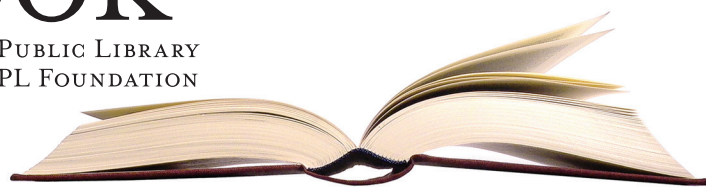




THE OPEN BOOK

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



ACPL closure due to COVID-19

The Albany County Public Library has been closed to the public since mid-March, to align with State of Wyoming recommendations. The library made the difficult decision to close on March 16 to keep the community safe and to protect those in the community that are most susceptible to COVID-19.

During the extended closure, the library has staff available 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday to answer questions via phone, email, and on Facebook. ACPL has a wide array of online resources available for use at digital.acplwy.org.

ACPL requests that patrons hold on to their checkout materials while the library is closed. The library is not accepting donations while closed.

During this unprecedented and long-term closure, ACPL has been fortunate to keep all staff fully employed and working. The library highly values its staff and is grateful it has not been confronted with difficult staffing decisions.

To keep staff healthy and safe, ACPL has transitioned staff to work from home. Library staff members are keeping busy with continuing education opportunities, large-scale projects, and preparing for upcoming programs. Staff are also working to support fellow community members who are stay-

ing, working, and educating at home by curating staff pick lists of free online education and entertainment resources.

At this time, ACPL is unsure of when it will be able to reopen. The library will follow Gov. Mark Gordon's closure orders, which calls for the closure of public place

through at least April 30. ACPL admin-


istration continues to collaborate with Albany County and the City of Laramie and will monitor recommendations from the Center for Disease Control.

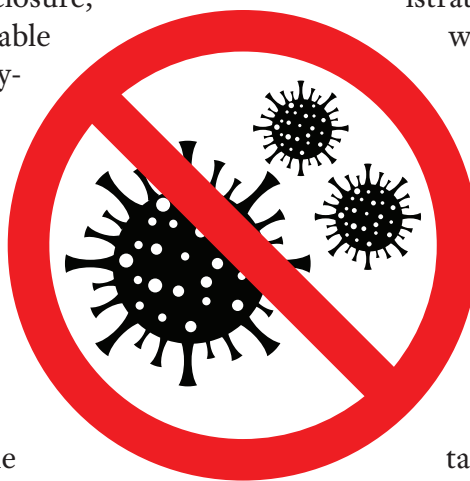
Library staff are working on a plan to best assist the community upon reopening. Once reopen, the library will continue to maintain social distancing around the building, increase cleaning of high traffic areas, and encourage patrons to use

the self-checkouts. All programs scheduled for May have been cancelled.

Your friendly library staff misses you! We will be excited to see our Albany County community and will do our best to serve you and your family once we reopen.

Visit the library website (acplwy.org) or follow ACPL on Facebook (facebook.com/acpls) for updates.

Thank you to the United Way of Albany County for providing a grant to assist the library in preventing the spread of COVID-19! 



Summer Quest @ Your Library

Editor's note: The Summer Reading Quest is contingent upon the status of COVID-19 and the library's ability to be open to the public.

Imagine Your Story, the 2020 Summer Quest will run May 29–August 25. The library is excited to offer a longer program spanning the whole summer.

This year, ACPL is expanding the traditional summer reading program to include diverse summer learning activities. The Summer Quest will add hands-on, learning based activities to the incentive program to encourage experimentation, collaboration, and family interaction. The program will be offer more flexibility for participants, while encouraging reading and other learning.

The learning incentive part of the Summer Quest will run from the last day of school to the first day of school. The majority of programming over the summer will be on a virtual platform.

This year's theme, Imagine Your Story, encompasses fairy tales, mythology, and folklore. The library will offer four "choose your own adventure" learning logs for the different age groups of infant, kids, teens, and adults. Participants of any age are welcome to read or listen to any book that interests



them. In addition to reading, the logs will include options for activities, such as "Rewrite a Fairy Tale" or "Play a Board Game." This year participants will be able to track progress online as well.

Adults who participate will be entered into a drawing for a prize basket. Prize basket themes are: Lord of the Rings, Outlander, and I Love Libraries! For kids, the popular necklace and bead prizes are back! Kids will receive a prize bag once they finish the adventure log. For teens, the main prize this year are books.

To maintain social distancing and address COVID-19, ACPL will be monitoring its ability to host in-person





programs, but the majority of programs will be offered through a virtual platform. The library will not be offering large scale programs that draw big crowds, such as performers. ACPL plans to create a YouTube channel to offer craft tutorials, storytimes, and other activities that are suited to an online environment.

The library plans to participate in the Downtown Laramie Farmers Market. ACPL will sponsor the Toy Library, host activities, and offer educational take-home kits for families and kids.

