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WYOMING STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

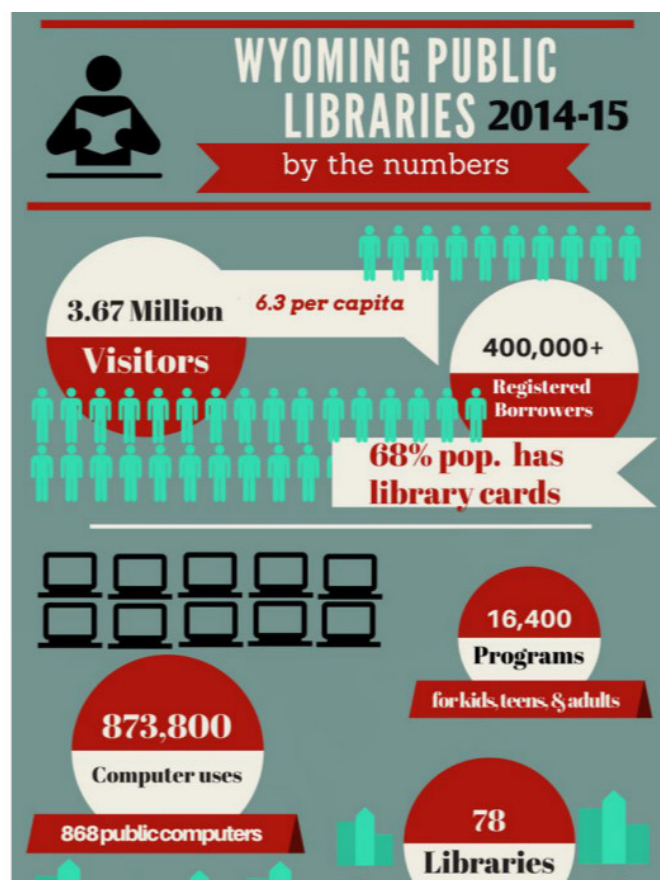
VOL. 45 | ISSUE 02 | MAY 2016

## Wyoming Public Libraries, by the Numbers

Librarians work hard and sometimes it's easy to feel like we're in a vacuum, a bit disconnected, and wondering if we make a difference. That's why it's nice to see some evidence of the impact we have in our communities. If you haven't already seen it, [download the Wyoming Public Libraries 2014-2015 infographic](#) and be reminded of the good work you do and your individual importance in the success of Wyoming libraries. Go ahead, take a bow.

### Remember—we want to hear from you!

There are inspirational success stories in libraries like yours and we want to know about them. Sometimes it's a big, community-wide event, and other times, it's a quiet, meaningful moment with a special patron. Share your stories and let us toot your horn. [Send your contributions to Susan Mark](#) at the Wyoming State Library, or call (307) 777-5915.



# Out and about in Wyoming Libraries

## WYOMING READS CELEBRATES LITERACY AND READING



*Natrona County Library board member Shannon Dutcher reads to first-grade students during Casper's 2015 Wyoming Reads event.*

On May 17, over 8,000 books were distributed to first-graders at [Wyoming Reads](#) literacy celebrations held in each of the state's 23 counties. Earlier this year, children had the opportunity to choose which book they would like to receive from six options. In conjunction with the event, Governor Matt Mead proclaimed the date "Wyoming Literacy Day."

This event was created in memory of Sue Jorgensen. In 1996, John Jorgensen established the Sue Jorgensen Library Foundation and founded the Casper Cares, Casper Reads festival to honor his late wife's commitment to children and reading. The celebration was expanded statewide as Wyoming Reads in 2006.

"Sue was always very dedicated to children and to literacy," says John. "She believed that unless someone can read, they can't really do anything else." That vision continues to fuel this community literacy initiative.

## WYOMING STUDENT EARNS NATIONAL HONOR IN 2015 LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE CONTEST

### Letters About Literature:

Read. Be Inspired. Write Back.

A Library of Congress  
National Reading-Writing  
Promotion Program

Colter High School (Worland) senior Macoy Churchill is a National Honor Winner in the 2015 Letters About Literature Contest. His work was forwarded for national judging after placing first in Level III (grades 9-12) in state-level competition, which is coordinated by the Wyoming State Library.

