



Niobrara County Library

Located in Lusk, Wyoming

Volume 18, Issue 3

Lusk, Wyoming

Summer 2025 Newsletter

TWO BANDS PERFORM IN JULY

On **Thursday, July 17, 2025** the Niobrara County Library is happy to present two bands, *The Rough & Tumble* and *The Honey Badgers*, for an evening of engaging, harmony driven, folk and Americana music. The show starts at **6 p.m.** and is scheduled to be held at the Congregational Church, 120 E. 5th St., Lusk, WY.



The Rough & Tumble are a folk/Americana duo, consisting of Mallory Graham & Scott Tyler. Forming in 2011, they spent 8 years full time in a 16' camper with two big dogs, playing roughly 150 shows a year. Performing at festivals, listening rooms, and house concerts across the country, their commanding stage presence, engaging performances and affecting songwriting have gained them a reputation as a band not to miss. In November 2024, *The Rough & Tumble* released *Hymns For My Atheist Sister and Her Friends To Sing Along To*, a collection of deeply personal, unifying and uplifting, humanist gospel songs.

The Honey Badgers are a contemporary folk duo bringing their sincere Americana sound to stages across the country.



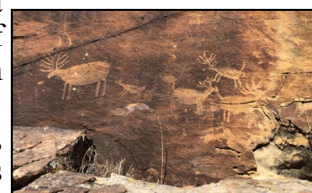
The married duo is known for their intense, sparkling harmonies, their honest lyrics and melodies, and their undeniable chemistry on and off stage. Weaving their voices together with Michael's driving guitar and

Erin's wistful violin, *The Honey Badgers* spin stories and songs about finding yourself, finding each other, and finding your way in the world. Their new album, *The Earth Turns and So Do We*, is currently charting on folk radio.

PRESENTING WHOOPUP CANYON

Area historian Lucas Keeler returns to the library with a program on the extensive rock panels in Whoopup Canyon in northeast Wyoming on **Wednesday, August 13 at 6 p.m.**

Whoopup Canyon is an extensive system of roughly 150 rock art panels along a four-mile-long stretch of Dakota sandstone in northeast Wyoming.



Whoopup was, of course, known to Native Americans for thousands of years, but it wasn't until the 1930s that the first scientific surveys were conducted. At that time, Ralph I. Olinger—Lusk businessman, Wyoming Legislature representative and amateur archaeologist—provided drawings and wrote to University of Denver anthropology professor Etienne B. Renaud detailing his visit to “Whoop-up Canon.”

Olinger noted of the petroglyphs: “The deer and elk are mostly pictured, but there are mountain goats, antelope, bison, and a few other animals. There seems to be none of horses.” The Olinger account appears to be the first documented field study of Whoopup in historical times.

Following Olinger's rediscovery of the Whoopup petroglyphs, W.H. Over, University of South Dakota Museum director, conducted field work on the lower Whoopup petroglyph system in July 1939.

Lucas Keeler grew up in Newcastle and is a lifelong resident of Wyoming. He enjoys spending time with his family and continues to research and write about forgotten history in and around the Black Hills.

DRAW @ THE LIBRARY

Artist Barb Orr will present three “Draw @ the Library” sessions this summer. Attendees will learn the basics of drawing including line, shape, form, perspective and shading.



The sessions will be held from **4:30-6:30 p.m.** on **Wednesdays June 18, July 16 and August 6**. Children under the age of 10 should be accompanied by an adult. Call the library at (307) 334-3490 to register.

WYOMING STATE PARK PASSES

Explore big beautiful Wyoming through the Check-out State Parks library program! The purpose of this program is to provide youth and families with the opportunity to visit and experience Wyoming's state parks, historic sites and trails. Wyoming is rich in recreational opportunities, and it is hoped that this program will inspire learning and adventure in the outdoors.



SUMMER READING AND PROGRAMS

Color Our World is the theme for summer reading and children's programming this year.

Summer reading programs are designed to encourage children to keep reading during summer vacation, and helping to prevent the "summer slide" continues to be the main objective of the library's reading program. The benefits of library summer reading programming for children include motivation, maintaining and growing reading skills and getting to know their library.

Color Our World begins the end of May for all ages and continues throughout the summer. Stop in the library after **May 19** to set your reading goals and check out your library books. The tracking week ends each Friday beginning **May 30** and continues through **August 1**. When a goal is met for two weeks, a certificate for swimming or a treat will be awarded. At the conclusion of the 10-week program children who have completed their reading goals each week will be eligible for additional prizes. The Summer Reading Program is extended to young adult and adult participants as well!