More information and a full schedule will be available on the ACPL website in May at acplwy.org.

NO ONE GETS A HAPPY ENDING IN THIS FAIRY-TALE THEMED MURDER MYSTERY

*Happily
Never
After*

SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY, SEPT. 26
6-9PM

A FUNDRAISER FOR THE ACPL FOUNDATION



New board and staff members

New ACPL Board Members

The Albany County Public Library Board of Directors has welcomed two new board members, Kay Cowie and Jessica Perry.



Kay Cowie

Cowie is a retired educator with 38 years of experience teaching children from ages three to high school and 12+ years experience at UW. She is a longtime patron and volunteer at ACPL. Cowie spends two mornings each week volunteering in the children's department or cleaning the library's public computer terminals.

"I decided to apply for the opening on the board because I believe in their value to our community," Cowie said. "I continue to be amazed at the variety of community involvement, friendliness, efficiency, and overall expertise of the library."

Cowie enjoys gardening, reading, working out, hand crafts of all kinds, and cooking. She loves any book by Octavia Randolph. She has two sons and two grandchildren. Cowie is expecting her newest great-grandchild this summer.

Perry is a graphic designer and web developer with 20 years of experience. She designed the ACPL, ACPL Foundation, and Friends of the Library websites. Perry volunteers for the Pilot Hill Project and has served on the pastoral council of St. Paul's Newman Center.

"I'm excited to bring my design, marketing, and digital background, along with my perspective having school-aged



Jessica Perry

children, to the board," Perry said.

Perry loves the outdoors where she enjoys mountain/snow biking, skate skiing, running, and camping. Michael Pollen's books and Ayn Rand's "Atlas Shrugged" are among her favorite reads. Perry and her husband have two boys who attend the Lab School.

New Assistant Library Director

Dani Rasmussen joined the library staff as the Assistant Library Director in January. Rasmussen previously served as the director of a small town library and as the director of an assisted living facility in a larger community, both in Utah.

Rasmussen will work closely with the library director. She has experience with library cataloging, management, and programming. Her favorite age group for programming is teens.

"When you work in a library, you know you can make a difference," Rasmussen said.

Rasmussen enjoys making personal connections with patrons and the library's fantastic staff. She is eager to learn more about the Laramie community and to start working to create more opportunities for the library.

Favorites in the Library: Young Adult books and author Jennifer Armentrout

Favorite pastime: Scrapbooking

New Technical Services Librarian

A familiar face became the library's Technical Services Librarian in November 2019. The Technical Services Librarian is responsible for cataloging, inter-library loan services, and the Wyoming Room. Bailey Murray has worked at ACPL since 2006 in numerous roles, most recently as the Circulation Manager.

Murray is passionate about public libraries. She is working on her Master's in Library and Information



Dani Rasmussen



Bailey Murray

Science Degree, attending Wayne State University. Murray also worked at the Laramie County Library System.

"I've always wanted to be the technical services librarian," Murray said. "I really enjoy technology and the work the job entails. I find it fascinating and fun to learn."

Murray brings valuable experience to the position and works hard to fix problems and find the best solution for the public.

Favorites in the Library: Cozy cat mysteries and Manga

Favorite pastime: Attending anime conventions and Comic Con

New Circulation Supervisors

Jared Mohr-Leiva and Clara Robbins started in the Circulation Supervisor positions in March. Previously a single staff member held the position. With the library's main branch recently opening on Sundays, the position was reconfigured to allow adequate coverage seven days a week.

Mohr-Leiva has worked at ACPL for three years as a Circulation Assistant before moving into the supervisor role. During his time as a UW student, Mohr-Leiva had a work-study assignment at the campus library annex. This, along with his fond memories visiting his local public library as a kid, made him interested in joining the library staff.

Mohr-Leiva enjoys meeting people from around town and the great staff at ACPL.

Favorites in the Library: Comic books, "Blankets" by Craig Thompson, postmodern literature

Favorite pastime: Writing comic books and acting



Jared Mohr-Leiva

Robbins is originally from Montana and moved to Laramie from Oregon. She graduated with her Master in Library and Information Science Degree in December from Valdosta State University.



Clara Robbins

Previously, Robbins has worked in four public libraries and three academic libraries, where she mostly worked in Circulation. Robbins is looking forward to getting to know the community and learning about ACPL.

Favorites in the Library: Romance and author Talia Hibbert

Favorite pastime: Reading, video games, and collecting porcelain dolls 🎮

Thank you...



**Rocky Mountain
Power Foundation**
for providing a \$3,500 technology grant!



Albany County Public Library
Foundation

Library foundation funds game board shelving project

The Albany County Public Library Foundation debuted its new support program for the public library in September 2018. 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.

