



Converse County Library Bridges

The mission of the Converse County Library System is to uphold the public's freedom of access to information by providing educational, informational, cultural, and entertainment services and materials in a variety of technologies and formats.

Converse County Library

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We're on the web!

conversecountylibrary.
org

From the Rock in the Glen

Oops! We are a little behind but it's something we can not overlook. National Volunteer Week was April 23 – 25 and we just have to brag about our volunteer! I'm sure all of you are familiar with Holly Shoemaker, if you come into the library on Tuesday mornings you will get to see her bright and cheerful smile. Trudy Martinez, our Technical Service Librarian, and Holly have been "holding down the fort" for about 15 years. When asked what she wanted to say about Holly, Trudy responded, "She is a very devoted volunteer". She is an asset that we can not do without and we need to let her know that she is very much appreciated by the Glenrock staff.

Our children's area is doing something different for the READ ME A STORY. Rita Heath, the Children's Librarian, has

recruited various kids from the community to read stories. For the month of May the schedule is as follows:

April 29 – May 5: One Dog Canoe by Mary Casanova read by Jacob

May 6 – May 12: The Fish Who Could Wish by John Bush & Korky Paul read by Sean

May 13 – May 19: Are You My Mother by P.D. Eastman read by Cara

May 20 – May 26: Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw read by Tony

May 27 – June 2: The Hello Goodbye Window by Norton Juster & Chris Raschka

read by Andrew

Call READ ME A STORY @ 436-2353 to listen to some great

stories. The Storytellers will resume when school starts up again in September. A big thank you to all who are participating! If you are interested in reading please contact the children's librarian for more information.

The 44 first graders from Grant Elementary will be participating in the Wyoming Reads which takes place on May 16. The kids and chaperones will go to Douglas to participate in the events. It is sure to be a fun time for all.

We are all set for summer reading. Our program is called PAWS, CLAWS, SCALES AND, TALES. Registration starts June 5 and it's open to all; 1 to 100. Our closing program is July 26. Consider reading this summer with the Glenrock Branch Library and plan on having a great time.

May/June
2006



Bridges

Converse County Library

Volume 2, Issue 2



Anders Dahlgren of Library Planning Associates Inc.

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Space Needs Assessment Completed

Anders Dahlgren of Library Planning Associates, Inc. submitted his final report on the space needs assessment commissioned by the Converse County Library Board of Trustees at the March board meeting. He began his assessment last August. He based his findings on the meetings with community focus groups, the library board and staff, national, regional and local library statistics, three visits to our communities and both libraries and his meetings with the commissioner, mayor and school superintendent.

To respond to the increasing demands from a growing community, Dahlgren recommended the following expanded services and resources for the library system.

- a median book collection of 90,000 items among peer Wyoming libraries
- a magazine collection of 140 titles and items
- an audiovisual collection of 18,000 items (equal to one non print for every five print items)
- 50 computer terminals for public use
- 110 reader seats
- staff work stations to support efficient and economical operations
- meeting facilities to support a variety of programming events

These resources should be allocated between the two facilities on the basis of population distribution and library use distribution. Rough estimates predict 70% to the Douglas facility and 30% to the Glenrock facility. To accommodate these needs, gross building areas should be roughly 29,000 square feet for a Douglas facility and 14,000 square feet for the Glenrock facility. The current buildings are about one-third that size.

Board President Bob Shinmori will appoint a committee of board and staff members to determine how and what steps to take to pursue future goals. A copy of the needs assessment document is available for public viewing at each of the libraries.

Lisa Daly Resigns to Pursue Love of Ranching

After more than thirteen years with the Converse County Library System, Lisa Daly submitted her resignation effective April 14, 2006.

Daly will pursue her love of ranching at the family-owned Two Creek Cattle Ranch south of Douglas.

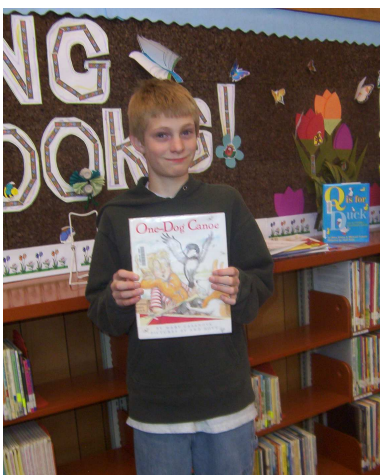
As Business & Communications

Services Manager, Daly's primary duties were bookkeeping, editor of the library's Bridges newsletter, web site design and maintenance, and creator and producer of most of the library's brochures, flyers and other promotional materials.

