Even in 2018, resources aren’t equitably available to everyone. The Library levels the playing field. We offer resources and personal connection to everyone, every age, every demographic. You don’t even have to be a Natrona County or Wyoming citizen to use the Library. In fact, our economy and tourism industry benefit from the services we provide visitors. People passing through Casper may stop in to browse, read the newspaper, check their email, print travel passes, get out of the elements, or a number of other reasons.

Here are just a few highlights you may not know are available to you.

**BOOKMOBILE**
The Bookmobile is available for everyone to use. If you see it stopped in neighborhood or at a community event, feel free to hop aboard. You can find the weekly Bookmobile schedule at www.natronacountylibrary.org/contact-us.

**BOOKS BY MAIL**
You don’t have to be able to walk through the Library doors to access materials. The Books by Mail service is designed specifically for Natrona County citizens who are homebound, temporarily or long term. Request the items you need, and the Library mails them to you. Simply mail them back, with the paid postage, when you finish. If you are interested in learning more, contact Wendy, the Books by Mail Coordinator at 577-7323 extension 116 or complete the application online at www.natronacountylibrary.org/books-by-mail.

**INTERLIBRARY LOAN**
We’ve all been there. The last user didn’t bring it back. It didn’t survive past the 100th checkout and is no longer available for purchase. It’s specific and difficult to find. Well, the good news is you aren’t limited to the items available in this facility. Our Interlibrary Loan specialist can borrow items from other libraries in Wyoming and across the United States to fill your need.

**PERSONALIZED BOOK SELECTIONS**
Are you finding yourself not knowing what to read next? Maybe the book you’re after isn’t currently available for checkout? Library staff are skilled at guiding you to find that next perfect book. Just ask! Love at first read may not happen on the initial suggestion, but keep coming back and we’ll keep recommending.

**IT’S YOUR LIBRARY**
The Library belongs to the citizens of Natrona County. In order for the Library to feel like yours, it needs to include the materials you want to read, watch, play, or listen to. If you’ve searched the shelves and the catalog and it doesn’t appear the Library has your item, make sure you place a request. The Library will do our best to find that perfect item as quickly as possible and you’ll be contacted when it arrives.

Library staff may not be experts in everything, but we can help you find or become the expert you need.
COMMUNITY BUILDER - FALL 2018

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS!

As the song goes, “You’ve Got a Friend in Me,” and this is especially true for the Friends of the Natrona County Library. While we are extremely grateful for our Friends every day, we pay special homage to them the week of October 21 to 27 because it is the American Library Association’s National Friends of the Library Week!

The Friends continue to amaze with their book sales. Everyone who benefits from library services owes a big thank you to the Friends. They work tirelessly almost every day picking up, cleaning, sorting, pricing and displaying donated books, CDs, DVDs, and more. They carry boxes of books out of trunks of cars and downstairs, so that they can resell them and raise money for the Library. To be quite honest it is hard work, but our Friends do it with great gusto and cheer.

We also would like to thank everyone who donates materials for sale, in-kind services, and to the patrons who shop. Without all of these folks working together, we could not accomplish such successful sales. We live in a wonderful community that is enhanced by the Friends of the Natrona County Library. They provide needed funding to enrich our services. The Summer Reading Program and other library special events benefit from the fruits of their labors. I don’t know what the Library would do without the best Friends group in the country. Thank you Friends!

If you would like to join the Friends in supporting the Natrona County Library and its work to advocate for literacy, education, and a thriving community, please contact Sherry Good at folncpl307@gmail.com. You can also follow the Friends on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NatronaLibraryFriends.

To donate items for the Friends’ auctions and book sales, you can bring items to the main library during normal hours. Please do not donate the following items; these items are recycled immediately: Reader’s Digest Condensed Books older than two years, all encyclopedia sets, National Geographic magazines more than two years old, textbooks more than five years old, cassette tapes, or damaged, dirty, or moldy books.

CELEBRATE FRANKENSTEIN’S 200TH ANNIVERSARY WITH BOOKS ON TAP

2018 is the 200th anniversary of the classic novel “Frankenstein” by Mary Shelley. She famously wrote the story while on holiday in Switzerland with her future husband Percy Bysshe Shelley, her sister Claire, Claire’s lover Lord Byron, and Dr. John Polidori. Due to the volcanic eruption of Mt. Tambora in 1815, the world was experiencing a volcanic winter, dropping temperatures well below normal. Unable to participate in the usual summer activities the group spent most of their time indoors around the fire reading ghost stories that had been translated from German into French. It was during this time that Lord Byron suggested they each write a ghost story. Several days after the suggestion Mary Shelley experienced a waking dream of a student kneeling beside his hideous creation, this dream inspired the story that become “Frankenstein.”

“Frankenstein” is widely considered the first science fiction novel, and Mary Shelley has been called the progenitor of the science fiction genre. Unfortunately, the version of “Frankenstein” most people are familiar with is the movie interpretation of a lumbering monster created by a mad scientist. Shelley’s tale of a medical student driven to extremes by grief and the intelligent anathema he creates is much more complex and philosophical than popular culture has portrayed.

