring travel outside the United States. (Maximum amount: \$600)

## *Grant Funding*

- Reimbursement of actual expenses incurred during a project.
- Transportation reimbursement for the lowest possible fare or for personal vehicles, mileage for the shortest route at the amount per mile allowed for deduction for federal income tax deductions.
- Grant funding for course work limited to tuition, fees and books.
- Funding approved but not needed to reimburse expenses is returned to the MPLA general fund.
- Expenses in excess of the grant funding approved are not reimbursed.

Find out more: <https://mpla.us/about/professional-development-grants.html>

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**Professional Development, Chair**  
E: [prof\\_development@mpla.us](mailto:prof_development@mpla.us)

**Judy Kulp**  
**Executive Secretary**  
Lakewood, Colorado 80228  
E: [execsecretary@mpla.us](mailto:execsecretary@mpla.us)

# Around the Region



Since the early days of the public health crisis, the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records has stepped up to keep Arizona library staff connected and informed while in-person services are suspended. Staff from the State Library have compiled a [resource page](#) highlighting COVID-19 information for Arizona libraries, and the State Library has convened regular virtual conversations for youth services staff, library staff in general, and library leaders and administrators.



On April 24, the Arizona State Library partnered with the Arizona Library Association to present Looking Beyond COVID-19: A Library Community Conversation. The panel discussion focused on how libraries of various types (public, academic, K-12) are showing resilience during the crisis; how lessons learned during the crisis will inform library services in the future; and how libraries are preparing to reopen while maintaining safe environments for staff and patrons. More than 150 library staff from all over the state participated in the event.



Pima County Public Library, based in Tucson, has introduced Grab-N-Go Super Snacks for children and teens, at ten library locations across the county. The program is offered in partnership with the Arizona Department of Education and the Amphitheater Unified

School District. The prepackaged snacks and fresh fruit are intended to help students who have lost access to school meals during the public health crisis. Library staff distributing the snacks are following social distancing guidelines and wearing protective clothing to maintain public safety. [Read more here.](#)

The Maricopa County Library District, in the Phoenix metro area, began offering curbside pickup service at 16 library locations on April 22. A number of other public libraries across the state have been offering curbside service during the library closures, or plan to offer it as part of phased reopening.

MARICOPA COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT ANNOUNCES NEW CURBSIDE PICKUP SERVICE: "Click it, Park it, Pop it"



The Arizona Library Association Annual Conference, "Vision 2020: Libraries Moving Forward" is scheduled to take place in Prescott, October 14-17. Program proposals are being accepted through June 15, and the application is [available here.](#)

## Getting Creative When Buildings are Closed

As is happening everywhere, Colorado library staff are flexing their creativity skills to engage virtual audiences. The Bud Werner Memorial Library in Steamboat Springs challenged their local writers to craft prose or poetry to reflect the impact of COVID19 on their lives. Meanwhile, the Denver Public Library hosted a 2020 Maker Challenge, where they encouraged participants of all ages to show their creations for the possibility of winning a \$50 gift card from local businesses. You can see the gallery of creations at: <https://denverlibraryadventures.org/maker-gallery>

## National Poetry Month

National Poetry Month was celebrated by the Garfield Public Library, which hosted a virtual open mic poetry event that also featured Colorado's Poet Laureate, Bobby LeFebre. Mesa County Libraries challenged their patrons to submit an original poem for the possibility of being one of the three winning entries.

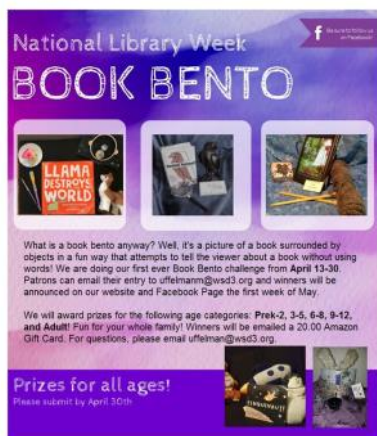
## Book Bento

The Security Public Library in Colorado Springs hosted a Book Bento challenge in celebration of National Library Week. Patrons were challenged to share their book along with objects that highlight the book's theme. Got a minute? Scroll through the entries here -> [Facebook Album](#)

## Face Masks for Healthcare

Johnson County Library branches have been closed since mid-March, but they're not sitting empty. That's because some employees are making face masks inside the library to help health care workers and first responders.

