

## Report to the Assembly - Borough Public Libraries



## Mat-Su Borough Public Libraries multifaceted and responsive to their communities

Support a love of reading, personal growth and lifelong learning

Serve as focal points and resource hubs for the Borough and their communities



Play a central role in education for adults and children

Maintain collections and present programming that meet community needs

LIBRARIES = STRONG COMMUNITIES



## Library Programs and Services

computers  
downloadable  
children's  
voting  
public  
Homeschool  
audiodooks  
Job  
information  
photocopies  
warm  
theatrical  
mentors  
publications  
school  
New collections  
fund  
programs  
airport  
databases  
Alaska  
rooms  
access  
loan  
Catalog  
service  
Notary  
Wireless  
reading  
STEM  
performances  
books  
interlibrary  
storytime  
Teen  
Reference  
adult  
permits  
community  
Permanent  
Government  
services  
titles  
material  
faxes  
meeting  
health  
forms  
online  
storytelling  
assistance  
absentee  
Internet  
burn  
burn

Wordle



Public librarians adopt many different roles to meet community needs. To do so, they must quickly assess changing user needs during disasters and adapt their services on the spot.

[Connecting Public Libraries with Community Emergency Responders](#)  
by Michelle Malizia, Rebecca Hamilton, Deborah Littrell, Karen Vargas, & Cynthia Olney on April 26, 2013

[http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2013/04/emergency\\_responders/](http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2013/04/emergency_responders/)

**LIBRARIES ARE HIGHLY VALUABLE IN DISASTER RESPONSE**

Library staffs are skilled at assisting the general public in locating information

Librarians are masters at mobilizing and distributing information

Public libraries are a comforting place for disaster victims

Multi-purpose spaces in public libraries can be adapted for many uses

Most public libraries are wired

Libraries serve more than local residents

*Connecting Public Libraries with Community Emergency Responders*  
by Michelle Malizia, Rebecca Hamilton, Deborah Littrell, Karen Vargas, & Cynthia Olney on April 26, 2013  
[http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2013/04/emergency\\_responders/](http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2013/04/emergency_responders/)

 LIBRARIES = STRONG COMMUNITIES

**LIBRARIES  
ARE AMERICA'S  
MOST DEMOCRATIC  
INSTITUTIONS.**

Libraries ensure people have access to information and lifelong learning regardless of age, education, ethnicity, gender, language, income, physical limitations or geographic barriers.

Libraries strengthen communities and help create a more literate and just society.

Libraries  
are the face  
of the  
Borough  
in their  
communities



Storytime instills  
literacy skills  
before babies and  
toddlers reach  
school age



STEM and STEAM programs – after school, homeschool, and during summer for toddlers, tweens, and teens



Go Batty @  
the Trapper Creek Library



Kids grade K-2 Join us after school  
Wednesday October 25 & learn about Bats.  
We have a real bat specimen for you to examine with a  
magnifying glass. Bat facts, activities & snacks are all on  
the agenda.  
Program runs from 3:30 - 4:30  
Kids will need a bus pass to the Library. Parents, we will  
need a phone number on file at the library for you and  
please pick up your children promptly unless other  
arrangements have been made.

3rd — 5th GRADERS!!!  
Big Lake Library has a new after school program:  
**STEAM KIDS!!**  
TUESDAYS AT 4PM  
SNACKS! BOOKS! ACTIVITIES! GAMES! CRAFTS!  
Call the Library at 861-7635 to secure your place!



Eagle River Nature Center naturalist talks with kids and adults about parasites, highlighting the dangers AND benefits of parasites.

Public Libraries host informational talks, workshops, and training.



**Sutton Public Library**  
April 5 at 4:00pm

Calling all kids from 5th to 8th grade....join us for these programs planned just for you!

**Electric Tweens**  
FRIDAY, APRIL 14 @ 4:00 P.M.  
Sutton Public Library  
Joseph Davis introduces us to children's and creating a electrical circuit. Imagine, make and craft a unique light-up project.

Teen programs at the Sutton Library are for kids from 5th-8th grade...and the library at 901-7640 invites to sign up for one or both of these fun, hands-on events!

**Flower Boxes**  
FRIDAY, MAY 12 @ 4:00 P.M.  
Sutton Public Library  
Bill from Matanuska Woodworks will be here to help us construct and plant cedar flower boxes.

