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Public Use Swells at RCPL-North, Leads to Changes

Rapid City, S.D. – July 13, 2009 –The Rapid City Public Library-North located at 10 Van Buren St. (in General Beadle Elementary) has seen a substantial increase in use during 2009. Thus far the North Library is averaging over 2,300 visitors a month. The summer is shaping up to be a busy one, with over 3,000 visitors in June.

“What pleases us even more,” said John Pappas, Outreach Services Coordinator, “is the amount of youth that are taking advantage of the programs offered at North.”

Compared to last summer, the library is seeing a 300 percent swell in the amount of children attending programs at RCPL-North. Programs include monthly gaming events, weekly children’s story times, monthly family story times and summer reading program events.

“Whether the 30 percent increase in circulation is due to an upturn in local awareness or the developing need for library services during an economic slowdown, the Rapid City Public Library is happy to meet the needs of the Rapid City community,” said Pappas.

As a result of the increase in community use, the library is enhancing its weekly rotation of new materials to RCPL-North. What this means to patrons is that the books at RCPL-North will be changing more often to give patrons a diverse selection of material as well as more newly released books. As before, patrons can hold or request material for pick-up at RCPL-North if it is more convenient for them.

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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/>