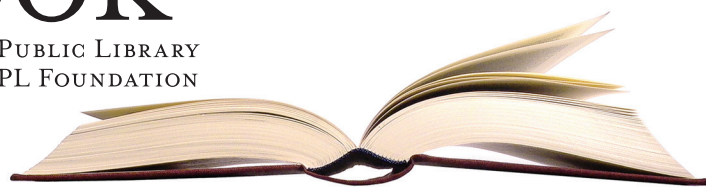




# THE OPEN BOOK

NEWSLETTER OF THE ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BY THE FRIENDS OF THE ACPL AND ACPL FOUNDATION



## A Universe of Stories: Summer Reading @ Your Library

A Universe of Stories, the 2019 Summer Reading Program will start on Saturday, June 1 with a kick-off party. Head to the library to sign up and get a reading log. Astronaut Training for kids will take place from 1-3 p.m. The event will include space-themed activity stations and space food.

The Summer Reading Program will run for eight weeks, ending on July 26 with the End of Summer Reading Bash at 1 p.m. All ages are welcome for this year's Star Wars party. The ACPL Foundation sponsors this event.

This year the library will offer four reading logs for the different age groups of babies, kids, teens, and adults.

Each log will have a space theme. Levels can be completed for prizes, and there will be extra bonus activity points to be entered into drawings for youth.

Adults will be able to complete a bingo sheet with fun categories such as, "In Space No One Can Hear You Scream," Read an Audiobook. There will be four levels and prizes including portable chargers and

canvas pencil bags.

This is the first year in three years that adult Summer Reading is back at ACPL.

"It's really important that families read together," Adult Services Librarian, Cassandra Hunter, said. "Our goal is to increase family literacy and to encourage adults to share their love of reading with younger patrons."

ACPL will partner with other organizations for several events over the summer,

while continuing with a few of its regular programs. Adult book clubs will continue over the summer. The graphic novel book club will be discussing the "Sandman



Series" by Neil Gaiman.

Adult events will also include garden tours with the High Plains Seed Library. Garden tours will be conducted in partnership with the Laramie Garden Club.

ACPL is partnering with the University of Wyoming Planetarium for two family-friendly events. The first event will be June 7 at 8:30 p.m. at the library. The event will

*continued on page 2*

include an astronomy presentation followed by a night sky viewing with telescopes.

On July 20, the planetarium will provide a free double showing for Summer Reading participants, a matinee and an evening show time.

For kids, the library will have its 3rd of July Parade, a few presenters, and an animated Space Jam movie. ACPL will be debuting STEM (science, tech-

nology, engineering, math) activities over the summer with help from partner NASA @ My Library. The library will distribute the UW Planetarium's Summer Program as well.

More information is available on the ACPL website at [acplwy.org](http://acplwy.org). You can register online, pick up logs, and start reading on June 1. The last day to collect prizes is July 26. 🌈

## Weekly Schedule:

### Stories at the Park

(No Stories at the Park the week of 4th of July)

#### **Mondays**

9:30 a.m. – Kiowa Park / 10:30 a.m. - Washington Park

#### **Tuesdays**

9:30 a.m. – LaPrele Park / 10:30 a.m. - Kiwanis Park

#### **Wednesdays**

9:30 a.m. – Library Garden

#### **Thursdays**

4 p.m. – Undine Park as part of Thursday Local Market

### Book Babies

Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. / Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.

First Saturday of the month at 10 a.m.

### Pajama Storytime

Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

### YAK! Teen Event

Tuesdays at 3:45 p.m.

### Summer Reading Youth Event

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

### Storytime at the Rock River Branch

Fridays at 2 p.m.



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DESIGNATED CHARITY.



# Thank you...



for providing a \$5,333 grant for  
the library's security project.



Albany County Public Library

## Foundation

welcome Randi & Cho!

## New to Circulation

**Randi Spray** joined the staff as a circulation assistant in March. Her mom is an elementary school librarian, and Spray fondly remembers growing up in libraries. So it seemed natural to join the staff at Albany County Public Library.

Spray is working on a degree in Botany from the University of Wyoming and has lived in Laramie about nine months. She loves to garden and has “way too many plants for her house.”



**Favorites in the Library:** the Harry Potter series, author Becky Chambers, and anything about plants

**Favorite type of food:** Thai

**Cholten “Cho” Carter** may already be a familiar face to some since he grew up as part of the library community. He became a circulation assistant in March.

Carter is a longtime patron of ACPL and has been a volunteer at the library since 2012. He was a frequenter of the library’s teen programs YAK! and Manga Club.

Carter enjoys fixing computers and will pursue a degree in Computer Information Technology.



**Favorites in the Library:** Sci-fi genre and authors James Patterson, Rick Riordan, and Ray Bradbury.

**Favorite type of food:** Pasta

Informative – Easier-to-use – Convenient

The new ACPL websites are now online.



