

## RMC HOSTS PRESENTATION ON BANNED BOOKS

For more information: Bobbi Otte, RMC acting library director, (406) 657-1086 / email: [otteb@rocky.edu](mailto:otteb@rocky.edu) / or Amy Cannata, ACLU of Montana communications director, (406) 443-8590/ cell (406) 459-1114 / or email: [amyc@aclumontana.org](mailto:amyc@aclumontana.org)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS – If not for the American Library Association and the American Civil Liberties Union, a book that celebrated its 50th year as an American classic would have been banned in some city libraries in Minnesota, New York, Indiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia and Texas. “To Kill a Mockingbird” won the Pulitzer Prize, and still is a book that some seek to remove from public libraries, objecting to its subject matter: racial inequality, rape, and social injustice.

But, Harper Lee’s classic is not alone. John Steinbeck’s “The Grapes of Wrath” and “Of Mice and Men,” J.D. Salinger’s “Catcher in the Rye,” William Faulkner’s “As I Lay Dying,” and even Margaret Mitchell’s “Gone with the Wind” would have been banned from public libraries by those opposed to the subject matter.

To celebrate the freedom to read, Sept. 25 – October 2 has been designated as Banned Books Week. For a presentation during Banned Books Week, the Rocky Mountain College Library will host Amy Cannata, ACLU of Montana communications director, Friday, Oct. 1, 2010, who will make a 45-minute presentation designed to promote “intellectual freedoms guaranteed in the First Amendment.”

The brown bag lunch and discussion will be held at noon in the Selover Room of Bair Family Student Center.

“I try to highlight the vulnerability to attack from the right and the left to those freedoms if we don’t protect them,” Cannata said.

All participants will be given a “Too Dangerous for the Big Sky?” poster produced by the ACLU of Montana, which can be viewed on the ACLU website ([www.aclumontana.org](http://www.aclumontana.org)).

# # #

9/14/2010