Daly also worked at the circulation desk when needed, served as acquisitions and serials clerk, and

was currently assisting with the evaluation of the Western Americana collection. She liked to keep busy and was always willing to lend a hand wherever needed.

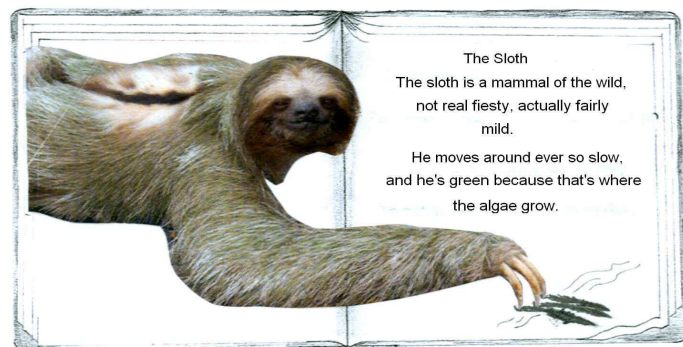
Daly preferred to avoid the public spotlight and asked that a farewell day in her honor be bypassed. She will be truly missed.



Bridges

Flip a Page on the Wild Side

Summer Reading is not just for kids and teens! People of all ages can enjoy



The Sloth
The sloth is a mammal of the wild,
not real fiesty, actually fairly mild.
He moves around ever so slow,
and he's green because that's where
the algae grow.

be drawings at the end of the program for other goodies. So make sure you head out to your local library and win some great prizes just for reading and enjoying your fa-

vorite author or book. We hope to see you all there on the "Wild Side." summer reading. We are inviting everyone to join this year's Adult Summer Reading program. For every two books you read, you can enter your name for the weekly giveaways. There will also

Special points of interest:

- Game/Movie Night Thursdays @ 5:00 Ends May 25th
- Library closed May 29 for Memorial Day
- Children's Story Hour Wed. 10 & 1:00, Fri. 10:30 Ends May 19
- Library closed June 12 for staff training
- Summer Reading begins June 19
- "Madagascar" June 20

Paws Claws Scales and Tales

Converse County Library is beginning the Summer Reading Program June 19th.

Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales is the theme this summer. We will be kicking off the program with a Side Walk Art Contest and the movie "Madagascar" Tuesday, June 20th at 2:00P.M.

The following Tuesday will be the

Pet Parade at 2:00 P.M. We invite all summer reading participants to bring their friendly pets on leashes.

Throughout each week there will be extra fun programs, crafts, games and a book discussion for the older children. We have a musical group "Double Play" coming to share their talents on July

7th at 3:30 and Chad Lore will be joining in the final celebration on Saturday, July 29th from 12:00 to 2:00 P.M.

Children are invited to come and have some summer fun, here at your local library!

Creature Feature Begins June 19th

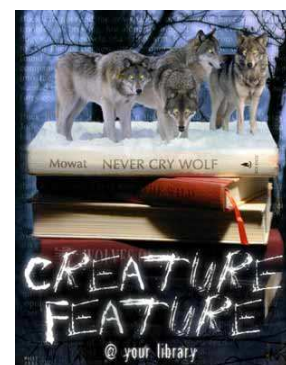
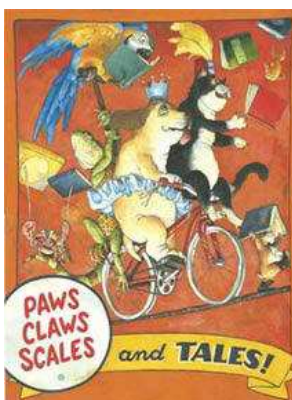
Summer Reading Begins June 19th The theme for the Converse County Library's teen summer reading program is Creature Feature. We plan to explore this theme with programs about beasts real and imagined, traditional and bizarre. Some such programs will feature Wild Animal Jeopardy, Creepy Sock Puppets, and a book

discussion on Christopher Golden's *Prowlers*. Every week there will be a random drawing from tickets the teens turn in for attending programs, reading a book, listening to music CDs and other such activities for a chance at a prize.

There are three categories for special awards called "Nods From

the Beast" at the end of the summer. These categories are the *Book Thirst Award* for reading the most fiction; the *Canis Lupis Award* for the most non-fiction, and the *Survival Bonus* for attending at least seven programs.

