CONFERENCE KEYOTES: LIBRARIES LEAD

Submitted by Ashia Gustafson

Conference will be here before we know it and we have some really great conference Keynote Speakers this year! Our conference theme this year is Libraries Lead.

Our opening Keynote Speaker this year is Mike Henke. Mike is a national speaker who has a passion for building strong teams, and has innovative solutions to create a positive, winning workplace culture! How to create teamwork and keep everyone happy is a moving target, but Mike continues to develop timely answers to ensure that you have the skills to build a great workplace. Mike has created over 50 innovative training programs, and his upbeat, interactive style gets great reviews, and also provides tangible solutions to improve your work environment!

Then be sure to attend his session on Thursday as well. You will be amazed that leadership training can be so fun and actually helpful!

More info: [https://www.mikehenkeinc.com/](https://www.mikehenkeinc.com/)

Our Thursday morning our Keynote Speaker is Abigail Phillips. Abigail is an Assistant Professor in the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. My general research interests include cyberbullying, youth, social media, empathy, librarianship, libraries, making, critical librarianship, neurodiversity, and mental health advocacy.

[https://uwm.edu/informationstudies/](https://uwm.edu/informationstudies/)

Our final Keynote Speaker is Chelsea Herman. Chelsea is a visual artist and educator specializing in the art of the book. She currently directs the University of Nebraska Omaha’s Fine Arts Press and is the proprietor of FlightPath Press, a private press specializing in limited edition, fine press artists’ books.

[https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-communication-fine-arts-and-media/](https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-communication-fine-arts-and-media/)

We’re excited to be bringing these engaging speakers to the SDLA virtual Conference for 2020!
FROM THE PRESIDENT...
ASHIA GUSTAFSON

Hello to you all during these strange and trying times. While we were unable to celebrate National Library Week as we normally would have, I would like to say THANK YOU for all of the hard work you do on a daily basis all year round. Especially, thank you for continuing to serve your communities through virtual story times, online escape rooms, curbside pick-up, and promotion of our online resources, while being closed to the public.

Being closed goes against everything we feel we should do to normally serve our communities, but it is truly for the best in the current situation. Adapting to change is what libraries do best! Hang in there and keep doing what you’re doing, and soon we will be back to our regularly scheduled days.

Thank you to our Nominating Committee (Scott Ahola, Amber Wilde, Sheleen Bauer, and Kimberly Bonen), and the candidates who agreed to run for an SDLA office. The candidate information and platforms can be found in this issue of Bookmarks. Please take the time to vote when the election opens.

We’re still planning on holding the SDLA Conference, this year’s theme is Libraries Lead. However, with the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, and when it will truly be safe to gather in large groups, we are going to do a ONE DAY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE, on Thursday, October 1, with our opening Keynote on the evening of Wednesday, September 30, instead of gathering in Aberdeen.

Ashia Gustafson
SDLA President

CARES Act Library Technology Grants

The much-anticipated CARES Act Library Technology Grant for public and school libraries is open for application.

The CARES ACT is the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act passed by Congress March 19, 2020. It gives certain relief funds to states to assist in continuing to provide education to rural areas where public and school libraries lack adequate access to online information and need equipment to increase or enhance current online access for their community. The first round of applications are due June 1, 2020.

Questions regarding the grant should be directed to Daria Bossman, State Librarian at Daria.Bossman@state.sd.us / 605-773-3167.
**Professional Development Grants**

The Professional Development Grants Committee is currently accepting applications for several grants. Three grants up to $450 each are available to assist SDLA members already established in the area of librarianship with the costs of attending conferences, workshops, or other professional learning opportunities. Deadlines are March 15 and September 15. Three scholarships of up to $500 each are available to assist SDLA members with the costs of professional education in the field of librarianship. Deadline is May 15. Three SDLA Conference grants are available to defray costs of registration, travel, and hotel expenses, etc. Grants up to $400 may be awarded. Deadline is 45 days prior to conference.

Visit [www.sdlibraryassociation.org](http://www.sdlibraryassociation.org) for more information.