The Johnson County Library's makerspace designers use six machines to make 54 masks a day, and they have already donated more than 100 of them to Johnson County emergency medical services crews.



Security Public Library  
716 Aspen Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80911 | 719-391-3191  
[www.securitypubliclibrary.org](http://www.securitypubliclibrary.org)





### New Content on Montana Newspapers

The Montana Historical Society is pleased to announce that new content is available to search and browse on the web site [MONTANA NEWSPAPERS](#).

The River Press made it possible to digitize more of [The River Press](#), which is now available through 2004.

[Ekalaka Eagle](#), sponsored by the Carter County Museum, now includes 1938-1944 in the available date range. Finally, the Judith Basin County Free Library is responsible for a project including many of their counties' titles.

- [Belt Mountain Miner](#) (Barker)
- [The Benchland Advocate/ The Benchland Weekly Advocate](#) (Benchland)
- [Geyser Judith Basin Times](#) (Geyser)
- [The Independent](#) (Moccasin)
- [Judith Basin County Times](#) (Stanford)
- [The Stanford World](#) (Stanford)

These additions totaled almost 30,000 pages, so if library patrons are looking for something to explore online from home, send them to [MONTANA NEWSPAPERS](#) and [CHRONICLING AMERICA](#) for over 990,000 pages of Montana newspapers dating from 1864-2017. MONTANA NEWSPAPERS, a service of the Montana Historical Society, is freely accessible to all Internet users; no subscriptions or fees are required.

To learn about having your local newspaper digitized, contact us at [MHSDigital@mt.gov](mailto:MHSDigital@mt.gov).

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[montanahistoricalsociety.org](http://montanahistoricalsociety.org)

**Editor's note:** It was brought to my attention that the article, "Journalism for Kids" published in the Montana section of the April-May 2020 newsletter was incorrectly placed. In fact the library, Fountain Hills Branch is located in Arizona. I apologize for the oversight.  
- Melanie

### UNO & Other Local Organizations Seeking Materials For Pandemic Project

The University of Nebraska at Omaha Libraries' Archives and Special Collections are collecting journal entries, photos, art, audio, and more from the Omaha community to document the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in Nebraska. The organization is one of several in the Omaha and Lincoln metro area who are seeking to document local stories.

Lori Schwartz, Hagel Archivist at UNO, said it is important to collect the materials while the pandemic is ongoing so none of the emotions people are experiencing are lost. "We're really interested in those feelings and thoughts people are having as they go through this experience, and so that's why we're interested in the journals and writings and art, and the things they're doing, you know, in the moment," Schwartz said.

Claire Du Laney, Outreach Archivist at UNO, said the project started as an idea to give library student workers an opportunity to document their own experiences through a creative outlet, but the project grew to include experiences of the entire Omaha community. She said past pandemics, such as the Spanish Flu, have not had extensive documentation, and they want to make sure future researchers have plenty of data to look back on. "It's an event that has affected everybody in different ways, in cultural, political, and economic ways, so, in a basic sense, it's good research data," Du Laney said.

Du Laney said the archivists want to be able to develop a good understanding of how different groups experienced the pandemic, and make sure all groups of people can have a voice of their own in the project.

To learn more information about how to submit materials, visit their website at [covid19omaha.omeka.net](http://covid19omaha.omeka.net).

Article source: <http://netnebraska.org/article/news/1217379/uno-other-local-organizations-seeking-materials-pandemic-project>

## North Las Vegas Library District

In addition to granting free e-cards and activities like online story times, the North Las Vegas Library District has been working with its City to utilize their libraries as a business resources call center. The City's IT department set up an impromptu call center that could be accessed at two of the branches, and they received a call list from their business licensing department with contact information for the area's 5,000+ small businesses. In concert with the library's efforts, businesses were contacted with weekly email blasts and robocall messages. A specific business resources link was created on City's website to provide business with accurate information on available resources. While library staff members made personal calls to businesses, other staff members were assigned to answer incoming calls in response to the robocalls and emails.

The library was chosen for this project because of all the work they have done in relation to workforce development. It was a natural fit for the library to refer business to helpful and accurate information.