Friends and family, don't forget to warn your teens that something wicked comes this way...



Converse County Reads

What would happen if everyone in town were reading the same book at the same time? Douglas, Glenrock, and Converse County residents will have just such an opportunity in Fall of 2006 when the first ever community-wide read "Converse County reads" occurs. Community book discussions, a Renaissance Fair and a movie presentation are some of the scheduled activities, while other programs are still being developed.

Two book selections have been chosen this year. *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini, for the teen/young adult readers and Mark Spragg's *An Unfinished Life*. Mark Spragg will be appearing at the Converse County Library during

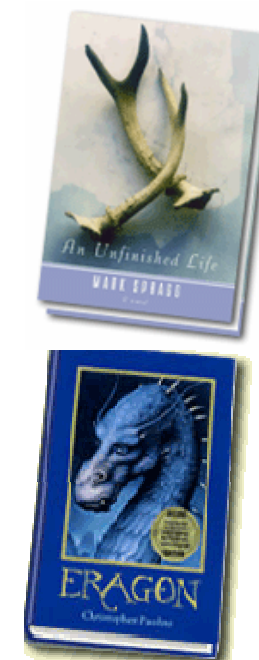
the festivities.

Christopher Paolini began writing his debut novel *Eragon* at the age of 15 when he graduated from high school. It was first published in 2002. Christopher was home schooled by his parents. He often wrote short stories and poems. He made frequent trips to the library and read widely. Some of his favorite books were Bruce Colville's *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher*, Frank Herbert's *Dune*, Raymond E. Feist's *Magician*, and Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*, as well as books by Anne McCaffrey, Jane Yolen, Brian Jacques, E.R. Eddison, David Eddings, and Ursula Le Guin.

Mark Spragg is the author of *Where Rivers Change Direction*, a memoir that won the Mountains & Plains Booksellers Award, and *The Fruit of Stone*, a novel. He lives in Cody, Wyoming.

Spragg, who has wanted to write novels since his childhood on his parents' dude ranch in the remote Wapiti valley at the far edge of Yellowstone Park, worked briefly and unhappily as a scriptwriter in the 1980s.

An Unfinished life took over six years and "hundreds of hours of road trips" that Mark and his wife, Virginia, made from their home in Cody, Wyoming, to visit friends throughout the West to write.



Reference USA Helps Find Friends and Businesses

Need an address? Looking for an old friend? Reference USA is a new user-friendly online resource now available through the Converse County Library. The ReferenceUSA database contains detailed information on more than thirteen million U.S. businesses; 120 million U.S. households; 683,000 U.S. health care providers; 1 million Canadian businesses; and 11 million Canadian residents.

ReferenceUSA's business database is easily searchable whether by company name, address, or location. Among the information provided is contact name & title, fax number, Fortune 1000 ranking, number of employees by company and location, web site URL, estimated sales volume, Stock Exchange and Ticker Symbol, lines of business, and credit rating code plus other pertinent information.

The residential database can be explored by name, telephone number, or address, while the health care database can be searched by physician or dentist name, office name, location, and phone number. Looking for a Canadian business or resident? Try the Canadian business and residential databases. Library users can access Reference USA at your local Converse County library,



Legislature Approves \$2.9 Million for Public Library Collection

In its recent budget session, the Wyoming State Legislature approved a budget amendment appropriating \$2.9 million for the state's 23 county library systems. This one-time appropriation will boost collections beyond what local library budgets ordinarily provide.

In introducing the amendment, Senator Mike Massie (D-Laramie) said, "This is by far the most under funded area of the state where we get the most bang for

the buck. Everybody knows the importance of libraries in their communities."

The funds are to be used exclusively for library materials, including electronic materials and subscriptions. Each county will receive a base amount of \$87,880, with the remaining \$880,760 distributed according to county population. Total funding for Converse County Libraries is \$109,328.

The \$2.9 million appropriation will be distributed through each county's Board of Commissioners. The funds are intended to enhance, not replace local budgets; counties may not use the money to reduce existing library funding. Governor Dave Freudenthal commended the appropriation. "This will have lasting benefits for the people of Wyoming," he said. "When we invest in our local, public libraries, we invest in the future of our communities."

**"When we invest in our local public libraries, we invest in the future of our communities."
-Gov. Dave Freudenthal**