

LIBRARY DIRECTOR
TERI DUGAN
JUNE 2026

The library is partnering with the *Daily Inter Lake* to host a Storytelling Bootcamp for middle school students. We will be welcoming seven students who have signed up for this opportunity. In early August, students will work alongside professional journalists, librarians, and teachers to learn how to develop a full-length feature story, take photographs, and create and record a podcast. Their articles and podcasts will be published by the *Daily Inter Lake*, giving them a chance to share their work with the broader community. We're excited to support these students and provide space for this creative and hands-on learning experience.

I was recently invited to serve on the Downtown Forward Kalispell Activation and Culture Action Team through the Kalispell Chamber. This group meets monthly and is focused on supporting the revitalization and long-term vibrancy of Downtown Kalispell by developing a year-round calendar of events in collaboration with local partners, cultural organizations, and downtown businesses. I'm looking forward to seeing how the library can play a role in advancing this work and contributing to a more active and connected downtown.

Sharon Furlong, Operations Manager for the Flathead Library Foundation, and I recently met online with Brianna from BrandRaise to discuss the administrative roles and responsibilities needed as we move into the Campaign Readiness Study. I'm eager to continue this collaboration with our Foundation and the support it brings as we work to move the vision of a new Kalispell Library forward.

I attended a ribbon cutting this past week for the newly constructed Glacier Institute building in Columbia Falls. The event was hosted by the Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce. The Glacier Institute has been a valued community partner of the library for many years. Recent collaborations have included a multi-part Glacier National Park lecture series, as well as hands-on youth education programs led by Glacier Institute instructors.

Cara Orban, our State Library Consultant, and I met in person this week for a check-in. I was able to share updates on what's happening across the library system and get her perspective. I'm grateful for the support and resources provided by the State Library. As a relatively new director, I've felt well-supported as I continue to learn more about library services and their role in our communities. I've also come to truly appreciate the sense of connection among libraries across the state. While Montana is geographically large, the library community feels close-knit, and much of that is thanks to the State Library's ongoing work to foster collaboration and connection.

TRAFFIC COUNTS- MAY 2026

Kalispell- 10,379
Columbia Falls- 4,095
Bigfork- 1,826

TRAFFIC COUNTS- MAY 2025

Kalispell- 10,499
Columbia Falls- 5,039
Bigfork- 1,762

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR
SAM CROMPTON
JUNE 2026

New 2025 Server - Data Migration

The data migration phase of the server modernization project has been successfully completed. All library shared folders were transferred to the new Windows Server 2025 platform from legacy hardware using Microsoft's Storage Migration Service (SMS) through Windows Admin Center. This process required pre-transfer tasks preparing both the source and destination servers, validating network connectivity, ensuring proper administrative permissions and running pre-migration scans to identify potential firewall issues. Microsoft's **Storage Migration Service (SMS)** is the *most efficient and effective* way to move data from an old server to a new one because it automates inventory, accelerates transfer performance, preserves share/security configuration and centralizes the migration workflow.

Final cutover activities included implementing Distributed File System (DFS) namespace to modernize how staff access shared resources. This required a namespace structure, configuring the namespace server, creating folder targets and validating referral behavior. The DFS namespace now provides a single, consistent path to shared folders, ensuring:

- Access to shared drives through a familiar location
- The ability for Systems Admin to perform future server upgrades transparently
- Reduced disruption during maintenance or additional migrations

The new architecture means smoother modernization efforts in future years, eliminating the need for staff to adjust shortcuts or mapped paths. Combined, the efforts enhance the stability and resilience of our Windows servers:

- The new Windows Server 2025 system now hosts all file services and serves as the primary domain controller
- The legacy Windows Server 2019 system remains online solely as a redundant domain controller, providing backup authentication services. This is new capability on the library's network, aligning with best practices for domain controllers.

The next project beginning immediately will be to implement Microsoft Azure Recovery Service back-up on the 2025 Server.

Kalispell

Resolved a Youth Services public computer station which was stuck in a loop unable to boot the desktop. Deep Freeze security software was the cause and after reinstallation the computer was again ready for YS use.

Day to day items addressed immediately:

- Fixed microfilm printing from page view app
- Fixed perch phone Bluetooth connection
- Added code for door access for contractors
- Fixed pdf 11x17 print issues from Kalispell staff stations
- Security access to common drive folder fixed
- Single sided printing from CF perch fixed

- Tech support meetings with patrons
- Upgraded RAM on staff computer for continued app support
- Staff Excel spreadsheet link error-message fix
- Covered shifts at reference desk as needed due to staff shortages

Bigfork

Rebuilt a staff computer that was intermittently failing to restart after being powered down overnight and was also unable to send print jobs to a shared printer. Attempts to repair the corrupted system files were unsuccessful, so the operating system and required applications were reinstalled. This resolved all restart and printing issues on the workstation, no additional costs were incurred.

