

USL Quarterly

A publication of the Utah State Library

June 2020

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Director's Message

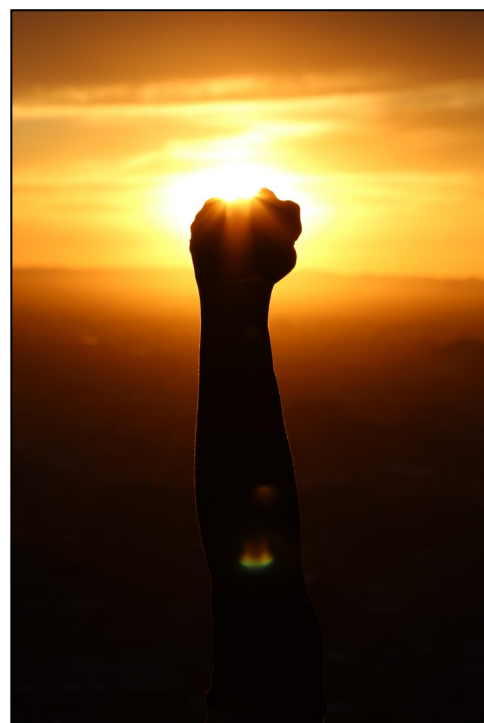
By Colleen Eggett, Director and State Librarian

The Utah State Library condemns racism in all its forms and commits to its extinction. Human suffering runs rampant because of the events surrounding the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd. People worldwide mourn the loss of human life, of human dignity, that we all witnessed on screen. It was just plain wrong. Slavery, segregation, Jim Crow-ism, redlining, restrictive covenants, expulsive zoning, bigotry--all of these are manifestations of a viciously circular system. We pay a steep price for closing our eyes to the reality of systemic racism.

This is a singular moment in history to make a difference for millions of Americans. Utah Librarians, no matter our skin tone, have a unique opportunity to make lasting reforms. The Utah State Library is committed to extinguishing racism within our library systems statewide. The pathway is to acknowledge racism and determine ways to make a difference.

Our goals include:

- Searching for ways that libraries can better serve the underserved in Utah.
- Reviewing the certification program and USL's policies and internal practices to ensure they reflect diversity and inclusion.



- Encouraging all USL staff to include a goal in their performance plan that promotes diversity and inclusion.
- Including diversity and inclusion programming in the training that we provide.
- Evaluating our hiring practices and the makeup of our staff, our board, and our committees to ensure that minority voices are represented.
- Keeping an open mind to other opportunities. We have a great desire to be at the table and to improve in meaningful ways.

Millard County Bookmobile

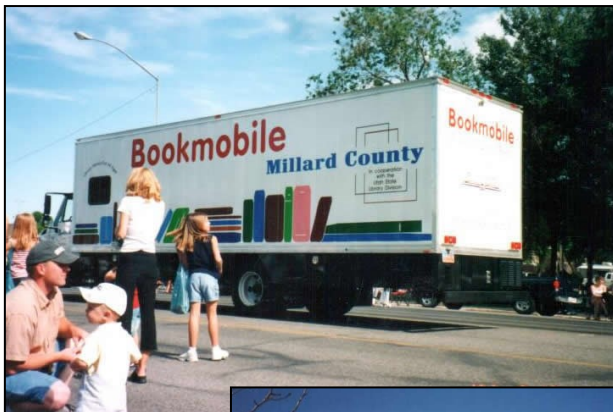
We are sorry to report that the Millard County Bookmobile will be closing on June 30.

This bookmobile, headquartered at the Delta City Library, has served communities and public schools in remote communities across Millard County and portions of Tooele and Juab County since 1957.

As of July 1, residents of Eureka and Vernon will receive bookmobile service from the Utah County Bookmobile.

Millard County Bookmobile staff, Melanie Bentley and Sheri Dutson have done an amazing job in Millard County and we will truly miss them.

A portion of the books of the Millard County Bookmobile collection will be gifted to local public schools in Eskdale and Garrison, two remote Utah communities that are going to be left without library service. The rest of the collection will be distributed amongst the remaining five bookmobiles and the State Library so they will continue to be of use to rural communities across the state through the other bookmobiles and through interlibrary loan service.



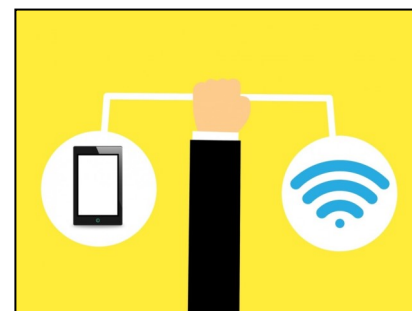
Tech Moment

When Covid-19 sent work, school, and social interaction online, some community members were left behind. Library wifi became an essential service to many, but public safety required buildings to close. The State Library answered with a grant providing \$100 or \$400 for libraries to expand their network into their outdoor spaces. 24 libraries took advantage, roughly doubling parking lot wifi statewide.



