



The Mission of the Converse County Library System:
*Providing a wealth of resources to make a positive difference
in the lives of our patrons.*

Converse County Library

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Bridges

Celebrate National Library Week April 15-21st

National Library Week is a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers in schools, campuses and communities nationwide. It's the perfect time for our community to come together @ your library.

Everyday, libraries in big cities and small towns, colleges and universities, in schools and in businesses help transform their communities.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.

During this week we acknowledge the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and promote library use and support. All types of libraries—school, public, academic and special—participate.

In the mid-1950's, research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more on radios and televisions. Concerned that Americans were reading less, the ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens organization called the National Book Committee in 1954. The committee's goals were ambitious. They ranged

from "encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time" to "improving incomes and health" and "developing strong happy family life." In 1957, the committee developed a plan for NLW based on the idea that once people were motivated to read, they would support and use libraries. With the cooperation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958.



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From the Rock in the Glen

It's been a very quiet winter and spring promises to continue that trend.

Our Prose/Poetry contest for Love My Library Week was a resounding success. The winners in the juvenile categories were: Syler Fleck, Austin McGrady, Autumn Holler, and Kyra Johnson. The winner in the adult category was Nena Grilley. Our thanks go out to all the Glenrock residents who participated this year. The winner of the Valentine jar guessing contest was Lisa Shaklee. She came clos-

est to the correct number of 288 candy hearts, hugs, and kisses that were in the jar. Congratulations Lisa!

On a more somber note, we have been notified from Reading is Fundamental headquarters that we are no longer eligible for federal RiF funds because of a change in RiF guidelines. RiF is a federally subsidized program that places free books in the hands of kindergarten through fifth grade students several times a year. The program version we were involved in distributed free

books three times per year to local K-5 students. Three quarters of the funding was from the federal government, one quarter was from local donations. If we are able to raise sufficient monies locally, we can still access publishers using RiF discounting for purchases.

Just in time for summer, we now have a machine dispensing 20 ounce bottles of Coca Cola products in front of the library. Proceeds from this machine will go to our Library Foundation.



Up and Coming at Converse County Library

We will soon be upon our busiest time at the library, Summer Reading. But, before we get to summer break, there are many other activities planned for our patrons.

Wyoming Reads will take place on May 15th. This is an annual program through which every first grader state wide receives a free book.

Last year we had local personalities read to our first graders at the library. They were also visited

by Cat in the Hat and Clifford the Big Red Dog.

We are still holding our monthly book discussion. Our book for the March 21st discussion is *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini and the book for the April 18th discussion is *The Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague* by Geraldine Brooks. Copies of the books are available upon request.

April is National Poetry month. To celebrate, Converse County

Library is hosting a poetry night on April 19th.

Don't forget to come in to look at our ever growing DVD collection. We have added many new titles over the last few months. Patrons now have a selection of adult, children's, young adult, T.V. series and nonfiction DVDs.



Special points of interest:

- Game/Movie Night Thursdays at 5:00
- Story Time resumes January 3, for preschoolers aged 3-5 years, Wednesdays 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m.
- Teen Tech Week March 4-11th
- National Library Week April 15-21st
- Book Discussion March 21st and April 18th @7:00 p.m.
- April is National Poetry month. Join Poetry Night on April 19th

The Wyoming State Library has started a six month trial with Recorded Books for their on demand 'MyLibraryDV' service. Users will be able to access hundreds of hours of DVD quality programming on topics such as cooking, travel, and health as well as classic movies and more.

MyLibraryDV is the world's first video on demand service aimed at public libraries. Through MyLibraryDV, Recorded Books delivers the downloadable video future to our library.

This all-inclusive service offers our patrons a quality video experience. MyLibraryDV subscribers initially receive over 400 programs of popular network programming which will continue to expand.

There are over 25 all-time classic favorite movies and 20 independent films from Film Movement, over 90 cooking programs with world renowned chefs, over 100 travel programs featuring exotic locales and interesting vacation destinations, 50 informative health programs that offer advice on common health problems and diseases, insights into holistic treatment and scientific medicines, Literature programming that includes author interviews and multimedia study guides, and lastly several do-it-yourself programs.

The requirements to use MyLibraryDV include a broadband Internet connection, recently updated browser, Microsoft Windows 2000 or Windows XP, Flash Player 9 or Windows Media Player 9, 1 gigabyte of available hard

drive space and 1 GHz processor or greater.

To get started, patrons can go to the library's web page at www.conversecountylibrary.org and click the MyLibraryDV icon. Patrons will have to install the download manager. This is a one-time requirement that takes 2-4 minutes. After MyLibraryDV has downloaded patrons can choose their program and will be prompted to log on. To log on patrons will need their library card number and their pin. After patrons have successfully logged on MyLibraryDV will walk them through the remaining steps to complete the download.

