



**Library Director Report July 2023**  
Anita Marple

**Adopted Budgets:** The adopted budgets for Fremont County government have been posted to the County website. They may be accessed at this link.

[http://cms9.revize.com/revize/fremontwy/budget\\_finance/fremont\\_county\\_budget.php](http://cms9.revize.com/revize/fremontwy/budget_finance/fremont_county_budget.php)

Here are highlights for FYE2024:

- Total Fremont County Budget \$31,676,702.00
- Library General Fund Budget \$ 1,558,458.00 (4.9% of Total)
- Total Mill Levy for Fremont County 12 mills
- Library Mill Levy Portion of Total 1.009 mils

With the addition of unanticipated revenue to the Library budget in June 2023, the Library's FY22-23 General Fund Budget was \$1,511,537.00. Our current budget is 3% higher, and the increase comes from an increase in health insurance, a Cost of Living Adjustment for county employees, and the addition to Salaries for 7 part-time, non-benefitted positions.

The Library's Special Revenue Fund (SRF) Budget includes revenues received from Fines & Fees (overdue fines, copying fees, interlibrary loan postage fees), Meeting Room Use (fees & donations), Lost & Damage Item Replacement, Grants, and Donations. The FY23-24 SRF Budget is \$132,202.00; this is a decrease of 30.5% from FY22-23. The decrease represents the end of ARPA-sourced grants and a decrease in grant requests to the FC Library Foundation. The SRF may increase during the year depending on new grants or donations received. The Library SRF budget is also posted on the Fremont County website listed as "Library—Self-Generated."

**Grant Requests to FC Library Foundation:** At the July Foundation meeting, I presented 6 grant requests totaling \$43,724.00.

- Collection Development \$15,000
- Marketing & Promotion \$18,000
- Newspaper Subscriptions \$ 1,530
- Staff Development \$ 5,000
- SWANK Movie Licensing \$ 1,194
- Bookmarked Festival Author \$ 3,000

**Collection Development Funding Plan FY23-24:** A significant change to the budget for Collection Development (purchasing print & digital materials for circulation) is the creation of the multi-year fund from unanticipated revenues in FY22-23. The annual distribution to purchasing accounts is \$35,000. This reduces the amount we have requested from the Library Foundation from \$32,000 in FY22-23 to \$15,000 in FY23-24. At this time, we will not ask the Friends of the Library groups for regular Collection Development funds. However, special collection development requests may be made to individual Friends groups for a unique project



or toward the end of the fiscal year if Fines & Fees revenues fall short for the regular collection development budget.

Collection Development Budget Plan FY23-24

\$35,000	General Fund: CIF Account distribution for FY23-24
\$15,000	FC Library Foundation
\$20,000	Fines & Fees
<u>\$ 6,400</u>	Consortium contract: Overdrive digital content purchasing (General Fund)
\$76,400	TOTAL

**New Website Update:** We have been working on formatting and design decisions with our website designer Jason Grubb. Completing the addition of information content and planning our online programming (content and schedule) are the two goals for the end of August. Staff member Kennedy Erhart and I are determining priorities for online content to develop first. Important considerations include staff time needed to produce content.

**New Staff Positions & Saturday Hours:** We have had a positive response to the new 12-hour Library Assistant I positions. We have filled 5 of the 7 positions and are completing additional interviews. Training our new staff will be a priority in August and September.

With these new hires, we will continue Saturday access hours beyond the summer schedule. Resuming year-round Saturday open hours has been a goal since the necessity of cutting hours three years ago. This is a victory to celebrate, and I appreciate the support of the Library Board, the Foundation, the Friends of the Library groups, the public, and the County Commissioners to accomplish this goal.

**Western Wyoming Library Directors' Retreat:** On Friday, July 28, I spent the day in Pinedale at the Sublette County Library meeting with library directors from the western half of the state.

**Wyoming Library Association Conference:** The annual WLA conference will be October 4-6 in Casper. I plan to take 4-5 library staff to the conference with funding from the Library Foundation. I will also be presenting this year on using Readers' Theater experiences to enhance literacy development.

**"I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing . . ."** This summer's theme was "All Together Now," and when we started planning months ago, I was reminded of the Coca-Cola ad campaign in the 1970's that made a deep impression on me at the time. The commercials featured a variety of people from various walks of life and cultures, and the idea was that we could all sing together in harmony despite our differences. Although the company's goal was to sell Coca-cola, I am still personally inspired by this idea. So, this resulted in a brainstorm to offer our patrons a free Coke with a smile and the idea that we're in this world together. Thank you to the local Coca-Cola distributor for donating 300 cans of Coke for this simple event.

**Riverton Branch Library & Dubois Branch Library**      **July 2023**  
Shari Haskins, Assistant Library Director

July kept me busy with writing job ads, organizing the “Bus Tickets” program, and interviewing for the 12-hour Library Assistant I positions for the Riverton and Dubois branches. All of these were very important, rewarding tasks.

**DUBOIS BRANCH LIBRARY**

Wow, July is almost over and this is our last week of Summer Reading Programs. DFOL Book Fair, Picnic & Foam Party happening Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 11am-2pm.

