

ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

AN ESSENTIAL PLACE TO LEARN, MAKE & BELONG

This year, the Natrona County Library remained what our community needs most: a reliable place to learn, make, gather, and be inspired. From toddlers at StoryTime to teens experimenting with design to adults in thoughtful civic conversations, we saw curiosity turn into confidence—and neighbors become a little more connected.

We welcomed 236,088 in-person visits across our buildings, plus another 14,657 neighbors at outreach stops and programs throughout Natrona County. That's 250,745 face-to-face moments where someone found a book, a class, a safe space, a helping hand with technology, or simply a place to belong. Behind every number is a person whose day, week, or life is a bit better because the Library exists.

The method of use continues to evolve. While print reading remains vibrant, especially for kids, digital borrowing grew to 33% of all checkouts. Creation Station programs helped residents build skills and confidence, and essential services like passports, notary appointments, public computers, and meeting rooms kept everyday life moving. Together, these trends tell a clear story: the Library is both timeless and timely.

In the pages ahead, you'll find data, stories, and, most importantly, the voices of patrons themselves. Did you know we rely on outside funding to make our programs possible? Programs that engage the public, touch lives, and inspire lifelong learning. From homeschool meetups (pg. 6) to candidate forums (pg. 7) and community outreach (pg. 8), your support makes it all happen. In this tough budget season, please consider giving to the Natrona County Library Foundation to help these efforts continue to thrive. As always, thank you for supporting the Library's mission and for the trust you place in us every day.



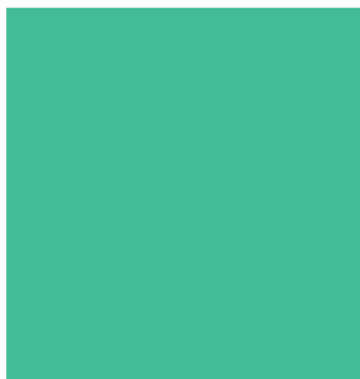
Lisa Scroggins

Executive Director Natrona County Library



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 03 YEAR AT A GLANCE
- 04 THE STORIES BEHIND THE STATS
- 05 FROM FIRST BOOKS TO LIFELONG READERS
- 07 STORIES OF CONNECTION: WHERE CHANGE BEGINS
- 09 LEARNING THAT LASTS, CREATIVITY THAT CONNECTS
- 11 A CELEBRATION OF ART, KNOWLEDGE & COMMUNITY:
50 YEARS OF PROMETHEUS
- 12 LEGISLATION, ACTIVISM & ADVOCACY:
THE VERY REAL IMPACT
- 13 FINDING VALUE NOW AND IN THE FUTURE
- 14 RETURN ON INVESTMENT
- 15 AN UPDATE FROM OUR FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
- 17 A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION
- 18 THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS



YEAR AT A GLANCE

19,735

People attended library programs

771

Programs offered, 52% of which were for youth

Adults
48.2%



Children
42%

Teens
9.7%

VISITORS:

236,088

In-person visits across all 3 locations - Casper, bookmobile, & Edgerton

680

Average number of visitors to our main branch every day

USERS:

9,522

People checked out an item from the Library

3,095

New library cards issued

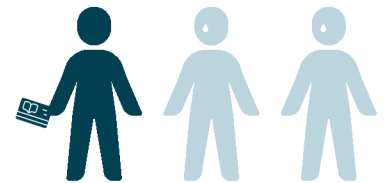
27,050

Active cardholders

CARDHOLDERS:

33.6%

More than 1 out of every 3 Natrona County residents has an active library card



PRINT CIRCULATION:

380,798

And our young readers checked out over half of those items

Teens
5.1%



Children
44.8%

Adults
50%

\$8.8 MILLION

How much money patrons saved by checking out items for free at the library

DIGITAL CIRCULATION:

181,958

eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines checked out, a 33% increase over FY24

33%

One third of library items checked out are eContent and accessed digitally

LIBBY USERS:

4,907

Over 18% of all active cardholders accessed eContent on their mobile devices



1,364

Notarizations, equaling \$13,640 in cost savings



1,068

New & renewed passports & 907 passport photos taken



21,560

People reached through bookmobile stops and community events

COUNTY FUNDING:

\$4.86

For every tax dollar invested by Natrona County, citizens receive the equivalent of \$4.86 in services

\$15.1 MILLION

Total value of trackable services provided to citizens

TOTAL FUNDING:

\$4.25

When all funding is included (grants, donations, etc.), citizens receive the equivalent of \$4.25 in services

PROGRAMS

PATRONS

CARDS

CIRCULATION

E-CONTENT

SERVICES

ROI

THE STORIES BEHIND THE STATS

Even as more people read digitally, the Library's building remains a vital community hub. 236,088 on-site visits this year, plus 14,657 more at outreach events and on the Bookmobile, brought us to 250,745 in-person interactions. Families came for StoryTime and hands-on learning; job-seekers and students used our computers for 22,317 sessions (nearly 22,000 hours of access); makers printed 277 3D projects; and nearly 46,000 pages were printed by patrons who rely on the Library for essential paperwork.

