



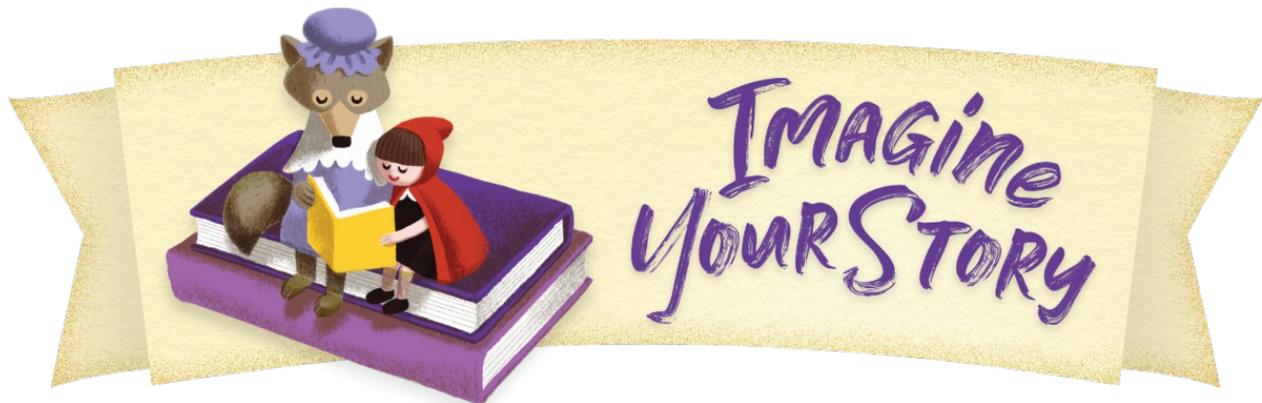
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A Note From Our Agency Director

Last month, I wrote about leadership during the pandemic, feelings of anxiety during this period of stress, and the need to balance ourselves and support each other. Those feelings of anxiety and stress have been amplified in the last week. This month, I intend to write about what libraries can do to promote change in their communities.

Libraries are community hubs; they are the space in a community that is for everyone and has something for everyone. Inclusion and equality are central to our shared value system as librarians. The role of libraries is to provide equal access to information and resources for everyone. To be a welcome space for everyone involves taking an honest look at our collections, programs, practices, promotional materials, and policies to determine if there are unintended barriers to remove. We must have conversations that are often uncomfortable. We may have to confront truths that we were unaware of or preferred to ignore. As agents of change, we must provide space and resources that are accessible to everyone and that represent everyone in our community. [Read more.](#)



Summer Reading 2020

Summer Reading will look different this year, but it will still be exciting, engaging, and full of fun learning opportunities. Our public libraries are working creatively to ensure that children and families have the best possible opportunities to participate in summer reading, even though in-person programming may be limited. Libraries are working to reach patrons without digital access, holding virtual performances with favorites such as Porkchop Productions and the Critter Keeper, and encouraging students to continue tracking their reading. [Talking Book Services](#) also created a summer reading program for its current patrons.

The State Library has, for the past several years, contracted with [READsquared](#) to provide year-round online tracking for patrons who want to log their reading. This can be done by patrons or by library staff. The mobile app released last year makes tracking even easier. For those patrons without digital access, many libraries plan to pass out paper logs at school lunch sites, during curbside service, and other community sites.

Libraries will hold virtual performances on Facebook Live and other streaming platforms, and they are creating more grab-and-go bags instead of hosting programs inside the library. Library staff will also host virtual cooking demonstrations and science experiments for you to enjoy from home.

Summer reading will be different in 2020 and it will be okay. It gives us all a chance to re-evaluate what is most important to our communities,

and how we can best serve our underserved populations. The change allows patrons who would not normally be able to attend a live show, the chance to watch a performance along with loved ones from the comfort of their homes. It encourages us to think of new ways to reach families with transportation and connectivity issues, and provides us with new ways of assessing our impact. The State Library is working hard to support these services, and we are excited to see all the new ways you find to enjoy summer!

SC Libraries



A Place for Everyone

You can now find a new page containing resources related to racism and racial equity on the [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion libguide](#). The goal is to show examples of what other libraries are doing in light of the unrest in our country, and offer support and information that can help your library. The libguide includes library responses and

statements, reading lists and discussion guides, and a list of community organizations that are working to address racism and inequity.