For more information contact: Forrest Lewis, Library Director - [lewisf@cityofnorthlasvegas.com](mailto:lewisf@cityofnorthlasvegas.com)



## Carson City Library

As is the case with most libraries, the Creative Learning Department at the Carson City Library found their building closure has been an extremely challenging, but creative, time. In the span of two weeks they went from no online programming to four programs a week. They offer STEAM activities, computer classes, storytimes, art nights, Maker Club and more, covering all ages. There has been a steep learning curve of video software and communication platforms, but library staff were able to experiment with what worked best for each program. They are still refining and getting better -- learning on the job, or rather, this new job they find themselves doing. As with their in-person programs, they have found program surveys and encouraging their loyal program attendees who give great feedback to be very helpful.

As a team, the department members have remained focused on how they can deliver the best programs to their patrons (no comma) and support each other in that mission. Each member has incredible background knowledge and skills; they regularly check-in with one another; they share challenges and help each other through those challenges. These strengths will help staff members as they move forward, particularly for the Summer Learning Challenge where they will need to be even more creative to make it a happy and healthy program for patrons.

For more information contact: Maria Klesta, Creative Learning Manager - [MKlesta@carson.org](mailto:MKlesta@carson.org)

## AUTHOR MEMBERSHIP

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

## Resources for Virtual Storytime

Right now, many libraries are offering virtual storytime through a number of different platforms, Facebook, Zoom, library's website, etc. Maybe your library is thinking of starting this type of programming for your patrons and don't know where to begin. Here are some resources to help you get started!

- ◆ [Virtual Storytime and Circle Time: 15 Tips to Make a Dynamic Video](#)
- ◆ [Online Story Time & Coronavirus: It's Fair Use, Folks](#)
- ◆ [COVID-18, Copyright, & Library Superpowers \(Part I\)](#)
- ◆ [Tackling Copyright Concerns When Taking Storytime Online](#)
- ◆ [Programming in a Pandemic: Libraries Respond](#)
- ◆ [Virtual Storytime for Beginners](#)

If you decide you don't want to be the one in front of the camera, or don't have the technology, there are a lot of libraries that have done storytimes, and you can share those!

*New Mexico libraries with Facebook storytime:*

- ◆ [Santa Fe Public Library](#)
- ◆ [Thomas Branigan Memorial Library](#)
- ◆ [Carlsbad Public Library](#)
- ◆ [Lovington Public Library](#)
- ◆ [Rio Rancho Public Libraries](#)
- ◆ [New Mexico State Library Rural Bookmobile Northeast](#)

*Nationwide read aloud initiatives:*

- ◆ [A List of Authors Doing Virtual Storytime or Art Lessons](#)
- ◆ [Dolly Parton](#)
- ◆ [New Orleans Public Library](#)
- ◆ [Storyline Online](#)



**Source:** <http://hitchhiker.nmstatelibrary.org/resources-for-virtual-storytime/>



### Libraries still serving amid COVID-19

Even though the Morton Mandan Public Library is closed, the Morton County Bookmobile is still on the road. They are playing a recording about the Census and will hopefully become a mobile hotspot for WiFi soon.

Most, if not all, libraries in the state have closed to the public due to concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic. However, many are still providing library services to their communities in unique ways during this unprecedented time. These library services include, but are not limited to, promoting the use of online databases, e-books, e-audiobooks, etc.; leaving the Wi-Fi on to those who want to access it from the parking lot; hosting virtual story times; delivering books; waiving late fees while the library is closed; and offering some form of curbside pickup.

### Our Family Farm

The Bottineau County Farmers Union provided copies of the book "Our Family Farm" for every first grader and school library in the county. A copy was also donated to the Bottineau County Public Library.

### Funds Awarded to Libraries

Lakota City Library received \$2,600 from the Lakota Community Fund.

Heart of America Library in Rugby partnered with the local American Legion and had a display to commemorate National Vietnam Veterans Day.

Williston Community Library was a recipient of a Mevo Plus Pro camera bundle, thanks to a patron submitting an application on their behalf. This camera will be used for virtual story times.

### Director Recongized as Remarkable Woman

Janet Anderson, Director of the Minot Public Library was named a Remarkable Woman by KXNet.com for her leadership at the library.

