

Letter: Explore issues of diversity

Mary Vivo 3:44 p.m. MST March 7, 2016

Coloradoan



(Photo: Courtesy photo)

Mary Vivo is the media chair for the Human Relations Commission.

I'm proud to live in a community where governing leaders openly discuss and embrace ways to improve relationships and celebrate the heritage that makes Fort Collins an appealing place to live.

The Fort Collins Human Relations Commission (HRC) advises the City Council and serves community members by promoting acceptance and respect for diversity. As a unique component of our city government, the HRC spearheads educational programs and activities throughout the year.

The HRC has presented several series of forums to raise awareness and host critical conversations about issues that impact us all. Last year's forums enticed many community members to explore multiple and varied aspects of mental health issues.

This year's forums, presented by the HRC in conjunction with the Poudre River Public Library District, will address the topic "Issues in Diversity." Participants will explore many aspects of diversity that may include dimensions of race; ethnicity; gender; sexual orientation; socio-economic status; age; physical abilities; religious beliefs; political beliefs; or other ideologies.

Designed by teens and adults, these intergenerational programs give voice to thought-provoking presentations and discussions. Teens and adults are encouraged to join us to view eye-opening glimpses into the challenges facing our community and explore options that will enhance the multifaceted fabric of our future.

All presentations are 7-8:30 p.m. in the community room of the Harmony Library, 4616 S. Shields St. Light snacks will be served.

Wednesday, Ethnicity in the Media; June 8, Challenges of Gender Identity and Roles; Sept. 14, Technology: Larger Global Community or Increased Isolation?; Oct. 26 – Are We Headed Toward a Dystopian Future?

We look forward to seeing you Wednesday. We invite you to be intrigued enough to attend, challenged to participate and open to explore the benefits of diversity.

Mihelich: HRC promotes diversity, equity and inclusion

Jeff Mihelich

7:31 p.m. MST March 8, 2016



(Photo: Courtesy)

Diversity, equity and inclusion are themes woven throughout the City's Strategic Plan and the municipal organization. We aim to provide a welcoming, inclusive community where all residents and visitors feel valued, safe and connected.

To keep us on target, City Council appoints a Human Relations Commission to promote acceptance and respect for diversity through educational programs and activities, and to discourage all forms of discrimination based on race, religion, age, gender, disability, etc.

On March 9, the HRC will host "Diversity Forum: Ethnicity in the Media," from 7-8:30 p.m. at the **Harmony Library, 4616 S. Shields St.** The intergenerational program series is expected to engage participants in thought-provoking activities and dialogue.

This is one of many activities the HRC will sponsor throughout the year. HRC activities in the past decade have included:

- Hosting significant discussions on racism and diversity.
- Supporting such community events as the "Eracism" film series, the Martin Luther King Jr. march and rally, and CSU's annual Diversity Conference.
- Offering commission member expertise to grade Poudre School District poetry, art and essay contests.
- Deliberating racism issues such as freedom of speech vs. hate zones in the community, hate pamphlets against undocumented immigrants and at least two incidents of student anti-Semitism.
- Coordinating student and adult panels at a K-12 Anti-Bullying Forum in 2011.
- Presenting a communitywide Elder Abuse Prevention Forum in 2012.
- Sponsoring an eight-part series of Informational Mental Health Forums in collaboration with the **Poudre River Public Library District (2014 and 2015).**

The Human Relations Commission accomplishes its mission through coordination with community groups and other city boards and commissions. It is

Jean Bosch

OLD TOWN LIBRARY MANAGER

For Jean Bosch, manager of Old Town Library, her duties go well beyond leading a team of about 23 people to help ensure the Poudre River Public Library District is operating effectively. Whether it's working with organizations that serve the homeless or nurturing a partnership to offer creative learning opportunities, Bosch's work allows Old Town Library to provide something for everybody.



