



DOWNTOWN • 610 Quincy St. Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 394-6139 or (605) 394-4171
NORTH • 10 Van Buren St. Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 716-4098

CONTACT:

John Pappas – Outreach Coordinator
Rapid City Public Library
605-394-6139 x229
jpappas@rcplib.org

For Immediate Release

Library Flood-Website Improved with Document Collection

Rapid City, SD – March 16, 2009 – A long-time resident of Rapid City and Broadcast Journalist, Robb DeWall, broadcasted on the Emergency Broadcasting System during the first tragic 13 hours of the Rapid City Flood of 1972. His historic papers - following the events during and after the Flood – were donated by his estate to the Rapid City Public Library for electronic preservation with the originals retained with the Minnilusa Historical Society.

Audio files of the actual TV and Radio broadcasts along with transcripts of interviews are available for download online on the RCPL's Flood website:

http://rapidcitylibrary.org/lib_info/1972Flood/index.asp.

The Rapid City Public Library's Flood Website also serves as an archive for your memories as well. If you remember the flood and want to record your feelings, experiences, stories or photos then access our FloodWiki at <http://rcflood.wikispaces.com/>. No matter where you live now, your own experiences can become an integral part of the overall story when you contribute.

The completion of the DeWall Archival Project marks the realization of an important goal in the Rapid City Public Library's Strategic Plan. In an effort to "continue to develop intuitive, mobile and user-friendly library services for all ages" the RCPL has created a "city and county-wide digital archive of historical documents for digital access" (Rapid City Public Library Strategic

Plan for 2005-2010). This is only the first step in an ongoing endeavor to provide an ever-growing and interactive online document and media archive of pivotal city and county events.

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The Rapid City Public Library has served the Rapid City area since 1879, and now has two locations, the downtown library at 610 Quincy Street and the north library within General Beadle Elementary School at 10 Van Buren St. Both offer print and electronic resources for adults, young adults and children as well as computers and Internet access and a variety of programs and events. In March 2008, USA Today named the Rapid City Public Library's downtown library as one of the nation's 10 greatest places to "Find a Nook and Read a Book."

Find video footage of RCPL events at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/rapidcitylibrary>

Find photos of RCPL events at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rcpl/>