

# the **OUTRIDER**

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## Meet and mingle with the legislators

The Wyoming Library Association's Legislative Reception will take place Thursday, Feb. 3, in the ballroom of the Historic Plains Hotel in Cheyenne. Legislative update is at 4:30, the reception runs from 5:30 to 8:30. This annual event is an opportunity to network with many of Wyoming's state legislators and a chance to thank them for their support of libraries with some of the only home-cooked food many of them get during the session.

Special thanks to our legislators are in order this year: the Wyoming State Legislature won the Mountain Plains Library Association's 2004 MPLA Legislative Leadership Award for its support of WYLD's subscription databases, and the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Committee was honored with the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) 2004 Consumer Health Information Award for Wyoming.

## Ghost Ranch

In November, four Wyoming librarians took part in the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch, north of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Maggie Farrell, University of Wyoming Dean of Libraries, attended as a mentor. Patty Myers, Campbell County Public Library System Director; Jill Rourke, Wyoming State Library Continuing Education Librarian; and Erin Kinney, WSL Electronic Resources Librarian were all participants.



"It's essentially a semester's worth of

work in five days," Kinney said, hefting a large binder. At Ghost Ranch, they learned leadership, interpersonal communication, managing differences, risk taking, power and influence, leading change, commitment, groups and teams, and personal planning.

*Poolside, Bryan Fearn, Reference Librarian at the James I. Gibson Library in Henderson, Nev., serves drinks to the Wyoming contingent (l to r): Maggie Farrell, Patty Myers, Jill Rourke and Erin Kinney. Reportedly, none of the four chipped through the ice to take a swim.*

Myers described Ghost Ranch as, "the most invigorating program I've ever attended. It was incredibly hard work and challenging, and it gives me a whole new appreciation for the future of professional librarians. These young people were so astonishing. They're very knowledgeable, and they are very committed to the profession."

As a mentor, Farrell held one-on-one discussions and small focus groups to discuss specific issues not detailed in the workshops and to help tailor the experience to each individual participant. Although a mentor, she was also a learner.

"I think the most important thing that I brought back was the validity of process within an organization," Farrell said. "Good leadership depends upon not only strong communication skills but also thinking how change happens within an organization. If you ignore process, then you're really not getting the input that you need for good decisions and the input that you need to build solid relationships.

Farrell encouraged other Wyoming librarians to apply for the MPLA Leadership Institute in 2005. "It's an outstanding professional development opportunity, and Wyoming is to be commended for having three librarians chosen in an extremely competitive process."

For more information, the MPLA web site may be accessed at <http://www.usd.edu/mpla/>

## Plan would make searching old newspapers easier

Internet researchers will be able to find and search Wyoming's newspapers published from 1849 to 1922 if all goes as planned with a state digitization project.

The Wyoming State Library has been working with many entities to create a state digitization plan, and the highest priority has been the older newspapers. In partnership with University of Wyoming Libraries, State Archives and the



Wyoming Press Association, the state library plans to digitize all newspapers published in the state from 1849 to 1922 - dates no longer under copyright protection. The project, which is expected to take about two years, is still in the planning phase.

Additional information about the project is at <http://www.wyone newspapers.org/>. Questions or comments may be directed to Venice Beske at WSL, 307-777-7982, [vbeske@state.wy.us](mailto:vbeske@state.wy.us)

## PTDL event a fun overview of the Bucking Horse & Rider trademark



Shawn Ziegler, University of Wyoming Trademark Licensing, entertained a crowd of more than 30 on Jan. 13 with an interactive and informative lecture on the state's trademarked Bucking Horse & Rider logo - how to use it properly, and how it has been used to market the state and its products. The event was part of the state's Patent and Trademark Depository Library's recent "Celebrating Wyoming Enterprise" exhibit at the Wyoming State Museum,

displayed from Nov. 2 to Jan. 29.

A Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) is a library designated by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) to receive and house copies of U.S. patents and patent and trademark materials, to make them freely available to the public, and to actively disseminate patent and trademark information. Contact Dawn Rohan, Wyoming State Library Intellectual Property Librarian, 307-777-7281, for more information on Wyoming's PTDL.

## Northwest College Library Director Kay Carlson retiring

Kay Carlson, director of the Northwest College John Taggart Hinckley Library, recently announced her retirement at the end of the fiscal year. Carlson has been a librarian for 27 years, the last nine in Wyoming at NWC. In 2004, she was named the Wyoming Library Association's Librarian of the Year.

"No one gets to the end of a successful career in librarianship without the support and mentorship of others in the profession," Carlson said. "These librarians took the time to share their expertise with me and mentor me for which I am forever grateful."