Beth Rosen

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

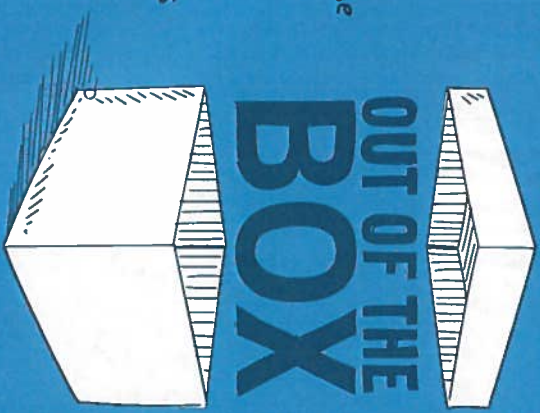
Meet Beth Rosen, the City's Affordable Housing Program Administrator. Rosen administers federal and City funds for affordable housing programs and ensures compliance with federal regulations. She says these closings are some of the best times she has in her job working in the City's Social Sustainability department - the newest department at the City within the Sustainability Services Area.



DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Fort Collins has many video series designed to inform, educate and inspire the community. From council meetings and public forums to innovative technologies and groundbreaking news, the City is committed to bringing you stories that matter.

Recently, a new series was added called **OUT OF THE BOX**. This series highlights innovative concepts, technology and collaborations that are helping to ensure our community continues to be the amazing place that it is.



CITY VIEW

Another show you shouldn't miss is called **CITY VIEW** - a bi-weekly news series that highlights major stories, initiatives and upcoming events throughout the City in under five minutes.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

[youtube.com/cityoffortcollins](https://www.youtube.com/cityoffortcollins)

With new content being added weekly, our video archive will keep you informed and in tune with the stories and topics that matter most to you.