This newsletter will highlight one of the mini-grant projects completed in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Adult Services Specialist, Tyler Brown, worked with the ACPL Foundation on a mini-grant project for game board shelving. The previous shelving for board games was intended for books, making it difficult to properly display and have enough space for the board games.

The new game board shelving has a similar footprint to the old shelving, but it is able to hold up to 300 games in an organized and easy to view manner. The shelving is designed to store board games and the amount of available shelving will allow the board game collection to grow. The new board game shelving is located near the library's new adult books

shelves by the large windows in the main area.

Brown started the board game collection in 2015. It was the first selection of board games available for check out at a Wyoming public library. Since that time, ACPL has acquired more than 120 games that patrons may check out. Board games are frequently checked out.

"Board game play is important because it encourages social interaction," Brown said. "Games teach people how to communicate and interact."

The new board game shelves allow for more circulating games to be out on the shelves at once and will make it easier for patrons to find games.

The ACPL Foundation's Agnes Milstead Fund provided 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.

In FY20, the ACPL Foundation has \$5,000 for projects. The organization will also support a classic book replacement project and slat wall displays for magazines. 🌈



Thank

In appreciation of
Mary Winger
for sponsoring this newsletter.

you!

record year!

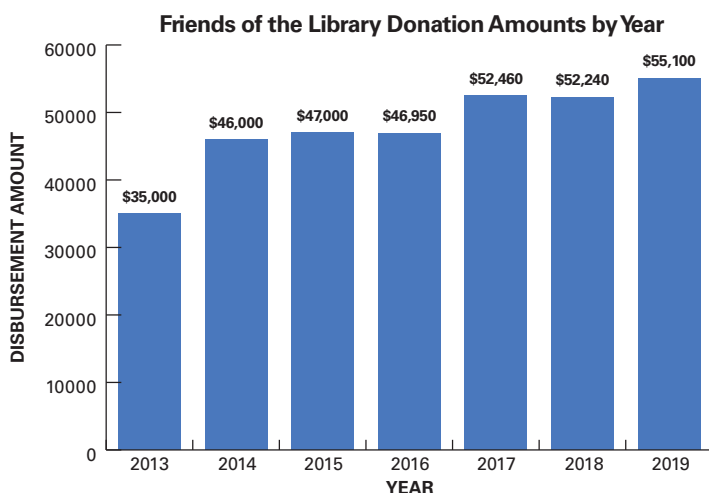
Friends of the Library provide HUGE donation to library

The Friends of the Library provided \$55,100 to the Albany County Public Library in 2019. This is a record donation amount for the organization and a 5 percent disbursement increase from 2018.

Funding from the Friends of the Library is predominantly used by the ACPL to continue to grow the library's collection of books and other items.

Since 2014, the Friends of the Library have provided more than \$40,000 to the library each year. These are incredible donation amounts!

The Friends of the Library raise funds from memberships, book sales, online sales, and the Book Nook. The organization is run entirely by a hard working and dedicated group of volunteers. 🌈



JOIN US

Become a Friends of the Library member!

- \$10 for an individual membership
- \$15 for a family membership
- \$50 for a benefactor membership*

Memberships include admission to the Friends of the Library Members Only Sales.

*A benefactor membership includes a family membership and recognition in the library newsletter.

Learn more online at friends.acplwy.org.

Thank you!

Friends of the Library Benefactor Members!

Rollin & Carolyn Abernethy

Mark & Jennifer Andersen

Laura Baker

Ken Cramer & Carol Bilbrough

David McDonald & Beth Cable

Billie Chapman

Allory & Dawn Deiss

Mike & Eileen Milam

Linda Nydahl

James Johnson & Erin O'Doherty

Debra Olson

Laura Pribyl

Rose Quinn

Robert & Marguerite Routson

Kathryn Shrove

Dennis Tangeman

Mary Winger



Albany County Public Library
Foundation

Friends of the Library

310 S. 8th Street
Laramie, WY 82070
307-721-2580

Return service requested

NONPROFIT
ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
LARAMIE, WY
PERMIT #75



Keep our mailing list current. Let us know about address changes or multiple copies. We can email this too. Send your address to cwhite@acplwy.org.




Visit us at acplwy.org

FRIENDS OF THE ALBANY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2020

BOOK SALE *

Summer



Wednesday, July 29:
3:30pm - 6:30pm
Members Only
Memberships available at the door
\$15 Family / \$10 Individual

Thursday, July 30:
10:00am - 6:30pm

Friday, July 31:
1:00pm - 5:30pm

Saturday, August 1:
1:00pm - 4:30pm

Sunday, August 2:
1:00pm - 4:30pm

Friends of the Albany County Public Library
310 S. 8th St.
fol_booksale@acplwy.org
facebook.com/ACPLBookSale/
Web: friends.acplwy.org/

** Please Note: The book sale is contingent upon the status of COVID-19.*