

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

**LIBRARY HOURS:**  
*(September through May)*  
**Mon-Thur: 9 AM – 8 PM**  
**Fri-Sat: 9 AM – 5 PM**  
**Sun: 1 PM – 5 PM**  
*(June through August)*  
**Mon-Thur: 9 AM – 6 PM**  
**Fri-Sat: 9 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)

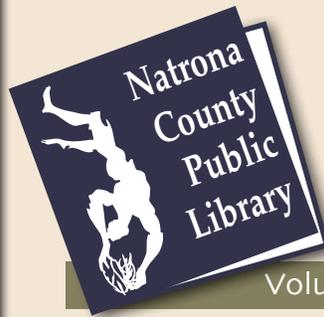
Library Board of Trustees:  
Hampton O'Neill, President  
Kyle True, Vice President  
Shannon Dutcher, Treasurer  
Kate Sarosy, Secretary

Bill Nelson, Director

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Newsletter funded by the  
Natrona County Public Library  
Foundation



# Community BUILDER

Volume 13 Issue 2

AUGUST - OCTOBER 2015

## NCPL's Longest Serving Director Retires

Following a 24-year career as a Navy Seabee officer, Bill Nelson became Natrona County Public Library Director in June of 1999. On June 1st, Nelson announced his retirement to the Library Board, marking 16 years of service and making him the longest serving Director in the library's history.

Nelson and the team he developed have dramatically increased the community's awareness and use of the public's library. Patronage at the library has risen from 465 visitors daily to over 1,100. Circulation has increased from 336,800 checkouts per year to 641,300. The number of youth programs conducted in a year has increased from 160 to 1,270; adult programs increased from 19 to 224 per year. Other service improvements include a Teen Zone, Tech Center, new bookmobile, Edgerton branch remodel, and fully implementing technology.

Nelson has been a leader in promoting both literacy and education as community values. Some examples include helping to produce the statewide Sue Jorgensen Library Foundation's "Wyoming Reads" celebration for 1st graders. With NCSD #1 and the Casper Star-Tribune, he helped create the "We Read" program to reinforce the message of reading 20 minutes a day to prepare youth for success in life.

In response to new history curriculum requirements, Nelson volunteered to create a team of local experts to research, write, illustrate, and publish "Natrona County: The Place We Call Home." Over 1,100 copies of this book are now

in 3rd grade classrooms throughout the County. When Nelson arrived, NCPL was one of the poorest funded libraries in the nation. Working with the Library Board, County Commission, School Board, and One-Cent Committees, he helped establish a functional library budget. Additionally, under his leadership, the NCPL Foundation was revitalized as a private funding source to augment basic public funding.

He served on the Wyoming Library Association Legislative Committee and was instrumental in creating the Public Library Endowment Challenge Match Program during the 2008 Legislature. This program continues to provide over \$18 million of state funds to match private contributions for public library endowments for all Wyoming libraries.

Nelson received the 2006 McMurry Wyoming Community Service Award and the Wyoming Library Association's 2008 Distinguished Service Award.

Bill says he will most remember developing and retaining an extremely strong library team. With his encouragement, several staff members have gone on to earn a Master of Library Science degree. Under his mentoring, four have received WLA's Librarian-of-the-Year Award.

His vision and boundless enthusiasm for free speech and building our community's future have helped create a vibrant, busy library that will continue to transform the lives of Natrona County citizens for years to come. Post-retirement plans include traveling with his wife, Beth.



## Why Read 20 Minutes a Day?

An ability to read enables youth to learn and ultimately have more employment options as adults. Additionally, a community of readers has a broader economic base. That's why the "We Read" program promotes and supports literacy as a community value with the ubiquitous message "Read 20 minutes a day with someone special."

Each month "We Read" provides every student in K-3 grade in Natrona County (public, private, and home school students are all included) with a new age-appropriate book. Additionally, the We Read team produces a weekly kid's magazine called "My Trib." My Trib provides a variety of literacy building games, activities, and stories for Natrona County's youth.

A copy of My Trib is delivered throughout Natrona County. Copies are also distributed through grade school librarians and a network of free pick-up racks including those at NCPL. Be sure to look for one each week!

