

**Natrona County  
Public Library**  
307 East Second Street  
Casper, WY 82601  
307-577-READ

Library Hours:  
(September through May)  
Mon-Thur: 10 AM — 9 PM  
Fri-Sat: 10 AM — 5 PM  
Sun: 1 PM — 5 PM  
(June through August)  
Mon-Thur: 10 AM — 7 PM  
Fri-Sat: 10 AM — 5 PM

**M. J. Davis Branch**  
935 Cottonwood  
P.O. Box 269  
Edgerton, WY 82635  
307-437-6617

Library Hours:  
Mon: 11 AM—5 PM  
Wed: 1 PM — 7 PM  
Fri: 11 AM—5 PM

**Bob Goff Memorial Branch**  
717 5th Street  
Mills, WY 82644  
307-265-6017

Library Hours:  
Mon-Thurs: 10 AM—5 PM  
Fri: 1 PM — 5 PM

Bookmobile schedules  
available at any branch

Website  
[www.natronacountylibrary.org](http://www.natronacountylibrary.org)

Library Board of Trustees:  
Chris Mullen, President  
Charles Robertson, VP  
Mary Ann Collins, Secretary  
Randy Buffington, Treasurer  
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Bill Nelson, Director

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# Community BUILDER

Volume 6 Issue 4

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## WHAT IS A PUBLIC LIBRARY?

Next year, NCPL will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, having first opened its doors in May of 1910. As we look back on our history and forward to our future, it is interesting to see the many facets of library service and its ongoing value to our community. Some think a public library is just a warehouse for books. However, since their creation over two centuries ago, libraries have been much more.

Libraries have continually evolved to share new and emerging formats of entertainment and information. They are community integrators, a neutral place where ideas, issues, and values are shared. They are places where businesses are born, enhancing a community's economic vitality and quality of life. Libraries are one of the few places owned by EVERY member of a community.

And of course, public libraries are also places where people learn the tools and joy of reading, while reinforcing a community's commitment to literacy and education. All of this with NO MEMBERSHIP FEE! Here are just a few examples of NCPL's contributions over the years to our community's vitality:

- A business incubator and innovation center
- A community integrator of ideas
- A place that fosters literacy and learning as community values
- A place where intellectual freedom is defended daily
- A place that encourages thinking and sharing of ideas
- A technology "bridge", teaching and using computers, Internet and digital devices
- A place for families to interact, learn, and share together
- A place where people of all ages learn to read
- A place to learn a new skill
- A place to train for a new job
- A place for homeschooling materials and interaction
- A place to checkout books, audiobooks, DVDs for entertainment
  - Delivery of information and entertainment to homebound seniors
- A place where veracity can be investigated at one's own pace
- A place to investigate something new or old
- A resource for students of all ages
- A place to save all members of Natrona County money. Every \$1 invested in NCPL returns \$8.57 in services



As our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration approaches, we will ask community members about the value of the library in their own lives. Please feel free to share your comments and recollections with us!

*If a nation expects to be ignorant and free ...  
it expects what never was and never will be. —Thomas Jefferson*

# New OFFERINGS:

Here are a few of the 3,381 items added to your library since August:

## ADULT FICTION

- **Running Hot**, Jayne Ann Krentz
- **First Daughter**, Eric Lustbader
- **Black Ops**, W.E.B. Griffin
- **Sinner**, Ted Dekker
- **The Letters**, Luanne Rice
- **Three Weeks to Say Goodbye**, C.J. Box

## NON-FICTION

- **Outliers**, Malcolm Gladwell
- **After the Cure**, Emily Abel
- **Yellowstone Wolves**, Cat Urbigkit
- **The Numerati**, Stephen Baker
- **Enemy of the State**, Michael Newton

## MUSIC

- **One Kind Favor**, B.B. King
- **A Winter Symphony**, Sarah Brightman
- **Now, That's What I Call Music! 29**
- **Twilight Soundtrack**
- **Meet Glen Campbell**, Glen Campbell