### 2020 Sequoyah Book Award Winners

The Sequoyah Committees are pleased to announce the winners of the Sequoyah Book Awards for 2020:

- Children's: *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood
- Intermediate: *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang
- High School: *Dry* by Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman
- The Donna Norvell Award winner is *Nobody Hugs a Cactus* by Carter Goodrich.

### Sequoyah Masterlists for 2021

Each Masterlist is created to appeal to children in a variety of situations, interests and reading levels. The books on the Masterlists are not intended to be an automatic recommendation of the books. Since selection policies vary, one should apply the specific guidelines to each title and purchase those titles that meet individual selection policies. The Masterlists are not to be taken as recommendations that children be encouraged or required to read every title on a particular list. Teachers and other group leaders should carefully read and consider a title before reading a Masterlist title to a class or group, or assigning a title as required reading. It is not the intention of the committees that every student must read every book on each Masterlist.

<https://www.oklibs.org/page/01Sequoyah>

### OLA Conference

In light of ongoing developments surrounding COVID-19, the Oklahoma Library Association Executive Board has decided to transition this year's annual conference to a virtual-only conference, scheduled for July 29-31.

The Conference Planning Committee is working to craft the best possible virtual experience. Please stay tuned for further announcements and plan to engage with the Oklahoma library community from wherever you are!

We appreciate everyone's willingness to remain positive and supportive as OLA continues to work on providing quality professional development to our members. We look forward to seeing you in July!

For more complete information, please take a look here: <https://www.oklibs.org/page/VirtualConferenceUpdate>



## **Evolving Services at Rapid City Public Library**

By Laurinda Tapper, Public Relations Coordinator

The COVID-19 pandemic has required libraries to change how they serve their communities almost overnight, with our current way of life the new norm and no concrete indication when we'll be able to open our doors or what life will be like even 6 months from now.

Libraries are innovative and strive to provide access and education to the public despite what may be happening in their communities, whether it be conflict, recessions or natural disasters. Now is the time to pioneer ways to safely serve everyone who relies on libraries during this difficult, unprecedented time in our history.

While Rapid City Public Library is fortunate to have offered drive-thru services since 2002, there were still several challenges to overcome to serve the community in this new "normal." Library Director Terri Davis challenged library staff to think beyond temporary closures and to consider how to offer services as if we would never open our doors again. Creativity and ideas began to flow and services have been adapted. Now individuals can sign up for library cards online and via the drive-thru. Remote printing is accessible with over 1,000 pages printed in the first week of being offered. 1:1 assistance through Book-a-Librarian is now available through Zoom. The library's CHAOS Makerspace may be closed to the public, but it's being used every day because of our partnership with community first responders and printing personal protective equipment. Virtual events are also in development. Eventually the library will work to support our local businesses as we supplement the efforts to rebuild the local economy. This new frontier of library service challenges offers many possibilities.

Your community will recognize and value any efforts made to safely provide services. We know our efforts haven't gone unnoticed - from the appreciative emails, calls, social media comments, news media coverage and interactions at the drive-thru, to be deemed an "essential business" is the ultimate reward.

## **Quest for Knowledge Continues Amidst COVID**

PIERRE, S.D. – The Corona Virus isn't keeping Rawlins Municipal Library down. To keep patrons and staff safe from the virus, in mid-March, the Library swapped walk-in service for curbside service and doubled down on its virtual assistance. According to Library Director Robin Schrupp, the change hasn't quelled the community's desire for knowledge.

"In the last 30 days, we have provided more than 4,000 items to our customers," said Robin. "We have people that phone-in a reading list and others who tap our eBooks, study courses, and databases from home."

The Library's goal is to continue offering as many of its normal services to patrons as possible. Next week is National Library week, and that goal is echoed in the theme Find the Library at Your Place.

"You know, the theme started out as Find Your Place at the Library," said Schrupp. "In light of the pandemic, the theme aptly flipped a bit."

During the pandemic, the Library is offering: Phone-in requests and curbside delivery, free temporary library cards to non-residents, marketing our digital/online resources, delivery to nursing homes and shut-ins, putting together themed "packets" for children (and adults) such as dinosaurs, princesses, construction, cooking, woodworking, crafts.

