



More beetles, fewer fires?

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin say large forest fires in beetle-killed forests may not occur with greater severity and may be less likely to burn than a green forest. This is because green needles contain high levels of flammable volatile oils. When the needles die, those oils break down. When the needles fall off and decompose, fire loses needed kindling. Just as you can't start a fire with large logs and no kindling, wildfires can't ignite and spread in a forest of dead tree trunks and low needle litter. — Courtesy of the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens, www.botanic.org

Winter farmers' market

Locally raised beef, bison, lamb, along with free-range turkey and chicken, as well as winter vegetables, baked goods and more. Jan. 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the former Union Pacific Depot, 121 West 15th St. 649-2430.

Get noticed

Publicize your event by sending it to us at the Wyoming Tribune Eagle. All notices should be submitted at least five days prior to your event, preferably two to three weeks. Send your information to: todo@wyomingnews.com

Play Time: Toys from the Museum Collection – Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Features toys dating from the 1860s to the 1950s, including outdoor games, dolls, kits, puzzles, board games and cards. Free for children 12 and under, \$1 for youth 13-18 and \$1.50 for adults 19 and older. Fort Caspar Museum, 4001 Fort Caspar Road, Casper. Call 307-235-8462.

Cheyenne Capital Chorale – Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Cheyenne Capital Chorale is looking for adult singers to join for the 60th anniversary season. The group is non-auditioned, volunteer. Janet Lewis, 256-8078 or www.cheyennecapital-chorale.org

Tumbling – Tiny tots – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:50-10:20 a.m. Parent and child play time with movement exploration. For 1-year-olds. \$40 for members, \$60 for non-members. Cheyenne Family YMCA, 1426 E. Lincolnway. 634-9622 or www.cheyennemymca.org

Tumbling Tykes – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30-11 a.m. Self-movement exploration taught in a fun environment. For 2-year-olds. \$40 for members, \$60 for non-members. Cheyenne Family YMCA, 1426 E. Lincolnway. 634-9622 or www.cheyennemymca.org

Tumble Weeds – Saturdays, 10-11 a.m. Learn tumbling skills, rollovers and body movement. For 3-year-olds. Free for members, \$70 for non-members. Cheyenne Family YMCA, 1426 E. Lincolnway. 634-9622 or www.cheyennemymca.org

Denver Zoo Lights – Through Sunday, 5-9 p.m. \$8 for adults ages 12-64, \$6 for seniors 65 and older, \$4 for children ages 3-11, children 2 and under are free. Denver Zoo, 2300 Steele St. 303-376-4800, www.denverzoo.org

Blossoms of Lights – Through Sunday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. \$9.50 for adults, \$7.50 students and seniors, children 4 to 12 years old \$6.50, free for children 3 and younger. Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St., Denver. 720-865-3500, www.botanicgardens.org

Trail of Lights – Through Sunday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Admission, \$9.50 adults, \$7.50 students, seniors 65 and older, \$6.50 child ages 4-12, \$4.50 child member, free for children 3 and under. Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield, 8500 Deer Creek Canyon Road, Littleton, Colo. (303) 973-3705

Ft. Laramie Christmas Bird Count – Sunday, 7:30 a.m. Members of the Cheyenne – High Plains Audubon Society will be counting birds for the annual Guernsey – Ft. Laramie Christmas Bird Count. Anyone interested in accompanying the group for all or part of the daylong field trip is welcome. Participants will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens parking lot and need to bring lunch, water, binoculars, spotting scope if you have one, and warm clothes and boots. Grayrocks Reservoir, Guernsey State Park, Ft. Laramie National Historic Site, the Oregon Trail Ruts and historic Hartville are on the itinerary. To sign up for the all or part of the trip, please contact Greg Johnson, 634-1056, gjohnson@west-inc.com, or Mark Gorges, 634-0463, mgorges@juno.com.