Letters About Literature is a project of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress that invites students in grades 4-12 to write to an author whose work affected their lives. Churchill wrote to Marie Lu about her book, *Legend*, a romantic thriller set in a future dystopia. Macoy's letter was selected for publication in *Journeys*, an anthology featuring the "best of LAL" letters from the past decade. The book will be published by Candlewick Press in 2017 and will be distributed nationwide to schools, libraries, and retail bookstores.

In the other age categories, Arundathi Nair from Laramie placed first in Level II (grades 7-8), and Mason Trollinger from Ten Sleep School placed first in Level I (grades 4-6). Find more information, see the rest of the Wyoming winners and read the top letters at [Wyoming Libraries](#).

## CASPER COLLEGE LIBRARY PROVIDES CANINE STRESS RELIEVERS

Casper College students got a bit of puppy love at the Goodstein Foundation Library during finals week in early May. For an hour a day, volunteers from the Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD) stopped in the library with their dogs and made the rounds, visiting hardworking students as they prepared for their final exams. Therapy dogs are becoming increasingly popular on college campuses and in libraries due to recent research that indicates the powerful relaxing effect petting

a dog can have on an individual's stress-levels and blood pressure. Casper College Library staff began collaborating with ATD last spring and were excited to once again share this stress-relieving experience with students, staff, and faculty.



*Alliance of Therapy Dogs volunteer Charlie Vogel, her dog Annie, and Casper College Library Director Brad Matthies*

## WSL News

### SHARED RESOURCES TASK FORCE TO PRIORITIZE STATEWIDE NEEDS

Given recent budget cuts, the Wyoming State Library anticipates that it may be necessary to make further cuts in GoWYLD resources. To make the best use of limited funds, WSL has formed a Shared Library Resources Task Force comprising the members of the current Shared Purchases Committee and additional representatives from the University and community colleges. This expanded group will identify areas of greatest need for those served

by GoWYLD, and to clarify the goals and purpose of these services to libraries and patrons. The task force will focus on a collection development rationale that will target the most important areas to support. Responsibility for reviewing and selecting individual databases will remain with the Shared Purchases Committee.

## OMNIFILE DATABASE NOT RENEWED

The OmniFile Full Text select database in the EBSCO group of magazine databases has not been renewed for fiscal year 2017. Access to this database will cease on July 1, 2016. The decision to cancel was due to further budget constraints as well as the considerable overlap in full text article databases provided through the Gale and Proquest database packages. All other EBSCO databases will be renewed for FY17.

## LAURA BUSH 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY GRANT UPDATE

This year, the Wyoming State Library, in partnership with the North and South Dakota state libraries, applied for a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant. Unfortunately, the application was not approved this time. In a previous cycle, the Laura Bush grant funded the SWIM program that gave support to those pursuing a school library media endorsement or master's degree in library and information science. Carol McMurry Library Endowment Continuing Education grants and the Wyoming

Library Association's Nora Van Burgh Grant are available to those furthering their library education.

## MANGO LANGUAGES TO CONTINUE, THANKS TO UW LIBRARIES

Recently the WSL notified patrons that Mango Languages for Wyoming residents would be discontinued because of state budget cuts. But hold the phone! We're pleased to announce that the University of Wyoming Libraries is working with Mango Languages to continue statewide access after May 31. The change-over will be seamless—no interruption of service, the website address won't change, and users' data will not be lost. Thanks, UW Libraries!

# Summer Reading

## SUMMER READING BY THE NUMBERS



As June approaches, libraries around the state are kicking off their 2016 summer reading



programs with sports-related themes: “On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!” for children, “Get in the Game” for teens, and “Exercise Your Mind” for adults. The State Library has put together a [Summer Reading 2016 resource guide](#) for libraries to use.

In 2015, more than 24,000 children and 6,000 adults participated in a summer reading program at a Wyoming public library. In June, July, and August, the circulation desk sees a 13% monthly average jump from the rest of the year.

Have an innovative program for summer reading that you’d like to share? Send it to Susan Mark at [susan.mark@wyo.gov](mailto:susan.mark@wyo.gov).

