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Receive Updates



Monday Morning Eye-Opener October 22, 2018

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Good Morning! October 22, 2018

Annual Survey Deadline ...



October 31st

It's nearly the witching hour. Sure, Halloween is top of mind, but so should be the deadline for completing your library's **FY18 Annual Survey**. Scott Dermont sends this important reminder because there are literally hundreds of public libraries that have not yet completed the survey. An

especially chilling number because the deadline is **October 31st**.

Click the button below for the link to the **FY18 Annual Survey** online. Each library has a unique login and password; an email reminder of login and password was sent in August. If you're unsure of yours, please contact Toni Blair (toni.blair@iowa.gov) or call your District office.

Scott writes: *"... The data you provide helps you and your fellow librarians compare library performance, justify budget requests, and describe the condition of public libraries in Iowa. Your data is also used by local, state, and federal officials to help them make funding and program decisions. Your efforts are important and appreciated!"*

Helpful to the process is a print version of the survey to use as a worksheet before filling out the form online. Also detailed instructions and a page showing changes

from last year to this year, all accessed via the button below. Contact Scott Dermont with questions (scott.dermont@iowa.gov / 800-248-4483) or your District office.

There's no trick to it—treat yourself to a good week by finishing up your survey.

Or else you'll be haunted by Scott and State Library minions... we know where you live!

Annual Survey

New Services from the State Library

Today = Iowa Library Directory

In the last two weeks, we've spotlighted new additions and updates to the State Library's website. To recap: the State Data Center now boasts prominent icons to help people navigate to information on the 2020 Census. Be ahead of the Census curve by linking to the State Data Center of Iowa on your local library website <https://www.iowadatacenter.org/2020census>

Iowa Library
Directory

Another recent addition to the State Library's website is **Library Law FAQs**, a compilation of commonly asked questions about library law topics. **Library Law FAQs** is divided into categories ranging from finances to personnel issues to copyright concerns and beyond. Developed by law librarian Mandy Easter, this webpage provides an ideal starting point when questions arise about the ways local, state, and federal laws impact the library's operation. Browse this valuable Q&A page here <https://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/k-p/legal>

One more cool thing in case you haven't discovered it yet—the **Iowa Library Directory** online is now edit-able. Supported by new software, your staff is now able to directly edit your library entry. In addition to public library info, this updated **Directory** also includes entries for Iowa's academic, special, and institutional libraries, the AEA offices, and our District Offices. Note this new format replaces the SILO directory, so you'll now find all SILO Locator Codes here as well.

In September, all libraries should have received an email with a "**Library View URL**" to access the edit-able **Directory**, along with the library's username and password.

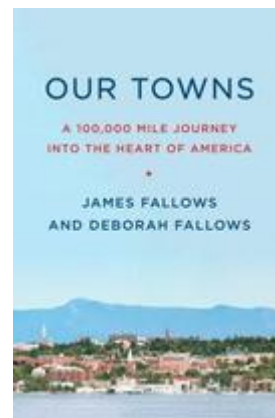
So as things change about your library hours, staff names and emails, phone numbers, etc. please make sure those changes are reflected in the new **Directory**. This is a very convenient resource and one we hope you'll use to alert everyone to such changes @ your library.

Iowa Library Directory

Next Big Ideas Book Discussion

[Our Towns on November 30th](#)

Next up in the State Library's **Big Ideas Book Discussion** is **[Our Towns: A 100,000 Mile Journey into the Heart of America](#)** by James and Deborah Fallows. This is a study of small town America—the fly over states—where people are optimistic about the future because they are so much a part of shaping it. Among the people the authors interviewed for this book, librarians from small towns feature prominently. **Big Ideas Book Discussions** happen online; **[Our Towns](#)** is scheduled for **November 30th** (9:30-11:00)



Here's more from Good Reads "*...For the last five years, James and Deborah Fallows have been traveling across America in a single-engine prop airplane. Visiting dozens of towns, they have met hundreds of civic leaders, educators, librarians, immigrants, environmentalists, city planners, and entrepreneurs, all to take the pulse and understand the prospects of places that usually draw notice only after a disaster or during a political campaign...*"

In other reviews: "*...Reminiscent of On The Road with Charles Kuralt...and in the tradition of John Steinbeck...the Fallows have crisscrossed the country in search of the extraordinary strength and character of ordinary people and places. What they've found—in towns we know and others off the beaten path—should give us all great hope for the future.*"

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, civic engagement, customer service, presentation skills, etc. we'll connect those ideas with public library service.

Registration is open in the C.E. Catalog. There's plenty of time to acquire the book and join us for the next good read—[Our Towns](#).

[C.E. Catalog](#)



This Week ...

The State Library's **Learning Circuits** continue today at West Des Moines Public Library. Formerly known as "Town Meetings," the **Learning Circuits** this year focus on The Edge. If you've completed the Edge Technology Assessment, you'll be ready for the next steps. These are important workshops to help library staff learn more about how to benefit from this entirely free technology toolkit.

From the C.E. Catalog description: "*... Learn to connect The Edge with your local planning efforts, with your advocacy efforts, and with your budget presentations to funders. You will leave with a good understanding of how to*

use The EDGE to talk to community leaders, with an action plan going forward..."

Also this week, catch a **Gale webinar** on **Wednesday October 24** (1:30-2:30PM)
The focus will be how to use the Gale resources for homework help. From the [C.E. Catalog](#): *"..when it comes to class projects, your Gale resources provide tools to help students select a topic, start working, and stay on track. This webinar will review homework help sources like **Kids InfoBits**, **Research-In-Context**, and **Student Edition**. Learn how shared navigation and search features build opportunities for information literacy development as students move from elementary to middle and high school and beyond. And walk away with ideas for using document tools to help students quickly collect and manage relevant content. If you support K12 students in a public or school library setting, join this session to learn how specific Gale resources can help your students make the grade..."*

Monday Morning Eye-Opener

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