

**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

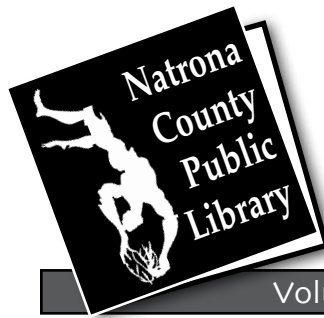
Website
www.natronacountylibrary.org

Library Board of Trustees:
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This ISSUE:

Summer Reading Programs	2
Friends and Heroes.....	2
Honoring Our Heritage	5
Wyoming Reads	5
Edgerton Branch Updates	6
Endowment Funds	Insert



Community BUILDER

Volume 9 Issue 1

MAY - JULY 2011

we Read

NCPL is excited to be a participant in "We Read," a new community-wide project focused on the importance of literacy.

It has become far too apparent that many Natrona County K-3 students are not reading at grade level. Of particular concern is the fact that children not reading at grade level in the third grade are likely future dropout candidates. None of us wants that, and parental involvement is essential in turning it around.

Recently the Casper Star-Tribune, NCSD #1, NCPL, the McMurry Foundation and a number of local businesses have partnered to help establish reading and education as core community values. This robust 3-year program began in April in an effort to engage families in the reading development of their children. Literacy begins with learning concepts such as shapes, numbers, the alphabet, and basic motor coordination before kindergarten. Reading is built on these early fundamentals.

The first component of "We Read" is that every Natrona County K-3 student will be given an age-appropriate book every month during the 3-year program. Parents, as part of the "We" in "We Read," are encouraged to read each book several times with their child.

On each Tuesday for the next 3 years, "My Trib" will be delivered to Natrona County households. This second "We Read" component is an 8-page magazine containing book-related activities, tips for parents, stories, and pre-reading games. Again, parents are encouraged to use this tool to help reinforce their children's emerging reading abilities.

We Read books of the month for grades K-3

Books for June-August will be passed out in schools before summer break begins.

May

- K - Blue Hat, Green Hat
- 1 - Ira Sleeps Over
- 2 - Pinky and Rex and Just the Right Pet
- 3 - Orca Song

June

- K - Duck Pond Dip
- 1 - Monster in the Backpack
- 2 - Alien From Outer Space
- 3 - Centerfield BallHawk

July

- K - The Tooth Book
- 1 - Slap, Squeak & Scatter
- 2 - Henry and Mudge Forever Sea
- 3 - Jake Drake, Class Clown

August

- K - May I Have a Cookie Please?
- 1 - Clifford's Funny Adventures
- 2 - Tortoise and the Hare Race Again
- 3 - Third Grade Detectives: The Case of the Dirty Clue

Helping Children Learn to Read



Parents are the best teachers when it comes to preparing children to read and write. Research confirms that children who are read to at least three times every week do better in school.

Sharing books with children, encouraging their interest in reading and providing them with positive experiences in the library help prepare them for learning to read and write. **Simply stated, show children that reading is both important and fun. Then make books available. Your library can provide hundreds of books ... for free!**

The library's newest step to help children read will be the addition of book bins later this summer. Book bins will allow your child to flip through and easily find their favorite story. In order to make room for the bins, youth non-fiction books will be relocated to NCPL's second floor. Reference librarians will join children's librarians in helping school-age children find the books they need for homework, projects and non-fiction reading.

New OFFERINGS:

Here are a few of the 4,602 items added to your library since January:

FICTION

- ***Beyond the Law***, Wayne Overholser
- ***Cold Wind***, C.J. Box
- ***The Dawn Country***, Kathleen O'Neal Gear
- ***Family Affair***, Debbie Macomber
- ***Live Wire***, Harlan Coben

NONFICTION

- ***American Uprising***, Daniel Rasmussen
- ***I Beat The Odds***, Michael Orr
- ***Manning Up***, Kay Hymowitz
- ***The Money Class***, Suze Orman
- ***Overdiagnosed***, Gilbert Welch

