Partnership Promotes History and Literacy

Wyoming at 125: Our Place in the West, a book celebrating our state's history, will soon be in numerous school and public library collections, through a partnership between the State Library and the State Historic Preservation Office. The book celebrates Wyoming's 125th anniversary of statehood in 2015.

With this project, the two agencies are working together to promote both literacy and Wyoming's rich heritage.

“This project was a perfect fit for our mission,” said Jamie Markus, Wyoming State Librarian. “It’s always a good day for us when we can promote literacy.”

A number of these books are being distributed to public libraries, and 520 copies are slated to go out to the schools. As they are added to library shelves, K-12 students and library patrons can delve into Wyoming’s past through stories of its unique communities and past events and through some of its most iconic photographs.

“Promoting Wyoming’s history and promoting appreciation for historic resources is the reason behind this book,” said Mary Hopkins of the State Historic Preservation Office. “We’re excited to make Wyoming at 125 available statewide through our partnership with the State Library.”

The book is by Bill Sniffin, with contributing photographers and writers. It was produced with assistance from the Wyoming State Arts, Parks and Cultural Resources Department.
ANOTHER GREAT WLA RECEPTION

Rebecca Schuh, Reference Services Librarian, and Terri Lesley, Executive Director, both from Campbell County Public Library System, visit with Bill Pownall, House District 52, at the annual Wyoming Library Association Legislative Reception in January. A crowd of about 80 librarians and legislators gathered for the event.

WSL News

DIRECTORS RETREAT PLANNED FOR OCTOBER

This year’s Wyoming Library Directors’ Retreat has been set for Oct. 4-6, 2017. Kirk Hissam, Director of the Converse County Library in Douglas, is hosting the retreat at the county’s new central library building. Annually, the Wyoming State Library sponsors this retreat for the 31 public and academic library directors where they can discuss issues in depth with the State Librarian.

The gathering facilitates collaboration among libraries and enables the WSL to better assess the library community’s needs. The retreat is supported through federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, and is part of the WSL’s 5-year LSTA plan.

STATE LIBRARY REACHES OUT TO COMMUNITIES AT WAM MEETING

Wyoming State Library staffers Chris Van Burgh and Karen Kitchens reached out to communities at last week’s Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM) winter workshop in Cheyenne.

This was a great opportunity for the WSL to promote the considerable resources available to all Wyoming residents through their local libraries. Karen and Chris talked with people from more than 29 different communities of every size, from every corner of the state — Pavillion, Star Valley Ranch, Shoshoni,
Hanna, Casper, Glendo, and many more. Participants who visited the WSL table learned about the great library services available to Wyoming residents such as GoWYLD.net, ebooks and Zinio, and the Talking Books program. The WSL's Digital Collection Suite was a big hit, particularly Wyoming Newspapers. The Wyoming Association of Municipalities advocates for the state’s cities and towns, provides educational opportunities for WAM members, and creates connections among Wyoming communities.

Representatives of Wyoming’s archives, historical societies, libraries and museums across the state are invited to submit a nomination for one item from their collections that they believe has significance to Wyoming’s history. Submissions must include a photograph suitable for publication on a website. E-mail Society headquarters at linda@wyshs.org, or call (307) 322-3014 for details. Submit your entry on or before February 28.

**Around the State**

**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR TOP TEN WYOMING ARTIFACTS OF 2017**

The Wyoming State Historical Society, in partnership with the University of Wyoming Libraries, invites museums, historical societies, libraries, and other cultural institutions to participate in “Wyoming’s Most Significant Artifacts” campaign for 2017. Only artifacts held by institutions will be considered, not those held by individuals.

An artifact is defined as “an artistic or historic item (or related group of items) and may include a wide variety of things such as documents, books, photographs, recordings, artwork, and three-dimensional objects. It does not include structures or buildings.”

