Big Adventures Begin at the Library

Inside:
- Reading Recommendations
- Pandemic Poetry and Prose
- Upcoming Programs

It’s a summer to Be Mind Full!
Dear Friends

Feathers filled the flower box in a heap: still and soft, then rippling as evening slid into nighttime and the tawny great-horned owl shifted. She turned her head, and her round, yellow eyes pierced the infrared camera. She moved a wing, and three small white puffs wobbled at her side. Owlets. Then she shot from the nest into the night.

My two sisters and I watched on our computer screens, spellbound. It was the first week of May; we’d each been isolated in our respective homes for nearly two months, close with our own broods and broodings, far from each other. But we all turned our eyes to the same nest, so implausibly made in a planter in an urban neighborhood we did not know. Someone had placed a camera on the nest and shared the webcam online.

It became another world to inhabit, quiet and contained and also complex, a focus for our skittish minds at night. We opened our laptops and through that invisible network connected to the nest, watching raptly as the owl flew off into darkness and returned with a rabbit to feed her young, as the male owl dropped in with a mouse.

The nest held those owls for weeks, tucked among woodchips, potting soil, and feathers, alongside bits of bone and broken shells. We watched and felt the heft of wings pushing into air. So many stories woven into that small place. So many mysteries between the nest and the night.

Throughout this spring and summer, we have pined for ways to traverse unexpected distances between ourselves and others. I watched owls with my sisters online. And I read, and read, and read.

The owls fledged. I continue to read into the night – the sounds of my neighborhood galloping in ranchera music on a stereo, children laughing on a trampoline, magpies squawking in the branches of a spruce. Evening slips into darkness and stories swirl around me. An owl hoots in the distance.

Sincerely,

Jenny Emery Davidson, Ph.D.
Executive Director

The Community Library
415 Spruce Avenue N
PO Box 2168
Ketchum, ID 83340
208.726.3493
www.comlib.org

• Temporary Hours:
  Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Regular Hours:
Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Donation Hours:
Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Gold Mine Thrift
331 Walnut Avenue
PO Box 2168
Ketchum, ID 83340
208.726.3465

• Temporary Hours:
  Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
  Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Regular Hours:
Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Donation Hours:
Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Gold Mine Consign
591 Fourth Street
PO Box 2168
Ketchum, ID 83340
208.726.5544

• Temporary Hours:
  Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
  Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Regular Hours:
Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Consignment Hours:
By appointment only

Museum
180 First Avenue E
PO Box 2168
Ketchum, ID 83340
208.726.8118

Hours:
Wednesday-Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

When you visit:
• Wear a mask
• Follow CDC guidelines for cleaning hands
• Maintain physical distance
• Visit for 45 minutes or less
• Keep children at your side or in your arms
• Bring your library card and use the self-check-out

* Check our website for updates to operating hours as we manage COVID-19 mitigations.
Read Idaho

an eclectic and incomplete list for exploring the rocks, desert, hearts, rivers, loners, rabble-rousers, flowers, flaws, secrets, and soul of the state

Angle of Repose
by Wallace Stegner (novel)

The Big Burn
by Timothy Egan (history)

Big Trouble
by J. Anthony Lukas (history)

Bitterbrush Country: Living on the Edge of the Land
by Diane Josephy Peavey (essays)

Bloodlines: Odyssey of a Native Daughter
by Janet Campbell Hale (essays)

Educated
by Tara Westover (memoir)

The Enders Hotel
by Brandon Schrand (memoir)

Exploring Sun Valley: A Comprehensive Guide
by Matt Leidecker (guidebook)

Forged in Fire: Essays by Idaho Writers
by Mary Clearman Blew and Phil Druker, eds. (essays)

A History of Indians in the Sun Valley Area
by Tony Evans (history)

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet
by Jamie Ford (novel)

Housekeeping
by Marilynne Robinson (novel)

Idaho
by Emily Ruskovich (novel)

Idaho Loners: Hermits, Solitaries, and Individualists
by Cort Conley (essays)

Idaho’s Place: A New History of the Gem State
by Adam Sowards, ed. (essays)

The Idaho Stories and Far West Illustrations
by Mary Hallock Foote (stories)

The Idaho Traveler
by Alan Minskoff (guidebook)

Idaho Wilderness Considered
by Jenny Emery Davidson and Murray Feldman, eds. (essays)

