Wyoming author Craig Johnson’s *Spirit of Steamboat* has been selected for this year’s One Book Wyoming program. Johnson’s 10th and newest book, *Spirit of Steamboat* is a novella featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. The story is filled with adventure, history, memorable characters, more than a touch of tenderness, and a Longmire-esque ending.

Former Sheriff Lucian Connally plays a key role in this winter adventure, as does a plane named for Wyoming’s iconic bucking horse, Steamboat. Readers who enjoy the TV show Longmire, military aircraft, Wyoming history, and fast-paced adventure will relish this quick read.

Those who enjoy Johnson’s Longmire books or the television show based on them know there is much to discuss and ponder. For example, what does it mean to live in Wyoming? Is Walt an accurate Wyoming representative? What is justice? Is it different in the West? How are the books and television show similar? How are they different?

April will be “Longmire Month” at NCPL, featuring guest speakers, book discussions, a contest or two, and weekly screenings of episodes from the hit A&E TV series based on Johnson’s books. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.
New OFFERINGS:
Here are a few of the 3,487 items added to your library since October:

FICTION
• Cross My Heart, James Patterson
• The Gods of Guilt, Michael Connelly
• The Last Buffalo, Ed Kienzle
• Never Go Back, Lee Child
• The Pursuit of Murieta, Thomas D. Clagett

NONFICTION
• American Psychosis, E. Fuller Torrey
• Chasing Chaos, Jessica Alexander
• Conversational Intelligence, Judith Glasser
• Japan 1941, Eri Hotta
• Lady Catherine, the Earl, and the Real Downton Abbey, Fiona Carnarvon

MUSIC
• Baptized, Daughtry
• The Book Thief, Soundtrack
• Britney Jean, Britney Spears
• Foreverly, Norah Jones & Billy Joe Armstrong
• Midnight Memories, One Direction

BOOKS ON CD
• But I Trusted You, Ann Rule
• Doctor Who: A History, Alan Kistler
• The Dream Unfolds, Barbara Delinsky
• Mirage, Clive Cussler
• True Blue, Luanne Rice

MOVIES
• Chicago Fire, Season 1
• Cold War
• Getaway
• Mary Poppins
• Peter Pan

WINTER OLYMPICS
The 2014 Winter Olympics begin in Sochi, Russia on February 7. During the following 17 days 2,500 athletes from over 80 countries will participate in 98 events in 15 disciplines of 7 different sports.

For trivia and history buffs, NCPL has dozens of books and DVDs available to provide powerful opportunities for learning more about the Olympics. In particular, we recommend:

• Freeze Frame: A Photographic History of the Winter Olympics by Sue Macy captures in detail both the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.
• For an absolutely exhaustive look at all things Olympiad, check out the 1,335 page Complete Book of the Olympics by Wallchinsky and Loucky.

DIVERGENT
Set in a dystopian future, society has divided itself into factions. Each believes in and honors a specific core value: selflessness; honesty; intelligence; bravery; or peacefulness. At age sixteen, individuals take an aptitude test, the results of which help them decide whether to stay in their faction of birth or choose another. It is supposed to be simple, but Beatrice Prior’s test results are abnormal, which means she is Divergent. She is told to keep her results a secret, as being Divergent is dangerous. Will she survive? What does it really mean to be Divergent? What would happen if her secret is discovered?

Engage Teens in Reading
One of the best ways to engage teens in reading is to put a great book in their hands. NCPL and local high school librarians are doing just that with this year’s One Community One Book: High School program. We are encouraging all high school students (grades 9-12) to read the book Divergent by Veronica Roth this spring.

Copies of the book will be given to students at their schools as well as NCPL’s Teen Zone beginning January 22. For those who prefer reading on electronic devices, eBooks are available to check out from NCPL’s Virtual Library.

Students can participate in Divergent-related activities including Faction Action held in the NCPL Crawford Room, Saturday, March 1, and a book discussion held at Metro Coffee Co., March 11. The celebration will conclude with a showing of the soon-to-be-released movie in late March or early April (date TBA).