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**SDLA OFFICERS**

President: **Ashia Gustafson**, Brookings Public Library  
agustafson@cityofbrookings.org

V-P/President-Elect: **Julie Erickson**, TIE, Rapid City  
jerickson@tie.net

Past President: **Maria Gruener**, Watertown Regional Library  
mgruener@watertownsdsd.us

Recording Secretary: **Kim Bonen**, South Dakota State Library  
Kim.Bonen@state.sd.us

Exec. Secretary/Treasurer: **Audrea Buller**, Lennox Community Library  
SDLibraryAssociation@gmail.com

ALA Councilor: **Lisa Brunick**, Mikkelson Library, Augustana  
lisa.brunick@augie.edu

MPLA Rep.: **Nita Gill**, Brookings Public Library  
NGill@cityofbrookings.org

Academic/Health/Special Section: **Shari Theroux**, Briggs Library, SDSU  
Shari.Theroux@sdstate.edu

School Library Section: **Korey Erikson**, Sioux Falls Public Schools  
korey.erikson@k12.sd.us

Public Library Section: **Barbara Vander Vost**, Potter County Library  
pclibrary@venturecomm.net

Support Staff Chair: **Susie Lippert**, Yankton Public Library  
SLippert@cityofyankton.org

Federal Relations Coordinator: **Daria Bossman**, SD State Library  
Daria.Bossman@state.sd.us

Executive Secretary/Treasurer Report as of the April 2020 board meeting:

- Wells Fargo Savings............$15,048.95
- Wells Fargo Checking.........$6,141.47
- Ameriprise Savings Cert (1)....$16,224.81
- Ameriprise Savings Cert (2)....$20,734.21
- Raney Endowment..............$81,926.10
- Total................................$140,075.54
Shari Theroux

I started my first library job in 2007, and immediately knew that I was in the right place. In my 13 years in libraries I have worked in most of the departments of the library and worked with a variety of different people doing different types of work. When I started at Northern State University, I worked in archives and digitization; I then moved to electronic resources, reference, and systems. In 2018, I started at SDSU as the Electronic Resources and Scholarly Communications Librarian, and have been working hard on the campus OER (Open Educational Resources) initiative. I recently transitioned to the Systems and Discovery librarian, and am still working with the OER program. One of the most important things I have learned from these different job duties is that it is very important for individual departments within the library to work together, and for libraries to work together to help each other. When knowledge is shared, everyone benefits.

The current crisis with COVID-19 has shown how adaptable libraries can be. Many libraries are doing curbside pickup of requested books, continuing their interlibrary loan services, and issuing e-books so that patrons can check out e-books even if they didn’t already have a library card. Wi-fi access has been extended to parking lots in many places so patrons do not lose their access to the internet. Libraries everywhere are figuring out new ways to deliver their services virtually in order to ensure as much access for their patrons as possible. I believe this crisis has shown how very important libraries are; our ability to continue to function in a crisis has shown our resilience. Simply by continuing to provide their services under the current circumstances, libraries have been advocating for their importance. I would like to continue to advocate for the importance of libraries, and to help libraries help themselves.

Deirdre Whitman

As the Library Director/City Librarian of Watertown since 2017, I have focused on providing high quality library services to the community by expanding outreach, increasing the variety of programming for all ages, and promoting professional development of library staff. Networking and collaboration opportunities provided by SDLA spark creativity and comradery that decrease staff burnout and stress levels, as well as inspire passion and commitment to community service. Focusing on professional development empowers library staff to positively impact the community by promoting early literacy skills and school readiness; encouraging better understanding of mental health for the benefit of staff and patrons; creating new library users and advocates in the community by promoting the importance of library services and intellectual freedom; and providing safe spaces to access information for all patrons, especially at risk populations.

I received a Master’s in Archival Studies and a Master’s in Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia in 2008. I worked in Children’s and Young Adult Librarianship prior to becoming the Library Director/City Librarian in Watertown. I have served on the Children’s Book Committee and YARP Committee, as well as hosted Jumpstart Workshops and Branch Out.

I will always have a special place in my heart for the Vermillion Public Library, where I was fortunate enough to work while attending USD. Finally, I would like to recognize my mother’s influence on my library career by sharing her favorite literature and fostering a love of reading, and allowing us free reign to access books of our choosing in a number of libraries around the country, including Clark and Watertown. I live in Watertown with my fourth generation Winnie-the-Pooh fan, Oliver, my husband Colter, and our cat Max.
Melanie Argo

Hi! I’m Melanie, a Systems Librarian from the Madison Public Library. I have been ingrained in libraries since my time as an undergraduate at Dakota State University. In fact, getting the opportunity to learn about libraries in that setting is what set me on this path. I enjoy organizing, and being a part of the light bulb moments in a patron’s quest for new information. I get a sense of joy when I see the recognition in their eyes because as MPL’s mission we are here to support and enrich individual, family, and community life.