WEEKLY PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY



LegoTime will be held each Tuesday at **1 p.m.** beginning on **May 27 through July 31** for all ages.

Read with Delilah is scheduled each Tuesday at **2 p.m.** beginning **June 3 through June 24**. Delilah will be available for children to practice their reading, offering a fun option for children each week.



Craft & Paint sessions are planned for Wednesdays beginning **May 28 at 1 p.m. through June 25**. A wide variety of projects are planned! Registration is preferred, call (307) 334-3490.

BoardGames will be held at the library on Wednesdays beginning **July 2 through July 30 at 1 p.m.** A selection of games will be available.

Afternoon movies will be featured on Thursdays at **1 p.m.** beginning **May 29 and running through August 14**. The library provides the popcorn; please bring your own drink.



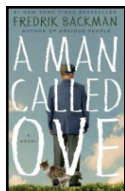
COLORADO PEACHES EXPECTED

The Niobrara County Library Foundation is now taking orders for Palisade, Colorado peaches! The 18-20 pound box is expected late this summer or early fall. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the Twenty-Five by 2025 Campaign. Contact the library at (307) 334-3490 or any foundation member to place your order.



READ & FEED BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES

A three book discussion series is planned for the summer with discussions planned for **Mondays June 9, July 7 and August 4 at noon**. *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman is scheduled for **June 9**. This is the story of a curmudgeon that hides beneath a cranky and short-tempered exterior. The young adult novel *I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives* by Caitlin Alifirenka will be featured on **July 7** and Barbara Allen Bogart's *In Place: Stories of Landscape & Identity from the American West* will be featured on **August 4**. Stop by the library to register and pick up the first book. Plan to bring your lunch and enjoy a leisurely discussion with friends. For more information stop by the library or call (307) 334-3490.



BOOK SALE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale and Ice Cream Social fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, June 28**. The Book Sale begins at **8 a.m.** and the Social at **11 a.m.** There is sure to be something for everyone! Proceeds help fund live performances, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and more!



WYOMING LIBRARY TO BUSINESS AVAILABLE

Wyoming Library to Business is a business-focused, community driven and completely free resource, based in your local library! This program is part of a national initiative by the American Library Association (ALA) intended to build capacity in libraries offering programming or services to local entrepreneurs and the small business community, prioritizing low-income and underrepresented entrepreneurs.

The goal is to connect Wyoming entrepreneurs and business owners with a curated network of business experts, resources to learn new skills, and the tools to succeed at every stage.



Tools available to check out at the library include a laptop with Microsoft Office, webcam, projector, portable foldable photo studio box, flexible tripod kit, microphone stand kit, ring light tripod, collapsible background kit and a complete podcasting station (restrictions apply).

Candid Databases are also available in the library! Patrons have free access to Candid's Foundation Directory, Grants to Individuals and Foundation Maps. LinkedIn Learning also provides free online courses!



Dates to Remember

JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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

JULY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	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		
*	*	*	*	*	*	*

AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	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

-  **LegoTime @ the Library**
Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m. — May 27 to July 31
-  **Read with Delilah**
Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m.—June 3 to June 24
-  **Summer Crafts & Paints for Kids**
Color Our World
Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. — May 28 to June 25
-  **Afternoon Movies @ the Library**
Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. — May 29 to August 14
-  **BoardGames @ the Library**
Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m. — July 2 to July 30

SPECIAL EVENTS @ THE LIBRARY

- Aaron Fowler—Music, Stories & More!**
Tuesday, June 3 — 1:00 p.m.
- Read & Feed @ the Library**
Monday, June 9, July 7 & August 4—Noon
- Comic Workshop with Do Art Productions**
Thursday, June 12 — 1-3 p.m.
- Draw with Barb @ the Library**
Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m. — June 18, July 16 & August 6
- Friends of the Library Alumni Activities**
Saturday, June 28—Book Sale/Ice Cream, 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- Sean Gaskell with Music of the West African Kora**
Wednesday, July 9 — 1 p.m.
- Mr. Kneel, Hawaiian Mele**
Tuesday, July 15 — 2 p.m.
- Rough & Tumble & Honey Badgers in Concert**
Thursday, July 17 — 6 p.m. at the Congregational Church
- Meghan Casey & Rocky Mountain Puppets**
Tuesday, July 22 — 1 p.m.
- Ann Lincoln Entertainment: Foam Party @ the Library**
Tuesday, August 5 — 6:00 p.m.
- Lucas Keeler presents Whoopup Canyon**
Wednesday, August 13 — 6:00 p.m.