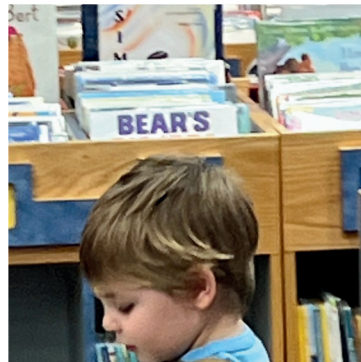
Beyond reading, the Library remained a center of activity and connection. 771 in-library programs drew 19,735 attendees, which was a 20% increase in programs and a 5% rise in attendance over last year, with nearly 35% and 38% growth respectively over two years. From children exploring stories to adults developing new skills and teens diving into design and technology, these numbers represent more than participation. They show a community that continues to show up, engage, and grow together.



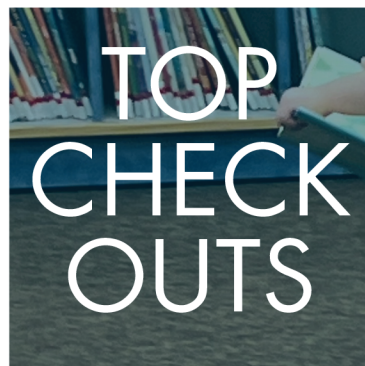
fiction book

non-fiction book

YA book



kids book



ON LIBBY

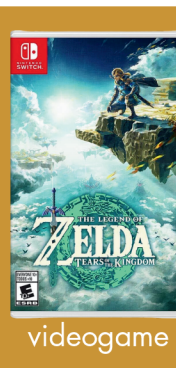
eBook

eAudiobook

eMagazine



movie



videogame



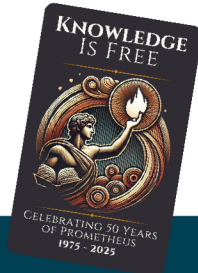
TV series

FROM FIRST BOOKS TO LIFELONG LEARNERS

Literacy sits at the center of our mission, from a child's first StoryTime to a grandparent discovering eBooks. This year we strengthened early literacy foundations, made family learning easier to access, and expanded the ways people discover and enjoy reading.

LIBRARY CARDS: ACCESS IN A WALLET-SIZED PACKAGE

This year we issued 3,095 new library cards, bringing us to 27,050 active cardholders, which is about 33.6% of Natrona County's population. Even more telling, 9,522 residents ($\approx 11.8\%$ of the county) actively used their cards to check out materials. A card now unlocks far more than books: access to eBooks and audiobooks (181,958 checkouts total), State Park passes (68 checkouts), WiFi hotspots (600 checkouts), genealogy resources, public computers (22,317 sessions), and more. We even debuted a new card design this year in honor of our Prometheus sculpture's 50th anniversary.



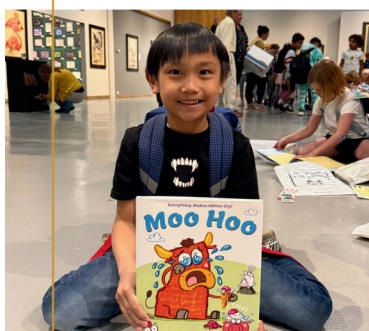
”

I am the biggest fan of the online library—especially audiobooks. It's like free Audible! What an amazing resource. I tell all my friends and clients about it.

—Amy Adwalpaker, LPC, Deep Waters Counseling

PRINT + DIGITAL: READERS WANT BOTH

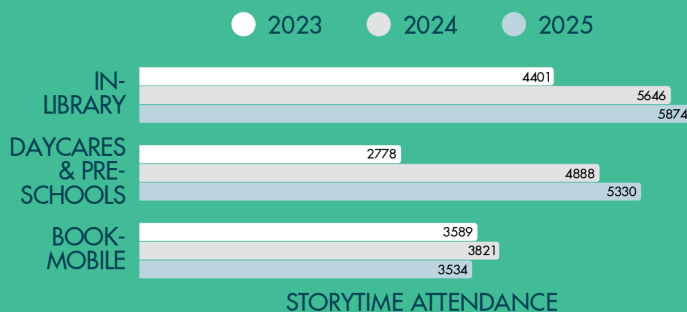
Checkouts for children's books remained a powerhouse, with 94,726 titles borrowed, while adults continued to embrace both print and digital formats. In total, patrons borrowed 380,798 physical items, and digital borrowing climbed to 181,958 checkouts, now representing 33% of all circulation. Through Libby, eAudiobooks, eBooks, and eMagazines saw an 18% increase over last year, while Kanopy added 4,177 plays and our Beyond the Pages virtual author talks reached 9,229 views. Together, these numbers reflect a healthy balance—families continue to rely on print collections, even as thousands of residents read, listen, and learn online.



