The 2015 Summer Reading theme is “Every Hero Has a Story.” NCPL’s program begins May 26 and continues until August 31. While normally just two months, NCPL is extending the program an extra month as a way to help our youth engage their minds and maintain their literacy skills until school resumes in September. We think this will pay long-term dividends by ultimately helping to reduce the high school dropout rate.

We hope parents will establish an expectation of participation. Reading during the summer plays an essential role in preventing the “summer slide” or the loss of learning that happens when kids don’t keep their brains active by reading. The more they read this summer, the less catching up they may have to do when they return to school in September.

In addition to offering a summer-long program, we are encouraging participants to read at least 20 minutes a day. Those 20 minutes don’t have to happen all at once; 10 minutes in the morning and 10 minutes before bedtime works well for our little tikes!

Rocky Mountain Puppets, Andy Mason, Dr. Noize, The Incredible Mr. E and Dragons Are Too Seldom Puppet Productions will be soaring in to share their performance super powers throughout the summer. Our Launching Little Learners for preschoolers, Tween Mondays for students grades 4 through 6, and fun times for teens entering grades 7 through 12 will also take participants to the library and beyond, helping them to discover the power that comes from books. A full schedule of events will be available at registration on May 26.

Summer Reading Preview: “Every Hero Has a Story”

Harper Lee’s 2nd Book!
An enigmatic author, a prequel to one of the most beloved and important books of our time and a myriad of questions – mix together, and you’ve got the makings of huge news in the publishing world.

Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* has sold 40 million copies in 55 years, continually ranking as one of the most widely read works of American literature. It has been a mystery to many why she never published a second book. Well, that is about to change.

In mid-July, HarperCollins will release *Go Set a Watchman*. Written before *To Kill a Mockingbird*, it tells the story of a grown Scout Finch who returns to Maycomb, Alabama to visit her father Atticus. She must examine the “turbulent events transforming mid-1950s America,” and how small-town South presents personal, political, and societal issues she struggles to understand. (Summary from HarperCollins).

The release is surrounded by questions. The most prominent is: Why now? Harper Lee’s older sister Alice was her long-time lawyer and, according to many sources, her shield from the outside world. Alice, who passed away in November at the age of 103, was often quoted as saying, “Harper can’t see and can’t hear and will sign anything put before her by anyone in whom she has confidence.” HarperCollins claims Lee’s current lawyer, Tonja Carter, recently found a copy of *Watchman*, which was rejected when written and thought lost. Skeptics wonder: Will it be good? Will we like Scout as an adult? Is it complete?

NCPL will be acquiring several copies of *Go Set a Watchman*. To place your name on the waiting list, visit www.natronacountylibrary.org or call 577-READ.
New Offerings:

Here are a few of the 4,297 items added to your library since January 1, 2015:

**FICTION**
- *World Gone By*, Dennis Lehane
- *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy*, Rachel Joyce
- *Last Days of the Condor*, James Grady
- *New Uses for Old Boyfriends*, Beth Kendrick
- *Green on Blue*, Elliot Ackerman

**NONFICTION**
- *17 Carnations*, Andrew Morton
- *K1*, Nikolaus Wachsmann
- *Red Notice*, Bill Browder
- *Capital Dames*, Cokie Roberts
- *Meet me in Atlantis*, Mark Adams

**MUSIC**
- *First Kiss*, Kid Rock
- *Boyhood*, Jeff Tweedy
- *Dope Machines*, Airborn Toxic Event
- *Fifty Shades of Grey*, Danny Elfman
- *Lead Us Back*, Third Day

**BOOKS ON CD**
- *The Big Seven*, Jim Harrison
- *Crazy Love You*, Lisa Unger
- *The Buried Giant*, Kazuo Ishiguro
- *Arsenic and Old Books*, Miranda James
- *Motive*, Jonathan Kellerman

**MOVIES**
- *Fury*
- *The Judge*
- *Exodus: Gods and Kings*
- *Imitation Game*
- *Interstellar*

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**SUMMER VACATIONS WITH AUDIOBOOKS**

Add some excitement to your summer road trip by checking out an audiobook. Our collection contains thousands of audiobooks available for download, on CD, and Playaway. (Playaways are MP3 devices that contain audiobooks and can even be played through many car radios.) Available titles include bestsellers such as C.J. Box’s *Endangered*, Paula Hawkins’ *Girl on the Train*, James Patterson’s newest *NYPD Red 3*, or Kristen Hannah’s epic *Nightingale*.

Many like to use driving time to hear self-improvement books. *Unleash the Power Within* by Anthony Robbins, *Picture Your Prosperity: Smart Money Moves to Turn Your Vision Into Reality* by Ellen Robin, or *Wake Up to a Happier Life* by Amanda Dickson are just a few of the hundreds of titles available.

Books recently turned into movies are also popular and a sampling of these audiobooks include: *The Longest Ride* by Nicholas Sparks, *Paper Town* by John Green and *Before I Go to Sleep* by SJ Watson. Other favorites have been *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand and *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien.

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Where did the Checkout Desk Go?

Ever since NCPL introduced self-checkout technology in 2014, our patrons have fully embraced it. We were amazed that after just six months over 80% of checkouts (more than 40,000 per month) were completed by patrons using the self-check stations. Interestingly, a large number of people used the machines to return items as well! Fortunately, the checkout and check-in process is fairly intuitive so the transition was a smooth one.

The advent of easy-to-use self-checkout services means your library no longer needed a large checkout desk. After all, why did we need a huge area devoted to staff checkouts when most patrons were using the self-checkout systems? The desk became a hindrance to efficient staffing.