**CASPER COLLEGE GOODSTEIN LIBRARY HOSTS “LIVING LIBRARY”**

The Casper College Library hosted Wyoming’s first Living Library on Feb. 22 as part of the 2017 Casper College Humanities Festival and Demorest Lecture. Living Libraries, Human Libraries, or Living Book Libraries are all names for similar projects — libraries where instead of checking out a traditional book and reading its story, you borrow a person and have a conversation about their story.
The purpose of the Casper College Goodstein Foundation Library’s Living Library was to promote conversation, encourage understanding, and foster a culture of inclusion. Participants should expect to encounter perspectives they have never before considered, viewpoints different from their own, and life experiences that may challenge their own ways of thinking, all within a safe and positive atmosphere at the Casper College Library.

Shortly after the Teton County Library Board welcomed new Library Director Valerie Maginnis at the end of 2015, the Board set an ambitious schedule to complete a strategic plan by the end of 2016. The Teton County Library Foundation Board provided critical financial support, allowing the library to hire consultant Susan Eriksen-Meier.

The Library Board wanted planning to be community-driven, transparent, inclusive, and data-driven. Through strategic planning, library staff and leadership chose to support community members’ ability to thrive, rather than define exactly what “thriving” looks like.

In December 2016, the Library Board approved the 2017-2021 Teton County Library Strategic Plan and immediately began implementation by expanding operating hours at the Alta Branch Library.

Find the Strategic Plan website and plan here. Contact Valerie Maginnis, director@tclib.org, for more information and to see planning and evaluation documents.

TCL STRATEGIC PLAN A POWERFUL DECISION-MAKING TOOL

By Rebecca Huntington, Teton County Library Communications Manager

Change is occurring at a fast and furious pace in public libraries, especially in Wyoming. How do public libraries effectively, efficiently, transparently, and empathetically embrace change? Teton County Library chose a community-driven and action-oriented strategic plan.
COE LIBRARY EXHIBIT CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The traveling exhibition, “Empire: A Community of African Americans on the Wyoming Plains,” is on display at the University of Wyoming’s Coe Library through Friday, March 3, in honor of Black History Month.

The exhibition focuses on a group of African-Americans who settled in the Cowboy State in 1908 and built a homesteading community named Empire, in eastern Wyoming near the Nebraska border. For nearly a decade, Empire flourished until it disappeared from Wyoming culture in the early 1920s. “Empire” displays the few photographs of settlers, advertisements from local newspapers and historic articles that remain from the town.

UW graduate student Robert Galbreath created the display during his summer internship with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office.

The exhibition is sponsored by UW Libraries, the American Studies Program, and the African American and Diaspora Studies Program.

TWO WYOMING LIBRARIES SELECTED FOR GREAT STORIES CLUB

Two Wyoming libraries have been selected to receive training and support to host book club programs with at-risk youth as part of the Great Stories Club program: Natrona County Public Library in Casper, partnering with Gear Up — Casper College, and Whiting High School in Laramie. They are among 75 libraries total selected nationwide.

Created in 2006, the Great Stories Club introduces young adults to accessible, thought-provoking literature selected by humanities scholars to resonate with reluctant readers struggling with complex issues like incarceration, violence and poverty.

The 2017 theme is “Structures of Suffering: Origins of Teen Violence and Suicide.”

Working with groups of 6 to 10 teens, these libraries will host reading and discussion programs for three book titles that deal with issues of teen violence, bullying and suicide: Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher, It’s Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini, and Romeo and Juliet (No Fear Shakespeare Graphic Novels) illustrated by Matt Weigle.
Trustee Corner

THE BOARD RELATIONSHIP TO FRIENDS AND FOUNDATION

From the Wyoming Public Library Board Members’ Handbook

The Library Board holds ultimate authority over what happens with the library system. The important thing to remember about your Friends of the Library group(s) or Library Foundation is that they are separate entities from the library with their own governance. The Library Board holds no authority over them, nor should you share with them any privileged information, such as patron records. Your Friends and Foundation might provide input, but they should not interfere with the governance or management of the library.

In a few counties, the Library Board will also serve as the Foundation Board. Where boards are separate, those serving on the Library Board should not also be voting members of the Friends or Foundation Boards. Ex-officio Board Liaisons are a good way to facilitate communication.

Basic library services should be supported through public funding. Financial and volunteer help from your Foundation and Friends should enhance those services. It should not be a substitute for funding or staffing.