## New OFFERINGS:

Here are a few of the 9,759 items added to your library since January 1, 2015:

### FICTION

- ***Go Set a Watchman***, Harper Lee
- ***Badlands***, C.J. Box
- ***Dry Bones***, Craig Johnson
- ***Naked Greed***, Stuart Woods
- ***Nemesis***, Catherine Coulter

### NONFICTION

- ***The Silencing***, Kirsten Powers
- ***Glaciers: The Politics of Ice***, Jorge Taillant
- ***Straight to Hell***, John Lefevre
- ***A Thousand Miles to Freedom***, Eunsun Kim
- ***Wyoming Grasslands***, Frank Goodyear

### eAUDIOBOOKS

- ***Grey***, E. L. James
- ***14th Deadly Sin***, James Patterson
- ***ISIS***, Jessica Stern
- ***Ashley's War***, Gayle Lemmon
- ***Sergeant Stubby***, Ann Bausum

### AUDIOBOOKS

- ***In the Unlikely Event***, Judy Blume
- ***Finders Keepers***, Stephen King
- ***The Melody Lingers On***, Mary Higgins Clark
- ***Truth or Die***, James Patterson
- ***Dead Ice***, Laurell K. Hamilton

### MOVIES

- ***American Sniper***
- ***Seventh Son***
- ***Selma***
- ***Black or White***
- ***Still Alice***

## New: Color Copiers, Public iPads and Tech Support!

NCPL has been busy updating its technology to better serve you. Here are a few of the recent technology improvements:

New copy machines provide several new features. Copies can now be made in both full color or black / white. The copiers are easy to use - just add money on your NCPL card at a kiosk, scan your card at the copier and make the copies. The

copy machines can also be used as scanners for saving documents to a USB drive.

NCPL's checkout desk received a makeover recently including the addition of several self-checkout machines. Just scan your library card, put your books on the checkout pad and indicate if you'd like a receipt. Patrons love being able to quickly and conveniently check

out items on their own. As always, friendly staff are available if you'd like assistance.

A Patron Technology Specialist was recently hired to help people with their technology questions. He helps people with software, hardware, mobile devices, apps, e-books and much more. Drop by his desk on the main floor or call us at 577-READ (7323) to schedule a one-on-one appointment.



Three iPads are now available in the magazine area to read pre-loaded digital magazines. This digital Zinio collection supplements the standard print magazines. You can also set up Zinio on your own device, giving you access to almost 200 digital magazines for free. Simply ask us for help getting Zinio set up on your device!



## ONE BOOK WYOMING

One Book Wyoming, a program designed by the Wyoming State Library to encourage all Wyoming residents to read and discuss the same book, returns to Natrona County Public Library this October.

This year, One Book Wyoming features three books by Cat Urbigkit. Urbigkit, who lives on a working sheep ranch in western Wyoming, is the author of several non-fiction books for children and adults about livestock, guardian animals, and outdoor life.

To celebrate One Book Wyoming, NCPL will be giving away copies of three of Urbigkit's books – "Brave Dogs, Gentle Dogs" and "The Guardian Team" for youth and "Shepherds of Coyote Rocks" for adults. Books will be available to pick up at the library beginning October 1st. After reading one of these books, please share it with your family and friends!

The highlight of the month will be a visit and presentations by Urbigkit. On Wednesday, October 21, she will give a youth-oriented presentation at Afterschool at the Library and a general audience presentation at 6:30 p.m.

For more information about Cat Urbigkit and One Book Wyoming, please visit [www.onebook.wyo.gov](http://www.onebook.wyo.gov).

F O U N D A T I O N

# Making a Good Library Great: GIVING TO THE NCPL FOUNDATION

**W**hat 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 • Brent Pickett • Anne Ladd  
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.

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



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: \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: ANNE LADD

Understanding the value of a public library in its community led the Foundation Board's newest board member, Anne Ladd, to accept an invitation to the Board. "I joined the Library Foundation because I know what an incredibly valuable community resource libraries are, and I want to do what I can to make sure the



Natrona County Public Library remains a vital and vibrant institution: a place for people to gather, a place for people to learn, a place for people to lose themselves in the depth and breadth of knowledge and talent that a library collection offers," says Anne.

Anne is the CEO of the Wyoming Business Coalition on Health and has been active on non-profit boards related to media and women's issues.

"Anne brings an important perspective of the value of the library to communities in Natrona County," says Board President Steve Degenfelder. "She is incredibly active and well-respected in Casper and the state of Wyoming. We are honored to have her on the Library Foundation Board."

