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**Library Card Sign-Up Month a Record Success**

**Rapid City, S.D.** – September was National Library Card Sign-Up Month and the Rapid City Public Library made record breaking news by surpassing the mayor’s challenge for increasing library card sign ups.

Mayor Alan Hanks challenged the Rapid City Public Library to issue 800 new or renewed cards in September. The library not only met this goal but then doubled it with 1,602 library cards issued during the month. This is a 31% increase over the number of cards issued during September 2008.

“We could not be happier with the results of Library Card Sign-Up Month,” said Greta Chapman library director. “Each September we take the opportunity with the national event to increase awareness about the Rapid City Public Libraries services. Our ability to more than double the number of new and renewed library patrons indicts the value placed on library services, programs and resources in our community.”

Numerous local businesses and organizations helped raise awareness of Library Card Sign-Up Month by offering discounts and drawings, donating prizes and displaying library READ posters in their establishments. Participating business and organizations included Black Hills Community Theater, Bully Blends, Computer Village, The Dahl, The Journey Museum, Mt. Rushmore Birds, Museum of Geology, Perk It Up Coffee Shop, Play N Trade, Philly Ted’s, Riddle’s Jewelry and Staple and Spice.

Find out more about library resources and events at [www.rapidcitylibrary.org](http://www.rapidcitylibrary.org).

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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/>