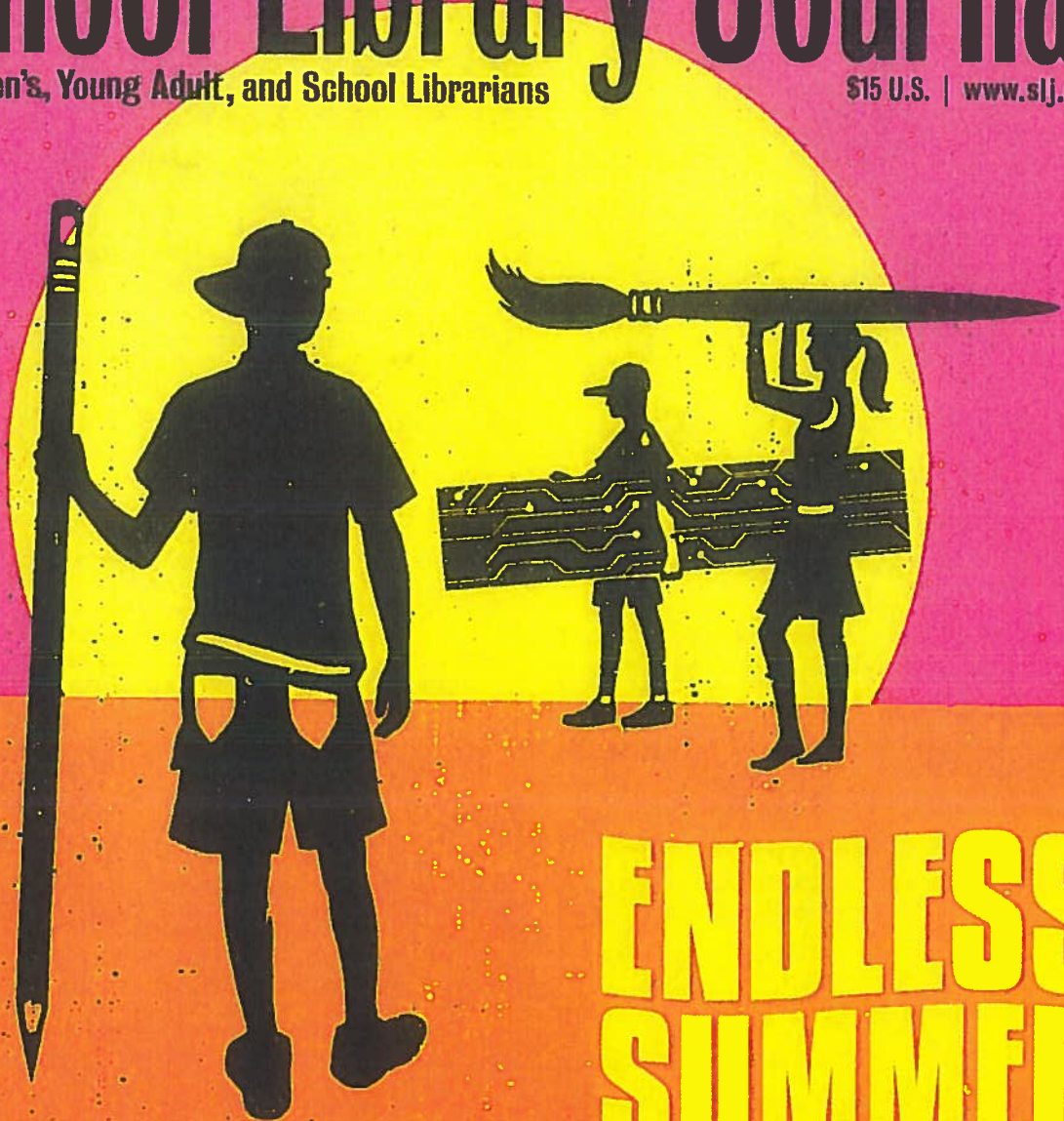
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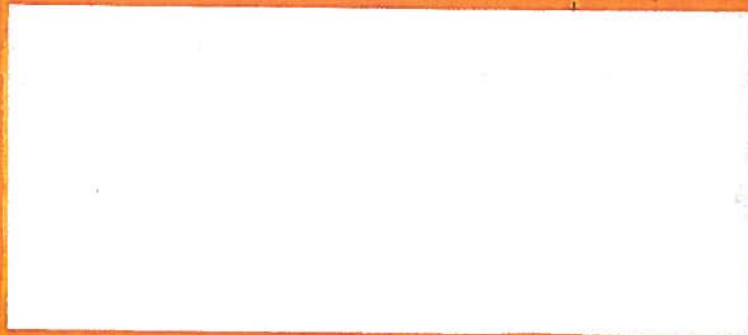
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Contributors

MARCH 2016



"Spreading the Word," pp. 44-46: poet and author Rebecca Kal Dotlich created her own library out of sheets and bricks in her backyard when she was nine years old. Her latest effort is *The Knowing Book* (Boyd's Mills, 2016). Visit her at rebeccakaldotlich.com.

J. Patrick Lewis served as the third U.S. Children's Poet Laureate (2011-13), and his latest books include *National Geographic Book of Nature Poetry* (2015). He can be reached at jpatricklewis.com.



Carole Boston Weatherford's hybrid-genre works mix poetry, biography, and nonfiction with historical fiction, such as her Caldecott Honor book *Voice of Freedom* (Candlewick, 2015). Visit her online at cbweatherford.com.



Katie Darty ("Library Makeover on the Cheap," pp. 18-19) is a librarian at North Buncombe High School in Weaverville, NC. She transformed her library with the

help of fellow librarian Cindy Mackleman, assistant Tony Sykes, and interior design teacher Stephanie Griffin.



Chelsey Philpot ("Patrick Ness on a Mission," p. 21) is a former SLJ book review editor. Her second young adult novel, *Be Good Be Real Be Crazy* (HarperCollins), releases fall 2016.

Valerie Sawicki ("Reluctant Readers Love That Dog," p. 20) currently teaches sixth-grade humanities at the Young Women's Leadership School of Astoria, NY. Her favorite places are filled with books and board games, and she eagerly awaits the revival of *Gilmore Girls*.