(Mother's Day May 13th)



**We Need You**  
**EXCLUSIVELY FOR TEENS AGES 11-16**  
Help us plan activities for your age group! Share ideas, work with friends, and help the community. Where: Big Lake Library Meeting Room  
When: Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 starting April 29  
Bring your friends!  
Big Lake Library (907) 861-7825



**Script to Screen using One Button Studio**

**Free Lunch at the Library**  
Eat and Read!



Time: Thursday 12:30-12:45, Mon 2:30-August 18  
Location: Tupper Creek Public Library  
In addition, each child can receive a complete meal if they have no access to food at home. Participants are welcome during library hours of 10:00am-4:00pm and after hours. Please bring a reusable bag. This is a great opportunity for parents to get involved in their child's education. This program is made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information, contact Lauren at 209-443-0400 ext. 100 or email lauren@tuppercreek.org  
Need a bus? Sunshine "bus-a-thong" is free round trip for library participants during the summer. Buses must be arranged 2 weeks in advance. Contact Lauren at 209-443-0400 ext. 100.

**The Foraker Group**  
August 11, 2017

Collaboration is key! We love this example of organizations coming together to serve their community. Awesome work Talkeetna Public Library & Sunshine Transit - transportation for the Susitna Valley -- with support from Food Bank of Alaska & Mat-Su Health Foundation.



**How books and buses are fighting summer hunger in rural Alaska**

**Summer reading programs prevent "summer slide."**  
Adding transportation and lunch showcases collaboration with other organizations.



**K-3 Reading Mentor Program** is a collaboration between the Talkeetna Public Library, Talkeetna Elementary, Friends of the Talkeetna Library, Sunshine Transit, Upper Susitna Food Bank, and community volunteers

**LOOKING FOR A CAREER?**

Join us in this one of a kind fair where you apply to become your own boss!

Monday, April 14 4:30 – 6:30 PM  
PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
421 S Valley Way Palmer, Alaska, AK 99645

**EMERALD PLAZA Presents Breaking the Ceiling, Dispelling the Myths of Glass Ceilings**

Find out how you, too, can get away from the 9-5 rat race and get paid what you deserve at work!  
Get accurate and reliable information from actual business owners about products, companies, pay structures, organizations... And much more about leader's best practices!  
Be inspired and get training from the industry's growing leaders!  
The ONLY job fair where you do not need to bring your resume, come as you are!  
No experience required... We are here to share with you WHY you don't have to be "good as gold" to be able to make a solid income!  
The business is open. We are here to share only the LOCAL business opportunity available for everyone!

**DON'T LET TIME RUN OUT!**  
Medicare open enrollment for 2019 coverage ends  
**DECEMBER 7, 2018**

Britney Travis, from the Medicare Information Office, will be at the **Big Lake Public Library** to help you enroll  
Tuesday, November 20, from 11:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Please call 907-373-3632 for a time slot  
Find us on medicare.alaska.gov

**You can find help at Borough Public Libraries**

Several Borough libraries are polling locations for absentee-in-person voting for federal, state, and Borough elections.

Talkeetna and Sutton Public Libraries are election day polls.

Libraries do still check out books, videos, and audiobooks!



But they check out other things too!



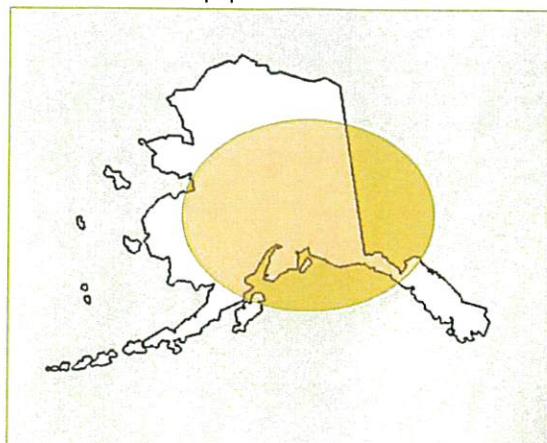
Check Out a Laptop  
Starting January 2, 2010 at the Media Public Library  
and other libraries in Anchorage.  
Ask a staff member for more information.  
Want to be a WASILLA member?