MUSIC

- ***Goodbye Lullaby***, Avril Lavigne
- ***Harry Connick, Jr. In Concert on Broadway***
- ***Hundred More Years***, Francesca Battistelli
- ***Rare Bird Alert***, Steve Martin
- ***Stronger***, Sara Evans

AUDIOBOOKS

- ***America By Heart***, Sarah Palin
- ***Gideon's Sword***, Douglas Preston
- ***Unbroken***, Laura Hillenbrand
- ***Silent Mercy***, Linda Fairstein
- ***Toys***, James Patterson

DVDs

- ***Around the World in 80 Days***
- ***The Fighter***
- ***Hobart Shakespeareans***
- ***Spin City, Fourth Season***
- ***Tangled***
- ***Human Experience***

One World, Many Stories

SUMMER READING PROGRAMS @ YOUR LIBRARY

Reading during the summer is one of the most important things kids and families can do to stay prepared for the next school year. Plus, it can be great fun!

This summer, all children through 6th grade can travel the world using NCPL's books during our "One World, Many Stories" program.

Check-in begins Tuesday,

May 31 for young travelers. Children will receive a log to record the books they read, winning prizes after returning from their reading adventures.

Young children and their parents can schedule stopovers for Storytimes each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning at 10:30 am, and Tween programs for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders will

be held on Mondays at 2 pm.

The "You Are Here" program is for teens entering 7th-12th grades. They will encounter great books, explore exciting terrain and locate hidden talents, winning prizes for reading along the way. Our itinerary will feature author S.L. Rottman, artist Laurel Shelley-Reuss, storyteller Indiana Bones, and songwriter Andy Mason.

Adults can join in the fun as well, visiting "Novel Destinations" of their own. Sign the whole family up to read the summer away, beginning Tuesday, May 31 at any NCPL branch.

Summer Reading @ your Library is sponsored by the Natrona County Recreation Joint Powers Board, McDonald's & the Casper Ghosts.



Children of all ages will enjoy performances by:

- Monkey Shine Puppets.....June 7-9
- The Noise Guy.....June 14-15
- Indiana Bones.....June 20-22
- The Amazing Arthur.....June 24-27
- Children's Musician
Andy Mason..... July 6-8
- Dragons Are Too Seldom
Puppet Productions..... July 20-21
- The Elstuns' Comedy
Magic Hour..... July 26-28

Summer Reading Kickoff Lunch

The Friends of the Library will host a kickoff lunch at NCPL, free of charge, to encourage families to sign up for summer reading. Hotdogs will be served on the main library lawn and at the Mills branch beginning at 11:30 am Tuesday May 31.

FRIENDS AND HEROES

Together they have worked part-time to operate the Friends booksale. Their efforts have supplied the community with low-cost reading material and supported Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) in Natrona County schools.

Betty Ouder Kirk, Joy Mascarenas and Donna Mullen retired from their Friends' volunteer work following the 40th annual Spring Book Sale. Ouder Kirk began volunteering in 1977. She and friend Wilma Bovie organized the annual sales as a team until Bovie passed away in 2003.

Mascarenas has spent 19 years cleaning, repairing and organizing children's books. Mullen came on board in 2002 and has organized both donations and other volunteers.

Through the efforts of these three ladies

countless individuals have been able to recycle their old books. Thanks to funds donated by the Friends, NCPL's patrons have benefited from equipment and many special programs. "Thank you," Betty, Joy and Donna for your years of service, commitment to literacy, and work on behalf of the Friends and NCPL.



Betty (left), Joy and Donna (right) were honored for their years of volunteer service at the Jefferson Awards Luncheon on April 11.

F O U N D A T I O N

Making a Good Library Great: GIVING TO THE NCPL FOUNDATION

What is the difference between a good library and a great library? A great library is measured by its ability to go beyond basic services with the help of private funds to provide programs and collections of true distinction. With your help, our library can keep providing the quality programs and materials its patrons have come to expect – both today and in the future.