In the Wilderness: Coming of Age in Unknown Country
by Kim Barnes (memoir)

Indian Creek Chronicles
by Pete Fromm (memoir)

Killer Summer and Killer View
by Ridley Pearson (mysteries)

Matthew Barney: Redoubt
by Matthew Barney et al (art and essays)

Miss Lost Nation
by Bethany Schultz Hurst (poetry)

Moonshadows and the Nellie Burns Mysteries
by Julie Weston (mysteries)

River Religion
by William Studebaker (poetry)

Roadside Geology of Idaho
by David D. Alt (guidebook)

Set for Life
by Judith Freeman (novel)

Thousand Pieces of Gold
by Ruthanne Lum McCunn (novel)

Trails of the Sawtooth and White Cloud Mountains
by Margaret Fuller (guidebook)

Train Dreams
by Denis Johnson (novella)

Traplines: Coming Home to Sawtooth Valley
by John Remer (memoir)

We Sagebrush Folks
by Annie Pike Greenwood (memoir)
New this year, children can keep the books! Through the Seedlings Program, children keep the books they pick up from the Bookmobile and grow their own book collection – encouraging a lifetime of literacy!

Bloom Bookmobile Schedule • June 29 - August 14

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<th>Monday &amp; Wednesday:</th>
<th>Tuesday &amp; Thursday:</th>
<th>Friday:</th>
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<tr>
<td>CAREY FAIRGROUNDS</td>
<td>THE MEADOWS, SOCCER FIELD,</td>
<td>KIWANIS PARK (BALMORAL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAREY - 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>KETCHUM - 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>HAILEY - 11:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BELLEVUE CITY PARK</td>
<td>HEMINGWAY STEAM SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>BELLEVUE - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>KETCHUM - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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- All participants who read, are read to, or listen to books, and report 500 minutes/100 pages or more, earn a $10 voucher to Iconoclast Books or Chapter One Bookstore.
- Everybody is eligible for raffle prizes. The more students read, the chances of winning one of the top prizes increases. Prizes include a set of Air Pods or $100 cash for teens, and a Kindle Fire, a bicycle or a $100 Toy Store gift card for kids.
- The prize drawing will be held on August 3 and students need not be present to win.

Teens and kids who are interested in participating can register online on the teen page, www.comlib.org/young-adult-summer-reading-program or the kids page, www.comlib.org/kids-summer-reading-program or call 208-726-3493. No in-person registration this summer.

Scores of kids throughout Blaine County eagerly await the return of the Bloom Bookmobile each summer. This collaboration between The Hunger Coalition and The Community Library brings healthy lunches, books, and activities from Carey to Ketchum.

Teen summer interns, Lupe Hurtado, Elisabeth Ruiz Loera and Lily Pogue, and librarians DeAnn Campbell, Helen Morgus and Judy Zimmer prepare activities and books to give away.
The Library invites students in grades 6 - 12 to join a corps of book reviewers - they even get paid!
Check out Book Beat online to read more reviews and learn how to participate. https://www.comlib.org/book-beat/

Hi, my name is Rya. I am in middle school and I enjoy reading, writing, swimming, and backpacking. For my Book Beat review, I read Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O’Dell.

Quentin “Q” Jacobsen figures that everyone gets a miracle. If you consider all of the unlikely possibilities, it’s not much of a stretch to suppose that at least one should happen to every person. But Q’s miracle is not winning a Nobel Prize or surviving a lightning strike. His miracle is living next to Margo Roth Spiegelman.

Q is comfortable watching Margo from afar – until the night she crawls into his bedroom at midnight, recruiting him as a getaway driver in an elaborate, eleven-part plot of revenge. When the day breaks and Q returns to high school, Margo has disappeared – and apparently left behind a trail of clues for him to follow.

Written with incredible attention to detail, Quentin looks for Margo, and the more he finds, the less he sees of the girl he thought he knew. Just when it seems that the trail has gone cold, another thread appears, weaving a net of paths she could have disappeared to, to get away from the picture-perfect town that they live in.

John Green probes the foundation of what life is like today: every day lived for the next. For Quentin, it has all been simple: the monotonous routine, the pleasant identical-ness. For Margo, it has been all about having more, knowing more, being more than just a paper girl in a paper town.