Third Annual Multimedia Art Exhibit – Tuesday through Feb. 11 Features young artists from the Boys and Girls Club of Cheyenne. Reception is Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Tales Together – Tuesday, 10:15 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions. 18 months-3 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561,

Family & kids

www.lclsonline.org

Free! Stories on my own – Tuesday, 10:15 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions for children only. 3-5 years, Sage Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Home Pages – Tuesday, 2 p.m. Join discussion and activities just for homeschooling families. Ages 5-8, Sage Room, second floor. Registration required; call 634-3561 or visit the library. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Science: Beaks & Tools – Tuesday, 4 p.m. For elementary-aged children, play a game to learn how different tools function similar to different types of bird beaks and discover how each type of beak is adapted to feed on specific food. \$1 per child. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Free! UnPlugged! Board Gaming – Tuesday, 6 p.m. Join fellow enthusiasts for a fun evening playing award-winning board games and some old favorites. Adults, Cottonwood Room, first floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! What's your opinion? – Tuesday, 7 p.m. Read a new and upcoming book (and some that haven't even been released), share your opinion of it, and write a review for other teens. Pick up a book at the Teen Desk. Grades 7-12, Teen Lounge, second floor. Registration required; call 634-3561 or visit the library. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Children's Storytime – Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions. 18 months to 5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Computer training: using a mouse – Wednesday, 2 p.m. Library staff will provide introductory training. We invite you to this 90-minute hands-on basic session. Registration is required; call 634-3561 or visit the library. Adults, Computer Classroom, third floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Art: Animation Flip Books – Wednesday, 4 p.m. For elementary-aged children, learn about animation and create your own cartoon in a flip book. \$5 per child. Call 637-6349 to register. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. www.botanic.org

Free! Daycare Storytime – Thursday, 10:15 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions just for daycares. 18 months-5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Evening Storytime – Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions, perfect for working parents. Birth-5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Baby Lapsit – Friday, 10:15 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions. Birth-18 months, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Storytime and Craft – Friday, 11 a.m. For pre-school aged children, stories and crafts are based on a weekly theme. \$1 per child. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Gardening Class – Friday, 4 p.m. For children of all ages, this class introduces concepts of soil, water, plants, insects, ecology and the environment as they relate to gardening in Cheyenne through fun hands-on activities. Children under 6 must be assisted by an adult. \$1 per child. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Campfire and Cocoa – Jan. 8, 1 p.m. Stop by the Children's Village to warm up during a winter afternoon. A campfire and hot cocoa will be available for your enjoyment. \$1 per child. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Pet Adoptions – Jan. 8, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sierra Trading Post, 5025 Campstool Rd. 632-6655 ext. 28

Free! Computer training: key-boarding – Jan. 8, 10:15 a.m. Library staff will provide introductory training. We invite you to this 90-minute hands-on basic session. Registration is required; call 634-3561 or visit the library. Adults, Computer Classroom, third floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Saturday Storytime – Jan. 8, 11 a.m. Enjoy weekend storytimes, great for busy families. Birth-5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Open Video Gaming – Jan. 8, 4 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of Wii, Xbox 360, Rock Band and more at this come and go session. We'll have snacks to keep you going! Grades 7-12, Teen Lounge, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Get ready for the science fair – Jan. 9, 2 p.m. Join educator Tom Farrell in this entertaining and informative session on how to start, make and present amazing science fair projects. A great opportunity for students! Grades 4-6 & parents, Cottonwood Room, first floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

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amazing science fair projects. A great opportunity for students! Grades 4-6 & parents, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Science: Wyoming Wildlife – Jan. 11, 4 p.m. Come learn about Wyoming wildlife, their habitats, and what lives in this area. Get a hands-on look at a display of skulls and furs on loan from the Laramie County Conservation District. See for yourself how long a beaver's teeth are and how soft a red fox's fur is. \$1 per child. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Free! Wyoming Wildlife Exhibit – Jan. 12, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Through the month of January, a display of skulls and furs from Wyoming wildlife is on loan from the Laramie County Conservation District. Come see for yourself how long a beaver's teeth are and how soft a red fox feels. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Science: Animal Lifestyles – Jan. 12, 4 p.m. For elementary-aged children, learn about the eating and sleeping habits of different wild animals and play a fun game to practice what you've learned. \$1 per child. Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Free! Children's Storytime – Jan. 12, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions. 18 months-5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Computer training: using a computer – Jan. 12, 2 p.m. Library staff will provide introductory training. We invite you to this 90-minute hands-on basic session. Registration is required; call 634-3561 or visit the library. Adults, Computer Classroom, third floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! FAFSA information night – Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m. Going to college soon? Don't miss this! Get an overview of the complete financial aid process and programs, as well as a thorough overview of the FAFSA. A great time to get your questions answered! Grades 9-12 & parents, Cottonwood Room, first floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Daycare Storytime – Jan. 13, 10:15 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions just for daycares. 18 months-5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Art Design and Dine – Jan. 13, 5-8 p.m. Enjoy the RSVP ArtFest (and meet some artists) at the library along with exhibitions at four other downtown galleries and receive a discount at the featured restaurant with your stamped ADD flyer. Enjoy the jewelry by Debbie Stelter in the elevator display case tonight and anytime through February 11. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Jam Session – Jan. 13, 6 p.m. Bring your acoustic instruments - guitars, bongos, voices, etc. - and jam with other teens at this open, casual session. Grades 7-12, Teen Lounge, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-

