



PINAL COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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Guest Column

By Ann Leonard

Pictures with Elk: My Leadership Institute Adventure

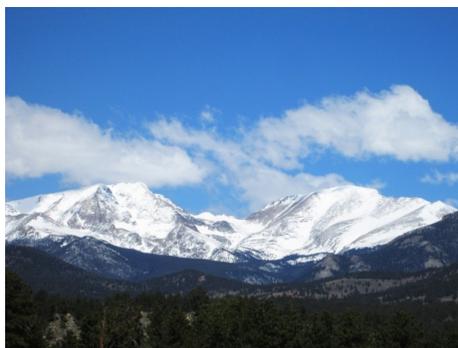


YMCA of the Rockies Lodge, Estes Park, CO.

“Librarians, right?” I gestured toward a group of smartly and practically dressed women waiting at the Denver International Airport shuttle stop with me. My librarian-radar was spot on. Every single person in our three shuttle caravan was an attendee of the Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute. As we made our introductions during the two hour drive into Estes Park (headquarters of the Rocky Mountain National Park), I would sometimes trail off in stupefied awe, staring out the window at the spruce and fir trees peppering the endless mountain landscapes. “Where am I going?” I thought. “What is this adventure in the Rockies with 30 of my fellow harbingers of intellectual freedom?”

The Mountain Plains Library Association founded the Leadership Institute program in 2002 with the goal of promoting leadership qualities in library professionals. Comprised of twelve member states, stretching between the borders of Canada and Mexico, and including parts of the South West, Rocky Mountains, and Great Plains,

the MPLA’s mission is to provide educational and networking opportunities for librarians and library staff. By holding joint annual conferences with their member states on a rotational basis, providing leadership opportunities with their executive boards and committees, and hosting the Leadership Institute, the MPLA fosters a sense of community and enrichment that extends well beyond state borders.



Rocky Mountains: Our view from the lodge.

Due to generous sponsorships by the Friends of the MPLA, Innovative Interfaces, Inc, EBSCOhost, and others, the Institute is held in beautiful, remote locations such as Ghost Ranch, NM and Estes Park. These natural expanses of quietude seclude you from the distractions of the everyday grind so you can finally focus on defining your big-picture goals. The process itself is immersive and intense. You bunk with a librarian, you eat with librarians, and you spend over eight hours a day discussing library leadership. Like a study abroad program plunging you into the deep end in order to hone your language skills, the Institute immerses you until you come out speaking “Leader”.

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Spotlight



AudioBookCloud is an online library collection of streaming audio books. Use AudioBookCloud to stream hundreds of titles directly from your web browser. No app required!

AudioBookCloud is accessible from your library or at home - a computer with an internet connection and your library card is all you need. There is no need to create an account, place holds or download a thing. Just open the title and click play!



The **AudioBookCloud** is free to all Pinal County residents. Go to our online website at <http://bit.ly/pcazlib> then click the RESEARCH tab. Look for it in the “Books & Literature” section. Contact your local public library to get a FREE library card.

My Leadership Institute Adventure continued...



MPLA Leadership Institute group, 2014.

Our journey was navigated by former ALA president and organizational development consultant Maureen Sullivan. Imagine the confident, unwavering cadence of Martha Stewart paired with the business and interpersonal prowess of Dale Carnegie, and you'd be as impressed as we all were!

Equipped with an arsenal of Harvard Business Review statistics and years of experience, her lesson plan kept us both focused and entertained. At her side was Institute Coordinator Aubrey Madler of North Dakota, who did an excellent job keeping us organized and well cared for. Also on board were four Mentors: Dana Braccia of Library Systems & Services, Dan Chaney of Oklahoma State University, Eric Norris of Hays Public Library, KS, and Holly Phillips of University of New Mexico.

If I were to take away two major themes from this experience it would be leading from where you are, and leading with sincerity. Our discussions often led to the realization that anyone can be a leader, regardless of their title or position, as long as they possess the ability to inspire. Author David Foster Wallace once said, "A real leader is somebody who, because of his own particular power and charisma and example, is able to inspire people, with 'inspire' being used here in a serious and non-cliché way" (Consider the Lobster and Other Essays). On that same note, stripping our definitions of leadership of all the common clichés was another major focus of discussion.

Many of my one-on-one discussions with the Mentors were about how the "Ra-ra!" cheerleader style of leadership, with its fake smiles and catchy slogans would not fool anyone. I was urged to move throughout my career being nothing more than myself, and that others would naturally seek to follow my genuine enthusiasm for librarianship.