Columbia Falls

Installed a new color printer for public use in Columbia Falls, replacing an older device that still printed reliably but no longer met current performance expectations. The new printer is being added to our HP Managed Print Service, which will reduce per-page toner costs by approximately half. The Columbia Falls Library Association has agreed to reimburse FCL for the \$600 cost of the printer hardware. The removed printer was made available to other county departments and it was quickly claimed for use at the Fairgrounds.

COLLECTION SERVICES LIBRARIAN
KAT WILSON
 JUNE 2026

May 2026 Circulation Statistics

	May 2026	May 2025	May 2024	May 2023
Juvenile	15703	16650	16449	15140
Young Adult	997	1164	1053	1002
Adult	10951	12232	12433	12455
Overdrive ebooks	4200	4110	4564	4454
Overdrive audiobooks	8853	7805	7526	6751
Overdrive magazines	2116	2035	1355	411
Total	42820	43996	43380	40213
ILLs Borrowed	53	72	53	43
ILLs Loaned	39	38	28	31
Outgoing Partners Crates	293	311	333	312
Incoming Partners Crates	278	300	322	307

Lakeside and Marion FY26 Circulation Statistics

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Lakeside	140	166	133	128	123	114	219	152	186	234	134	
Marion	N/A*	N/A*	4	9	7	4	8	3	20	8	1	

*Marion closed first week of June through August.

COMMUNICATIONS LIBRARIAN
LUNE AXELSEN
JUNE 2026

We are just about ready for summer here at the library. Both the kids and teens Summer Reading gameboards have been completed and sent off to the printer. New this year are bingo boards for both kids and teens that feature reading challenges and hands-on activities. When kids and teens get a bingo, they will receive a special Summer Experience sticker. All last month I worked on all components of the gameboard package, including the stickers, and I'm sure they will be a hit.

The Communications team has been busy with a bingo board for the adults too! The theme of this board is America 250, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States. On the back of the board is a detailed list of summer events for adults that center around the America 250 theme. New to my team is Library Advisor, Morgan, who helped layout the board. We are working on a sticker for the prize and should be ready to send it to the printer by the end of next week.

As usual, my team and I have been making sure to promote all programming on our regular channels like online event calendars, email newsletter, social media posts, radio interviews, posters, and our print calendars and flyers. I have updated our Summer Experience webpage and we are feeling ready for summer!

Social Media Snap Shot

Follower growth is steady on both Facebook and Instagram this month. Facebook interactions and engagement are up hugely this month due to a couple popular History Friday posts. Instagram Reels reach has also seen a rise due to the consistent videos I have been posting about library programs.

Social Media Stats:

- **Facebook:**
 - 100 New Followers this period (1% increase in the last 28 days)
- **Facebook Interactions:**
 - 2.6K interactions this period (24% increase in the last 28 days)
- **Facebook Engagement:**
 - 30K accounts engaged this period (280% increase in the last 28 days)
- **Facebook Reach:**
 - 356K accounts reached this period (214% increase in the last 28 days)
- **Instagram Followers:**
 - 13 new followers this period (.5% increase in the last 28 days)
- **Instagram Reels Reach:**
 - 2215 accounts reached this period (77% increase in the last 28 days)
- **Website Pageviews:**
 - 21,000 pageviews this period (5% decrease in the last 30 days)
- **Website Users:**
 - 8.6K users this period (17% increase in the last 30 days)
- **Website top 5 viewed pages in the last 28 days:**
 - **Teens**
 - **Kids**
 - **Photo Gallery**
 - **Locations and Hours**

PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN
TONY EDMUNDSON
JUNE 2026

Restoration work from our March leak has progressed. The 2nd floor staff restroom has a new floor, wall base molding, fresh paint on walls and door and is back in service. The 1st floor staff restroom will be painted next. Much appreciation to the SD5 Maintenance staff for a considerable amount of cleaning and patching of walls and ceiling. They have also continued to check in and offer advice and assistance when their busy schedules allow.

I had the pleasure of introducing singer and classical guitarist Larry Almeida on June 9th. He regaled us with songs and stories from American history. The crowd responded well and I had multiple patrons ask me if we did these kinds of events often. This event was a part of the Flathead County Library Celebrates America 250 that Librarian Deidre McMullin has been planning for several months now, and based on this reception the public is sure to enjoy the great things to come.

