



**HARTSEL LIBRARY
NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2024**

LIBRARY HOURS:

1-4 PM FRI

1-4 PM SAT

1-4 PM SUN

1-4 PM MON

Hartsel Library Friends
P.O. Box 281
Hartsel, CO 80449
Email: hartsellibrary@gmail.com
Phone: 719-836-2745

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

HARTSEL LIBRARY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

In 1999 enough interest by the people of Hartsel selected an Advisory Board to formulate a plan for the Hartsel Library. People from all over the area made it a community effort to clean out the "teacherage" and convert it into our library. Book drives were held and books came from the Guffy Library and from as far away as Washington State. Donations were to abound - lumber, furniture, shelves, and cash as well. Training was provided by the head librarian from Bailey. The grand opening was on September 25, 1999.

Since those early days, the library has continued to benefit from memorial funds donated by friends and family of the early supporters of the library and ongoing donations of books and money. Come in and peruse the scrapbooks, photos and accounts of our beginnings that are testimony to the transformation that is now our facility.

This year's library volunteers are the following: Kathy Hill, President; Lark Harvey, Vice President; Charmaine Freeny, Secretary; Lisa Konen, Treasurer; Darleen Darnell, Board Members at large; Librarians – Cassandra Brooks, Charmaine Freeny, Kathy Hill and Karen Dudnikov. We have also recruited several fill-in librarians when a substitute is needed. This trusty group serves our library during operating hours. We are always looking for willing volunteers to fill in for projects and schedules when necessary. Contact us or drop in to visit.

Our open request for donated items has met with a wonderful response, including a box of donated DVD's from someone on the east coast. We continue to expand our offerings of children's books, fiction, non-fiction, vintage books, and DVD selections. We still provide Wi Fi, computers for patron use, and printers for black and white and color copying. "Back Room Book Sale" continues during hours of operation. Children and adult hard cover books are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. All paperback books are 25¢ or 5 for \$1. Buy our new colorful book bag for \$5 and fill it up for only an additional \$1.

The Book Club group still meets at 11 a.m. the first Monday of each month following our board meeting. Come meet new friends and discuss interesting books. Participants select and read their own selection corresponding to the genre for the month and then give their report and critique. A participant for the month brings a dessert to share. Check out the schedule on our social media sources.

Our "Little Library Boxes" at Eleven Mile and Spinney Recreation area are restocked by Memorial Day. Hartsel Days Book & Bake Sale is happening this year the weekend of August 10th & 11th. T-shirt sales and financial donations will be received to bolster our scholarship fund. Come by and check out our ice cream freezer goodies.

Check us out on social media. We are always looking for ideas to benefit our community and welcome visitors. Thank you for your continued support!

Kathy Hill

LET ME COUNT THE WAYS...

The following are some ways you can support us:

- Become a Hartsel Library Friend - (form is enclosed, can be picked up at the library, or downloaded from our website.) Annual individual membership - \$5.00; Family membership - \$10.00; Business membership - \$25.00.
- City Market Community Rewards Program – (to enroll, pick up a form at the library or at any City Market or King Sooper’s Store, or on line at CityMarket.com) Each time you use your City Market/King Sooper’s card at their stores or Loaf & Jug Gas Station, a portion of your purchase is designated for the Hartsel Library – it does not affect your accumulated points. The library will receive a quarterly check but you must remember to designate **Hartsel Library Friends** as the group you want to join.
- Support our fundraisers –
 - Back Room Book Sale & T shirt sales – open during library hours 1-4 p.m.
 - Hartsel Days Book & Bake Sale
- Hartsel Library Scholarship Fund – make cash or check donation with designation for the “Scholarship Fund.” This fund is set up for applicants who are graduating high school seniors who reside in the Hartsel community and plan to attend college, community college or a trade school.
- Donation Can on the library counter – just drop in your loose change

The Hartsel Library is a non-profit 501c3, all volunteer organization. That means we totally depend on donations and fund raising throughout the year to keep our doors open. We are happy to provide documentation for any tax deductible donation.

HOW TO STAY CONNECTED WITH US

We’re on Facebook at **Hartsel Community Library**. Find our postings as to library happenings: book and bake sales, book group gatherings and community social events.

Our **Website** – visit us at hartselcommunitylibrary.org

You can **e-mail** us at hartsellibrary@gmail.com

Call us at 719-836-2745

Mailing address:

Hartsel Library Friends
P.O. Box 281
Hartsel, CO 80449

HARTSEL LIBRARY FRIENDS 2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Hartsel Library was able to fund three scholarships to deserving South Park High School seniors in May 2024. (Pictured from left to right) Caitlyn Keogh, Janene Hutcheson, and Gracy Downare received a scholarship in the amount of \$750 each. (pictured from left to right) Congratulations to these hard-working students!