## BOOKS ON CD

- **Outliers**, Malcolm Gladwell
- **Bones**, Jonathan Kellerman
- **Brisingsr**, Christopher Paolini
- **The Gate House**, Nelson DeMille
- **The Front**, Patricia Cornwell
- **Final Justice**, Fern Michaels

## MOVIES

- **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor**
- **The Dark Knight**
- **Wall-E**
- **Gone Baby Gone**
- **Camp Rock**

# Substance Abuse Prevention

## Ten Characteristics of an Authoritative Community

1. It is a social institution that includes children and youth.
2. It treats children as ends in themselves.
3. It is warm and nurturing.
4. It establishes clear limits and expectations.
5. The core of its work is performed largely by non-specialists.
6. It is multi-generational.
7. It has a long-term focus.
8. It reflects and transmits a shared understanding of what it means to be a good person.
9. It encourages spiritual and religious development.
10. It is philosophically oriented to the equal dignity of all persons and to the principle of love of neighbor.

NCPL is a partner in developing the annual Wyoming Methamphetamine and Substance Abuse Conference. Our role is to assist our community with prevention initiatives by promoting healthy and stable families.

On January 7, NCPL hosted prevention speaker Dr. Kathleen Kovner Kline, a nationally recognized expert in the areas of child development and substance abuse prevention. Her session entitled "Hardwired to Connect: The Social, Moral and Spiritual Foundations of Child Well-Being," examined findings from brain and behavioral sciences research and examined risk and protective factors influencing child mental health.

The findings of **Hardwired to Connect** indicate that "authoritative communities" – groups of people who are committed to one another over time, and who model and pass on what it means to be a good person and live a good life – are especially important to establishing a foundation for children before and during risk-taking adolescent years. Additionally, authoritative communities yield more stable families.

NCPL is working to develop this type of community atmosphere for Natrona County families. Our efforts to prevent substance abuse include promoting positive role modeling, providing materials and programs that encourage family skills, and fostering a community conversation about healthy and stable families.



*It's not about keeping girls out.  
It's about helping boys find the  
joy in reading and learning.*

NCPL offers regular programming for third, fourth and fifth grade boys under the title "No Girls Allowed." Here we develop programming that helps boys discover challenges worth accepting and conquering. These can include sharing creative literature, carving pumpkins, building and designing projects, solving puzzles and watching videos that promote good male role models.

These fun and educational activities are mixed with discovering and encouraging books that boys like to read, giving them a leg-up on literacy skills that boys are often less-inclined to develop. This program was initiated in response to the high drop-out rate, especially for boys, in Natrona County.

This is a community challenge. It is also a library challenge. Studies show that boys who are not reading at grade level in the fourth grade have a much greater chance of dropping out of school. Statistics about boys' education and literacy are available in Michael Sullivan's book, "Connecting Boys with Books."

Coming this February and March: "It's Cool To Be Wimpy" a fun introduction to the popular book series Diary of a Wimpy Kid. NCPL will also hold a Game Night for boys and their fathers, featuring stories, chess, and video games.



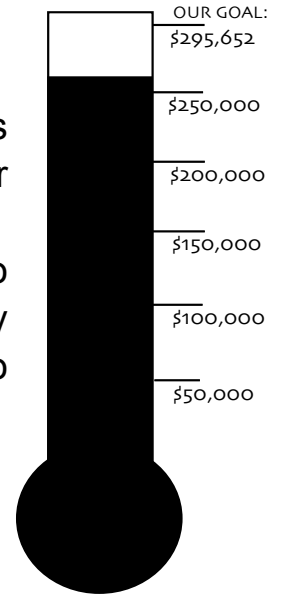
F O U N D A T I O N

Help Us  
**MEET OUR MATCH!**

The State of Wyoming has issued an exciting challenge to us: As of July 1, the state will match every dollar that we receive for our endowment, up to almost \$300,000!

All endowment funds are placed in a permanent account to augment the library's collections, to provide expanded library programming and to help operate the Foundation for years to come.

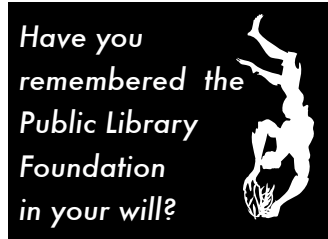
If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Foundation or would like to learn more about the endowment, please contact us at 237-4935, extension 104.