She added, "I learned much from co-workers who, although they didn't have a library degree, had years of experience that I could benefit from. I will miss working with all of you and want you to know how much I appreciate the camaraderie and support that we share in Wyoming. Thank you for a wonderful nine years in Wyoming and 19 years in the library business elsewhere! Keep up the mentoring and cooperation with each other!"

## **Jill Rourke to head Fremont County Library System**

Fremont County Library System has chosen Jill Rourke to be its new director, beginning March 1. Rourke leaves her spot as Continuing Education Librarian at the Wyoming State Library, where she has worked as since October 2002.

"My heart really is with the public libraries," said Rourke. "Where else can a curious person talk about DNA, dinosaurs, digitization and dumpling recipes all in one day? Where else can you serve folks of all ages, from all walks of life and provide them with the materials they want and the information they need?"

"Working at the State Library has been very rewarding and has opened my eyes to the wide range of needs in our library communities," she continued. "It was not an easy decision at all to leave this workplace. On the other hand, what an excellent opportunity to lead a great group of folks to the next level. The staff at each of the libraries in the county bring a wealth of talent and experience to the table. The Fremont County Library Board is genuinely committed to excellent library service throughout the county. Truly a good group of people and I look forward to working with them."

## **Longtime Hyattville librarian retiring**

Gay Tharp is retiring from the Hyattville Branch Library in Big Horn County after 27 years - during much of which she volunteered her time and even her garage space to make the library available. Coralea Higgins will now head the branch.

"Gay was a wonderful person to work with," said Big Horn County Library Director Becky Hawkins, "She was generous to let the county use her workshop/garage for the library for most of the 27 years she was the librarian. She was always there and I never had to worry about what was going on in Hyattville. She just took care of it."

About a year ago, the library moved to the newly acquired Hyattville Community Center and officially became a branch of the Big Horn County Library.

## **Jan Segerstrom makes list of top librarians**

The new ALA book, *The Whole School Library Handbook*, by Blanche Woolls and David Loertscher, lists Jan Segerstrom of Jackson Hole High School Library as one of the top 103 school librarians/supporters as identified by the authors. Others include First Lady Laura Bush, Mike Eisenberg of the University of Washington graduate school and Keith Curry Lance of the Colorado State Library.

## Casey King joins state library

Casey King recently joined the Wyoming State Library as an administrative assistant. She splits her time between the Publications and Marketing Office and Statewide Information Services. Requests for grants catalogs or corrections to the online Wyoming Libraries Directory should go directly to her at 307-777-5453 or [cking1@state.wy.us](mailto:cking1@state.wy.us). Welcome Casey!

## Planned law librarianship program leads to .... jackalope hunts?

D. Jason Raymond, Public Services Law Librarian at the Wyoming State Law Library, has been working with Judith A. Flader, County Law Librarian, Washington County Law Library in Stillwater, Minnesota, on a program for the 2005 American Association of Law Library's Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, next July. The program, "May It Please the Court: Strategies for Discovering SRL (Self Represented Litigant) Services Judges Crave," involves surveys of the Wyoming and Minnesota state judiciary on issues involving people appearing in court without the help of attorneys, commonly known as pro se litigants or self represented litigants (SRLs).



To gather information for the program, Jason drove to Minnesota and met with District Judge John L. Holahan (Fourth Judicial District) and Chief Judge Edward Toussaint of the Minnesota Court of Appeals in Minnesota. While he was there, he delivered Jackalope "decoys" and hunting licenses, officially signed by Wyoming Supreme Justice Barton Voigt, formerly the district judge in Douglas.

The Jackalope (*Pedigrus Lapusalopus Ineptus*) is considered by some to be the rarest animal in North America. It may resemble a jackrabbit or a hare, with a few bits of deer DNA thrown in (mostly the bits related to antlers). Among its many mysterious features is the Jackalope's ability to sing, imitating the human voice. The average Jackalope imitates a human singing voice better than three-quarters of the contestants on *American Idol*.

## New young adult areas open

Two county libraries recently celebrated the opening of spaces just for their young adult patrons. The Campbell County Public Library in Gillette carved out and renovated a space in its basement for a young adult reading room. In Casper, the Natrona County Public Library opened its new "Teen Zone." The recently constructed area incorporated suggestions from teen patrons during the two years of planning. It has the feel of a contemporary coffeehouse, complete with restaurant-style bar tables and chairs. NCPL plans to convert the former YA area into a tech center.

## International visitors to Wyoming libraries

Marylou Bowles-Banks at the Dubois School Library said she expected an intense January with 25 exchange students from Costa Rica visiting. Last year, Marylou only had 11, so this year should be busier. At the WLA Legislative Reception, ask her if she's caught her breath yet.