Library Foundations

YEAR-END FUNDRAISING STARTS NOW

Read the article on CauseVox for more

Fundraising is a continuous process, and your organization’s plan should reflect that. If you want your donors to put you on their holiday gift list, keep in touch with them throughout the year. These are some of the tips CauseVox offers for things you can do now:

- **Educate your donors.** Tell your library’s story. Let them know what their giving can accomplish.
- **Activate and engage.** Give donors opportunities to connect with your library through social media. Recruit them to volunteer.
- **Thank them.** Thank donors promptly when they give. Make it personal -- have a board
member sign the letter or call.

- **Look for corporate sponsors.** Many have started a new fiscal year and have the money in their budgets to give now.

- **Encourage matching gifts.** Donors love seeing their dollars doubled. Encourage them to check with their employers. When you get a matching gift opportunity, publicize it.

- **Plan for #GivingTuesday.** Nonprofits have started focusing on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving as a day to donate to favorite causes. Check out the website now for resources.

**School Libraries**

**WDE RESOURCES FOR DIGITAL LEARNING DAY**

Digital Learning Day on Feb. 23 highlights the great teaching practices and showcases the innovative teachers and leaders who are using instructional technology programs to improve student achievement. The Wyoming Department of Education has put together a resource page for this year’s Digital Learning Day — check out the examples of school libraries and digital learning from Sundance Elementary and Powell Middle School, and join the conversation on Twitter with hashtag #DLDay.

**ARCHIVED WEBINAR: WSL SCHOOL LIBRARY RESOURCES**

In this newly archived webinar, join Paige Bredenkamp, School Library Consultant at the Wyoming State Library, on a tour of resources, including new ones, that are freely available to all K-12 librarians and staff in Wyoming. This is a chance to see what the WSL has available in terms of professional learning communities, tools for program support, free money for you and your library, and more. Questions? Feel free to contact Paige at paige.bredenkamp@wyo.gov or (307) 777-6331.

**APPLY FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTES**

The Library of Congress is accepting applications through March 17 for its week-long summer institutes for K-12 educators. Attendees will explore some of the millions of digitized historical artifacts and documents available in the Library’s collections. They will also conduct research to identify primary sources and develop an activity related to their classroom content. Institute and course materials are provided at no cost. Participants will be responsible for transportation and lodging.
SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN BRIEF

Continuing Education Opportunity
The 2-day EdTech Team Wyoming Summit on June 1-2 at Sage Valley Junior High focuses on Google Apps for Education. First 135 Wyoming educators to register will receive free registration from WDE – use promo code wydoe17 (if code is unavailable, there is a wait list). Sponsored by the Wyoming Department of Education and Campbell County School District No. 1.

Election Section
Inviting Students to Consider the Purpose of Presidential Proclamations: this Library of Congress blog post uses the primary source tool Chronicling America to study Presidential proclamations throughout our nation’s history. Explore with your students!

Changing Role of Librarians
For an interesting look at how the role of school librarians is changing, check out this article from GoWYLD.net, “As Media Landscape Changes, Librarians Take on New Roles.” (Login may be required.)

Intellectual Freedom

NEW CHECKLISTS FROM ALA TO PROTECT PATRON PRIVACY

The American Library Association’s Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) approved seven new “privacy checklists” to help libraries of all types and capacities take practical steps to protect patron privacy. The checklists complement the Library Privacy Guidelines approved by the IFC in 2016. The checklists include:

- Library Privacy Checklist Overview
- Library Privacy Checklist for Data Exchange Between Networked Devices and Services
- Library Privacy Checklist for E-book Lending and Digital Content Vendors
- Library Privacy Checklist for Library Websites, OPACs, and Discovery Services
- Library Privacy Checklist for Public Access Computers and Networks
- Library Privacy Checklist for Students in K-12 Schools

The IFC Privacy Subcommittee encourages anyone with comments or questions to email its ALA staff liaison, Deborah Caldwell-Stone in the Office for Intellectual Freedom, at dstone@ala.org. Brian Greene, Library Development

Want More News?
Get the updates as they happen by following us on our Wyoming Libraries blog, Facebook, and Twitter.
Manager for the WSL is the Intellectual Freedom Advisor for the Wyoming Library Association. He may be reached at brian.greene@wyo.gov or (307) 777-6339.