**Board of Directors:** John Masterson - President • Bill Thompson • John Jorgensen • Steve Degenfelder Mary Lynne Shickich • Mark Zaback • Ray Bader • Phil Schmidt • Jimmy Goolsby • Bill Nelson

Foundation Board members are available to discuss with you and your advisors the best planned giving opportunities.

Mail can be sent to: NCPL Foundation, 307 E. 2nd Street, Casper, WY 82601  
 Checks payable to: The Natrona County Public Library Foundation  
 All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



I am enclosing a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me to arrange a meeting to discuss future financial support.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Library Foundation nears endowment challenge goal

The Natrona County Public Library Foundation has nearly reached its goal to raise almost \$300,000 for its endowment, in answer to a challenge created by the Wyoming State Legislature.

Thanks to the generosity of individual donors and contributions by foundations, the Library Foundation has raised 90% of its goal. Each dollar raised by the foundation is matched by state funds on a 1-to-1 basis as a result of legislation passed during the 2008 legislative session. As an added bonus, once the state's library foundations have raised \$2.3 million, each endowment receives an additional \$100,000 from the state.

The funding will go into the NCPL Foundation's endowment to support expanded programs and materials beyond the basic services provided by County revenues. Taking advantage of the endowment challenge is an unprecedented opportunity to raise permanent funds for NCPL and its future. We thank our supporters and look forward to attaining our goal very soon!

## Library Foundation thanks donors to annual campaign and PAC

The Natrona County Library Foundation would like to thank those who donated to the Foundation's annual endowment-raising campaign as a part of their year-end giving. We are thrilled with the response to our annual campaign, as it has nearly brought us to our endowment goal. More importantly, these donations represent a commitment to the library's collections, programs, and place in our community and we thank the donors who have expressed this commitment by giving to the library endowment.

The Foundation would also like to thank those who donated to the political action committee formed to encourage support for a new library. Due to the support of these donors the political action committee met its funding goal and connected with Natrona County voters through print and radio advertising, mailings, and direct contact. While the outcome was not what we had hoped, the support through the PAC helped immensely in raising awareness of our community's need for a larger library.

### Mark your calendars!

### Edible Book Fest is around the corner...

The Natrona County Public Library Foundation will host the 6th Annual "Edible Book Fest" on Wednesday, April 1. The event is a fun way to capture the title or theme of a book through an edible display. It is open to all chefs, amateur or professional, with junior categories as well. Entry forms will be available at the circulation desk in late February, so start brainstorming your creation!

## A Special Thank You

The NCPL Foundation wishes to extend a very special "Thank You" to the following individuals and organizations for their recent donations:

The Goodstein Foundation  
Wold Foundation  
Gail Zimmerman  
Richard & Linda Wheeler  
Margaret H. & James E. Kelley Foundation  
Double Eagle Petroleum  
UBS Foundation  
Hallie & Donald Harris  
Miguel & Sandra Leotta  
Golden K Kiwanis of Casper  
Grace Jenkins  
Joel and Becky Dvorak  
James & Susan Anderson  
Robert Schneider  
Don & Carolyn Bentzen  
Tom & Laurie Reese  
Alice Barnard  
W. H. (William) & Patricia Ward  
Carmen and Alan Simone  
Janet Caperton  
Bill & Susan Heiss  
Robert Barton  
Bob & Jane Tanner  
Bill & Judy Rader  
Eric Valdez  
Rose-Mary King  
David Allhusen  
William & Jill Lawrence  
Janet Estebo  
Cam & Barb Walker  
Anita Hill  
Mary & Robert Tobin  
Doug Morton  
Tom and Jo Swanson  
John Jorgensen  
Nathan & Sheila Ker  
Bret & Courtney Ladenburger  
Marial Choma  
Lester & Teresa Lebsock  
Mark Milliken  
Robert & Judith Bradshaw  
Vicki Stamp  
John & Evelyn Albanese  
Zula Safford  
Jim Brown  
Steven & Kathleen Johnston  
Steven Sauerwein  
Jennifer & Michael Golden  
Paul Hallock  
Ron & Teri Laird  
Stephen Delger  
Steve & Barb Shellenberger  
Donna Golden-Strube  
Robert W. Stark  
Matthew & Nicole Trott  
Leo & Connie Ashba  
George & Kristi Armijo  
Debbie Snell  
Larry & Marcia Fleetwood  
Tom & Marie Johnson  
George & Claranne Cannon  
Hustace & Janice Scott  
Gene & Cathy Jo George  
Thomas Clemmons  
Patrick & Kathleen Schwarz