In thinking about my reasons for wanting to serve as the recording secretary, it comes down to a willingness to serve as well as be involved. Which I do have experience with as the recording secretary for the regional association, Mountain Plains Library Association. I extended that service through committees and now as their newsletter editor. I thought it would be great to be more active on a state level as I see the importance of professional organizations and I just want to be a part of a broader picture within the library community and the most opportune way to do this is to give my time.

Cheyenne Chontos

I am a current Master of Library Science student at Emporia State University in the South Dakota cohort. I currently work as a Project Assistant for Sage Project Consultants, a grant writing, strategic planning, and consulting firm in Sioux Falls. I love my work, as I get to work with incredible people, organizations, and state agencies across South Dakota; however, I am excited that as I work toward my MLS, I get to be a part of the library community across South Dakota and the nation.

I am currently Emporia State University’s President for the Student Chapter of the American Library Association (SCALA). Our mission is to create future LIS leaders today, which means supporting students in their personal and professional development during their time in the program. Through this role, I oversee SCALA’s professional development, outreach, philanthropic efforts, fundraising, volunteering, and networking projects. I am also in charge of delegating tasks to the SCALA executive board and our cohort representatives. I have loved my work with SCALA, and I hope to continue my passion for serving librarians through the SDLA.

Sean Minkel

In 2001, I graduated as an engineer from the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. I ended up applying for a library position on Ellsworth Air Force Base while searching for an engineering job. Thanks to never-ending encouragement and education from my coworkers, I discovered that I had a real love for libraries. I could help people find answers and every day brought new challenges to overcome.

Twenty years later, I’m the assistant director at Rapid City Public Library and I still love my job. I don’t spend as much time working on interlibrary loans, cataloging or checking out books, but I still have an endless supply of challenges – some of which are truly difficult to solve. I guess I’m lucky to still have excellent coworkers.

I believe we are most successful when we take the time to understand and encourage one another. I’d like to understand more about libraries in the state and it would be an honor to serve SDLA. Thank you for considering me.”
SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION STATEMENT CONERNING COVID-19 RESPONSE

The South Dakota Library Association wants to commend the libraries and local officials who have made the very hard decision to close their doors to the public and at the same time, encourage others to take action. SDLA is using our role as a leader and advocate of South Dakota libraries to call on all public libraries to close their doors in alignment with Governor Noem’s mandate to close all K-12 public schools.

We are living in an unprecedented time of uncertainty as we face this worldwide pandemic, and public libraries must do their part to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and protect our number one resource: library staff.

We believe that school closures put an increased burden on public libraries as children and families turn to us for social, educational and even childcare needs. Increased dependence on our spaces and resources for children and families displaced by school closures will in all likelihood contribute to the continued spread of the coronavirus.

In addition, SDLA encourages all libraries and local officials to consider CDC guidelines on social distancing in relation to staffing decisions. When staff are sent home as part of efforts to mitigate the spread of Covid-19, they should continue to receive regular pay or salary.

This is a challenging time for us, the nation and the world as we respond to novel coronavirus and the uncertainty surrounding it. SDLA will do our best to stay on top of this quickly evolving and fluid situation and to communicate with you regularly and fully as conditions change.

SDLA Executive Board
17 March 2020

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARYR AND READSQUARED

Listserv announcement by Laura Kelly

READsquared is software that allows South Dakota's public libraries to manage their reading programs online. READsquared makes it easy and fun for your users to sign up from home, track reading goals and collect incentives. After you register your library, we provide a default set-up to get you started. Use it as-is or customize it for your library's programs. Webinar training will be provided for all registered libraries.

• Use your library’s branding and customize options
• Includes popular themed, seasonal and 1000 book programs
• Set up the app to integrate with your ILS and catalog
• Add learning games for all ages
• App can be set up for email and text messaging
• Patrons can set up individual, family or group accounts

Please take some time to explore this software by trying the READsquared Demo: [https://southdakota.readsquared.com/](https://southdakota.readsquared.com/)

Registration for libraries coming soon!
The South Dakota Library Association (SDLA) is a statewide organization representing libraries, library employees, library trustees, and library supporters. The duties and responsibilities of the Executive Secretary Treasurer shall be to serve the SDLA as set forth in the Procedural Manual of the SDLA and as directed by the Executive Board of the SDLA.