18% ↑
Increase in
digital checkouts
over FY24

STORYTIME PROGRAMS

Across 800 StoryTime sessions, 14,738 children and caregivers read, sang, moved, and created together—on site (137 sessions; 5,874 attendees), out in the community (226; 5,330), and aboard the Bookmobile (437; 3,534). Our new Messy StoryTimes embraced sensory play using paint, foam, water, and more to build vocabulary, fine-motor skills, and the confidence that comes from joyful experimentation. The result: stronger pre-reading skills and families who associate books with fun.



HOMESCHOOL MEETUPS

Responding to family needs, we launched Homeschool Meetups in December 2024. Meeting twice a month on Mondays, we held 12 sessions in FY25 with a total of 330 participants. Families joined in STEM challenges, LEGO builds, and themed read-alouds. Parents reported greater confidence supporting literacy at home, while kids told us they “met new friends” and “tried new things.” These low-barrier gatherings filled a critical gap for social learning and connection among home-educating families.

WYOMING READS

Offered in partnership with the Sue Jorgenson Library Foundation, the 27th Annual Wyoming Reads program distributed more than 6,600 books to first graders across the state this year. With the help of 46 celebrity readers, including First Lady, Jennie Gordon, the Library hosted 1,028 first graders for Wyoming Reads Day on May 20th.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY

With the help of word-of-mouth and our new initiative to distribute board books to all new mothers at Banner Hospital, our partnership mailed 51,484 books to children under age five in FY25, representing a 118% increase over last year’s 23,622. Families also registered 551 new children, keeping enrollment strong and steady. Help us spread the word to families with children under 5.



STORIES OF CONNECTION: WHERE CHANGE BEGINS

In a time when division can feel like the norm, the Library has become a place where connection, understanding, and personal growth quietly take root. From thoughtful conversations around democracy and purpose to meaningful relationships built through shared reading and discussion, our programs continue to spark transformation one interaction at a time.

LIVING ROOM CONVERSATIONS

In partnership with Casper College and funded by Wyoming Humanities, we offered 13 Living Room Conversations with 91 participants in venues ranging from coffee shops and breweries to the Library's main floor. Topics included tribalism, kindness, parenting, and civic renewal. In October, we added a special series, "Who Do We Want To Be? Building Community After an Election," created in response to concerns voiced during earlier sessions. These timely conversations gave residents space to share anxieties, reflect across perspectives, and plan constructive ways forward during a tense political season.

CANDIDATE FORUMS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

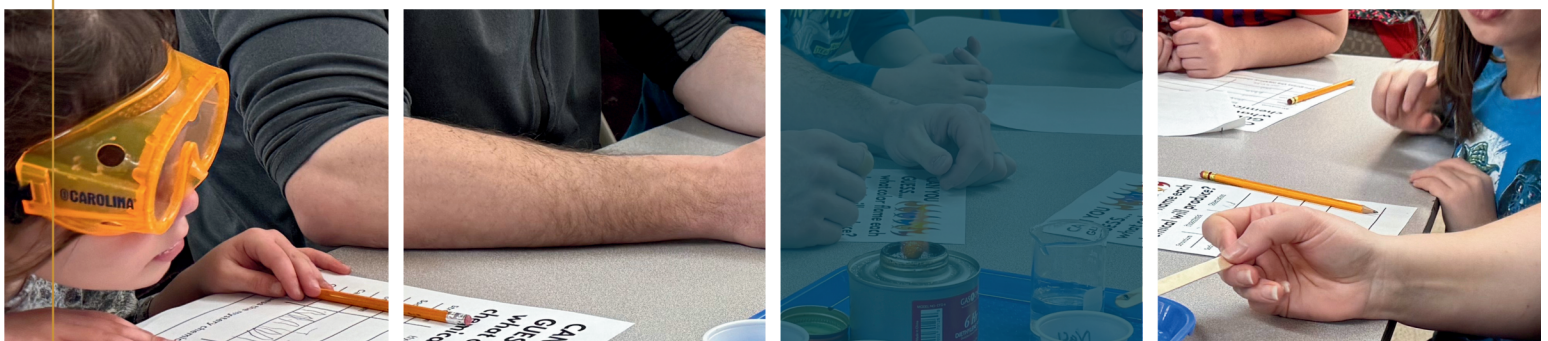
We hosted four candidate forums in the fall of 2024, drawing 235 attendees: City Council (35), County Commission (33), School Board (127), and Senior Citizen District Board (40). These nonpartisan events provided direct access to potential local leaders and ensured voters could hear from those who will ultimately shape policy.