# Upcoming EVENTS

All events are held in the Crawford Room at Natrona County Public Library unless otherwise noted; please call 577-READ for more information.

## CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Enhancing Children's Services

"Stories and music that enchant, encourage and tickle the funnybone." That's the first statement you will see when visiting storyrhythms.com, the website of Karen Czarnik, a storyteller & musician from Michigan. Czarnik will be featured at a workshop for NCPL's Youth Services staff and others in the community who work with children on February 26 from 10 am to 4 pm. She will also perform in some Natrona County schools earlier that week.



Librarians, teachers, daycare providers and others interested in learning more about the art of storytelling are invited to attend. The workshop is free. Call 577-READ, ext 129 for more information.

### Friday My Radio Flyer Flew!

In conjunction with the 2009 Wyoming Reads Celebration, Natrona County 1st graders are invited to NCPL on April 27 and 28 for presentations by local author and illustrator Zac Pullen. *Friday My Radio Flyer Flew*, a book about a boy who discovers his father's little red wagon in their attic, is one of the six featured books on this year's Wyoming Reads list. For more titles, click the "Wyoming Reads" icon on NCPL's homepage.



### Read Across America

Readers of all ages are in for a treat during the National Education Association's 10th annual Read Across America event! NEA is calling all American children, both young and old, to celebrate the joy of reading with Dr. Seuss on his 105th birthday. Everyone is invited to join NCPL's celebration on March 2 at 7 pm in the Crawford Room.



### ❖ FEBRUARY ❖

- 2 - Web 2.0: Twitter, Flickr & Goodreads, 6:30 PM
- 3 - Anime Club, TZ, 4 PM
- 5 - Health Series: Health & Stress Workshop, 6:30 PM
- 6 - VITA Tax Filing Assistance, 10 AM - 2 PM
- 7 - Tween Team, Noon
- 9 - Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 12 - Duct Tape Roses, TZ, 4 PM
- 12 - No Girls Allowed, 6 PM
- 13 - VITA Tax Filing Assistance, 10 AM - 2 PM
- 13 - Girls Only: Valentines, 5:30 PM
- 17 - Game On! For Teens, 3:30 PM
- 17 - Independent Film, 6:30 PM
- 19 - Family Game Night, 6:30 PM
- 20 - VITA Tax Filing Assistance, 10 AM - 2 PM
- 20 - Tween Movie Night, 5:30 PM
- 21 - Bilingual Storytime, 10:30 AM
- 23 - Tween Book Club, 4 PM
- 23 - Learn to Spot & Stop Child Abuse, 6 PM
- 24 - Teen Computer Class, 4 PM
- 25 - Mystery Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 26 - Health Series: Trigger Point Therapy, 6:30 PM
- 27 - VITA Tax Filing Assistance, 10 AM - 2 PM

### ❖ MARCH ❖

- 2 - "Read Across America", 7 PM
- 3 - Anime Club, 4 PM
- 3 - Health Series: Restless Leg Syndrome, 6:30 PM
- 5 - Bunco Night for Families, 6:30 PM
- 6 - Tax Filing Assistance, 10 AM - 2 PM
- 7 - Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM
- 7 - Tweens Spring Break Luau, 2 PM
- 9 - Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 10 - Game On! For Teens
- 10 - Independent Film: "Noise", 6:30 PM
- 11 - School's Out Movie, 2 PM
- 12 - Open Mic Night, TZ, 7 PM
- 13 - Tax Filing Assistance, 10 AM - 2 PM
- 13 - No Girls Allowed: Game Night, 6 PM
- 18 - After School: We The People, 4 PM
- 21 - Bilingual Storytime, 10:30 AM
- 23 - Tween Book Club, 4 PM
- 25 - Mystery Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 26 - Let's Talk College, TZ, 7 PM
- 28-31 - Friends Book Sale