And at the Hulett Branch/School Library, Russian foreign exchange student Paramonova Ksenia Sergeevna is the seventh hour library aid. Kseniya is from Saransk, Republic of Mordovia, Russia, and will be in Hulett for the 2004-2005 school year as part of the FLEX student exchange program.

## Niobrara County fundraising reaches goal, gets match

An irrevocable planned gift of \$50,000 put the Niobrara County Library Foundation's goal of raising \$250,000 in endowment funds within reach - and on Dec. 20, they did it, just under the Jan. 1 deadline. As one of 21 Wyoming participants in the Partnership to Raise Community Capital challenge grant program, NCLF received an \$83,333 grant to match funds raised locally three to one. The challenge grant program was funded by the Kresge Foundation in partnership with the Wyoming Community Foundation as a means of developing permanent endowment assets to provide income for Wyoming non-profits in perpetuity.

## Other fundraisers

- The Vernon & Rowena Griffith Foundation recently made a \$25,000 contribution to the Sheridan County Library Foundation for renovations. The Foundation is now just \$135,000 from its \$2.1 million goal. Also in Sheridan, SCFPL has released its *Overdue, Out of Print, and Outstanding Cookbook*.
- Natrona County Public Library Foundation plans to hold its Second Annual Edible Book Fest on April 1, 2005. Self-proclaimed executive chefs, short-order

cooks and every culinary type between are invited to whip up a good book for public viewing and tasting.

## **LIBRARY RESOURCES**

### **Check out WSL web site changes**

- The LSTA information page at <http://will.state.wy.us/admin/lsta.html> now brings together all grant application, documentation and reporting forms on one page for both individual training grants and training credits for libraries.
- Wyoming Governors' Executive Orders from 1967 to the present can now be found at <http://will.state.wy.us/sis/wydocs/execorders.html>

### **State Library orientations scheduled**

Four Wyoming State Library half-day orientations have been scheduled for 2005:

- Monday, March 7, 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 7, 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 7, 1 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 3, 8:30 a.m.

Library staff and directors attending an orientation will visit each work group to better understand services, resources and staff at the State Library and to learn about the numerous statewide cooperative projects. All costs are the responsibility of the local library. For more information, or to register, visit <http://will.state.wy.us/wsl/orientation.html>

### **Grant opportunities**

The Wyoming Arts Council's 2005-2006 grant application booklet is now available. The book includes guidelines and grants for the Grants to Organizations and Arts in Education categories. For more information, or to download and print a copy, visit the Arts Council's web site at <http://www.wyomingartscouncil.org>

The Wyoming Council for the Humanities is offering Cultural Diversity grants of up to \$1,500 to fund "innovative projects that foster enhanced understanding of cultural diversity in Wyoming communities. Applications are due postmarked the first of each month from Feb. 1 until Sept. 1, or until funds are depleted. For more information, visit the WCH site at [http://www.uwyo.edu/wch/WTP\\_grants.htm](http://www.uwyo.edu/wch/WTP_grants.htm)

## **JOB OPENINGS**

## University of Wyoming Libraries, Head of Access Services

Responsibilities: Oversee Access Services, including circulation, interlibrary loan, media services, traditional and electronic reserves, stack management, and the mailroom.

Minimum Qualifications: ALA-accredited MLS, minimum 3 years of professional experience. Demonstrated ability to manage, enforce policy, engage in planning, and oversee multiple operations, and demonstrated interpersonal, problem-solving and organizational skills.

Application and Salary: Review of applications will begin on March 1, 2005. Minimum salary \$48,000 + benefits, DOQ. Send cover letter, resume, and three professional references to Birgit Burke, Staff Assistant, University of Wyoming Libraries, P.O. Box 3334, Laramie, WY 82071, Fax: 307-766-2510, [burek@uwyo.edu](mailto:burek@uwyo.edu) Follow faxed or e-mailed applications with copy via mail. EEO/AA

## Wyoming State Law Library, Electronic Services Librarian

Responsibilities: Assist in administering and maintaining electronic resources and systems in the library, act as liaison to other agencies, maintain staff and public PC software and hardware, and maintain the web page and Internet-based resources. Also participate in traditional reference service.

Qualifications: ALA-accredited MLS and two years professional experience, or equivalent of education and job-related experience required. Strong research, computer skills, service and communication skills preferred.

Salary Range: \$38,000-49,000; benefited position. Application Deadline: March 15, 2005

To apply: send Wyoming State Government application form, cover letter, resume, and three professional references to: Ms. Kathy Carlson, Wyoming State Law Librarian, Supreme Court Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002. Application form available at: <http://personnel.state.wy.us/stjobs/forms/online.htm>. Return it directly to Ms. Carlson rather than to the address on the form. Direct questions to: Kathy Carlson, 307/777-7509, [kcarls@state.wy.us](mailto:kcarls@state.wy.us). EEO