



Ask a Librarian, We Love to Chat!

One of the benefits of following the library on social media is that you can chat with us at almost any time of the day. We are at your fingertips to assist you with holds, general information, programming questions or research help. Although it helps to have your library card, you don't need it to chat with us. If you're trying to find an article or if there is information out there about current events that you'd like clarification on, we are here for you.

Recently, a patron reached out on Facebook to ask if we had a book about a specific topic. We don't have the title, I was able to connect her with some articles on the topic, which was perfect for her research project..

But you don't need Facebook to reach us. We're also on Twitter! If you don't have either, you can always reach us on the phone, or you can email your questions to publiclibray@southsiouxcity.org.

TIPS ON FIGHTING GERMS

Every flu season we do our best to be extra careful about the spread of germs. Now, a brand new disease, COVID-19 has reminded us how important it is to care for our health. Here are a few of our favorite tips for staying healthy this season.

- 1. Walk with sanitizer.** Mini hand sanitizers that you can keep on your keychain are available at most stores. You can also fill up a mini spray bottle and fill with rubbing alcohol to spray your clothes, car, etc.
- 2. Take Breaks.** It is important to remain informed, but it's also important to not feel overwhelmed by all the changes happening. Take a break from current events from time to time and do something you enjoy.
- 3. Vampire Cough.** Sneeze or cough into the inside of the elbow if you don't have a tissue. Also, discard tissues immediately and wash your hands immediately.
- 4. Take off your shoes** - Take off your shoes when you get home. Leaving shoes on only helps spread germs throughout the home.
- 5. Cover your nose and mouth.** Keeping both your nose and mouth covered helps to avoid the spread of germs and creates a barrier between you and germ particles.

FREE DMV PRACTICE TESTS
get ready for your car, motorcycle or CDL test

Do you know about driving-tests.org? [Driving-tests.org](http://driving-tests.org) has:

- 16 car practice tests
- 50 CDL practice tests
- 9 motorcycle practice tests
- All official driver's manuals
- Answers to 100+ DMV-related questions

Breeze through your driving test when you practice using real questions directly from the official manual. Every question is based on Nebraska's official driver's manual and traffic laws. When Nebraska updates its manuals, driving-tests.org will get updated as well.

[Driving-tests.org](http://driving-tests.org) also has an exam simulator which mimics the experience of a real exam - you get random questions every time.

The program can help you prepare for their official driver's exam for regular (car), commercial (CDL), and motorcycle exams (both learner's permit and full adult license). Prepare by using exam-like questions based on the official Nebraska driver's manual. [Driving-tests.org](http://driving-tests.org) has been vetted by the DMV, and lets you practice with tests seen on the official exam. [Driving-tests.org](http://driving-tests.org) is the largest and most visited independent online driver education provider in the U.S. and we have it for you, for free! Just visit our website for the link.

South Sioux City Public Library | 2121 Dakota Ave | South Sioux City, NE 68776
Phone: (402) 494-7545 | libraries.ne.gov/southsiouxcity

Morning Meetings and Calming Corners

Many of our elementary teachers incorporated a couple new measures into their classrooms this year in order to increase social emotional support. The training and materials were made possible thanks to the Aware Grant. In 2019 the school district in conjunction with Heartland Counseling received the Aware Grant to better help students and families deal with stress and adversity. This grant has definitely increased access to mental health services for students, but more importantly it works in preventive ways by teaching students to cope and self-regulate. The grant has also educated teachers and staff on Trauma Informed School Practices, funds site-based Mental Health Therapists, and introduced **Morning Meetings and Calming Corners**.

What is a morning meeting?

Morning meeting is an intentional way to transition students from home to school. Ideally, morning meetings occur for 15-20 minutes at the beginning of the day to set the tone for respectful learning, establish a climate of trust, motivate students to feel significant, create empathy and encourage collaboration, and support social, emotional, and academic learning. This practice builds a sense of community and sets your students up for success both academically and socially.

There are 4 parts to a morning meeting:

Greeting—Students and teacher greet one another by name

Sharing—Students given a prompt to share something about themselves, classmates given opportunity to empathetically respond or ask questions

Activity—A teamwork activity that encourages social/emotional skills (could be an academic activity that encourages teamwork or cooperation)

Morning message—Students/Teacher gives a message about what to expect for the day.

What is a calming corner?

A place students can go when they identify the need to regulate themselves. It provides students with a safe space to process emotions and feelings. A calming corner teaches students life long coping skills, cuts down on classroom management issues, and takes some of the burden off of you as a teacher. A calming corner is not used as a punishment or a timeout.

What do students do in the calm corner?