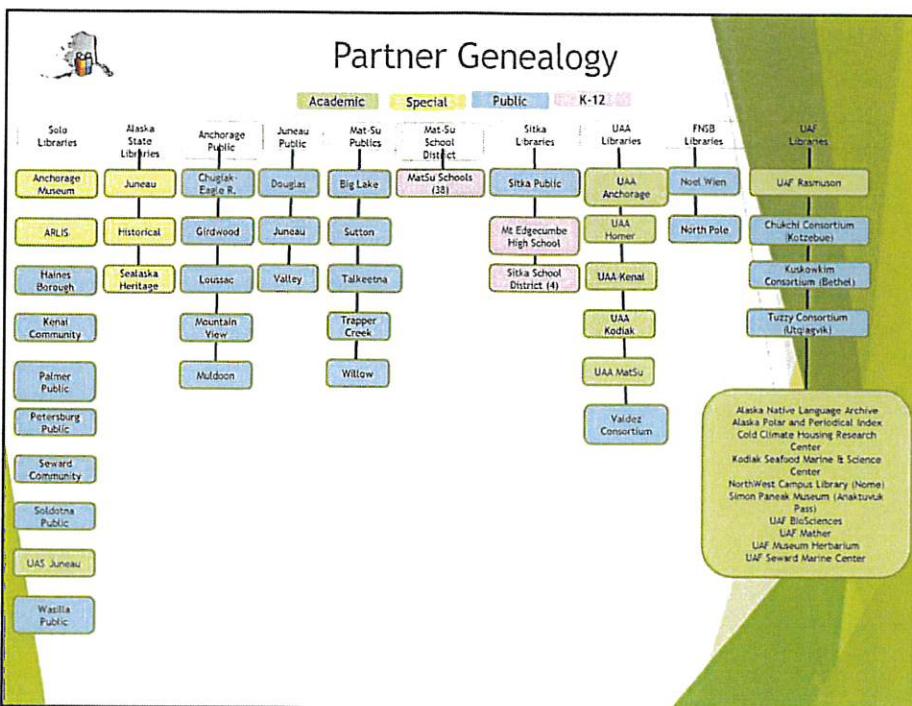
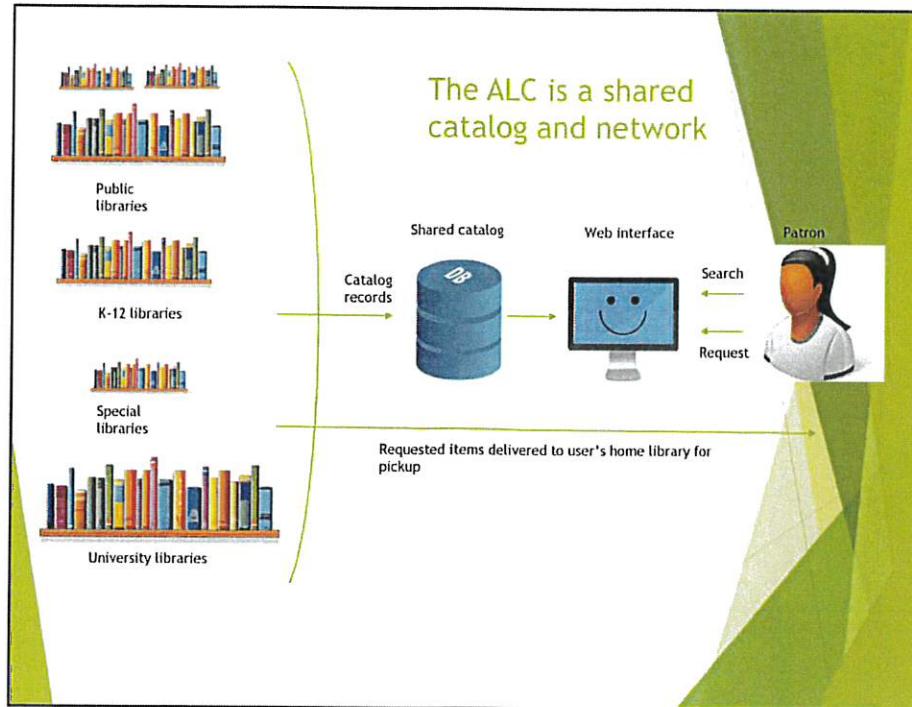




The Alaska Library Catalog (ALC)

The ALC or Alaska Library Catalog (formerly known as the Joint Library Catalog), is a consortium/network of Public, Academic, and school libraries within the State of Alaska. Currently, it covers "87 public, academic, special, and K-12 libraries and serves 92% of the population of Alaska."