Diane P. Tuccillo ("Make a Splash," pp. 50-55), teen services librarian at Poudre River Public Library District, Fort Collins, CO, has authored books about teen library participation. In her free time, she reads, writes, runs, and hikes in nearby Rocky Mountain National Park.

Brenda Boyer ("Search App Smackdown," pp. 36-38) lives in Kutztown, PA, with two sons and two dogs. When she isn't at work as the teacher librarian at Kutztown High School, where she encourages her students to read and perform smackdowns, she can be found on various bike or ski trails.



Linda Jacobson ("Braille's New Age," pp. 40-43 and "Endless Summer Learning,"

pp. 30-34) is an education writer and editor based in the Los Angeles area. When she's not writing, she's supporting her two figure-skating daughters and hockey-playing son at the local ice rink.



Cover illustrator Dan Page is a husband, father, and soccer coach. He lives near Toronto with his wife, Shannon, and three teenage daughters, and he helps coach his youngest daughter's soccer team, which forces him to get out of the studio.

Education librarian at California State Fullerton, Lettycia Terrones ("Twenty Years in the Making," pp. 56-58) loves hanging out in her mom's kitchen, escaping out into the desert, thinking a lot about picture books and critical literacy, and taking her daily meditation practice wherever she goes.



focuson

Wellness, Fitness, and Sports



MAKE A SPLASH

EXPERTS IN PSYCHOLOGY TELL US that satisfying four human needs—physical, emotional/social, mental/intellectual, and spiritual—is key to attaining a productive, vibrant, and healthy life. It is essential to nurture these needs in children and teens, helping to lay a foundation for strong adulthood. This summer Olympic year is a perfect time to reflect on this concept as we cheer on the role models who will be running, jumping, and otherwise participating in physical sport during the internationally renowned games. Although physical prowess is the main focus of the Olympics, the well-balanced path that high-caliber, successful athletes must

BY DIANE P. TUCCILLO

traverse often exemplifies the importance of attending to all four needs. That's why the Collaborative Summer Library Program's overarching theme for 2016, "Wellness, Fitness and Sports," is an especially appropriate one.

Nationwide, school and public library staff are immersed in planning and preparing special programs, activities, and events connecting to this 2016 summer theme. Likewise, we can offer timely, interesting, and relevant books that inspire youth of all ages to consider the value of wellness and physical activity in their lives as well as websites, databases, and apps that make health and fitness enticing, effective, and entertaining. Including various aspects of sports plays a huge role in this, of course, but since the aim is to address overall well-being and to incorporate STEM, STREAM—and yes, even STREAM—elements into our summer library offerings, we can expand and enhance the theme to include exercise, nutrition, cooking, teamwork, sportsmanship, and so much more.

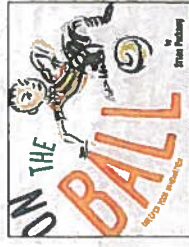
Elementary Fiction

BILDMER, Phil. *The Soccer Fence: A Story of Friendship, Hope, and Apartheid in South Africa.* illus. by Jesse Joshua Watson. Putnam, 2014. Tr. \$16.99. ISBN 9780399247903.

Gr. 1-3—Hector's soccer dreams take him to the other side of the fence where white children play the game. As time passes and apartheid crumbles, Hector witnesses the beloved team, Batima Batima, win the African Cup of Nations and the formation of the barrier-breaking South African Football Association. Vibrant, realistic illustrations meshed with shadowy historical images deepen the story.

KAPLAN, Michael B. *Betty Bunny Wants a Goal.* illus. by Stephanie Jonisch. Dial, 2014. Tr. \$16.99. ISBN 9780803738591.

PreS-Gr2—Betty Bunny aspires to score 10 goals in her first game. When she does poorly, declaring that soccer is "stucky," her family allies behind her to keep trying and practicing. She does, which leads to improvement and the achievement of her goal. Spunky illustrations heighten Betty's trials and her ultimate success.



not very good at the sport, but when the ball escapes and he chases it down—through hill and dale, water and air—he discovers the joy of movement and returns with the ball and a new attitude about playing for the fun of it. Dynamic images of Owen in action add pizzazz.