Anne believes the top priority for the Library Foundation is the stewardship of funds under its control and increasing the value of that fund. She also believes the Library Foundation must play an active role in the issue of a new library building. "The library's physical plant isn't what it could or should be," says Anne. "We need to explain that to members of the community who don't yet see what the library has the potential to be; who don't yet understand the important role a library plays in community development, economic development and civic engagement."

## A Special Thank You

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

Claranne Cannon

Keith & Mary Cottam

Carola & Russell Cowan

Lanae Fox

Graham & Sheila Kimble

Linda Nix & Neil Short

Morris & Susan Massey

The Roberts Family  
(in memory of Cy Roberts)

William E. Sauer Revocable Trust

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

*Libraries  
aren't  
made ...  
they grow*

## Ability to Match Private Donations Returns

The NCPL Foundation once again has the ability to match contributions. This is due to legislation passed in the 2015 Wyoming Legislature. The legislation was sponsored by Representative Tim Stubson (R-Natrona County) and signed into law by Governor Matt Mead on March 3, 2015.

Since 2008, thanks to strong support from private donors, the NCPL Foundation has built a strong endowment. Income earned from the endowment is used to go beyond the basic services provided through tax revenues. For example, the NCPL Foundation has used endowment income to fund early literacy tools, redesign of the library's bookmobile, digitizing unique archival collections, and developing a broad communications campaign to reinforce the value of library service.

Foundation funds are raised and monitored with careful stewardship by the NCPL Foundation's Board.

# REPAIRING PROMETHEUS

After gracing downtown Casper for 45 years, NCPL's statue of Prometheus (also known as the upside-down naked man on the corner of Durbin and Second Streets) needed repairs. Abrasive winds, UV rays, and structural cracks had taken their toll on this iconic landmark.

On April 30th, Eagle Bronze Foundry (Lander) and Bar-D Signs (Casper) teamed-up to remove the statue from its armature and transported the piece to the Lander foundry. After sandblasting, Eagle Bronze repaired the cracks and recast the statue's flame.



*Eagle Bronze Foundry workers cast Prometheus' refurbished flame at their Lander facility.*

Interestingly, over the years the flame had undergone several unknown and undocumented modifications. It was time to restore the flame to its original appearance. Using photographs from the 1970s, Eagle Bronze recast the flame as it appeared when first installed.

After Eagle Bronze completed the structural repairs the statue had its color restored by BME Powder Coating (Casper). This new coating will better withstand Casper's abrasive winds and enhance UV protection, which is important at our high altitude. By September, all this work should be completed and sculptor Robert Russin's Prometheus should be back on the corner of Durbin and Second Streets.

This repair project has been quite interesting for all the involved parties. Learning about Italian cast bronze, how the statue was mounted, locating and repairing cracks, researching the original flame configuration, and identifying the best coating materials has been rewarding. After the ongoing repairs are completed we hope Prometheus will continue to serve as a local landmark well into the future.

## Summer Reading 2015

NCPL has helped children continue reading through the summer for years. Like exercise for the body, reading every day helps to keep the brain in shape and helps to prevent the "summer slide" of lost learning.

This summer the reading program theme is "Every Hero has a Story." The program will run through August 31st. Four elementary schools, North Casper, Verda James, Southridge and Mills started even before summer began by declaring "Summer reading is an expectation." Children in those schools were registered for summer reading before summer vacation.

Our community's We Read program encourages everyone to "Read 20 minutes a day with someone special." As such, when summer reading participants do this, they will receive a free book. Adults also qualify for some special prizes and drawings that will be held in September.

**EVERY  
HERO  
HAS A STORY**



As of mid-July nearly 4,908 children, 525 teens, as well as a multitude of adults are on their way to making reading a part of their summer. If you haven't already done so, start spending 20 minutes of your day reading. If you have children, share that expectation with them. It will definitely be time well spent.

## Upcoming EVENTS

For a full listing of NCPL events, visit [www.natronacountylibrary.org](http://www.natronacountylibrary.org). Please call 577-7323 for more information.