Through a winding mystery, each finds parts of the other that neither of them knew before, a path to discovery that’s ultimately very human.
In celebration of National Poetry Month in April, the Library invited our community to read, write, and share poetry with one another. Each week we posted a prompt and invited you to write a poem—from acrostics and haikus to limericks and couplets. Your poems about community, COVID-19, springtime, the Gold Mine, and Earth Day inspired us and proved that we can all find solace in words.

Flowing creeks.
Unsnowy peaks.
Sunny skies. Long days.

by Cory Bryant

I used to remember everyone’s #
Whenever I needed a friend,
I would just pick up the phone and
For hours, we’d talk, laugh, wonder, imagine
Now I barely know any by heart, but
I still deeply have the need to reach out to
Them all to make that connection,
to feel that intimacy,
The bond of friendship, from home to home,
abloom
Enduring all things...regardless of my memory.

by Sara Pettit

Geese fly north to nest
Wetlands are briefly quiet
Till spring bursts with life

by Leslie Wyss

Under these dark times
Light will come to release us
As spring days are here

by Daniel Velasco

Long winter’s embrace
Holding tight not letting go
Oh look the sun rises

by Nick Ward

There once was a book tucked away
And in it a torn envelope lay
It spoke of metallic trout,
I almost gave a shout
When tightly looped it was signed Hemingway!

by Colleen Clark and Ted Bost

There once was a queen who loved shopping
Mainly when prices were dropping
She’d not waste her time
Nor give up a dime
At the Gold Mine she always was stopping.

by Lara Spencer

There once was a store quite unique
Whose donations the world came to seek
All types came to shop
It became a “MUST” stop
To find treasures they wanted to keep!

by Molly! Goodyear

Snow melts — the birds sing
It is a glorious thing
This year’s Ketchum spring.

by Barry Traub

To read all of the poems submitted, visit comlib.org/your-poems-2020/
The Return

By Pam Parker, Circulation Manager

Shortly after 9 a.m., I enter the back door of The Community Library. It is Monday, April 20, 2020. This is my return to a building where I’ve worked for nearly 10 years, but where I have not entered for 31 days due to a statewide shelter-in-place order to slow the spread of COVID-19. After daily online planning meetings and hundreds of re-routed phone calls fielded from my kitchen table, I am finally back in the Library to ponder and prepare for the reopening of our on-site operations.

I make my way to the circulation desk in semi-darkness. A banded newspaper in my path dated nearly a month ago serves as a vivid reminder of our hurried exit four weeks previously. On any other Monday, the usual players would already be going about their jobs in administration. A press release, a grant deadline, tonight’s program details, an all-staff meeting in the works—typically, the routines of a busy cultural institution are lively at the start of each week. But today I enter to an eerie stillness.

I flip on the lights in the book-return room and see a landslide of books, DVDs, two guitar cases, and several large trash bags full of book donations—all untouched since March 19, right before the Library building closed. There they waited, while we all worked from home, helped patrons over the phone with digital resources, and researched how best to handle library materials in the midst of a pandemic.

I draw a deep breath through my cloth mask and sigh heavily. It’s time to tackle these returns.

Books are piled to the brim of the return bins and others stand on end where we left them mid-processing on March 19. Only the janitorial crew and Jenny, our director, remained behind that final night. She was in her office tapping furiously on her keyboard as dusk was setting.

“Beware the Ides of March,” penned Shakespeare more than four hundred years ago. This March lived up to the warning and cast a shadow of uncertainty upon Ketchum and communities around the world. Headlines flashing across smart phones stiffened our bodies. Names of those rumored to be ill floated across texts. Now, as furiously as it came to town, it has seemed to recede, and our community, like so many others, is re-opening, with new protocols in place to keep COVID-19 at bay.

And here I stand among hundreds of unattended library returns contemplating our return.

The first hour, I labor nonstop, breathing heavily through the cloth face mask and breaking a sweat. The books I wrangle are stacked on two, three, then four, then—oh, my!–five carts. As I work, I notice books I’ve read. Books I haven’t. Books I’ve meant to. Names of authors I admire. Authors I refuse to like. What the community has been reading during the pandemic is a microcosm of our normal reading habits, with both heady and fluffy reads all mashed up, and with flashes of doomsday mixed in.