Therefore, in late 2014, the Checkout Team and JBooth Construction put their heads together and came up with the solution: Open up the area to display more materials and provide a smaller desk for folks desiring face-to-face checkouts or those with account inquiries. As such, the main checkout desk has been removed and the area opened up to enable more display space and promote easier patron interaction with librarians.

We hope you will enjoy this “new look” and appreciate how your NCPL team continues to serve you more efficiently.

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Summer Hours

The library’s summer hours go into effect just after Memorial Day. Beginning Tuesday, May 26, the main library in downtown Casper will be open:

- **Monday through Thursday**: 9 AM – 6 PM
- **Friday and Saturday**: 9 AM – 5 PM
- **Sunday**: CLOSED
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: Steve Degenfelder - President • Michael Merback • John Jorgensen • Linda Nix • Brent Pickett • Mary Lynne Shickich • Sam Vigneri • John Masterson • Susan Stubson • Jansen Siplon-Curry • 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: ___________________________________________________________
Private donations to the Natrona County Public Library Foundation will continue to be matched by the State of Wyoming under new changes to the State Endowment Challenge Program. The legislation was sponsored by Representative Tim Stubson (R-Natrona County) and signed into law by Governor Matt Mead on March 3, 2015.

The program now allows library foundations to enter into sharing agreements with other Wyoming library foundations. This change is particularly relevant to the Natrona County Public Library Foundation, as it has raised the maximum amount of matching funds allowed by the State Endowment Challenge Program. With the modifications to the program effective immediately, our Foundation can now work with other library foundations to share private donations raised as well as access additional state matching funds.

“It's gratifying to see that investing in Wyoming's libraries continues to be an important priority for the state,” said Foundation Board President Steve Degenfelder. “Natrona County is blessed to have extensive philanthropic resources and our donors in Natrona County are deeply committed to supporting the library’s work. With this change, we are in a position to truly make a difference for our library as well as others around the state.”

The legislation also extends the deadline of library foundation donations eligible to be matched by the state. Under the previous legislation, private donations made to library foundations could be matched by state funds until June 2017. The new deadline is June 2022.

Since the state program's inception in 2008, the Natrona County Public Library Foundation has increased its endowment by nearly $2 million, allowing the Foundation Board to eliminate fundraising for annual operating funds and focus on significantly expanding its support of the programs and services of the library.

Income earned from the endowment is used to go beyond the basic services which are supported through tax revenues and provide additional programs and materials. Funds are raised and monitored with careful stewardship by the Foundation's Board. The Library Foundation has used endowment income to address library priorities in literacy and education, such as providing funding for early literacy tools and a redesign of the library’s bookmobile, developing a book on the history of Natrona County for local students and developing special collections related to the West.
NCPL COMMUNITY BUILDER - 5  MAY - JULY 2015

NCPL & AARP Shred Fest

On June 25th, NCPL and AARP are teaming up to host a live Shred Fest and two Fraud Watch informational workshops focusing on real-world, hands-on ways to prevent identity theft and fraud.

The live Shred Fest will take place in the library’s parking lot from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A shredding truck will be on hand to securely dispose of documents and records that contain sensitive information. This is a great opportunity to clean out your office files and know they will not be used to compromise your identity or safety.

The two Fraud Watch workshops will take place at noon and 5:30 p.m. in the library’s Crawford Room. Experts from AARP and library staff will offer tips on how to secure your personal and financial information. Learn about some of the most common tricks that online and in-person thieves use to steal your identity, as well as how to prevent such thefts. If you use the Internet or phone to shop; connect with family, research or conduct any kind of financial transactions, these sessions are for you. Don’t become a victim; be informed.

Refreshments will be provided by AARP. Neither registration or membership in AARP is required to attend the Shred Fest or the Fraud Watch workshops. For questions, please contact NCPL’s Reference Desk at 577-READ, ext. 2.

Out with the Old, In with the New

The M.J. Davis Jr. Memorial Library in Edgerton opened its doors in 1971 and has largely looked the same since that time. Over the past forty years, however, library services and programs have changed. To better serve the 21st century Edgerton and Midwest communities, the building was recently updated.

Work began this spring to remodel the interior of the library to reflect a vibrant, modern community center. The changes were made based on input of patrons and include: fresh paint both inside and out, new carpet, a new front door, energy efficient windows, increased Internet speed, additional computer terminals, and comfortable seating. Perhaps most importantly, the library collection also has been updated!
One-on-One

TECH HELP @ YOUR LIBRARY

Need help with your computer or tablet? Want to learn more about software or apps? Your library can help. Attend one of our free technology classes covering a wide variety of topics. You can also call, drop in, or schedule a one-on-one appointment with NCPL’s Patron Technology Specialist. Give us a call at 577-READ (7323) to find out more.

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES

NCPL welcomes new Library Board members Kate Sarosy and Kyle True. Thank you to Shawn Houck and John Lawson for your years of service as Library Trustees. Your work has made a difference.

FIRE DRILLS

For the safety of our patrons and staff, NCPL conducts periodic fire drills during library open hours. Drills should take no more than 15 minutes and help us all be prepared for an emergency.

Need help with your computer or tablet? Want to learn more about software or apps? Your library can help. Attend one of our free technology classes covering a wide variety of topics. You can also call, drop in, or schedule a one-on-one appointment with NCPL’s Patron Technology Specialist. Give us a call at 577-READ (7323) to find out more.

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