**Duties include:** Facilitation and support of Executive Board communication and meetings, Maintenance of membership records, Management of financial accounts and records, Member of local arrangements committee for SDLA annual conference.

**Minimum Requirements:** Demonstrate effective organizational skills, Have access to personal computer and internet, Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills, Library experience strongly desired, Experience using bookkeeping software preferred, Knowledge of managing investment accounts.

**Preferred Qualifications:** Knowledge and/or membership with SDLA, Project management experience.

The Executive Secretary Treasurer contract is a three year commitment. Renewal of the contract is contingent upon performance. The EST’s performance will be evaluated annually at the summer Executive Board meeting. The duties of this part-time position can be fulfilled remotely with travel to attend Executive Board meetings and annual conference.

Annual pay is $6,500.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information of three references. Please submit your application by August 1, 2020 by emailing Julie Erickson, VP/PRES. Elect SDLA julie.janderso@gmail.com.

Any questions please contact:
Julie Erickson, VP/PRES. Elect SDLA julie.janderso@gmail.com
Ashia Gustafson, President SDLA aguststafson@cityofbrookings.org

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**FROM THE MPLA REP... NITA GILL**

The 2020 MPLA Leadership Institute Fellow Cohorts have been announced. Congratulations to the South Dakota cohorts - Shari Theroux, Vaughan Hennen, and Krista Ohrtman. I hope you three have a great experience at the Institute! See a list and their biographies of all the cohorts and mentors in the April-May 2020 MPLA Newsletter. As of right now the Leadership Institute has postponed to a later, to be announced, date because of the COVID-19 pandemic.


The next MPLA Conference will be a joint conference with the Utah Library Association May 19-21, 2021 in Sandy, UT.
Librarians are faced with challenges every day they open their doors to patrons. From banned books, to integrating technology, to creating programming in order to draw in patrons, librarians must strive to best serve patrons. This year, a new problem has presented itself to librarians: How can we still serve our patrons when our doors are closed?

The uncertainty of the closure and how it affects patrons has presented new challenges, creating opportunities for librarians to get creative.

**Online Services**

Technology has provided us with many tools to help us collaborate with other librarians and develop ways to continue serving our patrons. We are blessed to live in the technology era. Our public school library and city library are able to offer our patrons eBooks through Sora and Libby. In addition, sites like Audible are offering free access to audiobooks for a limited time. Other online sites like Project Gutenberg (https://www.gutenberg.org/) offers 60,000 eBooks for free. There are also sites that provide access to manga and graphic novels.

Librarians might consider developing social media accounts at this time. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, and TikTok are all popular social media platforms that can help librarians reach patrons.

**Curbside Pickup**

Depending on your district, curbside pick up may or may not be an option. If you are able to provide a means of providing books to your patrons safely, sanitarily, and within CDC guidelines, your patrons will undoubtedly appreciate it.

**Communication and Support**

Communicating your library services to patrons can make your efforts worth it. Our district wide eBook collection had 87 checkouts in the entire school year prior to the closure. After sending out emails to students with instructions on how to access e-Books, we have had 200 checkouts and currently have 80 books on hold.

If you are a school librarian, following up and reaching out to teachers can offer a much needed support system. They may be on information overload, and you might be able to pinpoint the exact resource they are looking for, or at least help them wade through the sea of information!

**Projects**

If you are able to get into your library, now is the time to get projects done uninterrupted. Inventory, reshelving, balancing shelves, weeding, and processing are all items that seem to take longer than they should due to interruptions.

If you can’t get into your library, you can still tackle projects. We are working on updating our resource lists, building book orders for the upcoming year, planning displays and contests, and developing classroom lessons. One lesson we are working on is a Classic to Graphic unit with a teacher to compare the same story in its original form to its graphic novel adaptation.

Now is also a great time to engage in professional development. Identify your interests or weaknesses and search out an online class to help improve your skill set. You might also take the time to join a professional library organization or committee.

