New Chapter: Much-Loved Youth Services Librarian Ready to Turn the Page

Kate Mutch Assistant Director

After 30 years at Natrona County Library, Jerry Jones, Youth Services Manager, is retiring in July. Jones manages Children’s and Teen Services.

As libraries continue to play a major role in fostering literacy and in developing those skills for preschool and elementary school children, Jerry has been a key player at the Library and dedicated to providing excellent and innovative library services.

Anyone under 45 probably has been impacted by Jerry’s passion for children’s literacy. Possibly from directly working with her or through many of the programs and projects she spearheaded over the decades. It could have been a StoryTime, a RIF (Reading is FUNdamental!) book distribution, a book talk in the classroom, We Read, Wyoming Reads celebration, or the help she gave to find that book to spark the desire and enjoyment of reading.

It is not easy to sum up a 30-year career in a few paragraphs, but Jerry’s rapport with children is caring, and natural and her personal enthusiasm is reflected in the students’ joy with the books she gives them. We happen to agree.

We think that is the core of Jerry’s success in connecting with the children of Natrona County—her natural ability to connect with children and desire to help provide the necessary tools to become successful learners.

We wish Jerry much happiness as she writes the next chapter of her life. Thank you Jerry for being part of so many lives.

Welcome New Commissioner: Brook Kaufman

Brook Kaufman may have grown up in Nebraska, but to her, Casper has always felt like home. As an entrepreneur with experience in marketing, brand building, and strategic planning, Brook believes collaboration, information, and education are key to driving a community forward. Brook lived in Casper from 2001 to 2006 and returned in 2015 as the CEO of Visit Casper, the organization responsible for driving economic impact through tourism promotion. She is attracted to projects where she can instigate constructive and meaningful change, so as a County Commissioner and CEO of Visit Casper, she is thrilled to have the opportunity to positively impact the community she loves.
new releases:

VIDE GAMES
• Borderlands 3
• Wolfenstein: Youngblood
• Attack on Titan 2: Final Battle
• Control
• Crash Team Racing: Nitro Fueled

MOVIES
• Captain Marvel
• Us
• Alita: Battle Angel
• Five Feet Apart
• Shazam!
• Pet Sematary
• Tyler Perry’s A Madea Family Funeral

TV SERIES
• The Good Place Season 3
• Gotham Season 5
• Endeavour Season 6
• Suits Season 8
• Broad City Season 5

MUSIC
• Ton Susan Boyle
• If! The Luminers
• Late Nights and Longnecks Justin Moore
• Hurts 2B Human Pink
• Center Point Road Thomas Rhett

FICTION
• Eye Spy Mercedes Lackey
• Window on the Bay Debbie Macomber
• Bitterroots C. J. Box
• Inch by Inch: Book Two Step by Step Morgan Llywelyn
• At Death’s Door: A Deadman’s Cross Novel Swen lyn Kerper
• The Sword and the Pen Rachel Caine
• Teen Titans: Raven Komi Garcia
• The Tyrant’s Tomb Rick Riordan
• Guts Raine Telgemeier
• Maybe This Time Kasie West
• The Pigeon Has to Go to School Mo Willems
• To the Future Ben Franklin Mary Pope Osborne
• The Poison Jungle Tai Sutherland
• Sesame Street Big Book of Elmo Sesame Workshop
• Real Friends Shannon Hale

NONFICTION
• Talking to Strangers Malcolm Gladwell
• The Assault on American Excellence Anthony T. Kronman
• Country Music Dayton Duncan and Ken Burns
• Travel Light, Move Fast Alexander Fuller
• America’s Reluctant Prince Steven M. Gillon
• Antoni in the Kitchen Antoni Porowski
• Johnny Cash Greg Laurie and Marshall Terrill
• 24/6 Tiffany Shlain
• A Light in the Darkness Albert Marrin
• Dissenter on the Bench Victoria Ortiz
• Welcome to Adulting Survival Guide Jonathan Pobst
• Earth Steve Jenkins
• Maker Comics Sarah Meyer

COMMUNITY BUILDER - SUMMER 2019

Relive Apollo 8 and 11 at the Library

Susan Stanton
Cataloging Manager

The first time I thought about space travel was Christmas Eve 1968, when our parents let us children stay up late to hear the Apollo 8 astronauts intoning the first chapter of Genesis as they orbited the moon. Not quite seven months later, mother gathered us in front of the TV again, where we watched in amazement at the grainy picture as Neil Armstrong hopped off the LEM. Like all the other kids I imagined the moon landing was just the beginning and took for granted that within my lifetime I’d see a Jetsons-like future of flying cars and commuter trips to Mars. That hasn’t happened quite yet but it’s heartening to see interest in space travel stirring again.

