



# Niobrara County Library

Located in Lusk, Wyoming

Volume 18, Issue 1

Lusk, Wyoming

Fall 2024 Newsletter

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT

Plans are in the works to host Lusk's own "Crooners" in concert on **Sunday, November 17** at 1:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church. The Crooners are local singers directed by Randy Hills. Watch for more information!



## LIGHTNING CREEK FIGHT

On **Wednesday, September 11** at 6 p.m. at the library, Niobrara County rancher Jim Kruse will share the history of the Lightning Creek fight.

Just before sunset on October 31, 1903, a sheriff's posse and a band of Oglala Sioux from the Pine Ridge Reservation engaged in a brief, sharp gunfight near Lightning Creek, northeast of Douglas, Wyoming.

Earlier that fall U.S. Indian Agent John R. Brennan had authorized two parties of Oglala Sioux families to leave the Pine Ridge Reservation to search for medicinal plants, herbs, and berries. He warned them not to hunt in Wyoming or Montana. One family was headed back to the reservation when a posse, which included Sheriff William Miller of Weston County,

encountered them on October 30 and tried to arrest them for violating game laws. Charles Smith, who was the Oglala leader of the tribe, convinced the Indians that they should return to the reservation rather than go to Newcastle, WY, with the sheriff. The next encounter on October 31, resulted in a five-minute fight with seven deaths.

The Niobrara Historical Society will host a tour, in collaboration with the Weston County Historical Society, to the battle site on **Saturday, September 21** at 12:30 p.m. Contact JoAnn Wade (307-216-0400) by September 15 for more details and to register. The tour will include traveling to the location of the battle and the site of the cabin where the wounded were taken. Attendees will need to bring water and a lawn chair if standing is difficult. The site is 90 minutes to and from Lusk.



## CONSTRUCTING A CONSTITUTION

Join historian Kylie Louise McCormick to learn the ins and outs of the U.S. and the Wyoming Constitutions. Hear fun stories about how they were created and some of the important rights that they protect. Did you know that it took three years to ratify the U.S. Constitution? Or that Wyoming's Constitution was the first to include an equality clause protecting the civil rights of everyone regardless of race or sex? Learn more fascinating facts through an engaging presentation at the Niobrara County Library on **Wednesday, November 6** at 4:30 p.m. The program is suitable for children and adults!



## ADULT CRAFTING RETURNS

Adult crafting returns this fall with three daytime craft sessions from 1-3 p.m. The dates are Monday, October 21, with a book folding project. The second is Monday, November 18, with a painting. And the third is Monday, December 16, with a photo frame project. Registration is required, please call the library at 307-334-3490. Library programs are free and open to the public.



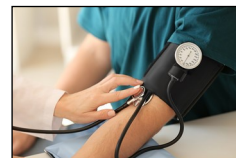
## INTERNET HOTSPOTS AND CHROMEBOOKS

Need internet? The library has Wi-Fi mobile hotspots and Chromebooks available for circulation. The devices checkout for seven (7) days and require a Niobrara County Library card in good standing. For more information call 307-334-3490 or stop by the library.



## BLOOD PRESSURE KITS AVAILABLE

Self-measured blood pressure monitoring kits are available to check out! The kits include an automated blood pressure cuff, logbooks and educational materials. Stop in to find out more about this resource provided through a partnership with UW's Wyoming Center on Aging and the WY Dept. of Health's Chronic Disease Prevention Program.



The Read & Feed Book Discussion continues at the library this fall. Stop by and find out more!



# BOOK DISCUSSION AND DINNER & MOVIE SERIES ANNOUNCED

## BOOK DISCUSSION

*The Reading List* is the theme for the fall book discussion series which features four books that could very well be on your 'been wanting to read list' or perhaps they are books that you would like to read again. This is a mix of fiction and non-fiction. Tina Kitras-Seaman returns to lead the series.

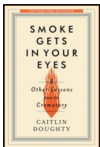
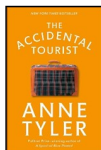
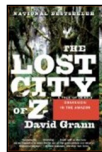
The discussion series begins with *1984* by George Orwell on **Tuesday, September 3 at 6 p.m.** In the future world of 1984, the world is divided up into three superstates—Oceania, Eurasia, and Eastasia—that are deadlocked in a permanent war. The superpowers are so evenly matched that a decisive victory is impossible, but the real reason for the war is to keep their economies productive without adding to the wealth of their citizens, who live (with the exception of a privileged few) in a state of fear and poverty. This dystopian fiction novel was published in 1949.