- Set a timer. (3-5 minutes)
- Do a feelings check.
- Use a calming strategy.
- Do a feelings check.
- If calm, return to activity or debrief with the teacher.
- If not calm, use the same strategy or choose a different strategy
- Do a feelings check.
- Return when calm or with adult support.



VISIT OUR SCHOOL WEB PAGE ONLINE AT:
[HTTP://WWW.SCCCARDINALS.ORG](http://www.scccardinals.org)



Snow storm reminders and information from the South Sioux City Public Works Office. We had some major wind with it which caused significant drifting. Here are a few pointers that we would like everyone to know.

- After a snow storm give the City crew time to get to all of the streets. We do not hold back manpower and equipment in dealing with winter storms.
- The curb area is in the City's right of way and is meant for utilities and snow storage. We don't purposely try to put in the driveways. It is unavoidable.
- We normally plow the streets more than once. Also when it is windy we have to come back multiple times. Unfortunately that means snow being pushed back into driveways and mailboxes.
- Mailboxes. We try to get as close as we can to mailboxes but with a heavy snow, we have to stay back further so we don't push the mailboxes down. This will mean that the resident will have to clean the area some so that the delivery can be made.
- Having parked vehicles in the street are always difficult to work around. If residents can park off the street during plowing it helps tremendously. Once one side of the street is clear move the vehicle to that side so we can clean the other. Sometimes if we have to go back after a car is moved, that means repeated plowing and many times that again it ends up in a driveway entrance.
- Garbage totes still have to be out to the street for pick up. The large garbage truck needs room to get to the container and a place to set it back down. Please try to help them also.
- Don't push or blow snow into the street. It isn't always easy but try to keep it on your property.

With a little help we can be more efficient in dealing with our winter weather. We appreciate all the assistance and patience we received from our residents.



ON THE **INSIDE**

- **School recognition**
- **Christmas tree pick-up**
- **City offices holiday schedule**
- **Winter sidewalks**
- **Papio Missouri River (NRD)**
- **Mail boxes Vs winter weather**
- **Renters eviction**



DECEMBER PUBLIC MEETINGS

City Hall Council Chambers— 1615 1st Avenue	Parks & Recreation Office — 1021 E 6 th Street
City Council Meeting*: 14th & 28th at 5:00 p.m.	Parks & Recreation Board: 7th at 5:15 p.m.
Community Development Agency: 10th at 11:00 a.m.	
Finance Committee*: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th at Noon	South Sioux City Library — 2121 Dakota Avenue
Public Works Committee*: 7th & 21st at 5:00p.m.	Library Board: 2nd at 5:30 p.m.
Design Commission: 3rd & 17th at 8:30 a.m.	
Planning & Zoning Commission: 9th & 23rd at 4:00 p.m.	

*Meetings are Broadcast Live on Sparklight (Cable One) Channel 57 Long Lines Channel 3 and live video streamed on city website www.southsiouxcity.org



State Cross Country Participants

Girls XC Senior, Emame Ahmed finished 16th. Junior runner Ashley Hedquist earned a 10th place finish.



The Cardinal Boys Placed 8th as a Team! Pictured are senior, Moises Lupercio, freshman Ivan Morelos and senior Juan Balderas. On the far right is coach **Sean Fitzsimmons**.

Can't say enough good things about these students. Incredible work ethic, excellent grades and everything you look for in leader!

- Lance Swanson, Director of Communication & Foundation South Sioux City Community Schools



Vickie O'Dell who was recognized as the Nebraska Paraeducator of the Year recipient for 2020! Vickie was surprised on October 30th at the High School Staff meeting by her colleagues and family as the award was announced. She was honored by her peers and NDE at the Nebraska Paraeducator Conference held on November 10, 2020.

Left to right: Vickie O'Dell, Katie Katie Konz

**South Sioux City
Christmas Tree Pick up
ONLY
January 11th-15th, 2021**

Place your Christmas tree out beside your garbage container on your *regular garbage* pickup day. Trees need to be clear of decoration's including lights & tinsel. Trees in bags &/or Flocked trees will **NOT** be collected!

This Service is brought to you by **South Sioux City Public Works**. All trees are chipped and recycled.

Volunteer of the month is Diana Kincaid

Diana was born in St. Louis, Missouri. She met her husband, Dave Kincaid, while in college and have been married for 46 years. They moved to South Sioux City in 1978. They have two sons. Sam, 42, married to Erica (Rabold) and they have two children, Jaycie, age 11 and Arlo, age 8. Dan, 40, is married to Paige (Winkler). Both families live in Jackson, Nebraska.