Libraries have faced challenges for centuries. With creativity and dedication, librarians can help their libraries

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*“Without libraries what have we? We have no past and no future.”*  
— Ray Bradbury
BROOKINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY MASK MAKING EFFORTS

Submitted by Nancy Swenson

The Brookings Public Library has been closed to the public since March 16, but we’ve been keeping busy! In 2018, BPL received 5 sewing machines from the Sewing Machine Project based in Wisconsin (thesewingmachineproject.org). Under regular circumstances, we partner with our area quilters guild to offer basic sewing classes for patrons using these machines. Now we’ve set up an assembly line in the middle of the library to sew cotton face masks! All staff members pictured started as beginners and have learned to setup the machines and sew through this project. Face masks produced are being provided to city employees and will be offered to Brookings County citizens (once we make enough of them!).

BROOKINGS ELEMENTARY LIBRARIES CONTINUE TO SERVE

Submitted by Marilyn Mendenhall

At the Brookings Elementary Libraries we quickly switched to remote learning for our 1,600 students in grades Junior Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. The photographs, videos and word documents of students’ work has been heart-warming to receive. Besides showing students how to access the many free ebooks and databases that numerous vendors have generously opened to us some assignments were definitely “old school” such as read three picture books and rank them with your reasons. Another lesson required students to read a book to their pet or a stuffed animal. Students were instructed to read into “a microphone” such as the handle of a jump rope in another lesson. Students practiced citing their sources to show that they can follow the school library standard of: 2.LIB.IL.1.3 Curate print resources.

Details of Tyler’s list of books!
EVALVING SERVICES AT RAPID CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted 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 is going to 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.

AMAZON SMILE AND SDLA

If you or your library are ordering items off Amazon (perhaps more so during the pandemic), please consider taking the extra step to use Amazon Smile. Amazon smile is a simple way to support SDLA every time you shop (at no extra cost to you!). You can choose to donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to SDLA. You can use your existing Amazon account.

To shop at AmazonSmile, go to https://smile.amazon.com/ and shop as normal.
Kim Bonen is the newest member of the SD State Library staff as the Digital Resource Coordinator.

Alissa Adams, School Library Technology Coordinator at the State Library is running two online courses this summer: Diversity and the School Library will run June 1 to July 1 and An Introduction to the 2019 SD School Library Standards will run July 1 to August 1. Contact Alissa Adams at alissa.adams@state.sd.us for more information.

TELLING YOUR STORY: DOCUMENTING COVID-19 IN SOUTH DAKOTA


The South Dakota State Historical Society has collected items documenting South Dakota’s history since statehood in 1889. There are thousands of letters, diaries, scrapbooks, photographs, audio recordings, and films in our archives. These items allow us to hear the voices and see the people from our past who are living all the ranges of human experience and emotion. Through the items we collect, we can understand their joys and disappointments, as well as their achievements and failings.

We are in the midst of an historic moment as the world responds to COVID-19, and we need your help to document the pandemic here in South Dakota. We want to add your stories to the archives so that future generations can understand what this experience was like. How are you and your family understanding and experiencing the pandemic?

We are looking for:

• Writings
• Photos
• Drawings, Paintings, and Other Artwork
• Short Videos
• Audio Recordings
• Correspondence (such as emails or text message chains)
• Social Media Posts

We have set up an online submission form to make it easier to share your stories with us. Items submitted will be reviewed by our archivists and added to a special collection on the public response to the pandemic. Please take the time to read and respond to each of the fields in this form before uploading your item(s) for consideration.

It is important that we have your permission to use and share the items you submit with future researchers, just as it is important that our archivists have a basic understanding of the object you are submitting.

Future researchers and visitors to the South Dakota State Archives will have you to thank for sharing a part of your lives with them as they work to understand our current lived experience.

QUICK NEWS

• Kim Bonen is the newest member of the SD State Library staff as the Digital Resource Coordinator.

• Alissa Adams, School Library Technology Coordinator at the State Library is running two online courses this summer: Diversity and the School Library will run June 1 to July 1 and An Introduction to the 2019 SD School Library Standards will run July 1 to August 1. Contact Alissa Adams at alissa.adams@state.sd.us for more information.
Prairie Bud Winner:  
*I Am a Cat* by Galia Bernstein  
Total votes: 10,589

Prairie Bloom Winner:  
*7 Ate 9: The Untold Story* by Tara Lazar  
Total votes: 7,370

Prairie Pasque Winner:  
*Moto and Me: My Year as a Wildcat’s Foster Mom* by Suzi Eszterhas  
Total votes: 4013

Middle School Winner: *Witch Boy* by Molly Ostertag

High School Winners: *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds & *This Heart of Mine* by C.C. Hunter
USD LAW LIBRARY IN CHANGING TIMES
Submitted by Sarah Kammer

The last few weeks have been a time of change and transition for all our libraries as we respond to the ever-evolving situation presented by COVID-19. We have all been forced to pivot very quickly to adapt our services and resource offerings to best serve our patrons. Here at the McKusick Law Library at the University of South Dakota School of Law, we have adopted some strategies to aid in the transition:

As vendors began making online resources freely available for faculty and students, the Law Library compiled a LibGuide with links to access the newly-available resources and information about them. You can see our LibGuide here: http://libguides.law.usd.edu/tempresources.