All endowment funds are placed in a permanent account to augment the library’s collections, provide expanded library programming and help operate the Foundation for years to come. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation or would like to learn more about the Foundation, please contact us at 237-4935, extension 104.

Board of Directors:

John Masterson - President • Michael Merback • John Jorgensen • Steve Degenfelder • Jeanne Goldrick
Linda Nix • Mary Lynne Shickich • Mark Zaback • Dick Day • 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: _____

Lawmakers Increase Funds for Library Endowment Program

During this year's legislative session, lawmakers recognized the importance of continuing to invest in Wyoming's public libraries. An additional \$3 million in matching funds was allocated to the endowment challenge program.

The Natrona County Public Library Foundation now has an opportunity to raise an additional \$130,000 in funds that will be matched 1-to-1 with these new state funds.

The endowment challenge program was originally created during the 2008 legislative session. Since then, the Natrona County Public Library has received over \$800,000 in private and

state-matched funds for its endowment.

"It's gratifying to see that, even with transitions in the governor's office and among legislators, investing in Wyoming's libraries continues to be an important priority," said Foundation Board President John Masterson. "When contributions from our donors are matched by state funds, our foundation can be in a position to truly make a difference for the Natrona County Public Library."

Income earned from the endowment is used by NCPL to go beyond the basic services supported through tax revenues. With them, your library is able to provide high quality educational programs for

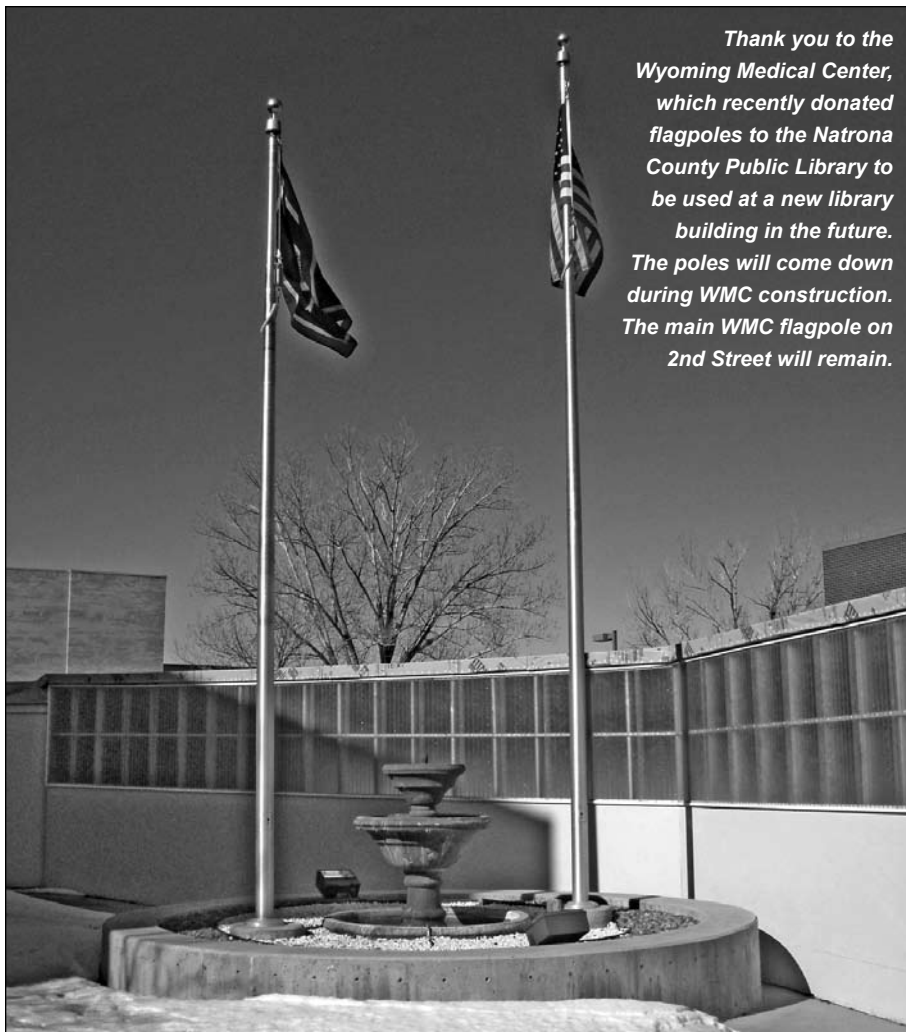
youth, literacy instruction materials for parents, special collections reflecting our community's unique heritage, augment educational opportunities for all ages, and promote a thriving community.