Presently, she is serving in the following areas:

Chair of Siouxland Freedom Park-Leadership Dakota County Alumni fundraising drive President of Optimist Club 2020-2021. 16 year member

Missouri River Outdoor Expo Board (13 years)

South Sioux City Chamber Red Coat Ambassador (3 years) Voices For Food Volunteer since it's inception

Siouxland Garden Show Planning /committee - (5 years) Bible Study Fellowship Group Discussion Leader (3 years)

Dakota County Extension Board Member (8 years)

Dakota County Historical Society Member/Secretary (4 years)

Casting for Recovery - Fly Fishing Instructor (9 years)

They hold 2 retreats per year for breast cancer survivors, except for this Covid year.

Leadership Dakota County graduate (2011)- Planning Board for 8 years Star Ambassador 2019

Community Orchard Volunteer

Nebraska Game and Parks- Becoming and Outdoor Woman Program Fly Fishing/Fly Tying Instructor 4 years

Diana has helped with ArtSplash for many years after it began, and was head coordinator for the Children's Hands On Area for three of those years.

Hours Donated - Many

Number of Persons Impacted - Many



Meat Donation to First Responders

As a "thank you", Tyson Fresh Foods donated meat to full and part-time first responders within the fire department and the police department.



Sidewalks

To ensure the safety of all South Sioux City pedestrians it is required that:

All sidewalks within the business district be cleaned within 5 hours after the cessation

of a storm, unless the storm, or fall of snow, has taken place during the night; in which case the sidewalk shall be cleaned before 8:30 a.m. the next morning.

Sidewalks within the residential areas MUST be cleaned within 12 hours after the cessation of any storm.

Residences cannot push sidewalk or parking or driveway snow onto any city street.

Only Dakota Ave businesses may move their sidewalk snow onto Dakota Ave, prior to, snow removal off Dakota Ave by the City, and **NO PARKING LOT** snow can be pushed onto Dakota Avenue at any time.

City offices will be closing at noon on Thursday, December 24th & December 31st and will remain closed all day on Friday, December 25th & January 1st.

There will be no garbage & recycling collection on December 25th & January 1st. Collections will be delayed one day for both weeks.

The City of South Sioux City wishes all a joyous & peaceful holiday season!



The Papio Missouri River Natural Resources District (NRD) Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for South Sioux City will be available for public review from November 11- December 8, 2020. This plan must be updated every three years. The plan can be obtained online at www.southsiouxcity.org or by request at City Hall, 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, NE. Residents may provide comments by contacting the City Administrator – Lance Hedquist, phone 402-494-7517 or in writing to 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, NE 68776 or email: lhedquist@southsiouxcity.org or sscgrants@southsiouxcity.org prior to a public hearing held December 14, 2020. Residents are encouraged to attend the City Council Meeting Public Hearing on December 14, 2020 at 5pm, City Hall Council Chambers, 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, NE.

Individuals requiring physical or sensory accommodations including interpreter service, Braille, large print or recorded materials, please contact Nanci Walsh, City Clerk at 402-494-7500 or 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, NE no later than December 7, 2020.

Turning 65 soon??? Questions or problems with Medicare??? Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) is supported by the Nebraska Department of Insurance and uses local volunteers to assist citizens coping with Medicare. South Sioux City is served by local resident Brad Grier. Call him at 712-281-5318 to confidentially meet at your convenience. He is also available for group presentations



Mailboxes vs. Winter weather

Mailboxes and snow storage share the same space on the parking.

Snow can very heavy and the process of removing the snow from the street can put pressure on mailboxes that are out behind the curb. The crew tries to avoid pushing the snow hard against mailboxes.

This fall several mailboxes have been photographed and documented that they are in very poor condition before the snow season even begins. If these get knocked down from snow plowing, it will be the resident's responsibility to repair. Again, we try to avoid all mail boxes but the street must be cleaned. Some good advice would be to take a look at your mailbox now and make repairs now.



RENTERS

You must still pay rent and utilities during the eviction moratorium. You CAN still be evicted.

Help is available, but call NOW - some assistance has November deadlines!

IA

NE

SD

- Catholic Charities - 712-252-4547
- Community Action Agency of Siouxland - 712-274-1610
- Heartland Counseling - 402-494-3337
- Women Aware - 712-258-4174
- Sioux City Housing Authority - 712-279-6348
- Iowa Legal Aid - 800-532-1275
- Dakota Co. Comm. Response - 402-494-3337 ext 122
- Heartland Counseling - 402-494-3337
- NE Nebraska Comm. Action Partnership - 402-494-8312
- Women Aware - 712-258-4174
- South Sioux City Housing Authority - 402-494-7514
- Nebraska Legal Aid - 844-268-5627
- Heartland Counseling - 402-494-3337
- Women Aware - 712-258-4174