Check out a better online experience @ your library.





# John M. Burman

Dear friends,

I don't think I am capable of properly conveying the significant impact John M. Burman had on me. So I will just keep it simple. I was more than lucky to have John as my board chair.

One of John's favorite coincidences was that I was born the same year that he started his long tenure as a leader for the public library. By the time I came along, John had already given 25 years to make our library better. This strong, steadfast man was an incredible library hero.

Some of you may know that John and I met once a week, every week for the last six years. During that time, he was always my biggest advocate and was wholly committed to seeing me succeed. It is not easy to find someone like John who gave of his time so unselfishly. Even less easy is to find a mentor that not only challenges you to be better at your job, but also makes you a better person.

It is hard to express how deeply I miss my mentor. John was a passionate leader for the ACPL Foundation. He would always have just the right advice and had this ability to ask the right questions that would challenge me to think through things differently. John taught me a lot about generosity and compassion, and he trusted me to take chances to help the organization grow and learn. John was simply, one of the best.

My other board members so perfectly addressed this loss. If John were here, they said, he would tell me that I'm ready to do this on my own. That I have learned all he had to teach me.

Yet even though he is gone, John is the voice in my head counseling me to pick the best path, reminding me to act with integrity and kindness, and encouraging me to put everything I have into making the public library an indispensable part of our community for years to come.

I will always be grateful that John saw something in me that made him believe I was the right person for the ACPL Foundation and that he trusted me to take care of an organization that he loved very much.

Goodbye, John. We will miss you.

All my best,

*Caitlin White*

Caitlin White

Executive Director

*"John was a one of a kind advocate and community leader. Thank you Marilyn for sharing him with the rest of us. Wyoming will miss its #1 attorney and guide."*

*"John was one of the most intelligent people I have ever known. His love of books always led to intriguing conversations."*

*"John Burman wore good-sized boots – the size of which was nothing compared to the size of his heart."*

*"It has been such a joy to serve on the ACPLF Board with Dear John as our fearless and brilliant leader. His cowboy boots simply cannot be filled."*

*"John would always buy staff tickets to the fundraising events so that they could attend. It was very generous."*

*"It was a pleasure to serve on the ACPLF board with John. He was patient and kind, offering excellent guidance for our board. I've heard so many wonderful things about John and his commitment to excellence and the law. Our Laramie community was fortunate to have him be a part of it."*

*"I was lucky to work with John at the law college. I presented information about crime victim services to his students. It was obvious that*





# an: 1955–2019

*his students enjoyed their classes and thought John “walked on water.” Always friendly, with a big smile and warm greeting, John was a pleasure to know. He was one of those extraordinary people that leave a lasting impression. May you rest in peace.”*



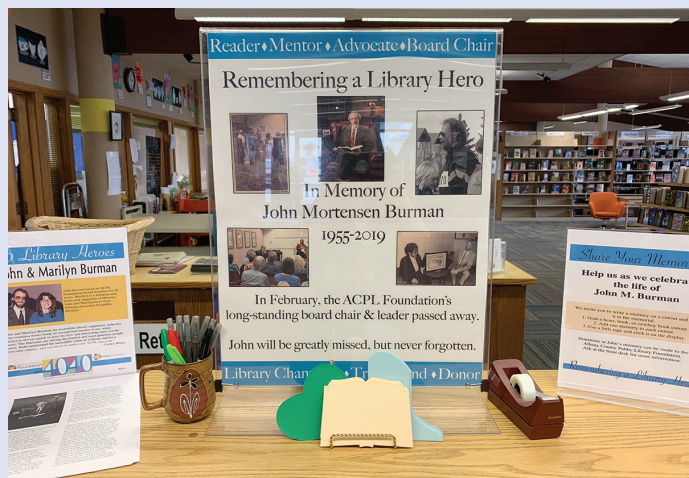
*“I will miss John’s wisdom and sense of humor. His leadership of our foundation board made all the difference in our success.”*

*“John always had the right thing to say. He was rarely at a loss for words and made all those around him feel comfortable and welcome.”*

*“I first met John in 2005 when I began working for both the ACPL and the ACPLF and recorded the minutes at both meetings. When I became President*

*of the FOL Board I continued to learn so much from him about running a meeting and working toward our common goal on providing support for the library. He was such a pleasure to work with.”*

*“To John’s family and extended family – Tears flow as I write this. I cannot improve on what Shakespeare wrote in another context but appropriate here: “His life was gentle, and the elements mixed so well in him that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, ‘This was a man.’”*



The ACPL Foundation Board continues to celebrate John’s memory. Our first meeting without John was hard. His wisdom, humor, and dedication are greatly missed. The Albany County Public Library Foundation is accepting donations in memory of our longtime leader and board chair, John M. Burman.