Since we were no longer able to be physically in our building with our users, it was important for us to find ways to connect with our faculty and students and continue to create a sense of community. We planned special activities for National Library Week, including an online trivia contest, a Zoom “Happy Hour” session with the librarians, and a #ThrowbackThursday of sharing historical photos of the Law Library via social media. We also sent our students instructional videos and study playlists of our favorite songs that we posted to YouTube.

The law librarians teaching classes in the Law School curriculum have transitioned to teaching completely online using screen casting, voice-overs, and other tools.

We have implemented protocols for working remotely, such as online staff meetings, and alternative schedules/rotations for tasks that must be performed on-site, such as cataloging and shelving new materials.

Certainly, there are many challenges that we continue to work through. Managing circulation, print materials, and reference service all require our ongoing creativity and flexibility. We were fortunate to have set up a chat reference service for our faculty and students in January that has helped provide us with another option for reference services at a distance. As our Spring semester comes to a close, we continue to plan as best we can for an uncertain future. But, despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, we have realized the strong bond between the Law Library and our users, and that we play an important role in helping our community get through these tough times together. We are truly all in this together as South Dakotans, as librarians, and as members of our communities – small and large. We look forward to continuing to exchange ideas with the SDLA membership as we weather this storm, but with the hopes that more normal times return soon. Wishing you and yours health and wellness and strength and resiliency in the days and weeks that lie ahead!

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK DURING COVID-19
Submitted by Jennifer Williams-Curl

In February, I began planning the perfect Library Week Celebration for students at Western Dakota Tech. I ordered snacks to give students as a thanks for using the Library. During Spring Break, the snacks arrived, and stickers were placed on them.

Then, COVID-19 struck.

We transitioned to working and learning remotely. After the first week, I realized that we were not likely to be on campus for National Library Week. Our community was in need. We donated the snacks to the Hope Center to help those in need.

Since we are off campus, we requested that instructors and staff celebrate with photos of them and their “home libraries” to share.
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REQUESTS WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT ITEMS

Press Release

PIERRE, S.D. – The Her Vote. Her Voice. campaign of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation is busy with a funding initiative that brings awareness to historical and modern-day women’s history. One of the campaign activities is the collection and preservation of suffrage artifacts.

The foundation, the nonprofit fundraising partner of the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre, is seeking archival records and artifacts documenting the women’s suffrage movement in South Dakota. The women’s suffrage movement was a decades-long fight to win the right to vote for women in the United States. The fight for suffrage is represented in numerous ways through different types of historical materials.

Examples of suffrage materials include, but are not limited to, banners, signs/posters, sashes, ribbons, recordings of suffrage songs, books/booklets/pamphlets, letters (correspondence), photographs, photo albums, scrapbooks, or other documents.

Individuals or groups wanting to donate archival or museum materials relating to women’s suffrage to the State Historical Society should contact archives and museum representatives Matthew T. Reitzel (archives) at 605-773-3615 or Matthew.Reitzel@state.sd.us or Katy Schmidt (museum) at 605-773-6013 or Katy.Schmidt@state.sd.us. Reitzel and Schmidt will coordinate all donations of materials to the State Historical Society.

“The women’s suffrage movement played a pivotal role in the history of our nation and state,” said Jay Vogt, director of the State Historical Society. “Being able to add records and objects from this important period in history would be a welcome addition to the archives and museum collections at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

“Archival collections and objects can help explain historic events that define women’s suffrage, which is why the delegation of the Her Vote. Her Voice. campaign felt it was imperative that these efforts are financially supported by the men and women of South Dakota,” Vogt concluded.

In addition to donations of women’s suffrage artifacts, the society is collecting contributions that will be used to properly process, preserve, and store the items collected. For more information on how to donate, go to https://www.hervotehervoice.org or call 605-773-6003.