### ❖ APRIL ❖

- 1-4 - Friends Book Sale
- 1 - Edible Book Fest, TBA
- 4 - Tween Team, Noon
- 7 - Tween Poetry Party, 4 PM
- 10 - Elementary Art Show Begins
- 12-18 - National Library Week
- 13 - Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 14 - Poetry Slam @ Metro, 7 PM
- 15 - Addiction Film Series, 6:30 PM
- 16 - Elementary Art Show Reception, 5:30 PM
- 17 - Family Movie & Pizza Night, 5:30 PM
- 18 - Bilingual Storytime, 10:30 AM
- 21 - Independent Film, 6:30 PM
- 22 - Mystery Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 22 - Addiction Film Series, 6:30 PM
- 27 - Tween Book Club, 4 PM
- 29 - Addiction Film Series, 6:30 PM

## TEEN TECH WEEK

"Press Play" is the theme for this year's Teen Tech Week, which is celebrated nationwide March 9-15, 2009.

This year's festivities begin with a Teen Movie Night on Friday, March 6. The afternoon of March 10 will be a rockin' good time as teens test their dance and musical skills by playing "Dance, Dance Revolution", "Guitar Hero" and "Rock Band" at the ever popular Game On!. Teens are encouraged to join in the Teen Zone Open Mic night by playing a musical instrument, singing, or performing poetry on the evening of March 12.



The afternoons of February 24 and May 12 will offer teens the opportunity to experiment with website design and to open their horizons to technologies which enhance their reading experience.

Don't wait until Teen Tech Week to discover the treasures available to everyone at your library. Stop by and browse our collection of music CDs, movies, and audiobooks. And, be sure to solve your latest homework headache with a visit to Live Homework Help®, a FREE online tutoring service available for every Natrona County resident. "Press Play" during Teen Tech Week and discover what awaits you at your library.

**Prevention Corner**

Your library is an active partner with several community organizations seeking to prevent substance abuse in our community.



In partnership with the Wyoming Humanities Council and the Wyoming Department of Health, NCPL will present a film and discussion series titled "Addiction: A Humanities Perspective." Four Hollywood films will allow viewers to explore addiction as portrayed by the movies and to discuss how they relate to our community. Films will be shown April 15, 22, 29 and May 6 at 6:30 pm in the Crawford Room. Please contact the library for more information.

**Health Resources @ Your Library**

Casper's annual Blue-Envelope Health Fair will be held Saturday, March 28th at the Casper Events Center, reminding us all to get a check-up and live healthy lives. Healthy living begins with information. Stop by NCPL to investigate medical conditions at your own pace. Magazines and DVDs about healthy eating and lifestyles are also available. Remember, NCPL librarians are available to connect you with detailed research about most medical conditions.



**National Volunteer Week**

April 19-25 is National Volunteer Week. We thank our many volunteers for their service and support to NCPL and the many people we serve!

**Friends of the Library Booksale Hours**

Saturday, March 28: 9 am-5 pm  
 Sunday March 29: 1 pm-5 pm  
 Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3:  
 11 am-6 pm  
 Saturday, April 4: 10 am-2 pm

**Elementary Art Show**

Those visiting the library April 10 through May 7 will be greeted by thousands of pieces of artwork created by NCSD #1 elementary students. Watercolors, self-portraits, sculptures and more will be displayed in this year's show. A reception will be held Thursday, April 16 beginning at 5:30 pm. We invite everyone to come... artists and art-lovers alike!

**Local Hero: Nancy Witzeling**

Among many other services, long-time volunteer Nancy Witzeling has served on the Friends of the Library Board and designed the Friends' colorful sale posters. During the recent campaign for a new facility, Nancy actively helped the Citizens for a New Library. Thank you, Nancy, for the incalculable number of hours, days, and weeks of support to NCPL over the years! We are proud to call you a "Local Hero"!



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Return Service Requested