The Library is marking the 50th anniversary of the moon landing with the summer reading theme of A Universe of Stories, including several special commemoration programs at the Library in partnership with our local planetarium. These programs include The Apollo 8 Mission on June 5 from 6 to 7 p.m., The Physics of Spaceflight (Yes, It Is Rocket Science!) on June 17 from 6 to 7 p.m., and Peanuts and NASA on July 10 at 2 p.m. (promoting deep space missions and STEM).

Finally, we will host an Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Rocket Launch on the library lawn starting at 10 a.m. on July 16. Supplies will be provided for students to build their own rockets, to be launched simultaneously with other launches across the nation.

Do not forget to check out new books and documentaries we have added to commemorate the anniversary, including First on the Moon, Apollo’s daring mission, Spaceflight: The Complete Story, Homo Spatius, Rise of the Rockets, Pluto and Beyond, Shoot for the Moon: American Moonshot, and Michael Collins’ Carrying the Fire: An Astronaut’s Journeys.

Scary Stories to Read at The Library

Serina Aagard
Circulation Specialist

With summer creeping closer and the days getting warmer, the cold grasping hand of winter will soon be left behind. However, if summer heat is not your preference, you can still get some choice chills at the Library.

Scary stories have been a long-held passion of people all over the world and from every era. Originally an oral tradition, scary tales were told in hushed voices in the dark of night, the teller’s face illuminated only by the flickering firelight. Some stories were old and passed down from generation to generation. Others were new and reflected the fears of the time. Many stories taught valuable life lessons for precocious children while others were just meant to give some frightful fun to listeners. In the present, we still like to tell terrifying tales, but thanks to the advancement of technology, we can also read them. Scares come in all kinds of books, from short stories and thick novels to children’s and adult fiction to urban legends, cosmic horrors, and watchers in the woods. If it terrifies you, there is probably a book out there about it. Some might ask, “Why are scary stories so popular?” The best answer could be that horror, in its readily consumable forms of literature and entertainment, is a way to experience fear from a safe place; you can get creeping chills down your spine from the comfort of your reading chair or with friends around a campfire on a starry summer night.

Horror really hit the pop culture jugular in the 80s with the likes of Stephen King, Anne Rice, and Dean Koontz putting out best sellers one after another, but there are also fresher faces on the scare scene as the genre sees another wave of popularity. Why not get goosebumps at the Library with some new horror novels this summer?
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 577-7323.

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 Library Foundation has received many significant donations through estate gifts, appreciated stock and memorials. The Foundation uses these funds for projects related to the donor’s interests or places these donations in its endowment. When the funds are placed in the endowment, they provide an additional source of stable funding for the Library’s programs and collections.

The ability to support the work of the Library in perpetuity is a gratifying choice for many in our community who have valued the library throughout their lives. Private donations through appreciated stock, estate plans and memorials secure the ability for our library to provide programs and collections that make a difference for the Library and in the lives of Natrona County residents.

**Types of Gifts**
There are many philanthropic avenues for supporting the work of the Library through the Library Foundation. These include:

- Direct donations
- Stocks & bonds
- Life insurance
- Retirement accounts and annuities
- Bequests in wills
- Tributes & memorials

**Tax Benefits of These Donations**
If you have held appreciated stock for more than one year, you may take a charitable tax deduction for the market value of the stock. Neither you nor the Library Foundation will pay capital gains taxes when the stock is sold. This can result in a bigger deduction (and more tax savings) for you and a larger gift for the Library Foundation, than if you sell the stock, pay the taxes and donate the proceeds.

Designating the Library Foundation as a beneficiary in balances from retirement accounts and annuities will also bring significant tax advantages. Giving these tax-deferred assets to the Library Foundation or other charitable organizations can provide substantial gifts at a low net cost to one’s heirs.

**Join Us**
If you are interested in obtaining information about including the Natrona County Library in your estate plans or donating stock, please contact the Library Foundation. Our discussions are confidential, and information will be provided without obligation.

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**Beyond Direct Donations:**

The Many Ways to Support the Library

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**Thank You to Our Recent Donors**

Gary Brown  
Hallie Harris  
Lit Wits Book Club

Kate Sarosy and Scott Sissman  
David and Jean Schropfer  
George and Jolyn Wynn
Passport Not Required *But You Are Going to Need Your Library Card...