**Monday, October 7** *The Lost City of Z: a Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon* by David Grann will be featured. After stumbling upon a hidden trove of diaries author David Grann sets out to solve "the greatest exploration mystery of the twentieth century": What happened to the British explorer Percy Fawcett and his quest for the Lost City of Z? In 1925 Fawcett and his twenty-one-year-old son ventured into the Amazon to find an ancient civilization, hoping to make one of the most important discoveries in history. Thousands had died looking for it, leaving many scientists convinced that the Amazon was truly hostile to humankind. Fawcett was determined to prove that this ancient civilization—which he dubbed "Z"—existed. Then he and his expedition vanished. The discussion will be held at **6 p.m.**

*The Accidental Tourist* by Anne Tyler will be discussed on **Monday, November 4 at 6 p.m.** Travel writer Macon Leary hates travel, adventure, surprises, and anything outside of his routine. Immobilized by grief, Macon is becoming increasingly prickly and alone, anchored by his solitude and an unwillingness to compromise his creature comforts. Then he meets Muriel, an eccentric dog trainer too optimistic to let Macon disappear into himself. Despite Macon's best efforts to remain insulated, Muriel up-ends his solitary, systemized life, catapulting him into the center of a messy, beautiful love story he never imagined. A fresh and timeless tale, *The Accidental Tourist* showcases Tyler's talents for making characters—and their relationships—feel both real and magical.

Wrapping up the series on **Monday, December 2** will be *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes & Other Lessons from the Crematory* by Caitlin Doughty. Most people want to avoid thinking about death, but Caitlin Doughty took a job at a crematory, turning morbid curiosity into her life's work. *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* tells an unusual coming-of-age story full of bizarre encounters and unforgettable scenes. Caring for dead bodies of every color, shape, and affliction, Caitlin soon becomes an intrepid explorer in the world of the dead. The discussion will be held at **6 p.m.**

To register for the series and pick up the first book stop by the library or call 307-334-3490. Library programs are free and open to the public.



## DINNER & MOVIE SERIES

*Favorites* is the theme for the *Dinner & Movie* discussion series this fall and features western films with female leads. The series, held on the last Monday of the month at **6 p.m.** features a meal as well as brief audience discussion.



On **Monday, August 26** the series begins with *Cat Ballou* which stars Jane Fonda along with Lee Marvin, who won an Oscar for his dual role. Nat "King" Cole (in his final role) and Stubby Kaye act as narrating troubadours. *Cat Ballou* is a parody of the Old West, about vengeance turning a rancher's daughter into an outlaw who teams with a drunken, broken-down gunslinger. This wild and woolly adventure is the ultimate American spoof of the American Western. The film is not rated and is 97 minutes.

The second movie involves a mysterious female gunslinger (Sharon Stone), who arrives in the frontier hamlet of Redemption for a contest pitting quick-draw artists against each other in *The Quick and the Dead*. The event is the brainchild of Redemption's evil, corrupt mayor, Herod, a criminal who has taken over the town and charges a 50% tax on local businesses. The film is rated R and is 108 minutes and will be shown on **Monday, September 30.**

On **Monday, October 28** Doris Day saddles up as wild wild-West heroine *Calamity Jane*. She plays a tomboyish gunslinger who leaves Arizona to go to Chicago to bring back a stage star to perform in a frontier saloon, while pining for an attractive soldier and swooning over rough-riding Wild Bill Hickok. The film is rated G and is 105 minutes.

On **Monday, November 25**, rounding out the series is *True Grit*. An alcoholic U.S. Marshal and a 14-year-old girl (Hailee Steinfeld) track down her father's killer with the help of a Texas Ranger. As the three brave dangerous Indian territory, they discover their prey has fallen in with a more experienced criminal. The film is rated PG-13 and is 110 minutes.

Library programs are free and open to the public.



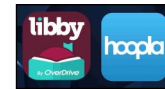
## BUSINESS TOOLS AVAILABLE

The library has a wealth of business tools available, some to use in the library and some that may be checked out—including a professional podcasting studio. Other tools include a lightbox to highlight your print marketing using your smartphone or camera, tripods, laptop, projector, video camera, podcasting equipment, ringlight, headphones and more. Stop by the library to find out more.



