

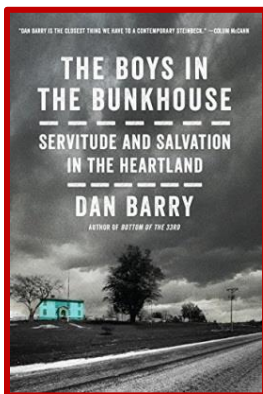


# STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

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Good Morning! Today in EYE-OPENER October 23, 2017

- 1) All Iowa Reads Title For 2018
- 2) Next Big Ideas Book Discussion Nov.29
- 3) America Walks—20 Years Strong
- 4) Meetings / Events This Week



**1) All Iowa Reads Title For 2018:** At last week's Iowa Library Association Conference, luncheon speakers announced the **2018 All Iowa Reads** selection: The Boys in the Bunkhouse by Dan Barry. This is a true story about a group of mentally disabled men living in an old schoolhouse in Atalissa, Iowa. Every day, they reported to work at a turkey processing plant where they were paid \$65.00 a month—the same rate of pay for literally decades, while living in often deplorable conditions.

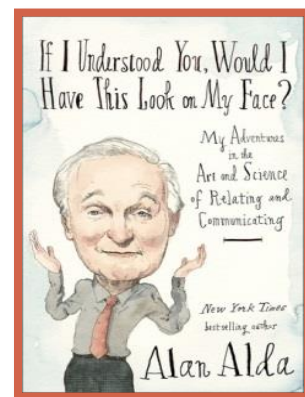
From Amazon: "...*New York Times* journalist Dan Barry reveals how these men remained all but forgotten for more than three decades ...drawing on extensive personal interviews and reams of public records, Barry delves deep into their lives, summoning their memories and suffering, their tender moments of joy and persistent hopefulness—and, most of all, their endurance... a luminous work of social justice, told with compassion and compelling detail, The Boys in the Bunkhouse is inspired storytelling and a clarion call for vigilance—an American tale that holds lasting meaning for all of us..."

In addition to the adult title, the **2018 All Iowa Reads Project** will mark the first inclusion of a statewide book for ages 8-12—Ghost by Jason Reynolds, as well as a statewide book for ages 12-18—Girl in the Blue Coat by Monica Hesse. More on those choices in next week's **Eye-Opener**.

In the meantime, The State Library is planning webinars in early 2018 to encourage libraries to use these titles with local book discussion groups. The program focusing on The Boys in the Bunkhouse will happen in January, the program for kids and teens will follow in February.

Coincidentally, The Boys in the Bunkhouse is the same book chosen for the second annual **One Book, One Sioux County**. So you might want to lay in some extra copies, this one is sure to be in demand ☺

**2) Next Big Ideas Book Discussion Nov.29:** Next in the **Big Ideas Book Discussion** series is a new book by Alan Alda, If I Understood You, Would I Have This Look On My Face? (**online Nov.29 @ 9:30AM**) You know Alan Alda best from M\*A\*S\*H. But what you might not know is that he has worked within the scientific community for years, teaching scientists how to explain complex issues in laymen's terms. He hosted the television series *Scientific American Frontiers* for 11 years and also founded the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University.



From GoodReads: *"...Alan Alda, award-winning actor and bestselling author, tells us the fascinating story of his quest to learn how to communicate better, and how to teach others to do the same. With his trademark humor and candor, he explores how to develop empathy as the key factor. He has been on a decades-long journey to discover new ways to help people communicate and relate to one another more effectively. **If I Understood You** is a funny, thought-provoking guide that can be used by all of us, in every aspect of our lives--with our family and friends, with doctors and colleagues, in business settings, and beyond..."*

In **Big Ideas Book Discussions**, State Library staff and guest stars facilitate discussions using books outside of library management, but with plenty of application to library management. Choosing books on leadership, customer service, presentation skills, etc. we'll connect those ideas with public library service. In addition to a great assortment of non-fiction titles, there are other spin-off benefits of **Big Ideas**:

- titles help with collection development for participating libraries
- titles are good choices for local book discussion groups
- this program serves as another model for how to facilitate local book discussions

We encourage participants to purchase books used throughout the **Big Ideas** series for your own collections. And join us for the next good read—**Nov.29**—If I Understood You, Would I Have This Look On My Face?!

## 20 years strong AMERICA WALKS

**3) America Walks—20 Years Strong:** 2017 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> year of **America Walks**, a national non-profit promoting the benefits of walkable communities. Over 700 allied organizations have joined the effort on local, state, and federal levels by providing grants, walking events, and health & wellness resources.

Speaking of grants, **America Walks** has made **Community Change Micro Grants** available to public libraries across the country. This program awards up to \$1,500.00 to help fund small scale, low-cost projects to build up more walkable communities in fun and safe environments.

Deadline for the **Community Change Micro Grants** is **November 10**.

<http://americawalks.org/2017-community-change-micro-grants-open/>

If you know that your town is looking at infrastructure improvements, then expanding sidewalks and trails could be a logical part of those plans. So dash off to **America Walks** website to learn more, then share this site with your city partners <http://americawalks.org/> Thanks to Maryann Mori for this story!

**4) Meetings / Events This Week:** If you've not yet completed your library's annual survey, the deadline is looming large—October 31<sup>st</sup>. Scott Dermont leads a webinar tomorrow **Tuesday Oct 24 (2:00-3:30PM)** titled **"The Annual Survey—What You Need to Know for FY2017."** Still room to register, do so in the [C.E. Catalog](#)



Another installment of **The Boardroom** webinar series happens this Thursday evening **Oct.26 (6:00-7:30PM)** Thursday's topic is **"Toward Tech Savvy Trustees."** Still room to register in the [C.E. Catalog](#)

Finally, this news from State Library Program Director Nancy Medema: *"...Due to unforeseen circumstances, all of the **webinars** previewing the **Summer 2018 Reading Program** need to be postponed until January. We will announce new dates as soon as we can. The **in-person Roundtables** planned for Nov-Dec also need to be postponed; those will be rescheduled for March. We'll send out notices on each as soon as we can. And we apologize for any inconvenience this causes you!"*



**Monday Morning Eye-Opener**

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