WHEELER, Lisa. *Dino-Swimming.* illus. by Barry Coit. Carolrhoda, 2015. Tr. \$16.99. ISBN 978146702140.

K-Gr 2-In this latest addition to the dino-sports series, it's a swim meet between the plant-eaters and the meat-eaters as the dinosaur teams compete against each other, concluding with high fives and handshakes. Boldly colored cartoon drawings combine with a chipper rhyming text to demonstrate that no matter who wins, it's important to be a good sport.

Elementary Nonfiction

MCCULLY, Emily Arnold. *Queen of the Diamond: The Lizzie Murphy Story.* illus. by Izzy Barr. Farrar, 2015. Tr. \$17.99. ISBN 9780374300074.

K-Gr 3—Lizzie Murphy, born in 1894, when baseball was "not for girls," was a natural athlete who proved the stereotype wrong by being on two amateur baseball teams by age 15, playing professional baseball from 1918–1935, and landing on both major league all-star teams. Engaging, historically accurate illustrations chronicle her life from youth to adulthood.



MILLS, Claudia. *Izzy Barr, Running Star.* illus. by Rob Shepperson. (Franklin School Friends). Farrar, 2015. Tr. \$15.99. ISBN 9780374335786; pap. \$5.99. ISBN 9781250069573.

Gr. 1-4—Third-grade sports whiz Izzy Barr excels at both football and running, and wonders why her father doesn't seem to appreciate her athletic talent as much as her brother's. When she competes in the city-wide 10K, she wishes he were there to cheer her on along with her loyal friends.

PINKNEY, Brian. *On the Ball.* illus. by author. Denny/Dutton, 2015. Tr. \$17.99. ISBN 9781484723296.

PreS-Gr 2—Soccer player Owen is sadly

SIMONS, Leo M. *Beit. The First Olympics of Ancient Greece.* (Ancient Greece) Capstone. 2014. lib ed. \$24.65. ISBN 9781491402733.

Gr 2-5-Youngsters will find a basic introduction to the history of the Olympic Games in this overview describing the original events, the reasons they were held, and the ceremonies that honored the victors, making a connection to today's international competition. Sidebars highlighting facts and pertinent vocabulary, appealing illustrations, and photos complement the text.



\$15.99. ISBN 9780374301309; pap. \$6.99. ISBN 9781250079763.

Gr 4-6-Fifth graders Rip and his best friend Red, who has high spectrum autism, deal with an unusual new teacher plus an unconventional basketball coach and in the process learn a great deal about teamwork and friendship as well as about meeting challenges in school. Upbeat drawings add a positive dimension. Readers will also enjoy the outstanding sequel, *Rooster of the Year* (2016).

JAMESON, Victoria. *Roller Girl.* Dial. 2015. Tr. \$20.99. ISBN 9780525429678; pap. \$12.99. ISBN 9780603740167.

Gr 5-8-When Astrid, about to begin junior high, heads to summer roller derby camp while best friend Nicole opts for ballet camp, their relationship is jeopardized by opposing interests. This fast-paced, engaging graphic novel featuring a lesser-known sport captures the feelings of adolescent angst, friendship, and loyalty.

posing players prove too tough to beat. Chris discovers not only his brother's setup to win gambling money but a twist about Jax that he never expected. For more basketball action, see the series opener, *Suspensatch in the Parrr!* (2013).

BILDNER, Phil. *A Whole New Ballgame.* illus. by Tim Probert. Farrar. 2015. Tr.

Middle Grade Fiction

ABDUL-JABBAR, Kareem & Raymond Obasogie. *Stealing the Game.* (Streetball Crew). Disney/Hyperion. 2015. Tr. \$16.99. ISBN 9781423178712.

Gr 5-8-When Chris's older brother Jax asks him to enlist his basketball buddies for a pickup game in the park, the op-

LUPICA, Mike. *Fest Break.* Philomel. 2015. Tr. \$17.99. ISBN 9780399256066; pap. \$8.99. ISBN 9781101997833.

