

# USL Quarterly

A publication of the Utah State Library

September 2020

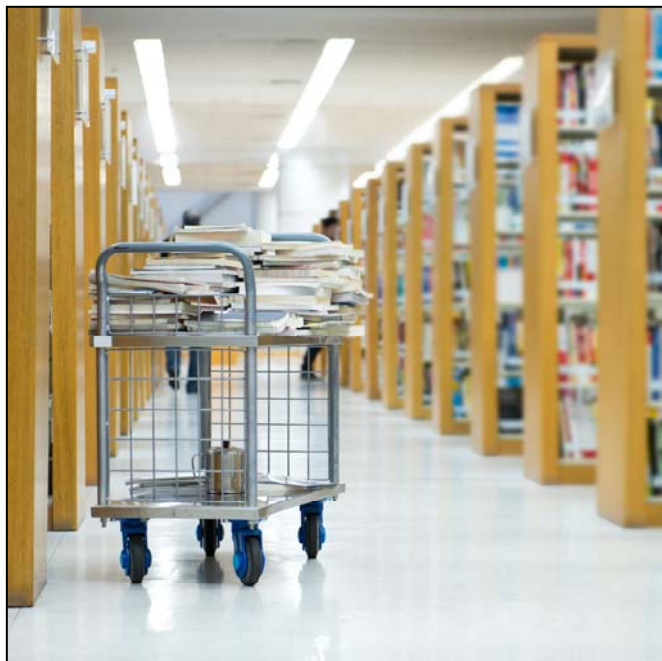
Volume 5, Issue 3

## Director's Message

By Colleen Eggett, Director and State Librarian

Thanks to Covid-19, we're working twice as hard for twice fewer customers - a 4:1 ratio. As we work so hard for so few, we ask, "How can we fulfill our mission?" What I would tell you is that libraries have always thrived in hard times. As income varies, people want to better their situation, to grow, to learn, to connect, to escape in a book, and they turn to public libraries for help.

The four legs of why I work at a library stand tall: loving reading, serving people, growing



knowledge, and advancing literacy. I've been more focused than ever before. In the quiet moments at work I've gained a clearer vision of what we need in Utah's libraries, and how to go about it.

First, we need time to get back to normal. We long for the days when people could saunter into the library to browse, visit, and participate in a program without worrying about whether someone was breathing on them. We have faith these things will happen again.

This is a singular moment in time to reflect on what brought us here, and what to do going forward. It starts with each of us. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "What lies behind you and what lies in front of you pale in comparison to what lies inside of you."



## Database Spotlight

Utah public library patrons have had access to Learning Express for years through UEN. However, when UEN recently lost their funding for the platform, the State Library negotiated its own contract with EBSCO to continue access to the platform for at least another two years. Learning Express is an online learning resource that helps patrons advance their educational, professional, and personal lives. It includes courses and tutorials that focus on skills improvement for all ages, GED preparation, AP, SAT and GRE exam preparation, popular software tutorials, licensing and certification preparation, U.S. Citizenship test preparation, and much, much more.

**EBSCO LearningExpress®**

In addition to Learning Express, the new contract with the State Library includes EBSCO's Job & Career Accelerator tool that can help your patrons find a job by learning job-hunting skills such as networking and interviewing, create great resumes and cover letters, search job listings, and apply for jobs.

EBSCO hosted four training sessions earlier this month that explained how to get learning express set up in your library and how to best use it for your patrons. If you missed those live trainings and would like access to those recordings or have any other questions about how to best use this resource to benefit your patrons, please contact Marie Erickson at [merickson@utah.gov](mailto:merickson@utah.gov) or 801.715.6756.

## Tech Moment

It's Digital Inclusion Week!

USL is excited to participate in this year's international spotlight on digital inclusion, Oct. 5 - 9, 2020.

'Digital inclusion' refers to the activities necessary to ensure everyone has the opportunity and the confidence to fully participate in today's digital world. Experts typically advocate for three separate needs: internet, devices, and education. Without all three, people don't have the tools they need to work remotely, attend online schooling, socialize with their community, and even participate in civic activities.

Libraries can proudly claim 30 years of digital inclusion leadership, from providing internet computers in the '90s to virtual reality today.

Watch USL's social media throughout the week for highlights of new and exciting ways our libraries throughout the state are tackling digital inclusion:



Tech Highlight Instagram:



## 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, November 10, 2 PM to 3 PM (MDT)  
Discussion led by Paula Stuart

Phyllis Campbell joined us last year for the discussion of *Sheep May Safely Graze*, and will be joining us once again!