3561, www.lclsonline.org

Evening Storytime – Jan. 13, 6:30 p.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions, perfect for working parents. Birth-5 years, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Baby Lapsit – Jan. 14, 10:15 a.m. Enjoy these themed storytime sessions. Birth-18 months, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Classic Conversations – Jan. 14, noon. Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra Conductor William Intrilligator will talk about the upcoming concert, "Rhapsody in Blue." Bring your own lunch, and get here early for a good seat! Adults, Cottonwood Room, first floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Storytime and Craft – Jan. 14, 11 a.m. For pre-school aged children, stories and crafts are based on a weekly theme. \$1 per child. Paul Smith Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Gardening Class – Jan. 14, 4 p.m. For children of all ages, this class introduces concepts of soil, water, plants, insects, ecology and the environment as they relate to gardening in Cheyenne through fun hands-on activities. Children under 6 must be assisted by an adult. \$1 per child. Paul Smith Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

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Free! Wyoming Wildlife Exhibit – Jan. 15, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Through the month of January, a display of skulls and furs from Wyoming wildlife is on loan from the Laramie County Conservation District. Come see for yourself how long a beaver's teeth are and how soft a red fox feels. Paul Smith Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

Campfire and Cocoa – Jan. 15, 1 p.m. Stop by the Children's Village to warm up during a winter afternoon. A campfire and hot cocoa will be available for your enjoyment. \$1 per child. Paul Smith Children's Village at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. 616 S. Lions Park Drive. 637-6349 or www.botanic.org

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Pet Adoptions – Jan. 15, noon – 4 p.m. PetCo, 1782 Dell Range Blvd. 632-6655 ext. 28.

Free! Computer training: the internet – Jan. 15, 2 p.m. Library staff will provide introductory training. We invite you to this 90-minute hands-on basic session. Registration is required; call 634-3561 or visit the library. Adults, Computer Classroom, third floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Free! Ice Cream Sunday – Jan. 16, 2 p.m. Enjoy ice cream and fun stories! Children & Families, Storytime Room, second floor. Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave. 634-3561, www.lclsonline.org

Threads: At 9, Rosenthal made a promise to himself to write books

Continued from D1

the course of the story.

"The women characters in the book are strong, smart capable ladies, of course they have weaknesses, strengths and flaws, but they're not shrinking violets – by any stretch."

Each of his characters has fears, anxieties and inner and outer conflicts.

Online

<http://reidrosenthal.com/>

"They're real people," Rosenthal said. "People identify with the characters and care about them, which is critical to a good novel. If you don't care about the characters then what's the use?"

There are eight primary charac-

ters in the first book and 38 over the total of the series.

"It's a cast of characters, as you'd expect over four generations, but none of them are related, and they're from uncommon origins, different countries, lives and different experiences," Rosenthal said.

He started writing when he was 9. His teacher insisted that he keep a journal during a family trip to the Caribbean.

This was his first time that he said he wrote descriptively.

When he returned from his trip he had to read his entries to the class.

"When I looked up, all of the kids and the teacher were just sitting there entranced, so it was an epiphany when I realized that they liked it and what written transported them."

He made a promise to himself

then and there that he would write books.

"I've been writing these books in my head for 40 years, and I'm enthralled with the West," he said. "I am proud of America and the American spirit."

"I'm fascinated with the role of the land, particularly that the Western lands played in the evolution of the country, and the spirit of the country."