People News

SHARI HASKINS NAMED RIVERTON BRANCH MANAGER

Shari Haskins became the Riverton Branch Library Manager on Feb. 4. She began her 18th year with the Fremont County Library System in January. She spent 17 of those at Riverton, most recently as Teen Lead Librarian/Adult Services. She’s been an active leader for children’s and teens’ services in the Wyoming Library Association.

She’s notorious for her high energy, matching that of the teen patrons she’s so passionate about. “I love how energetic they are and how open-minded they are,” she said. “They’re so willing to be open-minded and grateful for anything that appeals to them or any person that shows interest in them. Young people are always appreciative of that person.”

In terms of what direction she would like to see for the library, “I love this whole new philosophy of the user experience. As public libraries diversify and become the social hub of the community, the user experience is at the top of re-envisioning what libraries should focus on and look forward to.”

BRODLE RETIRES AFTER 31 YEARS AT FREMONT COUNTY LIBRARY

After 31 years with the Fremont County Library System, Gloria Brodle has retired from her position as Riverton Branch Manager. Brodle was an active member of the Wyoming Library Association and made many statewide and national professional connections. Among her significant accomplishments was the successful effort to raise both awareness and funds for a much-needed update for the Riverton Library’s community room.

Interim FCLS Director Jeannette Woodward said Brodle’s sunny disposition was an asset to the library. “She could always deal with any crisis
that came her way without losing her cool,” Woodward said, “and that inspired staff to do the same. I’ve met library patrons who marveled at her patience. Library staff members wondered whatever made them cheerfully volunteer to take on an extra assignment. I called it the ‘Gloria effect.’”

**PEOPLE IN BRIEF**

Sublette County Library System bid farewell to Big Piney Branch Manager Amy Cahill with a goodbye party on January 20. Amy worked for the library system almost seven years, and became the Big Piney manager in July 2015. During her time at Sublette County, she earned her MLS from San Jose State University’s online program. She is moving to Bar Harbor, Maine.

**In Brief**

**2017 PR XCHANGE AWARDS COMPETITION ENTRIES DUE MARCH 15**

The annual LLAMA PR Xchange Awards recognize the very best public relations materials produced by libraries in the past year. Entries will be evaluated based on content, originality, and design by a team of experts in public relations, graphic design, communications, and marketing who select the winner(s) in each category. Winning entries will be on display at the PR Xchange program during the ALA Annual Conference 2017 in Chicago. Deadline is March 15, 2017. See the submission form for details on how to enter.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS #ARSL2017 DUE MARCH 15**

The call for proposals for the 2017 Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) conference is now open. Do you know of a great program or innovative project that will help take libraries to the next level? Proposals are due by March 15, 2017. The conference will be held in St. George, Utah from Sept. 7-9, 2017.

**Events**

**MARCH 14: ARMA ANNUAL SPRING SEMINAR**

The Wyoming Chapter of Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA) Annual Spring Seminar, “Surviving in Lean Times: Collaboration, Communication & Cooperation,” will be held on March 14 at Laramie County Community College. Registration is $40 for ARMA members, $25 for full-time students, and $60 for non-ARMA members. For more information, contact Donna Crock at (307) 777-5751, donna.crock@wyo.gov, or Carolynn Coy at (307) 351-0965, wyarma@gmail.com.
**FEB. 24: BIG TALK FROM SMALL LIBRARIES FREE ONLINE CONFERENCE**

The [2017 Big Talk from Small Libraries](#) will be broadcast on Friday, Feb. 24, 2017 from 7:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. MST. Big Talk from Small Libraries is aimed at librarians from small libraries. Each speaker is from a small library or works with small libraries. Participants welcome from all sizes of libraries.

**MARCH 2: READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY**

NEA’s [Read Across America Day](#), which celebrates Dr. Seuss’s birthday and the joys of reading, expects readers nationwide, both young and old, to pick up a book and read. The goal is to show America’s children the joy of reading and build a nation of readers — on March 2nd and every day. [Learn more and get involved](#).

