

Wyoming Library Boards **NEWS to USE**

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Local governments lose nearly a half million jobs

Local governments anticipate losing 481,000 positions – 8.6% of the workforce – in this fiscal year and the next, according to a new report from the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The report states: “Many local governments are also making personnel cuts in library services, resulting in closures, reduced hours and cuts in programs. Libraries often serve as centers for job searches for residents without access to computers and the Internet, or provide afterschool programs.

The State Library does an annual survey of library budgets. The FY11 report is still pending but comments already submitted show Wyoming libraries instituting hiring freezes, eliminating open positions and reducing hours, although there appear to be few layoffs. When complete, the full budget report will be posted on the WSL statistics page at <http://will.state.wy.us/statistics/>. More detail also in an upcoming issue of [*The Outrider*](#).

Fifteen county libraries participating in Snapshot Day

So far, 15 Wyoming county libraries have signed up for Wyoming Snapshot Day, and three other library systems have at least one branch participating. Snapshot Day is a new event designed to gather stories, statistics, photos and even video showing the impact Wyoming libraries have in just a single day. It’s a great tool for advocacy and a fun way to highlight our libraries. Is your library participating? Learn more at <http://wyomingsnapshot.weebly.com/> or follow the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/wyomingsnapshot.

Library endowment nearing incentive \$2.3 million goal

When Wyoming’s libraries collectively raise \$2.3 million toward the Wyoming Library Endowment Challenge, each library will receive an additional \$100,000 in incentive funding. The goal is only \$200,000 away, and it appears that the libraries may have enough in pledges and money on hand to reach this milestone. (Not all pledge and cash on hand amounts are confirmed.) Keep track of the endowment challenge progress at www.wyla.org/endowment/.

WebJunction webinar Sept. 14 on rural library trusteeship

On September 14 at noon, Webjunction is offering a free webinar: [The Rural Library Trustee: Roles, Responsibilities and Relationships](#). How do library trustees get trained? How are director and trustee roles defined to ensure a healthy library organization? How are trustee relationships cultivated both in and outside the library circle? This webinar will provide you with practical ideas and tactical strategies to support and advocate for your library organization as a trustee, or library director in a small or rural community. This webinar is brought to you by the Association of Rural and Small Libraries and features presenters Sally Gardner Reed, Executive Director ALTAFF (Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations); Kim Armentrout, Library of Virginia; and Jim Minges, Director of the Northeast Kansas Library System. Register here: <http://evanced.info/webjunction/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

Community partnership resources from State Library collection

Last month's *News to Use* described how Fremont County Library successfully secured a grant, in part due to community partnerships. If you are interested in developing more partnerships, you might try these selections from the Wyoming State Library's professional collection, published by the American Library Association:

- [Inside, outside, and online : building your library community](#) / Chrystie Hill ; foreword by Steven Cohen. Chicago : American Library Association, 2009. Whatever your role, and whatever size or type of library, the principles outlined here can support anyone working to build a strong community of engaged, interested, and satisfied library users.
- [Librarians as community partners : an outreach handbook](#) / edited by Carol Smallwood. Chicago : American Library Association, 2010. Including 66 focused snapshots of outreach in action, this resource reflects the creative solutions of librarians searching for new and innovative ways to build programs that meet customer needs while expanding the library's scope into the community.

Books from the State Library's professional development collection may be ordered through interlibrary loan. Questions, requests for assistance or purchase recommendations may be directed to Susan Mark, smark@wyo.gov, 307-777-5915.

<p>This News to Use newsletter is sent to the Wyoming county library directors for distribution to their library board members. Individuals interested in viewing this can bookmark http://will.state.wy.us/slpub/boards/index.html. Comments on the content of this publication or contributions to share with other library board members can be sent to Jamie Markus at jmarku@wyo.gov or Susan Mark at smark@wyo.gov.</p>