A Special Thank You

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

Rebecca Rowe
True Foundation
Randall Hein Architects
First Interstate Bancsystem Foundation
Claranne Cannon
Bill & Beth Nelson
Randy & Merry Lou Buffington
Myra Fox Skelton Foundation
George & Kristi Armijo
Bob & Pat Nagel
Rob & Leslie Hendry
Doug Morton
Keith & Joan Mills
Mike & Jane Sullivan
W. H. & Patricia Ward
Royce & Sandra Brown
Mrs. G. Kirk Talbot
Carolyn Deuel
Jonah Bank
Manuel & Marilyn Lojo
Marial Choma
Anita Hill
Walter & Mary Hein
Don & Carolyn Bentzen
Judi Van Rensselaer
Frank & Ellen Vayo
Linda Nix & Neil Short
Alice Barnard

*Have you remembered
the Public Library
Foundation in your will?*



Thank you to the Wyoming Medical Center, which recently donated flagpoles to the Natrona County Public Library to be used at a new library building in the future. The poles will come down during WMC construction. The main WMC flagpole on 2nd Street will remain.

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.

Honoring Our Outdoor Heritage

Attention hunters and fishermen! NCPL is creating two special collections of rare books, one for hunting and another for fishing books.

Hunting and fishing are extraordinarily popular recreational opportunities in our community. While NCPL currently holds hundreds of books on these subjects for checkout, your librarians are now beginning to create legacy collections.

As we began this project it was interesting to learn that only one other public library in the country has a hunting collection, and that is on the East Coast! That's why we feel it is important to capture the breadth of Wyoming's outdoor heritage, right here in

Natrona County.

The two collections will focus on rare and hard-to-find books about hunting and fishing in the Rocky Mountains. Classic North American and worldwide hunting stories are also planned for inclusion. Due to the collections' rarity, the books will be available for in-library use only.

If you are well-versed in hunting or fishing literature, we would welcome your suggestions.

Looking for a home for your private collection? NCPL would be honored to consider your donation to help us build these new collections. Please contact us at 577-READ.

Connect to Library Services for Boomers & Seniors

There is no need to fear the growing number of candles on your birthday cake! The month of May is packed with fun activities for Baby Boomers and Seniors. Each Wednesday evening will provide an opportunity to learn, grow and meet new people.

On May 4, 5:30 pm, we will indulge in "Music Memories." Reminisce the good old days with trivia, facts, games and samples of music from the '50s, '60s, and '70s.

May 11, 5:30 pm will be "Senior Night Out @ the Library." Come for a behind-the-scenes tour, history of NCPL, and an overview of all of the Boomer and Senior-friendly activities and services your library provides.

The evening of May 18, 5:30 pm is all about genealogy. "Becoming a Genealogy Guru" will be your opportunity to learn about the resources that NCPL provides to get you started on researching family history.

You can practice your clicking skills on May 25, 5:30 pm at "Browsing for Boomers." We will highlight several websites with layouts and information specifically designed for Boomers.

Wyoming Dementia Care will offer several informational sessions throughout the month of May. Mary Hein will present "Alzheimer's and Other Dementias: Care-giving" on Thursday, May 5 at noon, and again at 6:30 pm. She will continue the series in June with "Alzheimer's and Other Dementias: Financial Planning" Thursday, June 2 at noon, and at 5:00 pm.