**Training Webinars**

**WHAT’S NEW WITH HISTORY REFERENCE CENTER?**

In this [newly archived webinar](#), we look around the new History Reference Center platform, using the historical time periods to guide our exploration. This database includes U.S. and World History. It’s a great resource for public libraries and schools.

**Send Your News!**

Are there wonderful things happening at your library? Send your news items to Susan Mark, WSL publications specialist, at susan.mark@wyo.gov, or call her at (307) 777-5915.
Grant Opportunities

**Wyoming Arts Council Community Support Grants**
**DEADLINE: April 1, 2017**
Competitive grant program for project and/or operational support for organizations that provide services to their community through the arts. Grants of up to $20,000 per organization, broken down into these five components: Operating and Project Support (up to $12,000), Arts education activities (up to $5,000), Professional development (up to $1,000), Programs involving folk artists (up to $1,000), Outreach to rural communities (up to $1,000).

**Virginia Hamilton and Arnold Adoff Creative Outreach Grants for Teachers and Librarians**
**DEADLINE: Feb. 28, 2017**
Two grants up to $1,000 each for projects to develop new classroom or library programs that raise awareness of multicultural literature among young people, particularly, but not exclusively, through the works of Virginia Hamilton.

**2017 Innovations in Reading Prize**
**DEADLINE: Feb. 28, 2017**
The National Book Foundation’s 2017 Innovations in Reading Prize will award $10,000 to an individual or organization that has developed an innovative project which creates and sustains a lifelong love of reading in the community they serve. Applications will be assessed based on vision, ingenuity, transformation, achievement, and leadership.

**NASA@ My Library Stem Initiative**
**DEADLINE: March 22, 2017**
Public libraries are invited to apply for NASA@ My Library, an education initiative to increase and enhance STEM learning opportunities for library patrons throughout the nation, including geographic areas and populations currently underserved in STEM education.

**Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grants**
**DEADLINE: March 31, 2017**
Award of up to $500 to provide creative, innovative programs that support or extend the Common Core Standards in education. Programs may serve children from preschool to grade 12. Public schools, public libraries, preschool and Head Start programs are eligible to apply.
**Book Reviews**

**Finding the Sky: The Jo Harper Collection**  
*By Richard Prosch*  
*Azle, Texas: Painted Pony Books, 2014*

In this collection of short stories, a 12-year-old girl named Jo Harper is always waiting for her father and friends. Jo thought that this year was going to be another boring year, but Abby Drake comes to town and life gets interesting. Abby is the new constable and is a Wild West legend in her own time. Abby makes Jo a junior deputy. Jo and Frog decide to help Abby with some situations even if she doesn’t know about it at the time. Jo, Frog and Abby deal with cattle rustling, mail order fraud, horse endangerment and a bank robbery. They have adventures with a Model T car ride, flaming arrows, getting locked in a barn, and dodging bullets. This is a great book to read for all ages about Wyoming and adventures.

*Sue Paddock, Branch Manager*  
*Saratoga Branch Library*

**Selected Poems**  
*By C.F. Kelly*  
*North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace, 2016*

Reading through Kelly’s *Selected Poems* is not a ‘sit-back-kick-your-shoes-off-and-relax’ experience. You are welcome to try it but in nothing flat you will quickly find yourself sitting up straight, shaking your fist, reaching for a Kleenex to dry your eyes, or (I believe this is most often) fully diving into experiences, scenery, private lives, and memories full of emotion. Kelly has a way of pulling you into what he sees and turning the view so you see into yourself, remembering places, feelings, and people you thought you’d forgotten. He reaches out to us in poems about his past, letters to his family, social and political issues, the daily mundane, and stories of the wildlife, small town life, and activities in Wyoming with humor, sadness, affection, and focused grit. I heartily recommend *Selected Poems* to those who are leery of poetry and to those who love it. You won’t come away from Kelly’s world the same as when you entered.

*Nancy Venable, Extension and Volunteer Services Manager*  
*Campbell County Public Library, Gillette*