Learn From One Another

Since we are all in this together, it helps to know how other libraries are adapting to the new normal. Recent episodes of the LibraryVoicesSC podcast are dedicated to the ways that South Carolina libraries responded to COVID-19. While the individual stories are unique, there is a consistent emphasis on virtual services. From programming to responding to patron questions, hear how your colleagues reinvented how they work in order to continue serving. Listen online on [Podbean](#), [Stitcher](#), [TuneIn Radio](#), or your favorite podcast app.

COVID-19
and SC
Libraries

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in a manageable time frame. On June 10, learn how to master hacks, services, and Boolean operators to [harness the power of Google](#) and help patrons. Stop shaming your social media skills and learn ways to increase engagement in the June 17 session entitled, [Fix Your Facebook - Easy to Implement Strategies for Improving Your Social Media Presence](#). And finally on June 24, [get a grasp on 3-D printers](#) and see if they are right for your library. These sessions are free and registration is open to all library staff.

State Employees

Accountability Reports Made Simple

Your agency may have already started to work on its accountability report, or it will soon begin the process. Either way, it helps to refer back to past reports. Our digital collection makes it easy to find them. Visit the [State Documents Depository](#), click on the link to your agency, and find the Annual Reports and Accountability Reports collection. The link will direct you to digitized versions of past submissions and enable you to find the necessary reports without having to dig through endless files.



SC Residents



Free Access Extended

Need to do grants research while the library is closed? We offer free home access to the Foundation Directory Online - Essential edition to search for funding. This access is extended to the end of August. FDO Essential has profiles from over 190,000 private and independent foundations, and is searchable by subject area and geographic area served. Find the links to FDO Essential and more grant information on our [Grants Research Assistance page](#).

Help Us Honor the Fallen

We are proud to be part of an ongoing project to honor the memory of a South

Carolina soldier who was killed in action during World War II. PFC James E. Wise of Dillon County died on April 11, 1945 and was buried in Margraten Cemetery, the only American military cemetery in the Netherlands. As part of an effort to honor their liberators, members of the Margraten community adopt graves of fallen soldiers. The family that adopted PFC Wise contacted us for help with finding photos and additional information about him. Our reference librarians are working with this family and the [Dillon Herald](#) to help locate these materials. Please contact the Reference Department at reference@statelibrary.sc.gov if you have any information.



Still Serving

Katie, our therapy dog and reading ambassador, is excited to resume visits. Although it will be a while before she can enjoy snuggling up with patrons and a good book again, we are starting virtual and window visits. Katie will soon hit the road to offer window visits to area nursing homes and assisted living centers. She is also available for virtual visits during library programs and camps. If you are

interested in doing a program with Katie please contact her handler, State Library [Public Information Coordinator Ellen Dunn](#).

From Our Collection



#TBT Who is that getting on the #Greenwood SC bookmobile in 1956? This image from the South Carolina Bookmobiles Collection shows the Greenwood City and County Public Library bookmobile with a woman helping a boy up the steps. There are four other children holding books waiting to go in the bookmobile. Do you know anyone in this photo? Let us know in the comments. Find this and more SC bookmobile images at <https://digital.tcl.sc.edu/digital/collection/scbookmobil> Greenwood South Carolina Greenwood County Library System



Our more than fifty year history enables our staff to compile a collection that illustrates the history of South Carolina libraries. For #ThrowbackThursday on Facebook, Communications Director Dr. Curtis Rogers started sharing photos from our digital collection. Last week he posted this photo of the Greenwood City and County Public Library bookmobile and asked our followers to help identify the librarian who is pictured. In less than an hour, Sophie Snoddy Worrock responded and identified the librarian as her mother, Anne Nickles Snoddy. Ms. Worrock said she was stunned to see the picture because she had not seen it before. This story is a testimony to not only the power of social media, but also the power of preservation.

Want more information about SC and its libraries?

It can be in your inbox every month.



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For more information on the South Carolina State Library, and a list of our board members, please visit the [About Us](#) section on our website. Visit our Digital Collections to [view previous issues of More](#). ISSN 1554-5768