TEEN SERVICES LIBRARIAN
JACKIE CARLL
JUNE 2026

MAY STATS:

Here is a recap of our programing:

Fandom- *Underwater Decorating (Kal)*: 15
LVL-UP- *Jar Ramen (Kal)*: 20
LVL-UP Bigfork- *Jar Ramen (BF)*: 7
Challenge Accepted- *Ice Cream Making (Kal)*:23
Scene- *Pipe Cleaner Sea Bugs (All locations)*
Gem Wall Theme: *What is on Your Summer Bucket List?*
Resume & Interview Workshop: 5
Birdhouse Workshop: 12
CFJH Outreach: 27
School Visits: 56

TEEN UPDATES

Our department continues to get ready for our teen summer experience while successfully completing our last month of regular monthly programming across all branches.

SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

In May, we brought back *Workshop Montana* for a middle-grade birdhouse workshop. This on hands drop-in class taught the basics of woodworking, how to use tools properly, and how to build a birdhouse from scratch. (12 total) We also introduced a Resume & Interview workshop with Express Employment Professionals. Most of the attendees were home-schooled teens and two of them had never stepped into our library until that day. (5 total)

SCHOOL GROUP VISITS & OUTREACH

St. Matthews stopped by this month to return all book materials borrowed throughout the year. They thanked the staff for the great service and for the opportunity to visit their local library. We cannot wait to see them all back in the fall. (56 total)

Columbia Falls Junior High (CFJH)-

For their last month, we brought a bit of food science to Columbia Falls: *Ice Cream Making*. Making ice cream in a bag is not only a FUN activity but also a practical demonstration of chemistry and physics. It illustrates concepts such as states of matter, temperature change, and the effect of solutes on freezing points. The kiddos had a blast, and more than half of the attendees were *NEW* to the program. We plan to bring this popular activity back next fall. (27 total)

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN
BECCA JOHNSON
JUNE 2026

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT UPDATES

The school year is all wrapped up and we have officially launched Summer Reading Experience! We are excited about a few changes to our program this year and look forward being a fun part of summer for so many children. Our weekly program themes this year are creative and interesting. Families are looking for engaging, hands-on learning opportunities during the summer and we want to be their first stop! In Columbia Falls and Bigfork, our summer workshops will be available two days a week from 10:00-2:00. Kalispell will offer 2 workshop days a week from 10:00-4:00. Another way we are working to be flexible and accessible to more families is to offer all of our summer workshops on a Saturday morning, 3 in Kalispell and 2 each in Bigfork and Columbia Falls. Children visiting the library will be immersed in an environment that encourages curiosity, problem solving and positive social interactions. Those visiting families will check out library materials and continue to read, learn and explore at home all summer long.

EARLY LITERACY STORYTIME (0-5 YEARS)

MAY ATTENDANCE

KALISPELL – 381 (11 PROGRAMS)
COLUMBIA FALLS- 164 (13 PROGRAMS)
BIGFORK- 164 (13 PROGRAMS)

KIDS WORKSHOPS/SCHOOL VISITS (6-12 YEARS)

MAY ATTENDANCE

KALISPELL- 177 (4 WORKSHOPS)
COLUMBIA FALLS-99 (4 WORKSHOPS)/ 145 (7 CLASS VISITS)
BIGFORK – 57 (4 WORKSHOPS)

OUTREACH

A huge shout out to Liza in Columbia Falls who has been the solo YS advisor in CF this past month. In addition to regular weekly programs, she also coordinated a bunch of field trips this last month! She happily welcomed 145 school age kids promoting reading and library programs. Thank you, Liza!

**ADULT PROGRAMMING LIBRARIAN
BIGFORK MANAGER
DEIDRE MCMULLIN
JUNE 2026**

Most of the planning for summer programming is now complete, which has allowed me to shift my focus to fall and beyond. This work includes brainstorming with the adult programming team and connecting with potential community partners.

Over the past year, strong programming in Bigfork and Columbia Falls has helped build a public expectation for high-quality offerings, and we aim to continue meeting that standard. I'm hoping to have a series of lectures similar to those that we partnered with Glacier Institute and Audubon to provide last year, but also try to host them in Columbia Falls. The small crafty activities that we have planned for Columbia Falls will hopefully be mostly duplicated in Bigfork with a monthly "Craft Café" session.

Kalispell remains a challenging location for programs due to parking and accessibility issues, as well as the lack of an ideal program space. As a result, we will likely continue hosting many Kalispell events at offsite locations. However, we're hopeful that staff availability will allow us to offer smaller, hands-on programs in Kalispell as well.

Operations in Bigfork have continued to run smoothly, with our typical increase in activity as school lets out and seasonal residents return for the summer. It's always a joy to watch families grow and change over the years they spend here. I especially love hearing that visiting the library is often one of their favorite parts of summer in Bigfork.

**NOTE:
NO REPORT THIS MONTH FROM COLUMBIA FALLS. LIZ CAMARILLO, COLUMBIA FALLS
BRANCH MANAGER IS ON VACATION.**