### ❖ AUGUST ❖

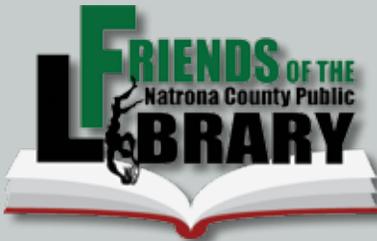
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - Tween Mondays, 2 p.m.
- 4, 11, 18, 25 - Teen Crafts, 2 p.m.
- 4-6 - "Dragons Are Too Seldom Puppet Productions", 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.
- 3 - Instagram, 4 p.m.
- 10 - Author C.J. Box Talk and Signing, 6:30 p.m.
- 12 - Super Science Extravaganza, 1 p.m.
- 13 - How to Mail Merge, 12 p.m.
- 15 - Family Lego Club, 1 p.m.
- 17 - Murder Mystery Night, 6:30 p.m.
- 19 - Mighty Ice Cream Escapades, 1 p.m.
- 20 - Instagram, 10 a.m.
- 20 - Film: "To Kill a Mockingbird", 6 p.m.
- 21 - Excel 101, 3 p.m.
- 22 - Windows 10, 2 p.m.
- 24 - Book Discussion: "I am Malala", 6:30 p.m.
- 25 - Protecting Your Privacy Online, 10 a.m.
- 25 - Family Movie Night: "Big Hero 6", 6:30 p.m.
- 26 - Film: "How to Train your Dragon 2", 1 p.m.
- 27 - Teen Dystopian Double Feature, 1 p.m.
- 28 - Protecting Your Privacy Online, 3 p.m.
- 29 - Film: "Epic", 2 p.m.

### ❖ SEPTEMBER ❖

- 1 - Windows 10, 10 a.m.
- 5 - Backing Up Your Data, 2 p.m.
- 9 - Video Chat, 5:30 p.m.
- 11 - MacOS, 2 p.m.
- 14 - Computer Maintenance, 4 p.m.
- 16 - Excel, 5:30 p.m.
- 21 - iPads/iPhones, 1 p.m.
- 22 - Family Night, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 - Pinterest, 5:30 p.m.

### ❖ OCTOBER ❖

- 1 - Film: "The Sundowners", 6:30 p.m.
- 6 - Facebook Security, 10 a.m.
- 7 - Wednesday Writers, 10 a.m.
- 8 - Chrome, 2 p.m.
- 8 - Film: "The Sheepman", 6:30 p.m.
- 14 - Kindle Fire, 6 p.m.
- 15 - Film: "Sweetgrass", 6:30 p.m.
- 19 - Android, 1 p.m.
- 19 - Book Discussion: "Shepherds of Coyote Rocks", 6:30 p.m.
- 21 - Author Cat Urbigkit Talk and Signing, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 - Advanced Excel, 5:30 p.m.
- 23 - Windows 10, 10 a.m.
- 24 - Teen Movie Marathon, 12 p.m.
- 27 - Selling Online, 2 p.m.
- 27 - Family Night, 6:30 p.m.
- 29 - Keeping Safe Online, 5:30 p.m.
- 31 - Spooky Storytime



The Friends of the Library will hold their Fall Book Sale:

**Saturday, September 26**  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Sunday, September 27**  
1 – 5 p.m.

The sale will feature used books, puzzles, movies, music and magazines. Prices are: Hardbacks and trade paperbacks, \$2; paperbacks, 50¢; children's paperbacks, 50¢; and children's hardbacks, \$1.

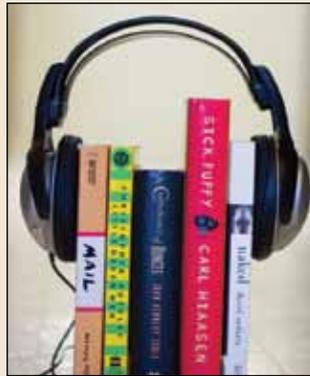
To learn more find the Friends on Facebook, or email the Friends at folncpl307@gmail.com.



Teen Read Week (October 18th-24th) encourages teens to pick up reading material and simply read for the fun of it! NCPL celebrates reading every week with book clubs and other special events, just for teens. Discover what NCPL has to offer.

### eAudiobooks

In addition to eBooks, you can now check out audiobooks through Virtual Library. There are currently over 400 titles from which to choose. Simply find a title, check it out using your library card and PIN, then download to your smart phone or other device and start listening!



Credit: flickr/dalydose

### School Year Hours

The library's school year hours go into effect just after Labor Day. Beginning Tuesday, September 8th, the main library in downtown Casper will be open:

**Monday through Thursday**  
9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

**Friday and Saturday**  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Sunday**  
1 – 5 p.m.



LIBRARY FOUNDATION  
NATRONA COUNTY PUBLIC  
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