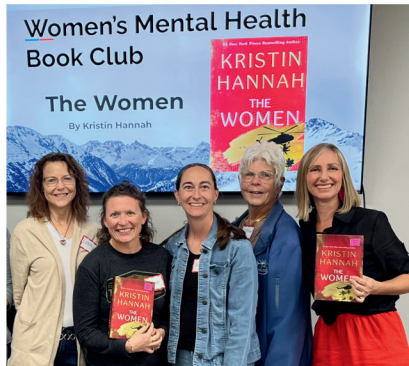
Together, these programs highlight the Library's role in strengthening civic life—whether through empathy and dialogue at a table for ten or informed discussion in a room of over a hundred.

”

The discussion reminded me how impactful our words are in everyday life. Kindness is a necessary quality of being a decent human being.

—Living Room Conversation participant





WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH BOOK CLUB

A new women's mental health book club launched this spring, drawing 65 participants across five gatherings. In partnership with Amy Adwalpalker, LPC from Deep Waters Counseling and supported by a Wyoming Humanities grant, the series created a safe space where reading and discussion reduced stigma and built solidarity, which lead to its continuation into fall 2025 and beyond.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS & PATRON SAVINGS

Library use delivered measurable benefits last year: checking out books saved 3,775 trees, 1,554,518 gallons of water, and 222 metric tons of greenhouse gases, while Libby use cut emissions equal to 28,532 planted trees. Residents also saved \$8,777,818 on checked-out materials.

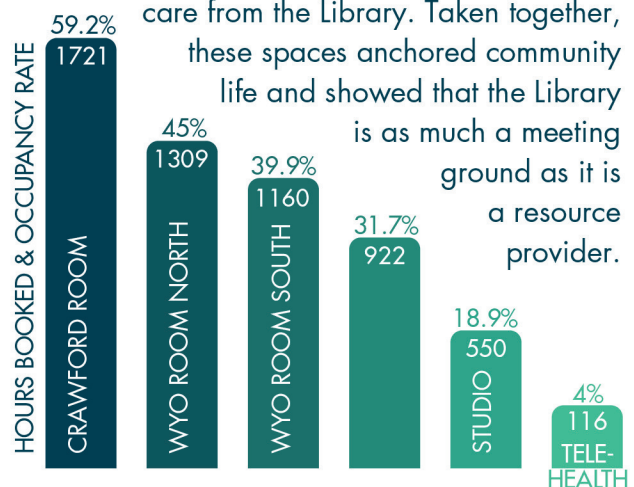
OUTREACH ON THE MOVE

This year, Library staff delivered books, StoryTimes, and learning through 1,496 outreach sessions, where we take Library programs into the community, with 21,248 participants—nearly 2,000 more than last year. That included 179 new programs and 48 extra Bookmobile stops, extending our

reach across Natrona County. Thanks to grant funding from CATC and Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund, we also added a new 2025 Chrysler Pacifica to our fleet, replacing a damaged 2013 van and making staff mobilization more safe and reliable as we bring our services to neighborhoods, schools, and community centers.

MEETING ROOMS & STUDIO TIME

Community life thrived in our public rooms this year, with groups booking a total of 5,778 hours—an average occupancy of 33.1% across all spaces. The Crawford Room led the way, hosting everything from civic forums to youth programs. The Wyoming Rooms were steady anchors serving nonprofits, study teams, and small businesses. The Studio supported podcast and video production for local creators. Even our Telehealth Booth found growing use, connecting residents to health-care from the Library. Taken together,



LEARNING THAT LASTS, CREATIVITY THAT CONNECTS

At the Library, learning extends beyond books into making, exploring, and solving everyday needs. From art classes and creative workshops to practical tools and services, we help residents stay curious, connected, and confident at every stage of life.

CREATIVE AGING

Our Creative Aging series provided older adults with the chance to learn new skills, connect socially, and celebrate creativity. In FY25, we offered two multi-week embroidery workshops: Yemenite Jewish Embroidery and Brazilian Embroidery, reaching 21 total registrants aged 55+. Led by local artists, both 8-week series saw participants build confidence stitch by stitch.

The impact went far beyond the needle and thread. Many participants described the classes as refreshing, social, and even transformative. One noted, "Brazilian embroidery opens possibilities and helps me think outside the box." A participant in the Yemenite Jewish Embroidery workshop wrote, "I always enjoy the conversation and come away with food for thought."

Together, these programs offered more than skill-building. They created new friendships, fostered creativity, and reinforced that learning is a lifelong journey.

SENIOR OUTREACH

This year we introduced virtual reality headset programs in partnership with Casper College occupational therapy students, bringing the Louvre, shark diving, moon walks, and other immersive experiences to mobility-impaired residents at local retirement and rehabilitation facilities.

In addition to our regular bookmobile stops at senior centers, senior outreach touched 226 participants across 18 events. We got crafty with our custom laser engraver, recorded stories with podcasting equipment through *Memories on Record*, and offered hands-on help with *Tech Answers*, bringing curiosity and confidence to older adults in our community.



”

The instructor teaches acceptance of imperfections, and stresses it takes practice and not to be hard on yourself.

