

Check out a Colorado state parks pass at the library



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(Photo: Courtesy of Colorado Parks and Wildlife)

Your first step to hiking at a Colorado state park is a trip to the library.

[Fullscreen](#)

Poudre River Public Library District's three Fort Collins locations are among the nearly 300 libraries across the state that offer state parks passes for checkout through **Hiking Trails at Every State Park**.

The program, launched Monday, is part of a Colorado Parks and Wildlife initiative to get more people on the side and visit Colorado's 42 state parks. Check Out State Parks is a partnership between CPW, the Colorado Department of Education and local library systems.

OUTDOORS: [Hike a new trail with Larimer County Passport program](#)

(<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/sports/2016/06/16/hike-new-trail-larimer-county-passport-program/86001856/>)

Each participating library has two Colorado State Parks passes available for checkout, which gives a user free entry to all of Colorado's state parks, including Fort Collins-area parks Lory, Boyd Lake and State Forest.

Along with a pass, the program also provides a backpack for checkout, which includes wildlife guides, state park guides and a pair of binoculars. The pass and backpack can be checked out for a week.

To check out a pass, visit one of Fort Collins' three Poudre River Public Library District's locations:

- Old Town Library, 201 Peterson St.
- Council Tree Library, 2733 Council Tree Ave.
- Harmony Library, 4616 S. Shields St.

HIKING: [5 great Northern Colorado wildflower hikes \(http://www.coloradoan.com/search/lory%20state%20park/\)](http://www.coloradoan.com/search/lory%20state%20park/)

Poudre River Public Library District also launched its new Gadgets and Things Collection, which allows library members to check out technology such as Fitbit activity trackers, solar lights and birding adventure backpacks.

For more information, visit www.poudrelibraries.org (<http://www.poudrelibraries.org/>) or cpw.state.co.us/Pages/LibraryBackpack.aspx (<http://cpw.state.co.us/Pages/LibraryBackpack.aspx>).

Xplore reporter *Stephen Meyers* covers the outdoors and recreation for the Coloradoan. Follow him on Twitter [@stemeyer](#) or [@XploreNoCo](#).

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JOIN TODAY

OUR OPINION: Next step in library campaign: A scientific poll

By Tom Dennis on Jun 21, 2016 at 8:22 p.m.

our OPINION

In recent years, the cities of Billings and Bozeman, Mont.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; St. Cloud, Minn.; Fort Collins, Colo.; Sioux Falls, S.D.; Madison, Wis., and Bismarck and Fargo all have rebuilt or significantly renovated their main libraries.

All of those libraries are located in the cities' downtowns.

Clearly, a downtown library is a signature asset, and on balance, Grand Forks probably erred by moving its own library out of downtown in the 1970s.

For that and other reasons, we join today with Hal and Kathy Gershman in urging the Grand Forks Library Board to recommend a downtown location for a new Grand Forks Public Library. But at the same time, we sense how unsettled public opinion is on this issue, and that a "wrong" choice by the Library Board or City Council could alienate some segment of the public and so jeopardize the library project entirely.

Which brings us to the real point of this editorial:

The board and/or council should answer some of those lingering questions by commissioning one or more scientific polls.

On questions such as whether Grand Forks needs a new library, and if so, where that library should be built, polling is a cost-effective tool that public officials should put to use.

It's true that in the end, the issue likely will be settled by "the only poll that matters"—a citywide vote.

It's also true that what a poll suggests and the ultimate vote proves aren't always the same thing. For evidence, just look back at the library campaign's first go-round, which featured a supportive poll result in 2010 and an electoral defeat in 2011.

But as candidates for high office know, polling still offers hugely valuable snapshots of public opinion, offering far more accurate measures than seat-of-the-pants indicators such as phone calls from constituents and person-on-the-street surveys.

And right now, seat-of-the-pants indicators are all that library supporters have to go on. That should change—and the change can happen with a scientific, citywide poll.