Adilene Rodriguez Circulation Specialist

Traveling is an expense some of us are not fortunate enough to manage most summers. Do not let this be the reason your craving for culture goes unsatisfied. Take a cinematic tour of countries oceans away with a foreign film movie night.

Foreign films take us on a deep dive into some of the most intimate facets of a country’s culture. Talented filmmakers make this possible through the universal art form of storytelling.

Foreign films have themes that invoke our sympathy and characters that resonate with us. The politics, music, and other social norms of the country of origin usually make their way into the plot. This gives us the opportunity of better understanding one another, despite cultural barriers.

The Library has over 600 films in our foreign film collection, all spanning from countries across the globe, waiting to be your next favorite film. Here are some examples of foreign films that are great starting points on your cinematic exploration. The following movies are all available to check out at the Library – let our foreign film collection inspire the location of your next vacation:

Y tu Mamá Tambien – Mexico
This 2001 film stars actors Diego Luna and Gael Garcia Bernal, as two friends on a less than conventional road trip set in Mexico. With political tensions at the foreground, it details the complicated friendship of two young men enjoying the last summer of their adolescence. Filled with excessive partying and love affairs, it is some of director Alfonso Cuaron’s more controversial work.

A Separation – Iran
A Separation displays the sometimes ugly realities caused by a separation. The story takes place in Iran, where being granted a divorce is extensive and complicated work. A father stricken by Alzheimer’s, a teenage daughter’s future, and other cultural factors play important roles in the downfall of the marriage. This film makes you empathize with the family in a way many movies fail to accomplish. It is often regarded as not just one of Iran’s greatest films, but a future cinematic classic.

Deux Jours, Une Nuit – Belgium/France
Deux Jours, Une Nuit shows us the less glamorous side of European life. After taking a leave of absence due to her mental health, Sandra’s job is at risk. Sandra, portrayed by Marion Cotillard, only has the weekend to convince her co-workers to not split up her hours and turn down a bonus so that she may keep her job. Cotillard’s candid portrayal of a woman down on her luck will have you rooting for Sandra well after the screen goes black. It does a phenomenal job of capturing the struggles working families face all over the world.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon – Taiwan
Directed by Ang Lee, Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon was nominated for Best Picture at the 2001 Academy Awards. It is a thrilling love story between skilled fighters and the task of safe transportation of a beloved sword set in 19th century China. The scenery and fighting sequences alone make this film a must watch for any film enthusiast.

Ten Canoes – Australia
Ten Canoes follows two brothers on a hunt for eggs as one tells a cautionary story about warrior brothers who lived long ago. The film flips tradition by representing the past in color and current time in black and white. It is one of the most vibrant works of art that depicts the struggles we have with morality. The film stars a large number of Indigenous Australian actors and is the first movie entirely filmed in Australian Aboriginal languages.

For more info, visit our Facebook page @NatronaLibrary, natronacountylibrary.org or call 577.7323.
Library Says Goodbye to Board President and Treasurer

Lisa Scroggins Executive Director, Natrona County Library

Long before they were appointed to the Board of Trustees, Shannon Dutcher and Hampton O’Neill were active supporters of the Library.

Dutcher and O’Neill were appointed to the Board in July, 2013 by the Board of County Commissioners, and volunteered their services for the past six years. They have supported upgrading and modernizing services to maximize the library experience for patrons. Recognizing the need to provide cutting-edge technology for patrons, Dutcher and O’Neill were champions of the new technologies added at the Library over the past years, specifically the Creation Station’s equipment. They have also been enthusiastic supporters of facility upgrades which address the strategic plan of creating a welcoming atmosphere for library users.

Prior to serving on the Board, Dutcher and O’Neill were both committed to improving community services for the Casper Area, and worked tirelessly to address Natrona County’s future library needs.

Mrs. Dutcher is a faithful library user and can often be found at the Library browsing the circulating materials or attending a program. A long-time library supporter, Mr. O’Neill appreciates the value of providing robust programming and maintaining healthy collection of circulating materials.

Trustees are charged with overseeing finances, policies, and collectively serve as the Executive Director’s boss; however, they also serve as conduits to our community. Dutcher and O’Neill have taken their role as a trustee seriously, and have served as excellent community representatives.

I extend a heartfelt thank you to each of you for being integral parts of an amazing board. I have been blessed and honored to work with you.

Lisa Scroggins
Executive Director, Natrona County Library