Summer Reading Challenges are due July 28 by end of closing.

Sign-ups: Children=46, Teens=4, Adults=41 (Total 91)

Here are a few photo highlights from our SRP – All Together Now!

K-5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Chalk the Walk Dubois:  
Team Challenge

The challenge was to work together and create chalk designs depicting life in Dubois. Designs included rainbows and military tanks.



Birth – 5 years Smoosh Painting



Submitted by Kathy Gettelman, Lead Librarian



## **RIVERTON BRANCH LIBRARY**

### **Adult Services Department**

Chalk the Walk Sidewalk Art Festival In the beginning of July, we held our ninth annual Chalk the Walk Sidewalk Art Festival, featuring both amateur and professional local artists, and music from DJ Quinn Cerovski. The event brought in a great crowd of 276 and the public got to see some amazing artists in all three categories.

Movie on the Lawn At the end of July, 25 patrons joined us for a showing of *The Wedding Singer*.

Summer Reading Program Patrons continue to enter our Summer Reading Giveaways, and they can't wait to see who wins the Record Player & Speaker set at the end of July. We worked with the Lander and Dubois libraries to "Buy Fremont County a Coke" partnering with Coca-Cola to offer our patrons a free coke in the recent heat. We saw all sorts of patrons come in and grab a free Coke, and both the community and staff enjoyed the simple but meaningful program.

Submitted by Tannar Miller, Adult Services Lead Librarian

### **Youth Services Department**

Summer Reading Program The children who completed and turned in reading logs will have a special night program which is *Hide and Seek in the Library*.

We ended the month with the movie *Up* and popcorn. We continued with our Lego Club on Tuesdays and the Toddler Hour on Thursdays.

We offered crafts throughout July including slap bracelets, collages, and mini art canvases. In August we will be showcasing the teens' artwork with a reception to display the wonderful things they made this summer.

For the big Summer Reading finale, we will host a Foam Party on August 4th as a thank you to our patrons.

Fall Planning We are excited for August, back to school, and planning the next couple months for events such as our story time, Halloween, and Mario Putt Putt Golf.

Submitted by Kirbie Despain, Youth Services Lead Librarian



## **Lander Library Report      July 2023**

Rachel Arnold, Lander Manager

July in the library has been fast and fun. Summer Reading is a focus for both departments with reading logs or punch cards being returned, prizes going out, and programs in full swing. Life is good.

Out-of-state tourists visit the library regularly for internet access and local information. Wi-fi and computer usage is high. Meeting rooms are about average in the reservations, and new dates are being reserved for the fall already. New employees will be joining the staff family soon, and we are all excited that this will enhance our capacity to serve the community.

### **Adult Services Department**

Displays Lane's "Artificial Intelligence" display features fiction and nonfiction titles on this popular topic. We also have a display to help patrons find new favorite authors. Our summer intern, Theresa Bautz, has added her summer art project display that features books on a variety of art forms. Patrons may choose a miniature canvas, watercolor paper, or drawing paper to take home and be creative. A display of these mini masterpieces will be up until the end of August. What talented people we have in our midst. It is a wonderful idea that I would like to see done again!

Book Clubs The Bookies Book Club was held on July 13, 2023 at the Lander Senior Center. The eleven ladies in our group discussed *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. Everyone enjoyed it and would recommend it to family and friends.

We will offer a special Book Club ahead of author Chris Bohjalian's appearance at the Bookmarked Literary Arts Festival the first weekend of October. Copies of his book *Midwives* will be available in print and digital format the first week of August. In September we will meet for a discussion led by Bookmarked coordinator Ami Vincent and library director Anita Marple.

Programs The summer reading adult programs for the month began on July 11 with "A Night of Music." We set up the Carnegie room for karaoke. I personally had never done it before (even though I have a music degree) and really had a blast. On Friday evening, July 28, we offered "A Night of Laughter" featuring three local comedians: Shannon Arnold, Ron Howard, and Vince Tropea. An enthusiastic crowd of 29 attended, and it was a spectacular ending to our Adult Summer Reading Program.

### **Youth Services Department**

Summer Reading Program This year we had 241 children and 32 teens sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Many patrons are claiming their prizes this week. The August Board Report will include final number of completed logs.

Children's Programs Children's activities this month included: a family movie showing of *Zootopia* on July 5<sup>th</sup>, an engineering program where kids worked together to make catapults on



July 12th, an outdoor field day on July 19th, a puppet show on July 26th, and the monthly StoryTime Dance Party on July 14th. A total of 133 patrons attended these events.

StoryWalk A new book, *Snail Crossing*, was installed on the library lawn on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Families walking or riding their bikes past the library can enjoy the story.

CanTeen Weekly Programs Teen offering this month included: an Escape Room on July 12<sup>th</sup>, Jackbox Games on July 19<sup>th</sup>, and Karaoke on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Twenty-eight teens enjoyed these programs.

Coming Soon We are reaching out to various groups and working on new offerings for the fall. Some sneak previews of new things in the works: board games for check out, Science Fair Support Group, D&D or other Gaming Group for high school students, and MORE.

Submitted by Tamara Anderson, Youth Services Lead Librarian