### *Goin' home*

By Phyllis Staton Campbell

Pastor Jim, blinded in Iraq, and his wife Amy settle down after the storm that has almost destroyed the town, only to find that the most peaceful garden can harbor a serpent. The town is thrown into chaos, when a mass killer is returned home to die after fifty years in prison. The town is divided and they find themselves in the middle.

Phyllis Staton Campbell graduated from The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind and did further study at Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, VA. She also studied creative writing at the Hadley Institute in Illinois, Creative Writing Institute in Indiana, and the University of Wisconsin, Madison.



## Upcoming Trainings

### *Directors' Summit 2020*

Thursday, Oct. 8 - 10 AM, MDT

Theme:

Reimagine the Library Story: Resilience Through Library Leadership

This year's summit will be virtual and we are planning to hear from speakers on the topics of: library spaces, equity, diversity and inclusion; and library services in the time of COVID-19 and more.

### *LSTA Application Training Webinar*

Wednesday, Oct. 14 - 10 AM, MDT

Meet with USL Grants Coordinator Rachel Cook to receive guidance on completing the LSTA grant application.

### *Work and Well-Being*

Tuesday, Nov. 10 - 10 AM, MDT

If you feel like your personal well-being is playing second fiddle to your professional role, then it may be time to step back and assess your own approach to work and also your organization's culture. Please join us with trainer Brenda Hough to learn more. Brenda Hough is a librarian, writer and trainer with 25 years of professional experience working in and supporting libraries by providing training and consultation.

To Join the Online Book Discussion:

[stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup](https://stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup)

Speak by phone:

1-877-820-7831, passcode 331626

To register for Workshops & Trainings:

[library.utah.gov/workshops](https://library.utah.gov/workshops)

To access live webinars:

[stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining](https://stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining)

To view archived webinars:

[library.utah.gov/webinars](https://library.utah.gov/webinars)

# OverDrive—RBdigital Merger

OverDrive has acquired the assets of RBmedia's library business, including the RBdigital platform. The acquisition follows the recent sale of OverDrive to KKR from Rakuten. KKR already owns RBmedia.

This means that the titles purchased from RBdigital will be transferred to OverDrive. The Utah State Library's RBdigital audiobooks will be moved to the Beehive Library Consortium's OverDrive the first two weeks of October.

How will the transition affect users?

- Messaging will be posted within the RBdigital app prior to the transfer.
- Current checkouts will be available through the remainder of their lending period in the RBdigital app. Current checkouts will not be moved to OverDrive. This will allow users to finish their title without disruption or risk of losing their place in the book.
- Holds will not be moved to OverDrive.

Transition FAQ's:

<https://bit.ly/2ZXK6vV>

RBdigital Transition Resources:

<https://bit.ly/32PXqo7>

For more information regarding how this will affect the Beehive Library Consortium, contact Darci Card at [dcard@utah.gov](mailto:dcard@utah.gov).

**RBdigital ebooks & audiobooks now available in the Libby app!**

Brought to you by your local library, and built with ❤️ by **OverDrive**

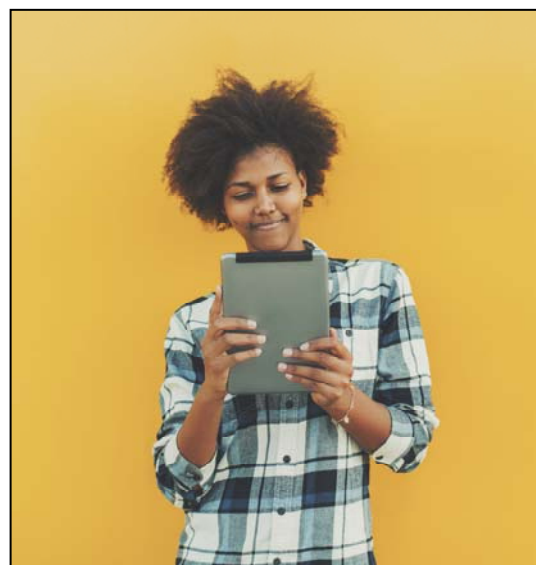
Same great books; new app to enjoy them!

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**Utah State Library**  
Division

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DEPARTMENT OF HERITAGE & ARTS



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