A little about the recipients:

During her high school career, Gracy participated in volleyball, basketball, cheer leading, student council, Future Farmers of America, junior rodeo, and was a member of the National Honor Society. She is going to attend Dodge City Community College on a partial rodeo scholarship, majoring in agriculture production. After college, she intends to work for ranchers and/or the pro rodeo circuit.

Janene played volleyball during her sophomore year of high school and enrolled in work study her senior year while working at coffee houses in both Fairplay and Buena Vista. She comes from a family of firefighters so it was only natural for her to volunteer with the Hartsel Fire Department while in high school. She plans on attending Pikes Peak State College with a major in veterinary technology.

Caitlyn participated in volleyball, basketball, track and cheer leading during high school. She was involved in student council and was a member of the National Honor Society. In addition to being a teacher's assistant at the local middle school, she also helped coach sports for the middle school students. She has been accepted at the University of Northern Colorado where she will pursue a nursing degree.

If you would like to donate to the library's scholarship fund, you may do so by either sending your check to the library or coming in during our hours of operation. Please indicate on the check memo line "scholarship fund". Thank you for helping future Hartsel high school seniors realize their educational goals.

Charmaine Freney
Hartsel Library Secretary

HARTSEL LIBRARY EVENTS

VALENTINE'S DINNER

The library was pleased to host a community Valentine's Dinner on February 10, 2024. The Hartsel Fire Station conference room was festively decorated and served 45 guests. Our menu this year featured lemon chicken and rice with green beans, salad, dinner rolls and dessert. Attendees enjoyed their delicious home cooked meal with live music provided by Briony Kennington Hunn. She describes herself as "a folk musician who blends pop and blues sounds with her acoustic music."

There were four door prizes given out – a choice between book bags or T-shirts. The dinner was a success as our profit of \$419 will benefit the scholarship fund. We look forward to hosting this event again next year with surprises in store.

TRUNK OR TREAT

On a sunny Saturday afternoon in October, the library, along with other Hartsel businesses and community members, participated in a Trunk or Treat event for the kids of Hartsel. This was the second year this community outreach was provided, and there was a good turnout of children and adults. In addition to the usual giving of candy, treats and toys, pumpkins and supplies were provided for carving, painting, or decorating. A few fun games were also offered. It was a great way for the community to come together and have some fall fun!

VALLEY AVENUE STROLL

In early December, a community member approached the library and asked if the library would like to participate in a new event – The Valley Avenue Stroll. Of course, the library volunteers jumped in with both feet! The event was held on December 30th at dusk. Snacks, hot chocolate, and hot apple cider were provided, and Fire Chief Brian Cook made green chili. The fire department supplied and maintained burn barrels on Valley Avenue to keep those who turned out for the event warm. The hardy souls that attended had a great time visiting with one another as we said goodbye to 2023 and hello to 2024!

BUTTERSCOTCH BLONDIES

1 pkg. Yellow cake mix
1/3 sup softened butter
3 eggs
1 cup chopped pecans, toasted
1 cup butterscotch chips
1 14 oz can sweetened condensed milk
1 t. vanilla extract

Heat oven to 350°. Spray 13 x 9 pan with cooking spray.

Combine cake mix, butter and 1 egg in large bowl; beat at medium speed until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press evenly into prepared pan. Bake 15 minutes. Remove from oven; sprinkle with pecans and butterscotch chips.

Beat sweetened condensed milk, remaining 2 eggs and vanilla in small bowl. Pour evenly over chips and pecans. Bake an additional 25-30 minutes or until center is set. Cool thoroughly. Cut in bars.

Submitted by Charmaine Freeny

BOOK BAG SALES



The library is proud to offer a colorful assortment of book bags for \$5. Use them for your shopping or a special deal at the library. When you purchase a bag and pay an additional \$1, you can fill it with your choice of hard back or paperback books.

LIBRARY T SHIRT SALES

The library is proud to offer T shirts for our visitors and community. They are available in the library during open hours for \$15 each. Sizes are in Small, Medium, Large & X Large and the colors are charcoal, maroon, cobalt blue and tropical blue (pictured). The proceeds for all t shirt sales go to replenish our Scholarship fund.