Gr 5-Up-Basketball whiz Jayson, who is white, poverty-stricken, and angry, is placed with a loving, patient, affluent African American couple after his mother dies. Jayson learns to accept his new life as his team approaches the North Carolina middle school championship, an experience that inculcates valuable lessons about camaraderie, cooperation, and self-confidence. Audio version available from Recorded Books.

MORGAN, Alex. *Hot Tick* (The Kicks). S. & S. 2015. Tr. \$15.99. ISBN 9781481450966; pap. \$6.99. ISBN 9781481450973.

Gr 3-7-In this addition to the series by an Olympic gold medalist, the seventh-grade Kicks teammates attempt to make the cut for a more competitive and challenging winter soccer league, problem-solve to save a soccer program for younger kids that's on the line due to budget cuts, and learn what it takes to collaborate and keep friendships intact.

ROBINSON, Shanon. *The Hero Two Doors Down.* Scholastic. 2016. Tr. \$16.99. ISBN 9780549804516.

Gr 4-7-In 1948, when eight-year-old Steve learns that his African American baseball hero Jackie Robinson, who broke the color barrier in the sport the previous year, will be the new next-door neighbor in his all-Jewish Brooklyn neighborhood, he gains knowledge about respect, friendship, and unity.

Middle Grade Nonfiction

BROWN, Daniel James. *The Boys in the Boat: The True Story of an American Team's Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics.* adapted by Gregory Mone. Viking. 2015. Tr. \$17.99. ISBN 9780451475923.

Gr 5-9-Adapted from the best-selling adult title, this true story of nine working-class young men who earned a place on the 1936 American rowing team and edged out Hitler's German team for

Olympic gold displays skill, determination, and teamwork that will inspire young adolescent readers. Audio version available from Listening Library.

KID CHEF EJANA, with Diane de Las Casas. *Oops! Kids Cook Fresh & Fit.* illus. by Soleil Lalette. Palatin. 2014. Tr. \$14.95. ISBN 9781455618927.

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RIVERA, Maritona & Wayne Coffey, The Closer: Young Readers Edition. adapted by Sue Corbett Little, Brown, 2014. T. \$17. ISBN 9780316404888; pap. \$7. ISBN 9780316284134.

Gr 5-8-In this autobiography, Rivera describes how he went from a poor boy in a humble fishing village in Panama to one of the greatest New York Yankee baseball heroes through talent, faith, perseverance, and sportsmanship, with exciting play-by-play details that will particularly appeal to baseball aficionados.



High School Fiction

CARTER, Cadea *Jumbling*. Viking, 2016. T. \$17.99. ISBN 9780451473004.

Gr 7 Up-In this up close and personal drama about the U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Trials—told from the interconnected perspectives of Grace, the perfectionist; Camille, the people-pleaser; Leigh, who is secretly gay; and others—the competition

is fierce. Friendships are tried, sportsmanship is challenged, and secrets are revealed as competitors win, lose, and make important decisions about their futures. Audio version available from Listening Library.

DOMINI, Amy Felner. *A Matter of Heart*. Delacorte, 2015. T. \$17.99. ISBN 9780385744430; pap. \$9.99. ISBN 9780385744447.

Gr 7 Up-Sixteen-year-old swimming

is so much, being that everyone is required to participate in a sport. When the underdogs form a soccer team that challenges traditional viewpoints about sportsmanship, people begin to question, "Is winning everything?"

SELES, Monica. *Love Match*. (The Academy). Bloomsbury, 2014. T. \$17.99. ISBN 9781619631595; pap. \$9.99. ISBN 9781599090028.

Gr 7 Up-In this second episode of the series, fitable 16-year-old Maya, a student at a private boarding school for promising athletes, finds herself aiming to succeed at women's professional tennis while navigating celebrity, friendships, romance, and modeling options. A unique perspective of the sports world populated with realistic characters.

