

USL Quarterly

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Director's Message

By Colleen Eggett, Director and State Librarian

From Disaster to Dynamic

We remain optimistic that Covid will end and that our libraries can return back to normal. Soon, real soon. Meanwhile, let's consider what Covid has done and how we have responded. We've had quiet moments to think about how to transform our libraries from disaster to dynamic. Some things we have implemented for Covid will likely continue: curbside checkout for those who cannot leave their cars; finding remote ways of doing things that keep everyone healthy; and some staff continuing to work from home. We've found out that we can do things when no one thought we could.

Warren Bennis said, "Leadership is the ability to transform vision into reality." Leadership often requires foresight, direction, and action. It requires both the skills and the means (time, money, personnel) to make it happen. Here are some tools to move from where we are to where we want to be. I challenge you to choose one and apply it during the next six months.



- Build cooperative partnerships
- Provide capacity building training for staff
- Take special care for marginalized people in our communities
- Diversify your technology resources to offer innovative programs for patrons
- Create effective marketing strategies
- Link with your governing authority and relate to them—be part of their circle
- Be more assertive in productive ways
- Show empathy in working with employees and library users

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way- John C. Maxwell

Database Spotlight

Amongst the suite of resources on Utah's Online Public Library is a hidden gem: Utah Newspapers, maintained by the Utah Press Association. Whether you are looking for the latest news from your hometown, or you are doing research on a specific topic and would like a state-wide perspective, the [Utah Newspapers Database](#) is your go-to resource.

This database contains an archive of all local Utah newspapers, searchable by keyword. Often you will have access to a full color image of that local newspaper. The archive reaches back as far as 2004 for some of the papers. There is a two week wait time for new issues to be uploaded to the database.



If you would like more information about this database or would like to schedule a training for you or your library staff on how

to better use it, contact Marie Erickson at merickson@utah.gov.



Tech Moment

New year, new tech!

If 2021 has you realizing your technology is older than your patrons, consider updating this year. Here are some tips and tricks to save money and maximize opportunities:

- USL [CARES mini-grants](#) will open soon with opportunities for all sorts of technology responding to Covid-19 like audiovisual production kits, circulating tablets and laptops, Wi-Fi equipment, and digital tools.
- [TechSoup](#) offers all kinds of dramatically reduced devices for libraries and nonprofits. [Digital Wish](#) does the same for schools.
- Local businesses and big box stores alike are often willing to donate devices in exchange for a thank you placard. Ask around for display models or returned devices.
- Donations of used devices make great circulating collections. Your local schools might have older computers that patrons would jump at the chance to borrow.
- Refurbished devices are eco-friendly and wallet-friendly, but [use caution](#). Make sure the device comes with a warranty or return option in case of problems. Look for 'factory refurbished' or direct from the vendor; third parties can be riskier.



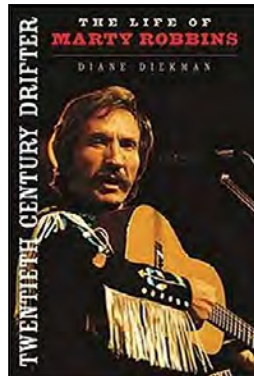
Online Book Discussion

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!

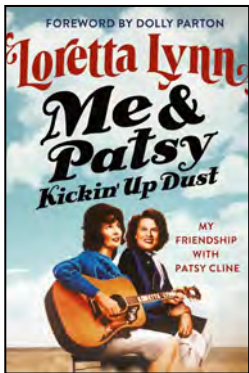
Tuesday, January 10, 2 PM to 3 PM (MST)
Discussion led by Paula Stuart

We had several books suggested this time, so there's quite a few to choose from! Read any you are interested in, then we'll talk about whatever comes up.

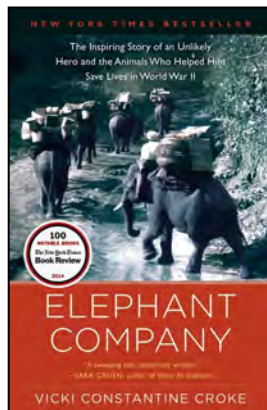
*Twentieth Century Drifter:
the Life of Marty Robbins*
by Diane Diekman



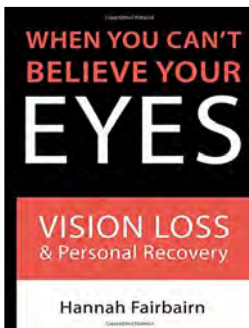
Me & Patsy, kickin' up dust :
My friendship with Patsy Cline
by Loretta Lynn



Elephant Company :
*The Inspiring Story of an
Unlikely Hero and the
Animals Who Helped Him
Save Lives in World War II*
by Vicki Croke



When You Can't Believe Your Eyes :
Vision Loss and Personal Recovery
by Hannah Fairbairn



To Join the Online Book Discussion:
stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup

Speak by phone:
1-877-820-7831, passcode 331626

Upcoming Trainings

*Transforming Teen Services:
Connected Learning*

Tuesday, Jan. 5 - 1 PM, MST
Tuesday, Jan. 12 - 1 PM, MST
Tuesday, Jan. 19 - 1 PM, MST
Tuesday, Jan. 26 - 1 PM, MST
Tuesday, Feb. 2 - 1 PM, MST*

Connected Learning encourages curiosity, exploration of interests, relationship-building, and teen participation in creating learning opportunities. Explore how to use teens' interests to create programs and services that engage and empower teens.

- Participants are required to attend at least three weekly online meetings.
- Space is limited to 15 participants.
- Participants will receive an invitation to the course from YALSA.

Leadership Skills for New(er) Supervisors
Tuesday, Jan. 12 - 10 AM, MST*

This program provides new supervisors and managers the skills they need to be successful in leading others and accomplishing the goals of their workgroup or department. Discuss how to approach leadership in a way that builds relationships and inspires commitment and trust, how to collaborate with your team to set goals and objectives, and best practices in communicating up, down and across the organization.

To register for Workshops & Trainings:
library.utah.gov/workshops

To access live webinars:
stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining

*Zoom links will be sent to all participants prior to the webinar.

To view archived webinars:
library.utah.gov/webinars

Book Your Summer Winners

Congratulations to my529's Book Your Summer winners and libraries! Each winner received \$1000 scholarship while each winning library received \$500 from my529.

Region 1

Truman P. - Logan Library

Region 2

Scott W. - American Fork City Library

Region 3

Julietta W. - Day-Riverside Library

Region 4

Magnolia P. - Saratoga Springs Library



book your summer

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Program for the Blind & Disabled: 801-715-6789

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Utah State Library Division

A DIVISION OF THE UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF HERITAGE & ARTS



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