That 2010-11 example is instructive. Think back: "More than 70 percent of survey respondents say they would vote for a proposed new Grand Forks library, and they want it at the old Leavers supermarket, north of the city's population center," a Herald story reported in December 2010.

The survey was evidence: hard evidence. And it lent powerful momentum to the effort to build a new library.

Unfortunately, the Leaver's site fell through—and with it, the library project, a sales tax for which won only 38 percent of the vote the following May.

But the 2010 poll stands as a vital snapshot of public opinion. To this day, it's referred to by library supporters as an indicator of Grand Forks' residents' support for a new library.

Now, though, it's 2016. Six years have passed.

How does the public feel today?

Let's find out. And let's find out for sure—with a poll, not less useful and less accurate indicators such as focus groups and public meetings.

The City Council and Library Board can use the poll results—whatever they are—to shape a successful library campaign.

-- Tom Dennis for the Herald

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The Communicator

NINTH ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION BANQUET

Clubhouse Advisory Council Chairperson and Deputy Director of Poudre Valley Library District, Ken Draves, assisted by Clubhouse Director, Natalie Brown, provided eloquence as Master of Ceremonies for this well-attended event of June 15, 2016. Its keynote speaker, Randy Ratliff, delivered a tribute to the Clubhouse and its Supported Employment and Educations programs and, as retiring CEO of Summitstone Health Partners, was presented a farewell group photograph of Clubhouse colleagues with their signatures. Several partnering employers and academic professionals received certificates for their participatory contributions to the success of the many, also recognized, employed and student Clubhouse Colleagues both present or unable to attend, three of whom celebrated their college graduations this year. One of those graduates presented a testimonial of her success and gratitude for Clubhouse and other sources of support, a copy of which speech begins on page 4.



A look at last year:

Total Membership:

750



Individuals receiving
 Clubhouse and
 Supported Employment
 Services

Fiscal Year:

292



Total lunches served in
 last 12 months:

3220

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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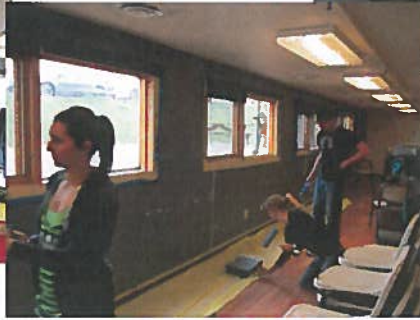
This Summer edition is
 dedicated to our friends

Roxi Linn and
 Steve Sherry

They will always be held
 in our memory, our
 hearts have grown
 because of their
 friendship

A FRESH LOOK!

A special thank you to A-Train Marketing for volunteering to paint some of the areas of the Clubhouse!



RANDOM FACTS OF KNOWLEDGE

FROM DAVID H.

IF YOU EVER FIND YOURSELF BEING ATTACKED BY AN ALLIGATOR, PUNCH IT AS HARD AS YOU CAN IN BOTH OF ITS EYES.



Genuine Springfield, MO, Alligator

FAREWELL FROM JAIME

I can't believe that I'm sitting down to write this farewell. It seems that I just started two months ago but at the same time feels like I've been here 10 years. I believe that's a testament to the relationships that are built at the Clubhouse among colleagues. It seems you can walk through the doors and feel like you've known each other for years. And that is what I will miss most, the relationships that are developed here. They are unlike any other relationships in the mental health field between "professionals" and "consumers" and I'm so grateful that I got to be a part of it.



Jaime Patterson, 2nd from left.

Keep up the great work!

Viewpoint



TODAY'S TOP GALLERIES

Find more at coloradoan.com/photos



Summer reading kick-off

Bryan Circus Knight of Ember Ensemble performs a hand stand over flaming batons during The BIG Show in the Library park Monday. The event kicked off the library's Summer Reading Challenge. **Chelsae Ketchum/The Coloradoan**

PHOTO BY
CHELSEA KETCHUM
FOR THE COLORADOAN

