Mapping a Tornado Tragedy: A Crowdsourcing Case Study

Melody Dworak, Librarian, Iowa City Public Library
Job Description

- Digital Archive
- Selection
- Cataloging
- Reference
- Other
Pre-Project Launch

Digital Archive
Roles & Responsibilities

Collections Manager → Digital Archive Librarian → Hourly Assistant

Reference Manager → Outreach Librarian

IT Manager

Graphics
One Project: Many Deliverables

- Build digital collection
- Curate digital exhibit
- Engage with print exhibit
- Connect and host program
A tornado ripped through Iowa City on April 13, 2006, carving a path of destruction that left cars overturned, trees uprooted, traffic lights snapped off their poles, and roofs torn off buildings, including the historic St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Read to the Rhythm

Is "Read more books" one of your New Year Resolutions? If so, our Winter Reading Program – Read to the Rhythm – will help you get started!

This new addition to the Library’s lineup of winter programming combines three of our favorite things: books, BINGO and pizza! To play, all you need to do is pick up a Read to the Rhythm BINGO card at any of our public service desks beginning Jan. 4. There’s a BINGO card for everyone: babies, children, teens and adults.
Processing & Reformattting
Digital Collection

2006 Iowa City Tornado
Digital Collection

2006 Iowa City Tornado

Coding by Brent Palmer
Print Exhibit: Tornado Tour

Tornado Path Through Iowa City  April 13, 2006
Print Exhibit: Citizen Stories
Potato, not potato.

He's in the kitchen or the Red Arrows.

We took a short trip to Iowa Ave. The house was on Iowa Ave. But so was the home it was on. We called 911. The house was on Iowa Ave, but so was the home.

Our garden shed was completely destroyed. We were under the basement stairs with our 2-year-old who was 2-1/2 years old. We were all very light sleepers. She woke us. She woke us up.

Drinking coffee at Takamami's.

Susan

lost a tree

attic windows on Washington & Summit.

PD Emerg

Danna

in the library.

I'm not sure what my name is.
Program

Iowa City Tornado

On April 13, 2006, an F2 tornado formed in southwest Iowa City. Eight minutes and 4.5 miles later, the twister dissipated, leaving more than $12 million in damages. In honor of the 10th anniversary of this historic event, the Iowa City Public Library is collecting images and stories from people who lived through this event. We hope you enjoy this tornado tour.
Program
Program
Program
2018: Flood Retrospective

Can we replicate success?
What gap exists?
Takeaways

Crowdsourcing = community = inclusion

How to give selection as much weight as inclusion?

Control that scope of work!

Plan for unfulfilled wish list

Find a topic that affects a critical mass

Make time
Project Tools & Resources

- FADGI Technical Guidelines for Digitizing Cultural Heritage Materials
- Project tracking: Trello
- Website architecture: Omeka
- Exhibit architecture: Neatline
- Metadata standard: Dublin Core
- Metadata wrangling: Excel & CSV spreadsheets
- Scanner: Epson Expression 10000XL