Visit natronacountylibrary.org/teens/ocob for additional details.
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.

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: __________________________________________________________
The Library Foundation:
2013 In Review

With 2013 “on the books” and a new year underway, the Library Foundation looks back on some of the important items it purchased to support the programs and services of the library. Here are just a few examples of the ways in which private donations are put to use to benefit our community:

Bookmobile Graphics
The Bookmobile received a “new look” in August 2013, featuring bright and colorful books, people of all ages reading together and the slogan “Read 20 minutes a day with someone special.” The old graphics covering the outside of the vehicle had become cracked, chipped and faded over time, and were overdue for replacement. The Foundation is proud to have been able to assist in making the vehicle stand out and bring a strong literacy message as it provides library services to far-flung corners of our county.

Flag Tables
Most Natrona County citizens do not know that NCPL hosts two historic Wyoming flags. Previously hidden behind stacks of books, these historic pieces are now showcased in secure cases where library patrons can see and enjoy them.

DaVinci Magnifier/Text to Speech
A DaVinci desktop magnifier, purchased with funds from the NCPL Foundation, is now available to assist library users. Featuring a 3-in-1 camera and text-to-speech capability, the DaVinci can magnify and/or play aloud any printed text.

Literacy Stations
Childhood literacy is helped along by storytimes, being read to at home, and even computer interaction. NCPL recently added three literacy stations which allow children to practice literacy skills.

Children’s Interactive Learning Artwork
Children learn in a variety of ways, from reading, to listening, to playing. Foundation funds have made possible a new piece of interactive artwork for children to enjoy while at the library. The piece is currently in production, designed by local craftsmen and NCPL’s childhood specialists. It will be added to the library sometime in 2014.

A Special Thank You
The NCPL Foundation wishes to extend a very special “Thank You” to the following individuals for their recent donations:

Andrea Ice
Ann Carnahan
Ann Smith
Cathy Jo George
Daniel Rea
Don & Carolyn Bentzen
Edward & Shirley Chase
Gary & Barbara Winter (memorial)
Graham & Sheila Kimble
Howard & Nina Ewart
Steve & Cheryl Degenfelder
Steve Johnston, D.D.S.
Thomas Clemmons
Walter & Mary Hein
William & Hi Curry
Access Wyoming
Friends of the Natrona County Public Library
Kathleen Hemry Trust
Verdad Foundation

Have you remembered the Public Library Foundation in your will?

As you can see, private donations – from both individuals and foundations — play an essential role in the programs, equipment and services NCPL provides. The purpose of the NCPL Foundation is to provide exemplary library services and resources, above and beyond what is available through regular public funding.

Thank you for your generosity in the past years – and Happy 2014!
FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

You may have noticed a few changes in the past year to NCPL’s online and in-person services. These features provide more efficient and convenient options for library users. Here are a few helpful services you may appreciate:

**Self-Checkout**
Library patrons have been able to checkout their own items for many years, and we now have updated machines that are even easier to use. Just swipe your card, set your library items on the pad, and away you go! Library staff are always available to help you get comfortable using these machines or provide personal checkout service.

**Text Alerts**
Did you know you can get a text message the day before items are due to remind you to return them? Text alerts also come when items are overdue, or when holds are ready for pickup. Standard messaging fees apply. Simply sign up in the “My Account” section on NCPL’s website.

**Pay Online**
We have recently added “SmartPay” to our website, allowing you to pay late fees or printing costs by credit or debit card. VISA and MasterCard are accepted, and the minimum transaction is six dollars. To use SmartPay, visit natronacountylibrary.org and click “Pay Fines” in the upper right-hand corner.

To learn more about these and other convenient services at your library, ask a librarian the next time you visit, check out the “Services” section on our website or call us at 577-READ (7323).