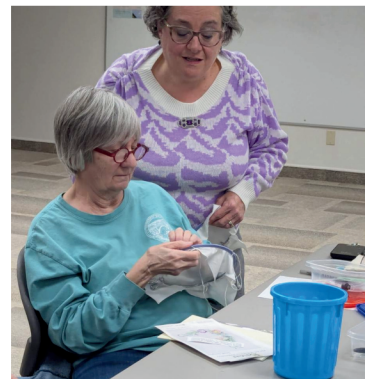
—Creative Aging participant



”

I think I can safely say that the virtual reality activity enriched people's lives.

—Volunteer at Shepherd of the Valley



A LIBRARY FULL OF USEFUL THINGS

Launched in 2022, our *Library of Things* is a collection of useful items that you can borrow just like books or DVDs. Here are the most popular items from this collection last year.



Wifi2Go Hotspot
600 checkouts



Wyoming State Park Pass
69 checkouts



Blood Pressure Cuff
42 checkouts



Radon Detector
41 checkouts

PASSPORTS & NOTARY

Library staff helped residents navigate essential paperwork and travel needs, processing 1,068 passport applications (up 30% from last year) and taking 907 passport photos. With more than 55% of appointment slots filled and a near-perfect 4.9 satisfaction score, demand and appreciation for this service continue to grow. Staff also completed 1,307 free notary appointments, saving residents time and money on essential document certification.

for everything from school assignments to small-business prototypes. The 774 Monthly DIY Challenge participants added quick bursts of creativity to their routines, reinforcing that making can be both accessible and fun.

TECHNOLOGY & PRINTING

Patrons logged nearly 22,000 public computer hours on work, school, and job search tasks. Printing demand more than doubled to 45,612 pages this year, which is even more evidence of the Library's role in essential daily logistics.

CREATION STATION

Hands-on learning flourished in our makerspace this year, where we hosted 168 programs with 705 attendees. 173 tweens and teens tried out new skills in nearly 30 different age-specific STEAM classes, and 532 adults filled 139 workshops ranging from sewing and leatherwork to Glowforge, Cricut, and 3D printing. Beyond group classes, staff provided 225 one-on-one coaching sessions, helping patrons with personal projects, and completed 277 3D prints

BOOKMARK DESIGN CONTEST

As part of National Library Week, we hosted a community bookmark contest. The winning designs were printed and shared, turning local creativity into bookmarks carried home in thousands of books.

155

Submissions

1100+

Community Votes

5

Winners!



A CELEBRATION OF ART, KNOWLEDGE & COMMUNITY: 50 YEARS OF PROMETHEUS

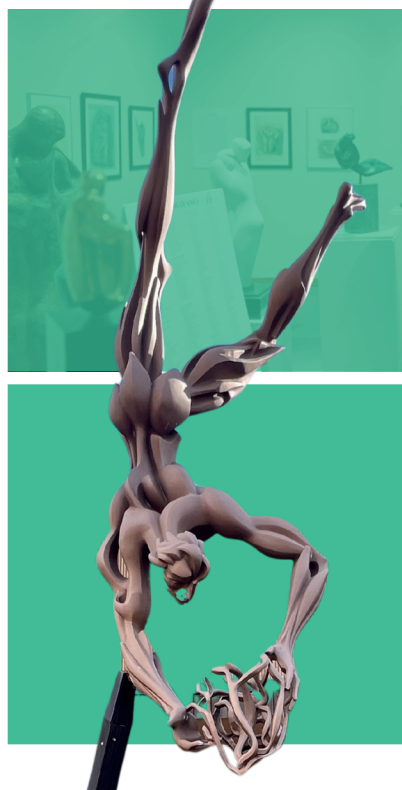
When *Prometheus* was unveiled in front of the Natrona County Library in 1975, it was more than a striking bronze statue. It was one of the first of many public sculptures by Robert Russin that transformed Casper's landscape, helping launch a tradition of civic art that continues to shape the city's identity. For five decades, *Prometheus* has embodied the Library's mission —igniting knowledge, resilience, and creativity—and in 2025, the community came together to celebrate its golden anniversary.

Across 14 events and classes, the campaign engaged 912 participants of all ages. The largest event, the Birthday Party at the Library, welcomed 436 attendees, while other highlights included Trivia Night at Gaslight Social, an adult lecture series, and Family STEAM Night at The Science Zone. A citywide scavenger hunt encouraged families to discover Russin's public sculptures across Casper, resulting in 80 completions and 415 sticker prizes distributed. The Library also introduced a limited-edition Prometheus card, with 320 issued, and launched a new fundraising channel through Bonfire, raising \$600 from t-shirt sales and continuing to generate support beyond the campaign.

But the impact went beyond numbers. By anchoring the celebration in partnerships with

the Nicolaysen Art Museum, Fort Caspar Museum, Casper College, and The Science Zone, the Library placed itself at the center of Casper's cultural conversation. The Nicolaysen's Russin retrospective, attended by the sculptor's sons, deepened the sense of legacy. A Library atrium exhibit and dramatic nighttime spotlighting turned the building into a glowing tribute.