ALASKA LIBRARY CATALOG  
Public catalog  
<https://jlc-web.uaa.alaska.edu/>  
Kids catalog  
[https://jlc-web.uaa.alaska.edu/client/en\\_US/kids/](https://jlc-web.uaa.alaska.edu/client/en_US/kids/)

ALASKA DIGITAL LIBRARY  
<https://adl.overdrive.com>

INTERLIBRARY LOAN (ILL)  
Ask your home library for help

S knowledgeable  
T accepting, kind  
A helpful **caring**  
F multitasking  
F friendly  
F dedicated  
F efficient smiles  
F committed  
F understanding  
F patient





**COLLABORATION  
PARTNERSHIPS  
COMPROMISE  
RESPECT  
PROVIDE FACTUAL INFORMATION  
PROVIDE DIGITAL TRAINING  
RESEARCH  
TEAMWORK  
HARD WORK  
DOING WHAT'S BEST  
FOR THE COMMUNITY**

## Assessment: Staffing

- Staff are the most important part of library service for patrons
- Staff get high marks from patrons
- For safety, work toward a minimum of two staff members during all operational hours



library  
systems  
services

# FACILITIES

community  
meeting small  
safe code unsafe  
meet light warm  
crowded emergency  
beautiful cramped



## Recommendations: Facilities

Willow:  
Leverage Mat-Su  
Health Foundation  
grant



### Willow Library Replacement/Community Center Upgrade

Budget	\$5,666,000
MSB Appropriation	(1,900,000)
Mat-Su Health Foundation Grant	(1,698,000)
Mayor Vern Halter Contribution	( 14,000)
Willow Community Contribution	( 75,000)
Pending Rasmuson Foundation Grant	( 500,000)
Subtotal	\$1,473,000
State of Alaska – (Talkeetna Reappropriation \$423,029 + State General Fund Appropriation \$576,971)	(\$1,000,000)
Balance to be Raised	\$473,000

"Many public libraries do need renovations, particularly the neighborhood branches. But the problem libraries face isn't that people no longer visit them or take out books. On the contrary: so many people are using them, for such a wide variety of purposes, ...."

Eric Klinenberg from "...Why libraries are more than books."

<https://edifytrends.com/-why-libraries-are-more-than-just-books/>

Today, we may have every reason to feel atomized and alienated, distrustful and afraid. But some places have the power to bring us together, and social bonding happens in thousands of libraries throughout the year.

Our communities are full of children whose future... will be formed in the places where they go to learn about themselves and the world they'll inherit.

<https://amp.theguardian.com/cities/2018/sep/24/at-the-library-everyone-is-welcome>

**LIBRARIES + STRONG COMMUNITIES**



## CONCLUSION

Borough Public Libraries programs and services:

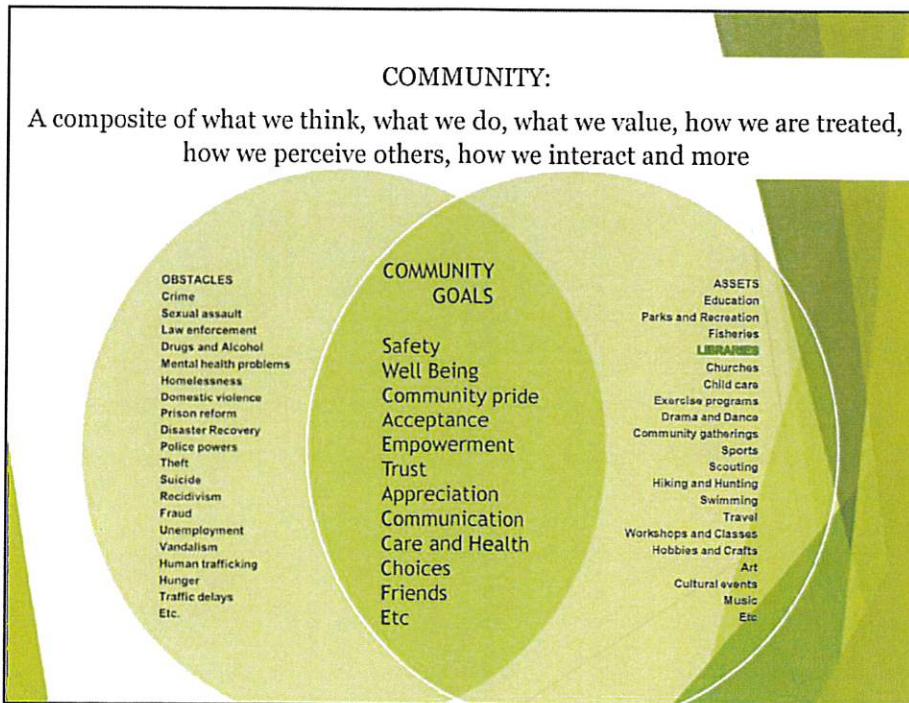
- Vibrant and strong
- Responsive to community needs and more