SULLIVAN, Derek E. Biggie. *Albert Whitman*. 2015. T. \$16.99. ISBN 9780807502728; pap. \$9.99. ISBN 9780807507308.

Gr 9 Up-Biggie, the intelligent but insecure son of local baseball legends, sets his way to obscurity. After displaying unexpected skill as a pitcher, the 300-plus-pound teen tries to lose weight, join the high school baseball team, and, perhaps, win the heart of his crush, reaching self-confidence in the process.

High School Nonfiction

HOLCOMBE, Whitney. *1 Year, 100 Pounds: My Journey to a Better, Happier Life*. Simon Pulse, 2014.

Gr 8 Up-Written by a young woman who lost 100 pounds as a teenager on her own without surgery, this enthusiastic and on-target self-help guide will inspire young adults to follow her footsteps to attain a healthy weight, eat well, make exercise a priority, and achieve confidence.

MORGAN, Alex. *Breakaway: Beyond the Goal*. S. & S, 2015.

Gr 7 Up-This memoir from popular Olympic gold medalist and soccer champion Alex Morgan highlights her inspiring life in sports, with plenty of gaming action to keep teen sports fans engaged, including the details of her team's World Cup competition, where she learned to accept loss graciously.

RISSMAN, Rebecca. *Yoga for Your Mind and Body: A Teenage Practitioner for a Healthy, Balanced Life*. Switch, 2015.

Gr 7 Up-For teens who want to realize health, tranquility, and fitness in their lives through yoga, this beautiful and easy-to-follow guide offers helpful advice with numerous, full-color photographs of poses and practices, even for beginners.

Diane P. Tuccillo is teen services librarian for the Fowler River Public Library District in Fort Collins, CO, and author of Teen-Centered Library Service (Libraries Unlimited, 2010).

DIGITAL PICKS

WEBSITES

KidHealth: How the Body Works. kidhealth.org/kidbody_healthy. The Nemours Foundation. (Accessed 1/24/16).
Gr 1-7-Outstanding, easy-to-navigate advice and information on health, fitness, sports, and nutrition is provided by Nemours, a nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives of young people. The site also offers links to valuable resources for parents and teachers.

Presidential Youth Fitness Program. pfp.org. President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition. (Accessed 1/24/16).
K Up-Replacing the President's Challenge Youth Fitness Test, this free program for schools engages teachers, students, and parents in fitness assessments and activities that encourage a dynamic lifestyle and healthy eating habits into adulthood. Provides support materials, rationales, and achievement awards for grades K-12. See also Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative at www.letsmove.gov.

Teen Health & Wellness. www.teenhealthandwellness.com.
Rezon Digital, 2015. Database. Annual subscriptions based on population served and cardholder numbers for public libraries and FTE numbers for schools. One year and multi-year pricing is available. (Accessed 1/24/16).
Gr 6 Up-Regularly updated, this database informs tweens and teens about all aspects of adolescent health and wellness.

while offering opportunities for asking questions, receiving expert responses, and sharing personal stories. Includes a mobile app, language translations, and viewing and listening options as well as resources for teachers and librarians. TeensHealth.teenhealth.org/teen. (The Nemours Foundation. (Accessed 1/24/16).)

Gr 6 Up-Handy, professional advice and information about overall mind and body health for adolescents includes a specific focus on sports, fitness, safety, injuries, diet, and nutrition. Teens can read or listen to content and sign up for weekly newsletters. Support material for teachers can be found at classroom.kidhealth.org.

APPS

Kurbo Health Coaching and Teaching for Kids and Teens. Kurbo Health, Inc. 2015. Version 1.5.4. iOS, requires 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. Android. Version 1.5.3, requires 4.0 and up. Free. Kurbo.com. (Accessed 1/24/16).

Gr 2 Up-This app encourages youth to track nutrition with the sensible, color-coded Traffic Light Diet system developed at Stanford University, measure exercise, timing and results, and set personal diet and fitness goals with the support of reminders and kid-friendly health education games and videos.

The most adorable animals this spring are cute...

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