John was held in high regard with local law firm, Corthell & King, P.C. In memory of John, Corthell & King is providing a matching gift. Donations will be matched 1:1 by Corthell & King up to \$1,500.

Please consider honoring John’s love for the library with a gift in his name.

To donate by check:

- Make out to ACPL Foundation, specify donation is in memory of John M. Burman
- Mail or drop off at the library (310 S. 8th St., Laramie, WY 82070)

To donate by credit card:

- Visit our Gifts in Tribute page online at: <https://foundation.acplwy.org/ways-to-give/giftsintribute/gifts-in-honor-memory>



**Corthell and King, P.C.**  
*Legacy. Vision. Integrity.*

# Library foundation explores new way to support library

The Albany County Public Library Foundation debuted its new support program for the public library in September 2018. The ACPL Foundation's mini-grant program was the brainchild of ACPLF board member, Rajeev Patel.

The ACPLF mini-grant program was designed to provide additional funding to the library for needed purposes, while also providing professional development opportunities to library staff.

All library staff were invited to submit an application to receive grant funding for a specific project of his or her choice. The ACPL Foundation and ACPL boards approved four projects submitted by three employees for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

This newsletter will highlight two of the mini-grant projects.

Former Youth Services Specialist, Elizabeth Palmer, worked with the ACPL Foundation on a Young Adult area furniture project. With a budget of \$3,200, Palmer was able to remove all old furniture in the area and replace with items more appropriate for teens.

The project included two computer desks, four rolling computer chairs, a white board, and four reading chairs with ottomans.

"I didn't see many teens using the space previously," Palmer said. "So I wanted the new furniture to be more modern and versatile to provide teens with a more comfortable and interesting space. I wanted the teens to really feel like there is a place in the library

that is just for them."

Palmer researched other teen areas in public libraries to envision her design for the updated teen space. Since the teen area has been revamped, the space has already seen heightened use from teens and other library patrons.

Adult Services Specialist, Kathi Wilhelm, collaborated with ACPLF on a furniture project for the Circulation Department. Wilhelm's project cost about \$800 to replace three office chairs and order a new book cart.

The former chairs at the front desk were missing arms, could not be adjusted up and down, and had stuffing falling out. The new office chairs were greeted with high enthusiasm from the Circulation staff. The new book cart is better suited to holding children's books making shelving and sorting books easier.

"I was focused on changing one small thing that in turn makes things better for staff," Wilhelm said. "Our whole operation starts with having quality employees who are comfortable in their space, leading



BEFORE: Young Adult furniture.



BEFORE: Young Adult furniture.



AFTER: Young Adult furniture.



them to be more efficient in job tasks.”

Palmer and Wilhelm learned a lot from the mini-grant process. It was their first opportunity to see a grant application process. The entire process included researching the best elements to include in the grant application, structuring a budget and project timeline, implementing the project, and providing a report.

Wilhelm appreciated the good feedback received

throughout the process and the ability for all staff to be able to apply for small projects that need funding to be completed.

The ACPL Foundation’s Agnes Milstead Fund and the Love Family Fund provide funding for the mini-grant program. The ACPL Foundation will continue to provide the mini-grant program each year to library projects as funding allows. 🌈



AFTER: Young Adult furniture.



BEFORE: Circulation office chairs.



AFTER: Front desk staff show off the new office chairs and book cart.

## @ your library

# What’s New Around ACPL

Stop in to meet Interim Library Director, Rachel Crocker on your next visit to the Laramie library.

Crocker is a Wyoming native who has worked at ACPL for about a year. She returned to Wyoming following a professional career in Washington, D.C. working at a global development and education organization. In that position, Crocker worked closely with libraries internationally, leading them toward positive change. The ACPL Board of Director Trustees Chris Merrill and Mike Massie were appointed to devise a plan and time frame for the hiring of a new library director.



Rachel Crocker



- The City of Laramie is working on a sewer project for Grand Avenue. The construction will take place on the library’s grounds. The City of Laramie had to remove one of the library’s large trees for the project. The tree was replaced by a honey locust. Construction is expected to be completed by the end of May in time for the repaving of Grand Avenue.
- ACPL put in all new phones in April. Extensions for some staff members have changed. Call the main line for help reaching staff at 307-721-2580. Bear with us while we get all the kinks worked out! 🌈





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**2019**

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

**SUMMER BOOK SALE**

**Wednesday, July 24**  
3 - 6:30pm - Members Only Day

**Open to the Public:**

|   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Thursday, July 25</b><br>10am - 6:30pm | <b>Friday, July 26</b><br>1 - 5:30pm<br>(End of Summer Reading Book Bash) | <b>Saturday, July 27</b><br>1 - 4:30pm | <b>Sunday, July 28</b><br>1 - 4:30pm<br>50% off Day |
|---|---|--|---|

**FRIENDS**

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