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MONTANA PUBLIC LIBRARY
STATE AID STORIES
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Library State Aid funding increased in 2013 from 10 cents to 40 cents per capita. In 2017, this lifeline for libraries will end without legislative support.

THE IMPACT OF INCREASED AID
FROM
**IMAGINEIF LIBRARY,
KALISPELL, MT**

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We upgraded a staff position to a Professional Librarian, who brings the library to the community through programming and outreach. We're no longer thought of as a quiet, dusty old building filled with tattered books and "shushing" librarians. We're hip and fun, which translates to a 44 percent increase in program attendance systemwide, and a 7 percent increase in checkouts. We partnered with Flathead FFA to build chicken coops in the library that later were raffled off; co-sponsored a Mini Maker Faire that saw more than 600 participants in every age category; and expanded the number and variety of books and DVDs available to our community.

WINTER 2016