The Institute wasn't all hard work however. We were allotted periods of free time in which many of us went on hikes, had fun in the lodge's arts and crafts center, drove into the city, or if you're like me, relentlessly pursued the impossible task of taking selfies with local Elk (#Elkies?).



Enthusiastic about Estes Park elk.

Towards the end of our class time we got into groups and discussed important topics in leadership such as middle management, project planning, or committee membership, and then had to present what we discussed. By this time, cabin fever (well, technically, lodge fever) had set in, and we all were feeling thoroughly giggly. After several days of close-quarters induced familiarity we were ready to have fun.

All the groups acted out humorous skits which included props, music, and creativity. The group I was a part of directed a skit based upon a sort of Leadership Dating Game, in which I, the bachelorette, got to choose the colleague of my dreams. Both our leadership knowledge and acting skills were tested that day.



Our group, led by mentor Dan Chaney, performed a "Dating Game" parody skit.

Overall, I left Colorado not only feeling invigorated and ready to give back to my chosen profession, but also thoroughly convinced that professional associations do a world of good for promoting networking and morale. I learned so much from not only Maureen Sullivan and the mentors, but also my peers.

I owe a debt of gratitude to my own fearless leader, our District's Director, Denise Keller for encouraging me to apply, but also to Pinal County and the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records Continuing Education Scholarship for making the trip possible. I encourage others to look into MPLA, the Leadership Institute, and to pursue their own personal journeys in becoming the next library leaders.

Resources:

 Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute
<http://www.mpla.us/leadership>

 Maureen Sullivan Associates
<http://maureensullivan.org>

 Arizona State Library Continuing Education Scholarship
<http://www.azlibrary.gov>



Around the County

News from the Libraries

APACHE JUNCTION

Family Legos & Local Authors



Family Legos meets in the Cozy Book area on the second Saturday of the month at the Apache Junction Public Library. Family Legos is for all ages.



The Author Series, which meets at 2pm on Saturdays, was a success with local author Ryan Lamb, pictured here with his book in the Mt. View Room of the Apache Junction public Library. Authors are invited to donate a book to the library and pick a Saturday to talk to library users about their books.



Splash Water Play! was chilly this year in the Family Courtyard of the Apache Junction Public Library but it did not stop this participant from getting all wet.

CASA GRANDE

Summer Programming

We are finally wrapping up construction at the Main Library in Casa Grande. For a brief video tour, visit <http://youtu.be/UywIoerqIx0>. Library staff managed to keep the library open and operating since August when the project began.

Our Youth Librarians have been very busy promoting the upcoming Summer Reading Program at local schools and we have a fantastic lineup of programs. We'll be kicking off the program with a teen event featuring Paul Watson, a local certified hypnotherapist. The Arizona Science Center will be at the Vista Library on June 9 and at the Main Library on June 23 with an event for the whole family. Wildman Phil will be here to show off his creatures, and Mike at Mobile Vinyl Recorders will teach teens all about making vinyl records.

Other events for children include science experiments and gadgetry, LEGO Club, crafts, story times, movies, and gaming. Teens have programs all their own including Cosmic Bingo, tee-shirt decorating, movies, a video game tournament, a blind taste test, and a pool party. For the first time ever, we have a few programs specifically for the grown-ups looking for something to do and learn this summer. We'll be hosting a Twilight Zone marathon, hands-on science experiments, a forensics crash course, and Geo-pardy (think Geography + Jeopardy).

We're very excited about a change that we've made in how we give out our final prize. Children and teens who complete the program will receive a voucher for a free book from the Scholastic Book Fair that will be at both library branches for two weeks in July. In years past, we've purchased the giveaway books in advance. By partnering with Scholastic, we'll be able to give participants more variety from which to select their free book. We also won't have books left over and we'll be getting a great deal on great titles that kids like. At the same time, families who choose to purchase additional books have the opportunity to do so. We appreciate the generous support from our Friends of the Library who provide the funding for the hundreds of books we give away.



Early in May, the Vista Grande Library had a visit from Dune Sea Garrison, a troupe of costumed Star Wars characters, who came to read and have pictures taken with fans. Over one hundred people attended the event. We provided a photo backdrop, Star Wars crafts, and movies while the kids had fun meeting villains from the movie series.

COOLIDGE

Spring & Summer Activities

The Coolidge Public Library continues to host Weekly Storytime every Wednesday morning.