WYOMING READS

On Tuesday, May 17, over 1,000 first graders will visit NCPL and the NIC to receive a hard-back book of their very own. Wyoming Reads provides all first graders in the state with a book of their choice, celebrating literacy and instilling the joy of reading in young students.



❖ MAY ❖

- 3 - Teens, Get a Job!, 6 PM
- 4 - Music Memories, 5:30 PM
- 9 - Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 11 - Senior Night, 5:30 PM
- 12 - Recipes-in-a-Jar, 10:30 AM, Mills
- 13 - "They Served With Honor" Exhibit Begins
- 14 - Pet First Aid, 10:30 AM
- 17 - Wyoming Reads, 10 AM
- 17 - Library Parking Lot Closed, 8 AM - 1 PM
- 17 - Independent Film, 6:30 PM
- 18 - Genealogy Guru, 5:30 PM
- 20 - Job Search Skills, 3 PM
- 20 - Poetry Box, 5:30 PM
- 21 - Healthy Living: Diabetes, 10:30 AM
- 23 - "They Served With Honor" Reception, 11:30 AM - 1 PM
- 23 - Water Wise Landscape Design, 6:30 PM
- 24 - Family Night: Smelling Bee, 6:30 PM
- 25 - Browsing for Boomers, 5:30 PM
- 30 - Memorial Day: Library Closed
- 31 - Summer Reading Begins
- 31 - Teen Zone Open House, 10 AM - 5 PM

❖ JUNE ❖

- 4 - Super Couponing Workshop, 10:30 AM
- 7-9 - Monkey Shine Puppets
- 9 - Recycled T-Shirt Bags, 10:30 AM, Mills
- 9 - Crafty Afternoon: Bookmaking, 2 PM
- 13 - Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 14-15 - The Noise Guy
- 17 - Poetry Box, 5:30 PM
- 18 - Healthy Living: Cool Off Naturally, 10:30 AM
- 20-22 - Indiana Bones, Storyteller
- 21 - Independent Film, 6:30 PM
- 22 - Mystery Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
- 24-27 - The Amazing Arthur
- 28 - Family Movie Night, 6:30 PM
- 30 - Bug Appetit (Teens), 2 PM

❖ JULY ❖

- 4 - Independence Day: Library Closed
- 6 - Wednesday Writers, 10 AM
- 6 - Songwriting for Teens, 6 PM
- 6-8 - Andy Mason Kids' Concerts
- 7 - Book Chat, 2 PM
- 9 - Comic Art for Teens, 2 PM
- 12 - Parade Day: Library Closed
- 14 - The Honey Dew Drops Concert, 6:30 PM
- 15 - Poetry Box, 5:30 PM
- 19 - Scrapbooking for Teens, 2 PM
- 20-21 - Dragons Are Too Seldom Puppets
- 26-28 - Elstun's Comedy Magic Hour
- 30 - Summer Reading Programs End

Local Hero: Alice Beasley



Alice is a passionate advocate of the library. She takes every available opportunity to tell family, friends and acquaintances that NCPL is their best resource for information and entertainment. Thank you, Alice!

Edgerton Branch Upgrades

The Mark J. Davis branch will have a few upgrades soon thanks to One-Cent funding. New laptop computers for public use are on their way, and a Literacy Station will offer learning games for young children. Other improvements will include a handicapped-accessible ramp in front of the library and a new outdoor maintenance storage shed.



Mayor Buck King (center) presents a check for library improvements to Edgerton librarian Michele Butler (left) and NCPL Director, Bill Nelson (right).

They Served With Honor

NCPL is proud to host "They Served with Honor," a display honoring World War II veterans whose stories were recently published in the Casper Star-Tribune. The display will be open for viewing May 13 - June 3. A talk and reception honoring local World War II veterans will be held Monday, May 23, 11:30 am in the Crawford Room.

Text Notifications

Text-message notifications are now available when your items are ready for pickup, almost due, or overdue (standard text-messaging fees apply). Visit natronacountylibrary.org and click "My Account" to sign up, or call 577-READ for more information.

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