Wyoming Free Tax Service – Relocated to Restoration Fellowship Church

Update: Wyoming Free Tax Service volunteers will NOT be offering tax filing assistance at NCPL this year. The group will instead offer their service at the Restoration Fellowship Church (411 S. Walsh Dr.) during the 2013 tax filing season. Copies of their schedule are available at the checkout desk.

Portraits of Pastoralism

Wednesday, February 26 at noon, Wyoming author Cat Urbigkit will speak about her experiences traveling the world, from the sagebrush of western Wyoming to Central Asia, Europe, and Africa, learning about the people and traditions of livestock production. Urbigkit’s presentation will include photos of pastoral peoples and scenery from around the globe and will be on display at NCPL through March 20.

Upcoming EVENTS

For a full listing of NCPL events, visit www.natronacountylibrary.org. Please call 577-7323 for more information.

**FEBRUARY**

1. Let’s Talk College: FAFSA Help, 11 AM - 1 PM
3. Learn About the Health Insurance Marketplace, 11 AM
6. Using Microsoft Excel, 2-4 PM
8. Valentine Card Workshop, 1 PM
12. Book Lover’s Guide to the Web, 2-4 PM
12. Let’s Talk College: FAFSA Help, 6-8 PM
17. Closed: Presidents’ Day
25. Family Game Night, 6:30 PM
26. Portraits of Pastoralism with Cat Urbigkit, Noon
27. Let’s Talk College: FAFSA Help, 6-8 PM
28. Using Microsoft Publisher, 10 AM - Noon

**MARCH**

10. Tween Movie (Grades 4-6), 2 PM
10-14. NCSD#1 Spring Break
11. Teen Crafts (Grades 7-12), 2 PM
11. Divergent Book Discussion, 6:30 PM
12. School’s Out Movie (Elementary Ages), 2 PM
13. Teen Movies (Grades 7-12), 2 PM
21. Elementary Art Show Begins
22. Let’s Talk College: FAFSA Help, 11 AM - 1 PM
25. Family Movie Night, 6:30 PM
27. Elementary Art Show Reception, 5-7 PM

**APRIL**

Longmire Month (LM): One Book Wyoming
2. LM: TV Series Screening (Pt. 1), 6:30 PM
9. LM: TV Series Screening (Pt. 2), 6:30 PM
16. LM: TV Series Screening (Pt. 3), 6:30 PM
16. Elementary Art Show Ends
21. LM: Wyoming Territorial Sheriffs with Wyoming Author Ann Gorzaika, 6:30 PM
22. Family Game Night, 6:30 PM
23. LM: TV Series Screening (Pt. 4), 6:30 PM
28. LM Spirit of Steamboat Discussion, 6:30 PM
30. LM: TV Series Screening (Pt. 5), 6:30 PM
Exploring Geography @ Your Library

Elementary age students often hone their geography skills through the use of maps at school, the library, or online. But it is not often that those maps are nearly the size of the Crawford Room!

Thanks to the Wyoming Geographic Alliance (WGA) two of National Geographic’s Giant Traveling Maps will be coming to NCPL and featured in our After School @ the Library programs. Germaine Wagner, retired teacher and local WGA member, will guide students through three weeks of activities and exploration with each map, helping children learn about the physical and cultural geography of each continent.

The first map will be of Europe with related programs on February 5, 12, and 19. The continent of Asia will be featured March 19, 26, and April 2. After School @ the Library programs are free, no signup necessary, and are held every Wednesday afternoon at 4 pm for elementary-age students.

“I chose free libraries as the best agencies for improving the masses of the people because they only help those who help themselves. They never pauperize. A taste for reading drives out lower tastes.” —Andrew Carnegie

Elementary Art Show

This spring, NCPL will again host artwork created by NCSD #1 students. Paintings, drawings, sculptures, fiber art and more will be on display throughout NCPL from March 21 through April 17. A reception honoring our community’s young artists will be held the evening of March 27th.

Greek County
Public Library
307 East Second Street
Casper, WY 82601

Return Service Requested