Borough Public Library staff:

- Exceptional

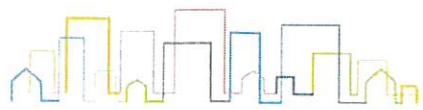
Borough Public Library facilities:

- Newer ones are providing more needed resources
- Aging ones need to be improved as soon as possible



# QUESTIONS?

LIBRARIES = STRONG COMMUNITIES



**BIG LAKE LIBRARY**  
3140 S. Big Lake Rd., PO Box 520829  
Big Lake, 99652 ~ 861-7635

**HOURS**  
Mon/Wed/Fri 10:00 AM-6:00 PM  
Tues/Thurs 10:00 AM-8:00 PM  
Saturday 11:00 AM-6:00 PM

**PALMER LIBRARY**  
655 South Valley Way  
Palmer, 99645 ~ 745-4690

**HOURS**  
Mon/Wed 10:00-8:00 PM  
Tues/Thurs 10:00-6:00 PM  
Fri/Sat 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

**SUTTON LIBRARY**  
11301 N Chickaloon Way, PO Box 266  
Sutton, 99674 ~ 861-7640

**HOURS**  
Tues/Thurs 11:00 AM-8:00 PM  
Wed/Fri 10:00 AM-7:00 PM  
Saturday 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

**TALKEETNA LIBRARY**  
24645 S. Talkeetna Spur Road, PO Box 268  
Talkeetna, 99676 ~ 861-7645

**HOURS**  
Mon-Sat 11:00 AM-6:00 PM

**TRAPPER CREEK LIBRARY**  
8901 E. Devonshire Dr., PO Box 15388  
Trapper Creek, 99683 ~ 861-7650

**HOURS**  
Mon/Wed 10:00 AM-7:00 PM  
Thurs 10:00 AM-3:00 PM  
Sat 12 Noon-6:00 PM

**WASILLA PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
500 North Crusby Street,  
Wasilla, 99654 ~ 376-5913

**HOURS**  
Mon 2:00 PM-6:00 PM  
Tues/Thurs 10:30 AM-7:00 PM  
Wed/Fri 10:30 AM-6:00 PM  
Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

**WILLOW LIBRARY**  
23557 W. Willow Community Center ~ PO Box 129  
Willow, 996688 ~ 861-7655

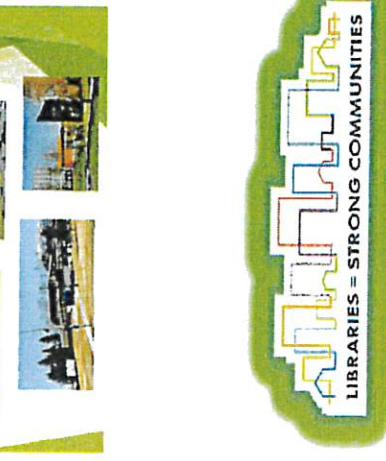
**HOURS**  
Mon/Tues/Thurs 12 Noon—8:00 PM  
Wed/Fri/ Saturday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM  
10:00 AM-3:30 PM

## ATTEND A PROGRAM

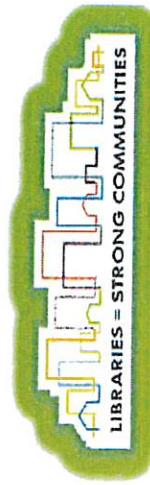
# Mat-Su Borough Public Libraries

Programs are available for all ages at the Borough Public Libraries. Storytimes, summer and winter reading programs, family reading programs, teen and tween programs, informational briefings, workshops, computer classes, special events, videoconferencing via On Line With Libraries (OWL), and much more.

Do you have a special skill?  
Volunteer at your library to host a class or special event.