The campaign proved that the Library endures as more than just books. Prometheus was once a gift to Casper meant to symbolize the fire of knowledge; 50 years later, it still burns brightly, reminding us that public art and public libraries together can inspire and connect generations.



LEGISLATION, ACTIVISM & ADVOCACY: THE VERY REAL IMPACT

FY25 brought new hurdles for libraries across Wyoming. Property tax legislation reduced funding streams, while bills on “sexually explicit materials” (HB194 & 26LSO-0080) and age verification for digital resources (HB43) resurfaced. Changes to firearm laws also shifted expectations for public spaces.

These proposals create new challenges for how libraries manage collections and provide access. The Library remains committed to reflecting our community’s diversity while ensuring age-appropriate use and honoring parental choice. Balancing openness with responsibility has never been more vital.

Though financial impacts have been limited so far, county departments anticipate reductions next year. This is a reminder that advocacy is

essential to protecting stable funding and the public’s right to free access to information.

During National Library Week 2025 this April, we invited patrons to share how the Library has made a difference in their lives. Thirty-one handwritten postcards told stories of discovery, connection, and belonging. Each story, like the one below, reminds us that behind every statistic is a human story worth defending.

Bliss is a Library, a place of unseen & untold adventure. A place where our view of the world around us is strong, & a great place to find books...

”

A CALL TO ACTION

As these legislative debates continue, libraries need visible, vocal supporters. Here’s how you can help:



Share your story. Tell us and your legislators what the Library means to you.



Show up. When library funding or legislation is on the table, your presence matters.



Stay informed. Sign up for our eNewsletter and follow our socials to know when advocacy is needed most.

Our goal is that Natrona County Library—and all Wyoming libraries—remain free, open, and responsive to the needs of every resident.



FINDING VALUE NOW AND IN THE FUTURE

In FY25, the Library once again delivered extraordinary value. For every tax dollar invested, residents received \$4.86 in services and savings. From books borrowed and technology accessed to programs attended and passports processed, the Library multiplied every dollar into meaningful resources and opportunities for Natrona County.

But with that impact comes the challenge of working within an aging facility. This year, we faced costly repairs to plumbing and HVAC, and invested in extensive network equipment upgrades—both public and staff networks—simply to keep pace with demand. Looking ahead, FY26 will bring the addition of two new business pods on the second floor to expand our Business Center, replacement of the now non-functioning lift to the mezzanine to restore accessibility to the Teen Zone and administrative offices, and LED lighting upgrades in the Tech Center for brighter, more efficient use. We're also evaluating enhanced parking lot lighting to improve safety and security outside our walls.

And yet, there is much to look forward to...

FY26 will include community celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, more collaborative programs with local partners, and expanded outreach that will bring the Library to even more neighborhoods. These moments of connection and creativity remind us that the Library is more than a building. It is a living part of Natrona County's cultural fabric.

Even as we navigate limitations, our mission is clear: to remain both timeless and timely. By investing in technology, accessibility, and safe spaces, we ensure that the Library continues to be a cornerstone of learning, connection, and community both today and into the future.



SUMMER READING BY THE NUMBERS

Our annual reading challenge continues to grow year over year, encouraging readers of all ages to keep up with their reading goals all summer long. In 2025, readers logged 99,629 days of reading and redeemed the most prizes of any summer on record!