If you would like to delve into this classic and explore its existential themes with us, we invite you to our Books on Tap discussion group. We will meet at Backwards Distillery on October 11 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss this revolutionary novel.

At the Natrona County Library, we’re into science fiction. If you’re into it too, we encourage you to join our new quarterly Science Fiction book discussion group Area 307. We will discuss new and classic science fiction novels in partnership with The Science Zone.
Making a Good Library Great: GIVING TO THE NATRONA COUNTY LIBRARY 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, the Natrona County 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.

Have you remembered the Natrona County 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: ___________________________________________________________________________

Mail can be sent to: Natrona County Library Foundation, 307 E. 2nd Street, Casper, WY 82601.
Please make checks payable to The Natrona County Library Foundation
All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
The Natrona County Council Parent Teacher Association recently donated $10,000 to the Library Foundation to purchase materials for the Library’s makerspace, also known as the Creation Station.

“We love what the Creation Station offers for children,” said Natrona County PTA Treasurer Kristine Clark. “We hope our donation will aid in the center’s future.”

The funds will purchase equipment, materials, and supplies for children and families to use in the Library’s Creation Station. The Creation Station is a workspace that allow members of the public to share STEAM-related (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) materials to inspire innovation and support learning. At the present, the supplies used in the Creation Station are free to library patrons.

“We know that building STEAM skills is a significant factor in student success,” said Library Director Lisa Scroggins. “The donation from the PTA will allow us to continue to provide Creation Station programs at no cost to our patrons.”

Foundation Board President Anne Ladd expressed thanks to the Natrona County PTA for their donation in saying, “The ability of the Library to be a strong community resource depends on support from individuals and organizations that are committed to its success. We are delighted that the Natrona County Council PTA is helping us with this mission.”
‘Tis the season

The holidays will soon be upon us. A quick glance around and your eyes will probably fall on the orange and black of Halloween. But no sooner than October 31 passes it will be the colors of Thanksgiving and then, Christmas. Seasonal materials prove to be popular in the Library. Whether it is creating costumes, prepping for a family feast or simply sharing a seasonal story with your little ones, our collection abounds with items to satisfy your holiday fix.

Want to explore beyond the above-mentioned? You might be interested in these lesser-known national days. For instance, did you know October 15 has been declared “I Love Lucy Day”? Perhaps you can celebrate by binge-watching the series from our DVD collection or take time to curl up with one of our biographies about this famous red-headed comedian.

Plan to visit our Creation Station on November 8, National STEM/STEAM Day. Science, technology, engineering, arts, and math are crucial to the success of children, so bring them by after school and spend some time investigating the activities we have available for kids.

And don’t forget to take advantage of our collection of cookbooks to prepare for National Cookie Day on December 4. Who knows, if you are holiday baker you just might come up with some new ideas for this year’s sweet treats.

So, whether you are sticking to the traditional or looking to celebrate something a little more out of the ordinary, the list of national days spans just about every subject you can imagine, and the materials in your library do too.

The general election on Tuesday, November 6 is quickly approaching. Three political forums in October will give you a chance to meet local candidates and hear them discuss issues important to our community. The Natrona County Library and the Casper League of Women Voters are co-sponsoring the following forums:

- **City Council Candidates:**
  Wednesday, October 3, 6:30 p.m.,
  City Council Chambers

- **County Commission Candidates:**
  Wednesday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.,
  Natrona County Library

- **School Board Candidates:**
  Wednesday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.,
  Natrona County Library

Join us and make your vote an informed one. If you’re not able to join us in person at the Library, the County Commission Candidates and School Board Candidates Forums will be streamed on Facebook Live. The City Council Candidates Forum at City Council Chambers will be broadcast on the government access channel.

Michael Stedillie will moderate all three forums. You may submit questions in person or via Facebook Live the night of the forum, or in advance by emailing boneil@natronacountylibrary.org. The forums are free and open to public. For more information, call 577-7323 extension 2.
LIBRARY REALIGNS SERVICES

Due to budget constraints that led to understaffing at the Natrona County Library System, the Main Library will be closed on Sundays year-round effective immediately.

This staff shortage also led administration to evaluate programs and services in order to best utilize tax dollars. Because StoryTime: TinyTots for babies and toddlers is offered at the Main Library, this program will no longer be duplicated at the Mills Branch.

“We have been at a disadvantage lately because we are understaffed,” Natrona County Library Executive Director Lisa Scroggins said. “We are doing everything we can to limit the impact on patrons. In addition to closing on Sundays, that meant finding ways to do things more efficiently and eliminating duplicated services.”

Scroggins said the decision to end some programs and reduce hours was not easy. “We help patrons every day conduct job searches, access health information and educational resources, and more. We provide early literacy opportunities, enrich education through STEAM programming, and provide safe, engaging places for children and teens after school. We are pleased to be able to offer StoryTimes, computer classes, and other programs for children, youth, and adults.”

Beginning Tuesday, September 4, the Natrona County Library will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will be closed on Sundays.

Held every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Main Library, StoryTime: TinyTots are fun, free outings for children and families, which instill the joy of reading at a young age and help prepare children for school. Babies and toddlers enjoy the wonderful world of books and reading, while discovering the joy of songs, finger plays, simple books, and bouncing rhymes.