Report to the Assembly -  
Borough Public Libraries



<https://www.matsugov.us/msln>  
<http://pplak.org/index.html>  
<https://www.cityofwasilla.com/departments/library>

February 2019

## OTHER SERVICES

Borough Public Libraries provide their communities with a multitude of other services including but not limited to (check the websites or call your library for more information and availability):

- Meeting rooms
- Wireless internet
- Public computers
- Notary
- Borough forms
- IRS forms
- PFD forms
- Various permits
- In-house check-out of:
  - Computers
  - Piano
  - Check at your library for what's available
- Check out of:
  - Bicycles (Sutton)
  - Frisbee golf sets
  - Hiking/nature packs
  - Projector
- Check at your library for what's available
- Photocopiers
- Printers
- and much more!

## DIGITAL BOOKS & AUDIOBOOKS

### CHECK OUT BOOKS, DVDS. AUDIOBOOKS

Your library card provides access to digital content such as ebooks, audiobooks and music. For more information, ask your local librarian or go to:

[adl.overdrive.com](http://adl.overdrive.com)

For other digital resources try

<http://lam.alaska.gov/sled/home>

You'll find information sources by, for, and about Alaskans. There's a wealth of information including the following:

- In-house check-out of:
  - Computers
  - Piano
  - Check at your library for what's available
- Check out of:
  - Bicycles (Sutton)
  - Frisbee golf sets
  - Hiking/nature packs
  - Projector

Check at your library for what's available

- Photocopiers
- Printers
- and much more!

All Borough Public Libraries are members of the Alaska Library Catalog (ALC). Cardholders may borrow from any of the ALC Libraries. You may request items from the ALC libraries, and place a request from the online catalog, ([jlc-web.uaa.edu/client/](http://jlc-web.uaa.edu/client/)) or at each library. Items may be checked out or returned at any of the ALC member libraries listed below:

Alaska State Historical Library, Alaska State Library-Juneau, Anchorage Museum, Anchorage Public Library-Chugiak/Eagle River, Anchorage Public Library-Girdwood, Anchorage Public Library-Loussac, Anchorage Public Library- Mountain View, Anchorage Public Library-Muldoon, ARLIS-Anchorage, Big Lake Public Library, Chukchi Consortium Library-Kotzebue, Fairbanks Public Library, Fairbanks Public Library-North Pole, Haines Borough Public Library, Juneau Public Library-Douglas, Juneau Public Library-Juneau, Juneau Public Library-Mendenhall Valley, Kenai Community Library, Kuskokwim Consortium Library-Bethel, Palmer Public Library, Petersburg Public Library, Sealaska Heritage Institute, Seward Community Library & Museum, Sitka Public Library, Soldotna Public Library, Sutton Public Library, Talkeetna Public Library, Trapper Creek Public Library, Tuzzy Consortium Library-Barrow, UAA Library-Homer, UAA Library-MatSu, UAA/APU Consortium Library, UAF Libraries-Fairbanks, UAS-Egan-Juneau, Valdez Consortium Library, Wasilla Public Library, Willow Public Library

## BECAUSE ACCESS EQUALS OPPORTUNITY.

### REFERENCES

[www.pewinternet.org/topics/libraries](http://www.pewinternet.org/topics/libraries)  
Series of research articles regarding libraries from 2005 – 2018

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2017/03/30/how-public-libraries-help-build-healthy-communities>

*How public libraries help build healthy communities,*  
Marcela Cabello and Stuart M. Butler, Thursday, March 30, 2017

<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2018/sep/24/-at-the-library-everyone-is-welcome>

*How To Build a More Equal and United Society* by Eric Klinenberg, published by Bodley Head

[http://ctq.albany.edu/media/pubs/pdfs/MLS\\_Report - Oct 31.pdf](http://ctq.albany.edu/media/pubs/pdfs/MLS_Report - Oct 31.pdf)  
*The Role of Public Libraries in engaging citizens in smart,*

*inclusive, and connected communities: A Current Practices Report* October 2018 ©2018 The Research Foundation of State University of New York

<https://www.aspeninstitute.org/publications/icma-survey/>

*The Role of Libraries in Advancing Community Goals,* by John Horrigan, PhD, January 17, 2017  
The International City/County Management Association (ICMA), in partnership with the Aspen Institute Dialogue on Public Libraries, and the Public Library Association (PLA), conducted a nationwide survey in the Spring of 2016 focused on the evolving role of public libraries in advancing community goals.