SERVICE PROVIDED	PATRON USE STATISTICS	VALUE OF SERVICE/USE	EXTENDED PATRON VALUE	ROI CALCULATIONS
PHYSICAL ITEMS CIRCULATED				
Adult & YA - FICTION Books	74,505	\$15.92	\$1,186,119.60	
Adult - NONFICTION Books	36,395	\$17.39	\$632,909.05	
Children's - FICTION Books	146,818	\$17.60	\$2,583,996.80	
Children's - NONFICTION Books	24,526	\$19.28	\$472,861.28	
Reference/Wyoming Room Collections	67	\$30	\$2,010	
Audio Books	9,726	\$22	\$213,972	
Music CDs	1,624	\$13	\$21,112	
Magazines	2,226	\$5	\$11,130	
Library of Things Items	867	\$142	\$123,114	
DVD - Borrowed (Movies)	74,240	\$4.99	\$370,457.60	
Video Games	9,852	\$20	\$197,040	
ECONTENT CHECKOUTS & STREAMS				
eBooks	64,790	\$12.50	\$809,875	
eAudiobooks	97,841	\$21	\$2,054,661	
eVideos & Kanopy	4,163	\$5	\$20,815	
eMagazines	15,549	\$5	\$77,745	
MEETING ROOM USE				
Crawford Room - # hours BOOKED	1,721	\$40	\$68,840	
Small Rooms - # hours booked	3,507	\$20	\$70,140	
Small Rooms - walk-in use	5,087	\$20	\$101,730	
The Studio - # hours booked	550	\$35	\$19,250	
PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH EVENTS				
Adults	3,269	\$12	\$39,228	
Teens	4,395	\$11	\$48,345	
Children's	25,621	\$10	\$256,210	
Bookmobile	5,538	\$6.55	\$36,273.90	
Creation Station Open Use	983	\$11	\$10,813	
Creation Station Programs	705	\$15	\$10,575	
3D Prints	155	\$15.15	\$2,348.25	
Take & Makes	8,277	\$5	\$41,385	
OTHER SERVICES				
Database - successful retrievals	438,355	\$10	\$4,383,550	
Interlibrary Loans borrowed for NCL patrons	5,011	\$16.67	\$83,533.37	
Notary Services	1,307	\$10	\$13,070	
Passport Photos	907	\$15	\$9,855	
1:1 Technology Assistance appts	58	\$30	\$1,740	
Test Proctoring	4	\$20	\$80	
WiFi sessions - in-house	80,606	\$10	\$806,060	
Public Internet computer use (Hours)	21,977	\$8	\$175,816	
Reference Questions	12,792	\$10	\$127,920	
Value of trackable services received			\$15,088,330.85	
County Funding				\$3,103,235.11
Total funding (includes grants, donations, etc.)				\$3,549,318.01
RETURN ON INVESTMENTS				
ROI - County Funding				\$4.86
ROI - All Funding				\$4.25

AN UPDATE FROM OUR FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

SALES SUMMARY & CONTRIBUTIONS

The Friends of the Natrona County Library continue to be a driving force behind community support, fundraising, and volunteer service.

In 2024, the Friends reached a historic milestone: total income from book sales since the organization's founding surpassed \$1.5 million. That year alone, book sales brought in \$34,000, with total sales of all items reaching \$38,227. The reservation system for sales proved invaluable. At one event, more than 600 appointments were scheduled in advance.

In 2025, momentum has only grown. Book sale income has already exceeded \$39,200, boosted by three special events that added both revenue and personality: a Music Sale, where Casper Symphony musicians joined with a hands-on "instrument petting zoo"; a one-day Nonfiction Sale featuring a generous donation from an avid collector, including military miniatures and figurines; and a lively booth at Comicon, stocked with sci-fi, comic books, and more. At these sales, community generosity also shone through, with donations collected for the Humane Society and the

FY25 BOOK SALES

Fall Book Sale	\$9,402.11
Winter Bag Sale	\$7,420.54
Special Music Sale	\$2,611.59
Spring Book Sale	\$11,057
Special Nonfiction Sale	\$6,327.56
Summer Bag Sale	\$7,733.41

Library's Summer Reading program in place of an admission cost.

The Friends also launched a new partnership with BetterWorldBooks. In just three months, 1,905 pounds of surplus books were shipped, generating \$475 in profit and saving the equivalent of 22 trees. This partnership also expanded Amazon sales of rare and unique items, bringing in over \$2,000 in revenue.

Financial contributions reflected this success. In 2024, the Friends donated \$3,000 to Wyoming Reads and \$35,000 to the Library. In 2025, they have already contributed \$25,000 to support Library services and programs.



\$1.55M

Total income from book sales over the last 53 years



48

Volunteers

3,590

Hours Volunteered



VOLUNTEER IMPACT & HIGHLIGHTS

The Friends play a vital role in supporting not only the Library but also a wide range of community organizations. Their volunteer corps continues to thrive: in 2024, 46 volunteers contributed 3,590 hours, and in 2025 the team grew to 48 volunteers, working tirelessly to sort donations, staff sales, and support Library programs. The Friends' work does more than raise funds. It builds community, celebrates volunteers, and ensures the Library remains a vibrant hub for Natrona County.

Beyond fundraising, the Friends strengthened the Library itself. Volunteers provided books for adult Summer Reading prizes, led our Junk

Journal classes, kept the ephemera shelf stocked with treasures, and partnered with groups like the Fort Caspar Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Casper Autism and Special-Needs Support group to celebrate National Library Week and honor staff. Several members were also recognized for outstanding volunteer service through Serve Wyoming.

In FY25, the Friends' outreach donations reached new heights, with more requests than ever before and contributions extending to an increasingly diverse group of local agencies, schools, and community projects.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY OUTREACH DONATIONS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

- Casper College (Daycare & OLLI Program): Picture books & books for class members
- Pathways/NCHS: Books for art and photography classes
- Wyoming Child and Family Development: Preschool books
- Cody High School, Natrona County High School & Roosevelt High School: Yearbooks, journal items, and books for collections

COMMUNITY AGENCIES & PROJECTS:

- Little Free Libraries: Children's books
- Edgerton and Glenrock Libraries: Local history books
- Books for the Philippines: Children's books for international outreach efforts
- Primrose Retirement Community: Large print books and other reading materials
- Banner Wyoming Medical Center: Books
- Casper Humane Society: Newspapers, pet toys, pet food, and \$250

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF READERS, DREAMERS, AND DOERS

At the Natrona County Library Foundation, we believe that every story begins with a turning page. This past year, we have witnessed countless moments where your generosity made those first pages possible—and kept the chapters coming. From the joy of a child holding their very first book to the wisdom shared among lifelong readers, your support ensures that the Library continues to be a place where curiosity is sparked, ideas are shared, and lives are changed.