## DIGITAL LIBRARIES AVAILABLE

Library patrons can use their library cards and PINs to access digital materials through **Libby** (powered by Overdrive) and **Hoopla**. Overdrive features ebooks, audiobooks, streaming video and over 3000 different periodicals. **Hoopla** also features ebooks and audiobooks and has downloadable video and television shows. Graphic novels are also available in both services. Check it out today!





# Dates to Remember

September						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
October						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
November						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
December						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### Book Discussion: *The Reading List*, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, September 3 - *1984*  
 Monday, October 7 - *The Lost City of Z*  
 Monday, November 4 - *The Accidental Tourist*  
 Monday, December 2 - *Smoke Gets In Your Eyes*

### Favorites Dinner and Movie Series, 6 p.m.

Monday, August 26 - *Cat Ballou*  
 Monday, September 30 - *The Quick and the Dead*  
 Monday, October 28 - *Calamity Jane*  
 Monday, November 25 - *True Grit*

### Read & Feed Book Discussion Series, Noon

Mondays, September 16, October 14, and December 11

### Fall Afterschool Programs, 3:35 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

K-2, Tuesdays, August 20 - October 22 - *Animal Battles: The VS. Books*  
 3-6, Thursdays, August 22 - October 24 - *Native Americans*

### Holiday Crafting, 3:35 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Tuesdays, November 5 through December 10

### Board Games, 3:35 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Thursdays, November 7 through December 12

### Adult Holiday Crafting, 1:00 to 3 p.m.

Mondays, October 21, November 18, and December 16

### Special Events

September 11, 6 p.m. — The Lightning Creek Fight with Jim Kruse  
 September 21, 12:30 p.m. — Tour to Lightning Creek  
 September 26, 7:30 a.m. — Krispy Kreme Doughnuts  
 October 9, 6:30 p.m.—Reading is FUN—*The Midnight Ride of Who?*  
 November 6, 4:30 p.m. — Constructing the Constitution with Kylie McCormick  
 Sunday, November 17, 1:30 p.m. — Crooners in Concert at the Congregational Church  
 December 11, 3 p.m.—Friends of the Library Cookie, Candy, Soup and Bread Sale

### Friday Afternoon Movies, 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday Storyhour, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

### Holiday Closures:

Labor Day: Monday, September 2  
 Veterans Day: Monday, November 11  
 Thanksgiving: Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29  
 Christmas: Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24 and 25  
 New Year's Day: Wednesday, January 1

### Library Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 12 - 7 p.m.



Niobrara County Library Foundation, Inc.  
 Niobrara County Library  
 P. O. Box 510  
 Lusk, WY 82225-0510

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### REGISTER FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

The library will host two afterschool sessions this fall beginning the week of August 19, the programs begin after school at 3:35 p.m. and continue until 4:45 p.m.



“Animal Battles: the VS. books” will be the theme for the fall afterschool program for children in grades K-2. Children will learn about and craft projects based on the Animal Battles series. The program will be held on Tuesdays, beginning August 20 and continue through October 22.

Children in grades 3-6 will explore different “Native American” cultures by traveling from the Inuit People in the far north to the ancient civilizations in Central America. Children will explore the lifestyles, food, games and stories of these nations. This program begins on Thursday, August 22, and continues through October 24.



Call the library at (307) 334-3490 to register your children.

### BOARD GAMES ON THURSDAYS

Board game fun will be featured at the library on Thursdays beginning November 7 through December 12 from afterschool until 4:45 p.m. Call the library for more information.



### KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUTS FUNDRAISER

The Niobrara County Library Foundation will have Krispy Kreme Doughnuts available on Thursday, September 26. Pick up will be at 7:30 a.m. at the library. A plain glazed dozen is \$10 and a mixed frosted dozen is \$12. Call the library at 334-3490 to order today!



### HOMEMADE HOLIDAY GOODIES

The Friends of the Library will host their annual Homemade Cookie, Candy, Soup and Bread Sale on Wednesday, December 11, at 3 p.m. at the library. Select your choice of cookies and candies by the pound or pick up one of the pre-made plates. Soups and breads will also be available.



### AFTERSCHOOL HOLIDAY CRAFTS ON TUESDAYS

Holiday crafting returns this fall with craft projects for children kindergarten and older. Children will be able to make crafts for gifts or for fun. The program will be held from after school until 4:45 p.m. on Tuesdays November 5 through December 10. In order to assure adequate supplies please register your child by stopping by or calling the library at 307-334-3490.