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

Holiday Closures

Memorial Day — Monday, May 26
Independence Day — Friday, July 4

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday Noon to 7 p.m. & Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.





Non Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Lusk, WY
Permit No. 28

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

Postal Patron



STOP BY THE LIBRARY AND CHECK THESE OUT!

1000 Books Plus Before Kindergarten! For every 100 library books your child reads before they start kindergarten they can select a hardback book for their very own! We are happy to extend this program beyond 1000 Books to children in Kindergarten.

I Can Read! This program is similar to the *1000 Books Plus Before Kindergarten* except it is geared towards helping your reluctant reader gain ground! Also suitable for children who need a little help jumpstarting to the next reading level. For every 25 library books that your child reads (and writes) they can select a book for their own! The Niobrara County Library Foundation provides the books for both programs!

STORYHOUR AVAILABLE WEEKLY

Join Miss Tina on **Tuesdays** throughout the year for Children's Storyhour! Preschool-aged children will enjoy stories, activities, puzzles and the opportunity to socialize with other children. Storyhour is held from **10 to 11 a.m.**



Summer Reading @ the Library

READ – READ – READ

All Summer Long!!!

Register & start reading the week of May 19!

First tracking week ends May 30 and the last tracking day is Friday, August 1!

☀️ Set a weekly **READING GOAL!**

☀️ Check out your **LIBRARY** books!

☀️ **READ** the books!

☀️ **RETURN** the books to the library!

☀️ Tracking week ends each **FRIDAY!**

(books can be turned in any day of the week)

We'll track your library books **AND** when you've met your goal for **TWO** weeks, we'll give you a certificate for swimming or a treat!

Drawing for **Extra Special Prizes** if you participate all summer!



NIOBARRA COUNTY LIBRARY

In Partnership with the Tiger Plunge,
Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation

Niobrara County Library – 425 S. Main St. – Lusk, WY – (307) 334-3490



AARON FOWLER IN CONCERT

On **Tuesday, June 3 at 1 p.m.** join Aaron Fowler and his classroom therapy dog Kuumba in an exciting program of music and stories, and a little bit of dancing that is sure to brighten your day and lift your spirits. There will be plenty of dog kisses and petting for those that want to greet Kuumba! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

COMIC WORKSHOP WITH DO ART PRODUCTIONS

Explore the different languages of comics, from the eyes, to body posture, to the actual language within speech bubbles on **Thursday, June 12 from 1-3 p.m.** with Jerry & Chet of Do Art Productions. The workshop is interactive and creative with tricks and turns – and, after seeing how easy cartooning and creative expression can be, a group comic will be created with characters and creativity of the first half of the program!



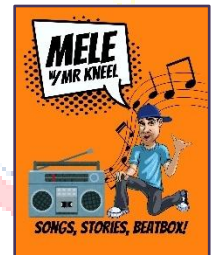
MUSIC OF THE WEST AFRICAN KORA



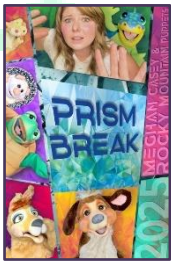
Sean Gaskell features songs on the kora -- a 21 stringed West African harp on **Wednesday, July 9 at 1 p.m.** The kora is traditionally played by oral historians known as Griots. Many songs featured on the kora preserve an 800-year history dating back to the founding of the Mande empire. This musical program is suitable for all ages and you may even have the opportunity to try the instrument out!

HAWAIIAN MELE WITH MR. KNEEL

Mele is the Hawaiian word for song, and it is also the summer theme at Hawaiian Libraries. Mele not only means song, but also poetry and happiness! Plan for lots of fun sharing songs, rhyming words, and happiness with Mr. Kneel on **Tuesday, July 15 at 2 p.m.** Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN PUPPETS – PRISM BREAK



The Friends of the Library present Meghan Casey and Rocky Mountain Puppets on **Tuesday, July 22 at 1 p.m.** with “Prism Break!” Meghan and her friends stumbled across a seemingly normal kaleidoscope, or so they thought... they soon realized that a single twist has the power to transport them to alternate dimensions. The excitement of this discovery quickly turned into desperation after the kaleidoscope shattered trapping them in one of the unfamiliar dimensions. As they struggle to repair the broken prisms on the kaleidoscope, they must navigate the fractured reality they’re in to find their way back home. Fun for everyone!

FOAM PARTY

A FOAM Party returns to the library on **Tuesday, August 5 from 6 – 7 p.m.** This unique entertainment concept is very popular and it’s clean, fresh, biodegradable and guaranteed to bring sheer joy to children! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library!