Your support helped create stories of connection and courage. In our Library's meeting rooms, friendships form. At our story times, imaginations take flight. In our makerspaces, creativity connects neighbors of all ages and backgrounds. These are not just programs—they are lifelines of learning that lasts.

Your commitment to the Library's mission is about more than books on shelves. It's about building a community where learning, creativity, and connection are available to everyone—free, open, and without barriers. That vision is only possible because of you.

Thank you for believing in the power of stories—both the ones we read and the ones we live. Together, we are writing the next chapter for the Natrona County Library, and it's one filled with hope, opportunity, and the promise of lifelong learning.



Candice Cochran

Executive Director,
Natrona County Library Foundation



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Please consider contributing to the Library Foundation using the envelope included with this Annual Report or by scanning the QR code below. All donations are tax deductible. With your help, the Library can offer so much more to our community and patrons—both during times of need and for years to come.

SCAN HERE TO
DONATE VIA PAYPAL



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS



LeAnn Aagard
C.K. & Audrey Adams
Peter & Marlene Ashbaugh
Ray & Jill Bader
Dennis & Joan Bangen
Liz Becher
Irma Bideau
Jody Bintner
Richard & Lisa Bratton
Royce & Sandra Brown
Dr. Stephen & Helen Brown
George & Linda Bryce
Bruce & Kathy Bummer
Laura A. Burbach
Rebecca Byron
Califa Group
Edward & Shirley Chase
Marial & Mike Choma
Candice & James Cochran
Shirley Costopoulos
Audrey Cotherman
Betty & Don Cresswell
Mark & Jansen Curry
William & Linda Davis
Steve Degenfelder
Stephen & Suzey Delger
Carolyn Deuel
Cleveland H. Dodge
Foundation
Double 4 Foundation
Howard & Nina Ewart
Jeffrey & Julie Fleischman
Blake & Donna Fox
Erich & Tammy Frankland
Ferne J. Freiberg
Kevin & Jeanne Goldrick
Jack Gosar
Doris Graf
Dwight & Ann Gunnare

RJ & Kay Hawker
Wayne & Stacie Heili
Bill & Susan Heiss
Rob & Leslie Hendry
Anita Hill
Hilltop Bank
Edwin Hodder
David & Diana Hough
Deborah J Johnson
John P. Jorgensen
Ronald & Tamela Keeran
Margaret H. & James E.
Kelley Foundation
John Kerns
Ronald & Joanne Kumor
Teri & Ron Laird
Bruce Lawson
Lynn Lockhart
Steve Loftin
J.A. Maddy
Masterson Family Foundation
Dr. Allan & Diane Mattern
Michael & Janet Merback
Natrona Collective Health
Trust
Dan & Judy Neal
Lance & Linda Neiberger
Peter Nicolaysen & Pam
Brondos
Cope & Liz Norcross
Our Saviour's Lutheran
Preschool
Stephen & Judy Parker
Milton & Sara Peddycord
Dr. Paul & Vicki Peters
Jim & Terry Porter
Charles & Loraine Powell
Martha Rakestraw
Bart & Liz Rea

Daniel Rea
Thomas & Barbara Rea
Richard & Dorothy Reimann
Talyn Riedesel
Beth Robitaille
Rocky Mountain Power
Foundation
Kate Sarosy & Scott Sissman
Scarlow's Art & Coffee
Tim & Judy Schenk
Hustace & Janice Scott
Lisa & Albert Scroggins
Dave & Donna Shellenberger
Steve & Barb Shellenberger
Myra Fox Skelton Foundation
Rachel & John Spear
Michael Stepp
Tim & Susan Stubson
Kay & Kirk Talbot
Bob & Carol Tarantola
Rick & Donna Tempest
Deb Theriault
Holly Thompson
Robert & Mary Tobin
Tonkin Foundation
Judi Van Rensselaer
Alan Vandeventer
Bruce & Donna Walgren
Barb Walker
Kelly Wilson
Todd & Nancy Witzeling
The Wold Foundation
George & Jolyn Wynn
Wyoming Community
Foundation
Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund
Stuart & Melissa Youmans
Mark & Karen Zaback
Gail D. Zimmerman

THANK YOU

NATRONA COUNTY
LIBRARY



FY26 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHRIS MULLEN
President

JAMES WORTHEN
Secretary

CATHI CARR
Vice President

NIMI McCONIGLEY
At-Large

IVAN ANCHAN
Treasurer