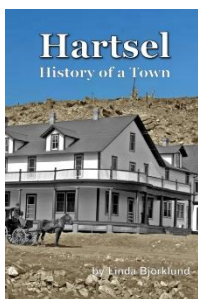


IT'S SUMMER AT THE HARTSEL LIBRARY

The freezer is stocked and waiting for you – popsicles, “Bomb Pops”, fudgesicles, ice cream bars, “Drumsticks”, Klondike bars, ice cream sandwiches and other specialty refreshers. Come in for the sweet treat of your choice (for \$1 or \$2) and help support or scholarship fund.

Money well spent!!!

PARK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONTRIBUTION



This is the new look for the republished book first written by Linda Bjorklund. Linda was a participant with the Park County Historical Society and a patron of the Hartsel Library since its inception in 1999. The republished version by Jim Sapp, is available at the library for \$10.

About the Book

Founded in 1880, Hartsel is close to the geographic center of Colorado, and is often referred to as "The Heart of Colorado". The namesake of the community is Samuel Hartsel, a local farmer and cattle rancher who came to Park County in 1860. He developed the Hartsel hot springs and built a hotel, sawmill, blacksmith shop, and a trading post to lay the groundwork for the town.

HARTSEL LIBRARY FACTS AND STATS

The Hartsel Library is entirely run on volunteers from the community; it is not connected with any governmental agency. Because of this, our funding comes solely from donations by patrons and community members and from our fundraising efforts. We are open 4 days a week during the summer and 2-3 days a week in winter. In addition to the community library on Valley Avenue, the volunteers maintain a free library box at both Eleven Mile Reservoir and Spinney Reservoir for the enjoyment of visitors and campers.

Some interesting statistics:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Volunteer librarian, board member and community member hours: | 715 |
| Volunteer hours for Hartsel Days: | 100 |
| Volunteer hours for annual newsletter (writing articles, emailing letters to patrons, printing paper copies) | 75 |
| TOTAL annual volunteer: | 890 HOURS!! |

We are **always** looking for additional librarians to help us keep the library open and running. If you're not sure about committing to a regular weekly librarian time slot, why not volunteer as a substitute?

Last year we had 689 visitors stop in the library. We had a total of 44 books and 264 DVD's checked out. As you can see by the numbers, our patrons check out a lot more DVD's than books. Because of this, the library has vastly expanded its DVD collection. We were fortunate to have a few community members donate hundreds of DVDs to us and we thank them immensely!

Last year library visitors used our computers a total of 38 hours; librarians had 73 hours of computer usage time, mainly for library emails, contacting patrons, and researching.

The library board meets the first Monday of every month at 10:00 a.m. and we welcome everyone. Our book group meets immediately following the board meeting, usually at about 11:00 a.m. Our book group format is such that we have a different genre every month and members are free to pick a book of their choice in that genre. Discussion is had on each member's book choice at the group meeting. Dessert is provided. Everyone and anyone is welcome to join the group. We love to see new faces!

Stop by and see what the little Hartsel Community Library has to offer! We are open from 1pm-4pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday during the summer and from 1pm – 4pm Friday, Saturday and Sunday during fall through spring. Hope to see you soon!!

Visit our Book and Bake Sale at Hartsel Days August 10th and 11th!!

Charmaine Freeny
Hartsel Library Secretary

BECOME A HARTSEL LIBRARY FRIEND

You are invited to join the Hartsel Library Friends. We are a non-profit 501c3, all-volunteer organization, providing our community with a library since 1999. Because we are an all-volunteer library without ANY funding, we rely heavily on donations to keep our doors open.

Annual membership fee per year is:

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Individual | \$5.00 |
| Family | \$10.00 |
| Business | \$25.00 |

Cash donations are also welcomed. All donations are 100% deductible on your tax return. You are not required to purchase a membership to be registered as a library patron and use our facilities.

Fill out this form and mail it along with your check to:

Hartsel Library Friends
P.O. Box 281
Hartsel, CO 80449-0281

Or just drop it off at the library at 86 Valley Ave. – between the community center and the Fire Station #1. If the library is closed, just drop the form in the book drop box on the library porch. **THANK YOU!!!!**

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL

HOOKED ON BOOKS

Review by Darleen Darnell

A while back our Hartsel Library book club read **Soul of an Octopus** by Sy Montgomery. It was a pleasant surprise to hear how much *everyone* enjoyed the book, which doesn't happen often.

The author "explores the emotional and physical world of the octopus." Traveling around the world to study octopuses, she learned about their different personalities, their curiosity and their problem-solving abilities." She wrote about the way octopuses build their homes, hide from predators, explore their surroundings and find food. This book will certainly motivate you to learn more about these amazing creatures.