Mary Oliver, Kirk Wallace Johnson, Celeste Ng, Emily Ruskovich, Neil Gaiman—all have been in someone’s hand, someone’s imagination, during these days of self-isolation. A few of these authors I’ve actually met here at the Library. Others I’ve admired from afar for decades.

As I roll the fully loaded carts across the wood floor of the entry, I realize how much I’ve missed this place. I’ve missed these books like best friends with whom I’ve come to better understand myself and the human condition. I’m grateful they are still here, safe and ready to be returned to their place in the stacks where new hands and minds will reach for them again.

Back in the book return room, I lean in to grab a particularly large book still lingering in the bottom of a bin: Libraries by Candida Hofer. I pause to flip through the pages of Hofer’s inspired photographs. Each image reveals unique aspects of famous libraries, in all their beauty and diversity. Proudly, I can imagine our own small-town library fitting nicely among these photos.

Some of the libraries in the photos are centuries old, others feature ultra-modern design. It strikes me that the common thread is that they are warehouses of collective knowledge, keepers of our common experience, and places of chance encounter. I realize that I have been fascinated by libraries from a very young age. Where else could one possibly be in the midst of so many great minds?

I check the book out, and that night I read Umberto Eco’s essay “De Bibliotheca,” which serves as a lovely introduction to the photos. It’s with the passion of a devotee that Eco evokes library as place. Of all his reflections, this one stands out: “One of the misunderstandings that dominates the concept of libraries is that you go into one to look for a book whose title you already know [...] but the principle function of the library [...] is to discover books whose existence we never suspected, only to discover that they are of extreme importance to us.”

I close the book and sit for a moment considering how lucky we are to have a great library in Ketchum, where such chance encounters and serendipitous finds can happen.

What becomes very apparent to me on this day of return is that this place is larger than any one of us. Countless voices have filled the Lecture Hall. Many curious visitors have strolled these densely-filled stacks. Thousands of patrons have counted on it to feed their intellectual hunger through the decades. Surely, this virus cannot destroy the arc of connections that is a library.

And so, I return to the sorting of more returns, and I am glad that the task goes on and on.
Sarah Sentilles recommends Five Radical Reads

“I’ve reread these books more than any others; I return to them when I need to remember it’s possible to remake the world.”

Beloved by Toni Morrison
Blindness by José Saramago
Precarious Life: The Powers of Mourning and Violence by Judith Butler
A Black Theology of Liberation by James Cone
Vibrant Matter: A Political Ecology of Things by Jane Bennett

Brady Udall recommends Five Literary Reads

“These stories are wonderful, strange, joyful, and wildly endearing. Some will keep you guessing throughout, and others are beautiful explorations of the worlds below our feet.”

Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead by Olga Tokarczuk
Virgil Wander by Leif Enger
The Roxy Letters by Mary Pauline Lowry
Underland by Robert MacFarlane
The Crow-Girl by Bodil Bredsdorff

Cathy Butterfield, Collections Manager, recommends Readings on Race

Life-changing current events in the news cycle charge us to consider our relations with our neighbors, friends, and even strangers. The Community Library has hundreds of volumes on the subjects of race relations, inequality, inequity, and white supremacy, though all too many are written from the platform of the privileged in society. This recommended reading list highlights works by people of color, some speaking from the past about the roots of racism, and some speaking in the now. Some of these titles have been in our library for years, but have been checked out only a handful of times. They beg to be checked out now.

Behold the Dreamers: A Novel by Imobolo Mbue
The Devil’s Highway: A True Story by Luis Alberto Urrea
Each Tiny Spark by Pablo Cartaya
The Good Immigrant: 26 writers reflect on America edited by Nikesh Shukla and Chimene Suleyman
Heads of the Colored People: Stories by Nafissa Thompson-Spires
How to Love a Country: poems by Richard Blanco

Sarah Sentilles is a writer, teacher, critical theorist, and scholar of religion living in Hailey. She is the author of Draw Your Weapons, which won the 2018 PEN Award for Creative Nonfiction, and the co-founder of the Alliance of Idaho, which works to protect the basic human rights of immigrants through education and advocacy.

Brady Udall is a fiction writer and professor of creative writing at Boise State University. He is the author of Letting Loose the Hounds, The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint, and The Lonely Polygamist. In January 2020 he was the Library’s Hemingway Writer-in-Residence.