In May, we had the Chief of Police come and read "Officer Buckle and Gloria," talk to kids about stranger danger, and the importance of reading. Children left wearing Junior Police Officer badges.



Chief Brugman at Storytime

Tween Titans, a program for 9-12 year-olds will meet weekly starting in June.



Tween Titans: Let's Make a Deal!

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Tweens come in and make a craft or play a game with a special theme. Teen Friday Flix will be on hiatus during the summer as we plan our all-ages science movies. Tweens and teens are invited to the library on July 19th at 2:00 p.m. for a T-Shirt Tie-Dye Program.

Coming soon...

Our Summer Reading kickoff party will be June 2nd at 2:00 p.m. with Look Up To the Stars presenting "Astronomy For Everyone: Size and Scale of the Universe." Everyone will learn about astronomy and look at sun spots with the same solar lens NASA uses.

On June 10th at 10:00 a.m., biology professor David Harbster will present "A Sense of Wonder" for children, incorporating hands-on science activities. David has taught science to all grade levels and some know him as 'Dave the Scientist' from "Wallace and Ladmo." David will return on June 12th to do a program specifically for parents, on how they can bring science into the home and get children excited about these fascinating concepts.

We will host Jungle Jill's Animal Encounters on June 19th at 10:00 a.m., at the Coolidge Performing Arts Center. She will bring over beautiful birds and reptiles for everyone to see close up.

On June 25th, we will have Ann Leonard, Pinal County Emerging Technologies Librarian, come to Coolidge for two separate 3D Printer Demonstrations. Join us at 12:30 p.m. at North School for a Lunch 'N Learn as Ann demonstrates this evolving technology to local businesses. Ann will come to the library at 3:00 p.m. to do a demonstration for teens/tweens.

On June 27th, at 4:00 p.m., the Mobile Vinyl Recorders will present "The Science of Sound." They will bring in a portable 1940's record player and teens and tweens will learn how sound works, as well as the history and evolution of recorded sound. Attendees can sing or play an instrument and then hear it played back to them on a vinyl record.



Students from CAVIT will come over July 10th at 1:30 p.m. to present "Hair Chemistry" for

teens and adults. They will discuss how different factors (color, heat, wind, sun, etc.) affect our hair and how to protect it. There will be an FAQ session as well. We will conclude our summer with Jeb Earl's Science and Magic Show on July 25th at 2:00 p.m., at the Coolidge Youth Center.

Please contact the Coolidge Public Library for more information about their programs and to register for the Summer Reading Program: (520) 723-6030

ELOY Spring Programs at the Library

The Eloy Santa Cruz Library hosted two programs in April. Carolina Castillo Butler discussed her book, "Oral History of the Yavapai" and Dick Myers, from the Santa Cruz Valley Historic Museum, discussed the history of Eloy.

In May the library hosted "Silver Images on Glass Plates: Early Photography in Arizona" with Jeremy Rowe, and "Eloy's Gun and Cotton Stories: Romanticizing the Real" with Geta LeSeur. Both presentations were sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council.



Eloy Santa Cruz Library activity & game table at the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Please contact the Eloy Santa Cruz library for more information about upcoming programs as well as their Summer Reading Program: (520) 466-3814

FLORENCE Library Events

The Florence Community Library continues to offer regular programs and events. Recent highlights include:



Children's author Mike Giglio visited the library April 5. Giglio's book, *The Space Adventures of Jack Smacker Little Leaguer*, was the 2014

OneBookAZ eBook Contest winner in the "Kids" category. Giglio read the first chapter of his book, then discussed how he was inspired to write by his three granddaughters. He also got children in the audience to participate, asking them about the value of sports, teamwork, and imagination. This free Meet the Author program was made possible by federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Additional funding was provided by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Records, a division of the Secretary of State. Download *The Space Adventures of Jack Smacker Little Leaguer* and other 2014 OneBookAZ eBooks: onebookaz.org

The Florence Community Library honored winners of the 17th Annual Bookmark Design Contest at the Bookmarks Awards Ceremony, held Friday, April 11, at 6pm.



The first place winner was Emma Johnson, a 12th grade student at Florence High School. The 2nd place winner was 12th grader Nicole Capps. The 3rd place winner was 3rd grader Riley Campbell-Biter.

The Florence Community Library thanks all of the librarians, teachers, and students who participated in this year's contest. All entries are displayed at the library through the month of April. The winning bookmark is available at the main desk of the Florence Community Library, free of charge while supplies last.