## 2016 TEEN VIDEO CHALLENGE WINNERS



“Books, They Can Take You Anywhere,” a video promoting summer reading created by Cynthia Shereda, Spencer Kurft, Sarah Kropf, and Morgan Burbank, was Wyoming’s winner

for the 2016 Teen Video Challenge. Teens across the country were invited to create a video that promotes summer reading at their local public library, with an emphasis on the 2016 Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) teen slogan “Get in the Game.” Videos were judged on creativity, message clarity and relevance, motivation and inspiration, and overall impact. The four winners received \$150 and a \$50 award for Sweetwater County Library in Green River. Watch Wyoming’s winning entries at [Wyoming Libraries](#).

## Welcome New Directors

### LINCOLN COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM INTRODUCES MICHAEL BURRIS AS NEW DIRECTOR

Lincoln County Library System welcomes Michael Burris as their new executive director. He joined the library system on April 11 and will oversee its

35 employees, central library in Kemmerer, and five branches. Burris graduated from Clarion University of Pennsylvania in 2007 with a



Master of Library Science degree, specializing in rural library systems. Before coming to Lincoln County, he served as director of Harlan Community Library in Harlan, Iowa, beginning in 2008. There he was also secretary of the Harlan Community Library Foundation.

“Since actually picking a career I’ve found it quite rewarding to work closely with the public on literacy, which I am passionate about,” he said. His eclectic past history includes running a capsulating machine at an herbal processing plant, serving as the personal assistant to a stock trader, hiring crews for deep-water tanker ships, filling and tracking orders at a computer network equipment distributor, and administering GED tests at a community college.

His move included his wife of 21 years, three of their four children (“the fourth felt that dropping out of Iowa State University to join the family would destroy his GPA”), and three cats.

[Learn more about Burris](#) on the Wyoming Libraries blog.

## CARBON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM HAS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bobbie Morgan has joined Carbon County Library System as its new executive director.

Morgan was born in Cincinnati, Ohio and completed her undergraduate degree in textile



design as well as her master’s degree in library and information science at the University of Washington in Seattle. Bobbie

has worked in library management for the past 18 years, including in upper management as a director for several libraries and other organizations.

Bobbie’s goals for CCLS are significant expansion of services throughout the county including better partnerships with local businesses.

Morgan is also optimistic that when the county economy recovers, CCLS will be able to provide more and better services to suit the needs of the populace. One of her top priorities is increasing the frequency of the courier runs to expedite circulation of materials to outlying branches.

## News Briefs

**Park County Public Library** celebrated its centennial on May 9. The May 12, 1916, *Northern Wyoming Herald* reported on its front page that “Park County’s free public library, built by the cooperation of the Woman’s Public Service League and Andrew Carnegie and the tax payers of the county, was opened by a reception

Tuesday evening which was attended by a crowd that filled the building. The rooms were brilliantly lighted and decorated with cut flowers and potted plants. The ladies of the league assisted by Miss Mable Wilkinson, librarian, received the guests.”

**Fremont County Library in Lander** held a reading party for the second annual [National Readathon Day](#) on Saturday, May 21. There were comfy places for all ages to sit and binge-read throughout the day in the library.

**Laramie County Library System** is one of 50 sites selected to host [Thinking Money](#), a new traveling exhibition designed to teach young people and their families about money. Lessons include topics like saving, spending, and avoiding fraud in a way that's not only understandable, but fun. Laramie County Library System will host the 1,000-square-foot exhibition for a six-week period between March-May 2017.

## School Libraries

### SUMMERTIME INSPIRATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

As the school year is winding down, it's time to start planning summer activities. Have vacation plans? Take along some electronic reading—books, magazines and audiobooks—from [GoWYLD.net](#).

An exciting event happening in Denver is the [Makerbot Makeathon](#), scheduled for June 25. This affair focuses on “making” and allows for hands-on exploring of 3D printers, robotics, and other STEM-related resources.

For a learning and networking opportunity, check out [Information Power Summer Institute 2016](#), in Casper August 1-3. Meet with other teacher librarians and library staff to swap ideas, share stories, and get great information to take back to your school.

For more ideas to make the summer fun and productive, [view the webinar](#) with WSL school library Consultant [Paige Bredenkamp](#).