Olympic Pride, American Prejudice: The Untold Story of 18 African-Americans Who Defied Jim Crow and Adolf Hitler to Compete in the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Deborah Riley Draper and Travis Thrasher
The Tradition by Jericho Brown
When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele
Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America by James Allen

* To view these programs and many others, please visit our Events Livestream Archive at comlib.org/events-archive.
Both stores have won Gold in the Best of the Valley survey conducted online each spring by the Idaho Mountain Express newspaper and voted on by community members. The Gold Mine has won this honor for many years in a row, but this is the first year ever that this distinction has been given to the Gold Mine Consign. 

Supporting the Library’s operations for 65 years!
Librarian Aly Wepplo recommends a few of her favorite digital offerings:

**Axis 360 – eBooks and Audiobooks**
The Splendid and the Vile paints the portrait of Winston Churchill, his family, and the people of Britain over the course of a year during WWII. This book is from Erik Larson, author of The Devil in the White City and Dead Wake.

**RBdigital - Audiobooks and Magazines**
Check out National Geographic Magazine for access to the latest news in science, exploration, and culture.

**Overdrive – Audiobooks and eBooks**
Dark Matter, by Blake Crouch, is a fun, fast-paced thriller about a man who discovers inter-dimensional travel, only to be kidnapped by another version of himself and forced to fight his way back home.

**Kanopy – Movie Streaming service**
I Am Not Your Negro is an Oscar-nominated documentary based on the life and work of James Baldwin, author of If Beale Street Could Talk. Full of incredible archival photographs and video, this film explores the history of racism in America.

*If you need help accessing any of these services, just talk to a librarian to get you set up.*

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**Digital Resources**

**Learn a language with Pronunciator or research products through Consumer Reports**
comlib.org/digital-services

**Check out “Hemingway in Idaho’s High Desert” audio walking tour**
travelstorys.com

**Download an eBook or an audiobook - Axis 360, RB Digital & Overdrive**
comlib.org/digital-services

**Acquire a new tech skill with Lynda.com**
comlib.org/digital-services

**Stream a movie with Kanopy**
comlib.kanopy.com

**View 1000s of historical photos**
comlib.org/regional-history-historical-photograph-collection

**Listen to the Hemingway House Sessions**
comlib.org/hemingway-house-sessions
Upcoming Programs

**July 9**
Annual Judith and Marshall Meyer Lecture on China
with Dr. Chang-Tai Hsieh, The University of Chicago

**July 16**
Annual Hemingway Distinguished Lecture
with Richard Blanco, Award-Winning Poet

**July 21**
Hemingway’s Sun Valley:
Local Stories Behind His Code, Characters, and Crisis
with Phil Huss, Local Author

**July 26**
Beethoven: Anguish and Triumph
with Jan Swafford, in partnership with the Sun Valley Music Festival

**August 25-27**
Lectures and Conversations on the West
with Charles Wilkinson, University of Colorado Professor Emeritus

**September 1**
The Wrong Kind of Women
with Naomi McDougall Jones, Actress and Activist

**September 17-19**
Annual Ernest Hemingway Seminar

**September 24**
An Evening with Hisham Matar, Award-Winning Author of The Return

**December 10**
An Evening with Valeria Luiselli, Award-Winning Author of Lost Children Archive

Summer and Fall Highlights

Please visit www.comlib.org for the most up-to-date information on each program.

Classes and Workshops

**July 12-13**
Poetry Workshop for Students and Educators
with Richard Blanco

**Wedgesdays through July 15**
Drop-In Poetry Discussions (Zoom)

**Wedgesdays through July 29**
Memoir and Autobiography Writing Workshop (Zoom)

**Tuesdays through September 1**
Drop-In Lunchtime Writing Workshop (Zoom)

Programs in the John A. and Carole O. Moran Lecture Hall may have limited attendance to allow for social distancing, and pre-registration may be required. Some programs are planned as virtual, and others may become virtual as their date nears.
“. . . we’ve all cupped seashells to our ears. Listen again to the echo – the sea still telling us the end to our doubts and fears is to gaze into the lucid blues of our shared horizon, breathe together, heal together.”

- Richard Blanco, “Matters of the Sea / Cosas del mar”

Blanco will deliver the Hemingway Distinguished Lecture on July 16.