The Summer Reading Kickoff will be Saturday, May 31st at 2pm featuring astronomer Kevin Manning's "Look Up to the Stars" program. Adults can enjoy summer Reading too. On Friday, June 13, the Arizona Curriculum Theater will present "The Poe Experience" featuring dramatic readings from two Edgar Allen Poe stories. On Friday, June 20, composer and educator Janice Jarrett will present "Your Brain and Music: Can Music Make You Smarter, Happier, Healthier?" This presentation is

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Around the County

News from the Libraries

sponsored by the Friends of the Florence Community Library and the Arizona Humanities Council.

For more information, contact the Florence Community library at: (520) 868-8311

KEARNY

Library Receives Book Grants

The Kearny Public Library is excited to announce that they are the recipients of two new book grants!



L-R: Library Director, Janet Danilow with library staff Vickie Lechuga and Meaghan Seller

The books showcased on the table were provided via the The Libri Foundation "Books for Children" grant. In addition, the 12 cases of books featured in the background were awarded to us via the "Kids Need to Read" grant. Kids Need to Read awarded Kearny with hundreds of books. The library plans on using these books to expand their collection, as well as provide gift bags for participants in their Summer Reading Program (May 29th – July 3rd).

The Kearny Public Library wishes to extend its gratitude to the Friends of the Library for supporting the library and enabling us to receive these library grants!

The Friends of the Library held their annual Poster Contest during National Library Week. The theme was "Libraries are the Heart of Every Community" The top three winners in each grade received a gift bag full of prizes and a book from the Kids Need to Read grant.



To kick off the program, local author Nancy Young gave a short talk on her new children's book *The Moon Saw It All*. A copy was given to all Poster Contest winners.



Kearny's first place Poster Contest winners are: Dominique, Mya, Kassidy, Hunter, Brina and Chelsea.

MAMMOTH

Workforce Connection Site

On April 24th Mammoth Public Library had a ribbon cutting ceremony and is now officially an Arizona Workforce Connection site. Come to us for all your work and benefit needs!



L-R: Council woman Frances Wickham, Delores Esquivel, Mayor Alvaro Barcelo, Library Manager Letha Miller, Director of Planning & Zoning Diane Theobald, Town Manager Patsy Large.

The library had a great turn out for their book sale April 4th and 5th. A big thanks to all that came out to support their local library.



April 24th we also hosted Mike Giglio, the winner of the 2014 OneBookAZ kids book contest. He is the author of the winning book *Jack Smacker* which is available for a free download from the Arizona State Library at: www.onebookaz.org

May 27th the Mammoth Library will be hosting, "Look Up To The Stars." This is a great show advertising Astronomy for

everyone. We look forward to this presentation.

June 24th-July 24th, Tuesdays and Thursdays, will be our Summer Reading Program. We will have a bird watching contest, gardening, (of course there will be reading) and we already have 2 great programs scheduled!

Program #1: July 10th, Artist/Blacksmith David Flynn. He will bring his portable work station and make 3 metal projects for the children. Each child will go home with a leaf, a horseshoe or a snake. I watched the guy work with children and just knew he would be perfect for our program.

Program #2: July 15th, Ann Leonard from the Pinal County Library District will be giving the children a 3D Printer demonstration. We are very excited about this. The children will each take home a small token created from the 3D Printer, and Ann will let the children see the way it works...get prepared, this is the way of the future!

Contact the Mammoth Public Library for information on all of their programs: (520) 487-2026

SUPERIOR

Summer Reading at the Library

Readers of all ages will explore all things science related this summer as the Superior Public Library presents the 2014 Summer Reading Program "Fizz, Boom, Read!" Summer Reading is open to young people, preschool through young adult, with programs, prize drawings, storytimes and more. Families are invited to join the Read-to-Me portion of the program.

Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins Wednesday, May 21st at the library. The program will begin on June 4th. The program for children, Preschool through 2nd grade, will be on Wednesdays from 2-3:30 pm. The program for grades 3 through 6 will be on Thursdays from 2-3:30 pm. All programs will end June 26th.

For more information you may call the library at (520) 689-2327 or come to the library at 99 Kellner Avenue.

Pinal County Library District
PO Box 2974
Florence, AZ 85132



Calendar of Events

American Library Association 2014 Annual Conference	Las Vegas, NV	June 26 - July 1
Federation Meeting	Casa Grande Union High School	September 12
Internet Librarian 2014 Annual Conference	Monterey, CA	October 27 - 29