The book **Remarkably Bright Creatures** by Shelby Van Pelt was another delightful read. The story is about a recently widowed woman, Tova, who begins working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium. This gives her a purpose after her husband's death, while also mourning the disappearance of her son 30 years before.

Marcellus is a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus becomes bored and spends his time looking for ways to escape his home and explore the aquarium. Eventually he becomes curious about Tova, and he uses his intelligence to form a bond with her, and to solve some of the mysteries in Tova's life. Tova eventually realizes that Marcellus had been communicating with her, and they formed an amazing relationship.

This book was entertaining, sensitive, and memorable. Shelby Van Pelt's debut novel "is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible."

"OCTOPUS IN THE LIVING ROOM"

David Scheel, a professor of Marine Biology at Alaska Pacific University, has been studying octopuses for over 25 years. He had always thought of having an octopus in his home and was approached by a film company looking for someone who might be interested in doing just that. David developed a relationship with his octopus, playing with her, cleaning the tank and feeding her, and learning about her personality.

"In 2019, PBS released the documentary *Octopus: Making Contact*, which chronicled the Scheel family bonding and observing their octopus."

I have seen this documentary, and it is very entertaining and educational. I highly recommend viewing the story of an "**Octopus in the Living Room.**"

50 BABY OCTOPUSES

The next review is about a story I saw on the internet. A family in Oklahoma has a son, Cal, who, since he was 2 years old, has wanted a pet octopus!! He would ask for an octopus on every occasion: birthdays, Christmas, all holidays, and he would even dress up like an octopus for Halloween.

When Cal turned 9 his father finally gave in and bought a California two-spot octopus. Dad bought an aquarium and did all the research about taking care of an octopus.

HOOKED ON BOOKS (continued)

To make a long story short, the family was told the octopus was a male. One morning the father was cleaning the tank when he noticed several eggs floating in the tank. A few nights later a baby octopus popped out of one of the eggs and at the end of the day there were 50 baby octopuses!

The family learned how to take care of the babies and started working with aquariums and researchers to find families that were qualified to take care of the baby octopuses.

Paul Clarkson, director of husbandry operations at California's Monterey Bay Aquarium, would normally have doubts about any octopus being raised in a private home, but what this family has done is "pretty remarkable."

RHUBARB CAKE

Mix the following ingredients together:

½ C shortening
1 egg
1C sour milk
1/1/2 C brown sugar
1 t vanilla

Then measure and mix:

2 C flour
½ t soda
1/t salt

ADD to the flour mixture and then to the first mixture

2 C cut up fresh rhubarb

Spread in a 9 x 13-inch pan, or in two 8 x 8 inch loaf pans, greased and floured.

Before baking sprinkle over cake

½ C sugar
1 t cinnamon

Bake 45 minutes at 375 degrees.

Submitted by Lark Harvey

SPRING TRAVELS 2024

Living on CR53 is always an adventure. This spring the snow and mud were unbeatable. So, after being housebound for way too long, we decided it was time for a road trip and a quick adventure.

Our first stop was Mesa Verde. We tried to visit a few years ago, but after hard rains the trails weren't safe. This year everything was good, and it was great to enjoy the trails, history and beauty.

Our next stop was supposed to be The Wave in Arizona. We stopped at Grand Staircase - Escalante on the Arizona/Utah border. After driving on a rougher than CR 53, we came to Wire Pass Trailhead (fig 2) and started our walk through the canyons and trails. The scenery was so incredible that we couldn't stop taking pictures. We met some very nice people along the way who informed us that we weren't even close to The Wave!! This ended up being a fortunate mistake! We were told that because there are so many tourists coming through the area that applications for a spot in a lottery are now necessary to gain entrance to The Wave.

On to Canyonlands National Park in Utah. Another fascinating area for hiking. Luckily, none of these parks were crowded. (fig 1)

Last stop was Moab, Utah, to see Arches National Park (fig 3). While checking in at our hotel, we learned that reservations were needed to get into the park! Seems these changes are to accommodate so many tourists visiting the park. We learned that if we went back to the park at 4:00pm, it would be open to everyone. Despite the schedule change we had a wonderful time walking some of the trails and seeing many of the beautiful rock formations. It was a busy 4 days, but we enjoyed every minute of nature's beauty.

P.S. If you are a senior citizen, 62 years or older, for a one-time fee you qualify for a Lifetime Senior Pass to all the National Parks.

Submitted by Darleen & Richard



Figure 1



Figure 3



Figure 2