We have a full-sized rabbit costume that we use for our Easter program every year "Breakfast with the Bunny," and a staff member dressed up and highlighted Easter and spring books early in April. We will be starting online storytimes and doing a virtual/curbside summer reading program as well.

### ULA Annual Conference Canceled

The Utah Library Association Annual Conference scheduled for May 13th-15th in sunny Southwestern Utah's St. George was an early victim of the novel coronavirus. Due to contractual monetary obligations that were coming due, March 15th was the date of the cancellation of the conference. It was not possible to wait and see how the situation with the pandemic evolved because a large amount of funding would become contractually due to conference hosts and hotels after this date. An emergency meeting of the ULA Board was convened and it was decided to cancel the 2020 Annual Conference. ULA and the librarians of Utah will look to 2021 and the joint conference with MPLA with increased interest now.

Nathan Robison  
Utah Library News Public Libraries Section Editor



### Cabin Fever Storytime

For many library patrons, live programs are an essential part of their library experience. The Utah State library has done a wonderful job of organizing a series of story times on Facebook called #cabinfeverstorytime.

Different libraries participate throughout the state by sharing recorded story times, or doing Facebook Live. Check it out by searching #cabinfeverstorytime on Facebook, each morning at 10 am.

Kate Mapp  
Adult Services Librarian,  
Park City Library  
Special to Utah Libraries News

### Production of PPE

Health care organizations and essential workers are facing a critical shortage of PPE. The Park City Library, University of Utah, and others recently began printing PPE headbands around the clock to try to assist in the shortage in Utah. If you are interested in putting your 3D printer to work, please fill out this form and the Park City Library will help you get connected with the Utah COVID -19 PPE Makers. The black headband seen here was printed with the 3D printers. The Library drops off these pieces and the additional pieces of the mask are installed and then distributed by the Utah Covid-19 PPE Makers group. Here is an example of a 3D printed PPE that is being used by a health care essential staff person here in Utah.



Images from [Utah Covid-19 PPE Makers Facebook page](#).



### Resources for Bookworms and Writers

Looking for something to do at home? As much as the Wyoming State Library loves reading and writing, we know it's nice to have variety. Here we've gathered resources for bookworms and writers of all ages, including a Harry Potter themed escape room, reading and writing challenges, virtual book clubs, author readings, internet conferences, and more: <https://library.wyo.gov/at-home-resources-for-bookworms-and-writers/>

### Library of Congress Honors Wyoming Reads

Wyoming Reads has been awarded a 2020 State Literacy Award from the Library of Congress, recognizing its outstanding contributions to promoting reading. It was one of only ten organizations selected nationally. Wyoming Reads was nominated for the award by the Wyoming State Library through its Wyoming Center for the Book program. In its nomination, the WSL wrote, "Every year, photos of kids joyously showing off their new books show how much Wyoming Reads has done to build excitement around reading and promote literacy." Each year, at celebrations across the state, Wyoming Reads presents every first-grade child in Wyoming with a personalized, hardcover book they selected themselves to keep, read, and cherish. It's funded by the Sue Jorgensen Library Foundation, which John Jorgensen established in his late wife's memory. What started in Casper as a local event in 1996 went statewide in 2006. Wyoming Reads has been commended by the American Association of School Librarians, and John received a Meritorious Service Award from the Wyoming Library Association in 2006. This year's Wyoming Reads Day had been scheduled for May 12, but it has been postponed until fall due to the current public health crisis. Organizers statewide will work with their partners to ensure that this year's class of first grade students get their books.

<https://wyomingreads.org/>



**Big Horizons, Close Community**





# Welcome, New Members!



Contact Name	Title	Institution	Library Name	City	State
<b>Yuanzhong Zhang</b>	Subject Matter Expert/Adult Education Teacher Librarian	Arizona@Works		Tuson	AZ
<b>Phillip Doehle</b>	Digital Services Librarian	Oklahoma State University	Edmon Low Library	Stillwater	OK

## King Soopers/Krogers

### COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM

There is a change!  
 There are no longer grocery gift cards linked to MPLA.  
 Instead, you can link your loyalty card to MPLA to continue raising funds for MPLA's professional development, leadership, and educational programs!

**SUPPORT  
MPLA!**



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- 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
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- Fred Meyer jewelers
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- Loaf and Jug



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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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