Here's one comment from a patron:

"I recently lost my job...and my rental and vehicle. After all hope seemed lost, I was offered a job...but they expected me to be able to [work from home]. In pure desperation, I reached out to the Tooele City Library. Although I could not enter the building, they told me their WiFi had improved and I [could] use it sitting outside and for this I will be forever grateful. I parked my car outside, set up a chair in the shade and pulled out my computer. Because of their generosity and the extension to their WiFi, I am able to not only keep my job, but also enjoy the beauty outside of the building. To those responsible for giving this library the improvement to their service and in turn my ability to work through this crisis, I cannot say thank you enough."



Online Book Discussion

Don't miss the Online Book Discussion, the book club sponsored by the USL, Program for the Blind and Disabled. Anyone can join in, just call in!

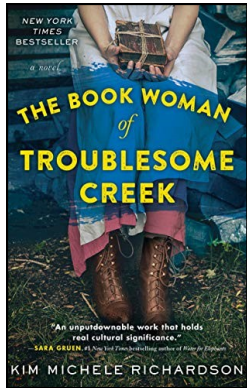
Tuesday, May 12, 2 PM to 3 PM (MDT)
Discussion led by Paula Stuart

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek

By Kim Michele Richardson

The hardscrabble folks of Troublesome Creek have a traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter. Cussy's not only a book woman, she's also the last of her kind, with blue skin. If Cussy wants to bring the joy

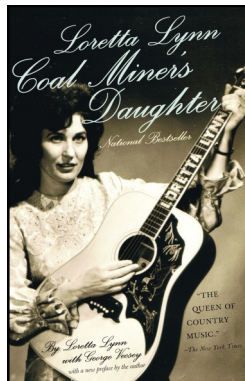
of books to the hill folks, she's going to have to confront prejudice and suspicion. Inspired by the true blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the brave and dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s.



Loretta Lynn : Coal Miner's Daughter

By Loretta Lynn

Born into deep poverty, married at 13, mother of six, and a grandmother by 29, Loretta Lynn went on to become one of the most prolific and influential songwriters and singers in modern country music. Here we see the determination and talent that led to her trailblazing career and made her the first woman to be named Entertainer of the Year by the Country Music Association and the first woman to receive a gold record in country music.



To Join the Online Book Discussion:

stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup

Speak by phone:

1-877-820-7831, passcode 331626

Upcoming Trainings

Using Computational Thinking and Connected Learning in

Programs for Teens

Tuesday, Jul. 14 - 10 AM to 11 AM, MDT

Computational Thinking and Connected Learning are important concepts to keep in mind when working with teens in our libraries. In this webinar, we will briefly review the two concepts and discuss how you can use them together to create great programs and interactions for the teens in your library. Participants are encouraged to watch the archived recordings of our Computational Thinking and Connected Learning webinars ahead of time.

This webinar is a part of YALSA's "Transforming Teen Services: a Train the Trainer Approach" in partnership with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA).

Presented by Cassie Leclair Marzolf, Salt Lake County Library Services and Claire Doctorman, Salt Lake City Public Library System.



To register for Workshops & Trainings:

library.utah.gov/workshops

To access live webinars:

stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining

To view archived webinars:

library.utah.gov/webinars

Director's Summit 2020

We have decided to host a virtual director's summit in October 2020 instead of an in-person event.



This decision was made after gathering the results of a survey we posted to directors. In the survey 50% of directors indicated that they thought they would not attend the entire event, 29% were uncomfortable or very uncomfortable with the idea of being in a room with a large group of people and 50% were in favor of postponing an in person event until next year. In total there were 41 responses.



The development team took all these responses into careful consideration and we have come to the conclusion that a virtual summit is the best way to move forward. Details about the virtual summit will be forthcoming.

We will miss seeing each other in-person this year, so we are looking forward to the day when we can gather together again.

Book Your Summer Reminder

Book Your Summer Ends August 15!

Don't forget to encourage patrons to sign up for Book Your Summer!

Utah children who participate in their local library's Summer Reading Program can also participate in Book Your Summer for a chance at one of four regional \$1,000 my529 scholarships. In addition, the winner's library will receive \$500 toward the purchase of collection materials.

For more information go to

<https://bookyoursummer.com>.

To request bookmarks, contact Sharon Deeds at sdeeds@utah.gov.



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Utah State Library Division

A DIVISION OF THE UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF HERITAGE & ARTS



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