## Trustees Corner

### LIBRARY BUDGETS AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

With the downturn in energy markets, many Wyoming libraries are facing budget cuts for FY17 and some expect additional reductions in the future. When dollars are tight, it's more important than ever to go back to your strategic plan to ensure your highest priorities are preserved in the budget. This plan is your road map answering basic questions such as:

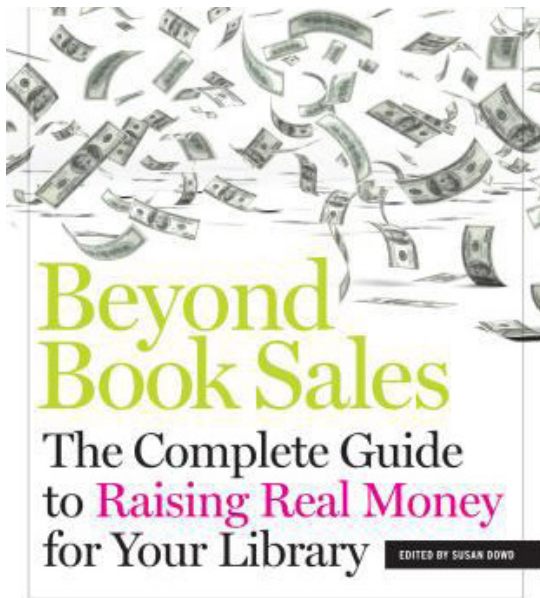
- What does our community look like now?
- What do we want it to be in the future?

- What's the role of the public library in the community?
- What's our purpose?
- Whom do we serve and what do our customers want from us?
- What does success look like for us?
- How will we get there and what's our timetable?
- What staff, collections, facilities, technology and other resources will we need to achieve our planned goals and objectives?

For planning resources, see the [Wyoming Public Library Board Members' Handbook](#).

## Foundation Corner

### TAKING YOUR FUNDRAISING BEYOND BOOK SALES



Looking for ideas to take your fundraising game up a notch? WebJunction's archived webinar, [Beyond Book Sales: Practical Ideas for Raising Funds for Your Library](#) will help you assess your library's capacity for fundraising, enlist the right volunteers, engage the community, and create a sustainable plan to boost your library's bottom line and raise visibility. WebJunction also provides a list of resources links.

The Wyoming State Library's professional collection has a [companion book](#) that goes more in-depth. It's available at the WSL or via interlibrary loan. Find it and other library advocacy and fundraising books in [WYLDCAT](#).

## New Books at WSL

### RESOURCES ADDED IN APRIL

The Wyoming State Library makes library science books available to provide guidance on a wide range of issues you may face locally. These books were added to the collection in April:

- [Digitizing Your Collection: Public Library Success Stories](#)
- [Checklist of Library Building Design Considerations, 6th edition](#)
- [Protecting Patron Privacy: Safe Practices For Public Computers](#)
- [Rethinking Information Work: A Career Guide for Librarians and Other Information](#)



[Professionals, 2nd ed.](#)

- [Bibliocraft: A Modern Crafter's Guide to Using Library Resources to Jumpstart Creative Projects](#)
- [The Artist's Library: A Field Guide, from The Library as Incubator Project](#)
- [CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries](#); Also [available as an online resource](#).

See more new books on our [Pinterest board](#), or [search WYLD CAT](#). Send questions, comments, or suggestions for purchase to Paige Bredenkamp, WSL school library consultant. [Email her here](#) or call (307) 777-6331.

## Grant Opportunities

[McMurry Foundation Continuing Education Grants](#) - Funds are available to those working or volunteering in Wyoming libraries through the Carol McMurry Library Endowment Individual Grants for Continuing Education. Deadline is May 31 for continuing education events starting no earlier than July.

[Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board \(SHRAB\) Grants](#) - Up to \$2,500 for projects that promote the identification, preservation, and dissemination of Wyoming's historical records. Deadline is June 30.

[James Patterson Grants for School Libraries](#)  
Awards from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Applications

may be submitted by teachers, librarians, administrators, or parents on behalf of any U.S. school that serves students in grades PreK through 12; deadline is May 31.

[Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference scholarships](#) - ARSL is offering three scholarships for first-time attendees to its 2016 conference in Fargo, N.D. from October 27-29.

## Upcoming Events

- June 1-30: [GLBT Book Month](#)
- June 17-23: [National Week of Making](#)
- Aug. 1-3: [Information Power](#)
- Sept. 1-30: [Library Card Sign-up Month](#)
- Sept. 11-17: [Outside the Lines 2016](#)
- Sept. 21-23: [WLA Conference](#)
- Sept. 26-Oct. 1: [Banned Books Week](#)
- Sept. 28: [Banned Websites Awareness Day](#)

