



DOWNTOWN • 610 Quincy St. Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 394-6139 or (605) 394-4171
NORTH • 10 Van Buren St. Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 716-4098

CONTACT:

Marsha Ahrenkiel, Publications Librarian
Rapid City Public Library
605-394-6139 x212
mahrenkiel@rcplib.org

For Immediate Release

New North Library Keeps Pace with the One Downtown

Rapid City, SD – November 25, 2008 – Though it's been open less than a year, Rapid City Public Library North, located within the General Beadle Elementary School (10 Van Buren Street), is keeping pace with its long-established sibling, the Downtown library at 610 Quincy St.

Planned as one of several community services to operate out of the new General Beadle facility, the library was enthusiastic about providing a public library in this part of the community. RCPL North operates as a school library during school hours (Monday through Friday/September through May) and as a public library after school hours, on weekends and in the summer.

The North library opened its doors in January of 2008 and held a grand opening, with hundreds in attendance, on March 8th. Since then, the facility's use has surpassed expectations for the first year. So far this year, use of library materials at North has increased by 79%, and entry into the facility has increased by over 400%; many of the patrons using the North library utilize the library's public-access computers. That's not bad, given that the Downtown library has had more than a hundred years' head start in establishing those services.

Though the Downtown and North libraries can't operate identically given the differences in size and operating structure, patrons can access most of the same materials and resources in both locations. Computers, books, magazines and DVDs are available for patron use at both libraries, and materials may be picked up or dropped off at either location.

RCPL also offers many of the same programs and events at the North library, particularly those that are youth-focused. Monthly 'Family Story Time,' an evening story session (with pizza!) for kids and families, and 'Discovery Days' when the library schedules a fun craft or activity on 'No School' days during the school year, and periodic after-school computer gaming sessions are

just a few of the regularly scheduled North library events. The Summer Reading Program also proved to be very popular at the North library this year.

As RCPL North moves towards its first anniversary, and General Beadle moves closer to completion as a community service hub for the North Rapid area, the library looks forward to forming relationships with many more new friends and patrons in the area.

#

The Rapid City Public Library has served the Rapid City area since 1879, and now has two locations, the Downtown library at 610 Quincy Street and the north library within General Beadle Elementary School at 10 Van Buren St. Both offer print and electronic resources for adults, young adults and children as well as computers and Internet access and a variety of programs and events. In March 2008, USA Today named the Rapid City Public Library's downtown library as one of the nation's 10 greatest places to "Find a Nook and Read a Book."

Find video footage of RCPL events at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/rapidcitylibrary>

Find photos of RCPL events at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rcpl/>

Rapid City Public Library North hours:

September through May

Mon-Th: 3 pm to 7 pm

Friday: 3 pm to 6 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday: noon to 6 pm

June through August

Mon-Th: 9 am to 7 pm

Fri-Sat: 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday: noon to 6 pm