<https://www.readitforward.com/authors/13-reasons-why-libraries-are-important/>  
*13 Reasons Why Libraries are Holding Us All Together* by Tiffany King

[https://webjunction.org/documents/webjunctions/Competency\\_Index\\_for\\_the\\_Library\\_Field.html](https://webjunction.org/documents/webjunctions/Competency_Index_for_the_Library_Field.html)

Skills required by 21<sup>st</sup> century Library Staff, compiled by WebJunction

<https://icma.org/articles/pm-magazine/strengthening-libraries-strategic-role>

The September *Public Management (PM)* magazine's cover story "Strengthening the Library's Strategic Role," Authors Rashad Young, city administrator, Washington, D.C., and Susan Benton, president and CEO, Urban Libraries Council, Washington, D.C., explain how libraries are implementing action plans to do so.

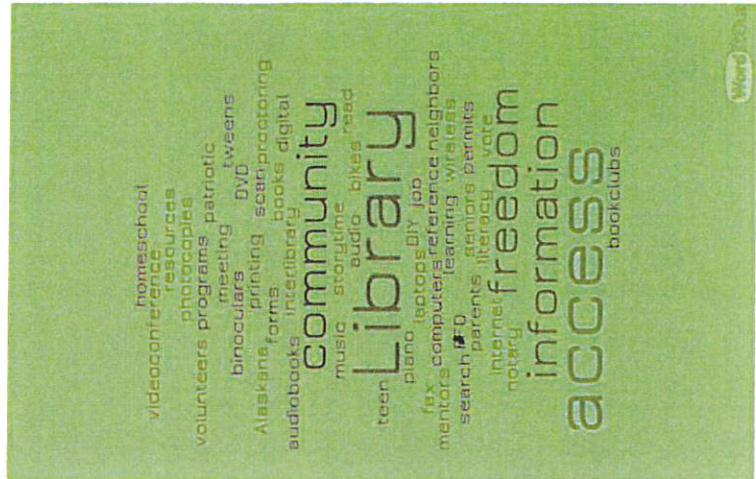
[http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2013/04/emergency\\_responders/connecting\\_public\\_libraries\\_with\\_community\\_emergency](http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2013/04/emergency_responders/connecting_public_libraries_with_community_emergency)  
Responders by Michelle Malizia, Rebecca Hamilton, Deborah Littrell, Karen Vargas, & Cynthia Olney on April 26, 2013

**BECAUSE LIBRARIES INSPIRE UNDERSTANDING AND COMMUNITY HEALING.**

## **Key Messages:**

- ↳ Today's libraries are not just about what they have for people, but what they do for and with people.
  - ↳ Libraries change lives.
  - ↳ Libraries transform communities.
  - ↳ Librarians are passionate advocates for lifelong learning.
  - ↳ Libraries are a smart investment.
  - ↳ Libraries have always been about access to information

**Libraries =**  
**Education,**  
**Empowerment,**  
**Entrepreneurship,**  
**Engagement**



—Libraries add value in five key areas: education, employment, entrepreneurship, empowerment, and engagement.

## **Alaska Public Library Statistics FY1987-Date**

### **Supplemental Messages:**

- Libraries are at the heart of our communities—a resource for people of any age to find what they need to help improve their quality of life.
- Our society is at a critical juncture with regard to the changing information landscape and the skills needed to thrive in our digital world.
- Libraries are evolving with these changes in order to serve the public and to continue to fulfill their role in leveling the playing field for all who seek information and access to technologies.
- Libraries also are expanding beyond their traditional roles and providing

Data for Alaska Public Libraries for FY16 is at:  
[https://www.imls.gov/sites/default/files/pls\\_fy2016\\_sp\\_alaska.pdf](https://www.imls.gov/sites/default/files/pls_fy2016_sp_alaska.pdf)

more opportunities for community engagement and delivering new services that connect closely with patrons' needs.

- Library professionals facilitate individual opportunity and community progress.
- Libraries are committed to advancing their legacy of reading and developing a digitally inclusive society.

### **Overview**

Alaska's public libraries file an annual report each year with the Alaska State Library in order to remain eligible for the annual public library assistance grant. The state data can be downloaded at the link below. The Excel spreadsheets include the entire data set collected annually.

<https://library.alaska.gov/dev/plstats.html>