For more information please call the Converse County Library at 358-3644.

Teen Tech Week March 4th-11th

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA), is pleased to announce Teen Tech Week, a new YALSA celebration aimed at getting teens to use their libraries for the different technologies that are offered there, such as DVDs, databases, audio books, electronic games and more. Teen Tech Week will be celebrated for the first time March 4-10, 2007. "By developing Teen Tech Week, YALSA demonstrates the important role technology plays in teen life and the need for librarians to integrate the ways teens use technology into their programs and services," said Teen Tech Week Chair Linda Braun.

Teen use of non-print resources has increased dramatically in recent years, yet more and more teens are doing this from home instead of the library. According to a recent study by Harris Interac-

tive, in 2005, 86% of youth aged 8-18 have a computer in their home, and 74% have Internet access in their home. On average, 8-18 year olds spend 6 hours and 21 minutes per day using media (including TV, video/DVDs/movies, video games, audio media, computers and print media). According to Pew Internet Research, 71% of teens reported that the Internet is their primary source for completing school projects. Yet multiple studies have shown that the majority of teens lack the critical thinking skills and technical expertise to use the Internet and other electronic resources effectively.

"Teens need to know that the library is a trusted resource for accessing information and that librarians are the experts who can help them develop the skills they need to use electronic resources effectively and efficiently," remarked YALSA President Pam

Spencer Holley.

The Converse County Library will be having two programs to celebrate Teen Tech Week:

Thursday, March 8th from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Library + Video Games??!

Test your skills in three different arenas: We Y Katamari, Starwars Battlefront II and the mystery classic console challenge.

Saturday, March 10th from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m.

Computer parts to Modern art

We will be disassembling an old computer and turning it into art.

Various "Tech Trivia" questions will be posted on the bulletin board.

Teens can enter their answers for a chance to win the raffle of a flash-drive or free computer time.

Annual Report 2005-2006 The Year in Review Highlights



Laura Smathers took over for Children's Librarian, Brenda Hemberry, Kara Dorr replaced Lisa Daly as business/communication manager and Johnna Grant assumed Debbie Sweet's librarian assistant position, as Brenda, Lisa and Debbie moved on to new pursuits. Kirk Hissam moved into the newly created Technology (IT) Manager position as Cinnamon Hopkins took over as Patron Services Manager.

Candy Zechiel filled the vacancy created with the retirement of Theresa Jansen-Kolf on the Library Board of Trustees.

Challenged by the needs for new collection types and materials, more computers, requests for meeting space and inadequate staff work areas, the Board of Trustees hired Anders Dahgren of Library Planning Associates, Inc. to conduct a needs assessment for the county library facilities. The results show both buildings are vastly inadequate for their current needs and future growth. More books, magazines, non-print materials, computers, meeting rooms, reader's seating and staff work areas are needed. Current buildings were built in 1968. The average life of a library building is 30 years.

The Wyoming State Legislature approved a one-time funding amendment for state libraries. Converse County nets \$103,328 to be used for collection development. In-

cluded in the amendment was a stipulation that these funds were not to decrease regular library funding. Please pass along a great big thank you to our state representatives if you have the opportunity.

More than 300 children, teens and adults pursued *Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds* in the 2005 summer reading program ending with a water-fun picnic and awards party.

County first-graders traveled to Douglas for the first ever Wyoming Reads program funded by the Sue Jorgensen Foundation of Casper. Each 1st-grader took a new book home with them.

Andy Nelson, cowboy poet, regaled us with side-splitting laughter in celebration of National Library Week, while author Richard Maturi gave us the lowdown on Triple Crown winners based on his latest book.

Book discussions delivered entertaining as well as thought-provoking titles. Poetry readings, including a visit from regional poet Echo Klaproth, continued to be popular. Historic Douglas photographs and library items, art work, Nativity sets and salt cellars were among featured exhibits.

The teen program grew as movie nights, trivia, crafts, games and other fun activities are featured weekly on Thursday nights.

An outreach program for shut-ins and the home bound premeiered in late winter. A large-print collection was re-initiated in Glenrock. Usage shows there is a definite need for these materials there.

Board of Trustees for 2005-06:

Bob Shinmori, Chair

Margaret Grant, Vice-Chair

Dennis Switzer, Secretary-Treasurer

Ellen Vinnola, Member

Candy Zechiel, Member

The Year in Numbers:

County Population— 12,766

Registered patrons- 7,656

2005-2006 circulation— 119,353

Library visitors— 103,010

Items in collection— 60,828

Total book circulation— 32,785

Total audio circulation— 9,059

Total video/DVD circulation— 14,921

Computer/Equipment usage— 20,948

Interlibrary loans sent— 889

Interlibrary loans received— 549

Tax Appropriation— 468,750

teen tech week
GET CONNECTED™



www.ala.org/teentechweek