Question: Much of your research focuses on religion and American democracy. How do the two interact?

Answer: The separation of church and state in the First Amendment to the Constitution is actually the key to a flourishing religious marketplace. Because the United States does not have a state church, religious denominations are free to compete for adherents and this competition makes for a flourishing and constantly evolving religious landscape.

Question: You recently co-authored Seeking the Promised Land: Mormons and American Politics. The book focuses on the prominence of Mormons in national politics, despite making up a relatively small percentage of Americans. What has contributed to this outsized influence?

Answer: Two things come to mind. First, one of the things we show in the book is that Mormons participate in politics and community volunteer work at higher rates than other religious groups. And this political and community participation is true even though Mormons also generally spend a lot of time and effort within their congregations too. Second, American Mormons are also highly concentrated in the American West (especially Utah, Idaho, Nevada, and Arizona).

Question: Have Mormons always been so involved in politics, or is this a recent phenomenon?

Answer: Seeking the Promised Land addresses many examples of institutional involvement by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in political issues going back as far as the vote in Utah to repeal Prohibition in 1933 up through the campaign for Proposition 8 in California in 2008. However, one of the challenges to understanding the political activity and attitudes of individual Mormons has been the lack of data. Good polling data exists for Utah Mormons going back into the 1980s, but until recently no nationally representative survey data existed of Mormons. The book is based on a wealth of new and previously unpublished data, including two national surveys that were specially commissioned for the book.

Question: How does Seeking the Promised Land apply to other American religious groups?

Answer: As a religious subculture in a pluralistic society, Mormons are a case study of how a religious group balances distinctiveness and assimilation—a question faced by all faiths including Catholics, evangelical Christians, Jews, and Muslims. In other words, how do Mormons maintain the balance between the religious distinctiveness versus assimilating enough with the broader American culture to find acceptance from other Americans, religious and secular?

Question: It’s common to hear complaints that the political system is “broken.” What can be done to change politics for the better?

Answer: American politics work best with the right mixture of good institutions and good people. In other words, having a political system that works well (produces good policy, is free of corruption, and other good things) requires “rules of the game” like the Constitution, other laws, and even informal norms that help us make thoughtful political choices. But a healthy politics is taken also requires good people to step forward and serve in public office.

TEEN SUMMER READING:

NATURAL CURIOSITY

In addition to our regular teen summer reading programs on Tuesday afternoons, teens can look forward to several planned outings this summer to help them explore and engage with nature close-up. Notable programs include a tutorial in creating art from nature with local artist Kaleb Ostraff, a ride along Murdock Canal Trail, a birdwatching session in Rock Canyon with biologist Merrill Webb, and a bug-collecting trip with insect expert Brian Heckert.

Join us at the kickoff events or check in at the Children’s desk to pick up a complete schedule of summer reading events. Generous local vendors are once again partnering with the library to encourage young readers to meet their reading goals with incentives such as gift certificates and coupons to arcades, museums, restaurants, and more.

SUMMER READING NATURE

When we make summer plans, they often include time spent outdoors, whether playing in the park, swimming at the pool, or going for long walks in the evening. Some of our favorite childhood memories are made in nature as we observe, explore, and marvel at the complex and beautiful world around us. G. K. Chesterton wrote, “The world will never starve for want of wonder, but only for want of wonder.” Children are born with a natural sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them. Encouraging children to spend time exploring and interacting with nature will reap great educational benefits as children gain an understanding of natural laws and develop greater curiosity, wonder, and respect for how nature works.

Books and films can be a wonderful resource in allowing children to exercise their curiosity in a safe, guided situation as they learn about exotic, exciting, or dangerous environments and creatures. Reading about nature will also give children an expanded vocabulary to use in discussing and expressing their ideas about the world around them, and will broaden their perspective as they find ways to experience nature on their own.

Educators and parents understand the impact summer reading has on scholastic achievement. Children who read during the summer retain more of what they have learned during the school year. Inspiring a child’s sense of wonder, curiosity, and creativity is just as important as preventing loss of learning over the summer. This year, summer reading programs at the Orem Library will combine reading with nature to foster a love of reading while encouraging a sense of wonder and appreciation for the natural world. A special storytelling for kids under five will be available in the Ship’s Cove every Tuesday at 2 pm throughout summer reading.

CHILDREN’S SUMMER READING:

THINK AND WONDER, WONDER AND THINK

Highlights of our nature-themed programs for children’s summer reading include the annual Teddy Bear Picnic—offered June 1, 2, and 3 to accommodate as many families as possible—a nature art carnival, a science “library,” a live animal show with the Bean Museum, and visits from HawkWatch and Timpanogos Cave experts to demonstrate close-up encounters with some very exciting animals and natural environments.

OOREM PUBLIC LIBRARY

58 NORTH STATE STREET
OREM, UT 84057

CIRCULATION DESK (801) 229-7014
CHILDREN’S REFERENCE (801) 229-7961
GENERAL REFERENCE (801) 229-7015
MEDIA REFERENCE (801) 229-7043
MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00AM-9:00PM
SATURDAY 9:00AM-6:00PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

May & June 2015 | Newsletter & Calendar

www.OremLibrary.org
The blog is updated daily and has a different category for each day of the week. On Mondays, we post “At the Table,” or recipes, crafting tips, and other projects or hobbies we’ve discovered from library books. Some of our favorite Monday posts for you to look up include “The Best Bee Sting You Will Ever Eat,” “Frankenloaf: One Librarian’s Attempt to Create the Ultimate Meatloaf Recipe,” and “Top 10 Literary Baby Names We Would Never Name Our Children.”

On Tuesdays we post “Top Ten Lists” of items from our collection. You should read them all, but we especially recommend “Top 10 Swoon Worthy Marinee Idols from Classic Hollywood,” “Top 10 Fictional Horses I Want to Ride,” “Top 10 Villains I’m Really Conflicted About,” “Top 10 Fictional Families We Love,” and “Top 10 Literary Baby Names We Would Never Name Our Children.”

On Thursdays we spotlight items “Out of the Basement” — i.e., films, books, and music from the collection. Search the category “You Wrote a Book About What?” to find posts on unusual and intriguing items that stand out.

On Fridays we post a hodgepodge of random items, including author interviews, library events, books to celebrate little-known holidays, interesting notes or items we’ve found or been given by patrons in the library, and occasional updates on what we’re reading. Search the category “…and the Kitchen Sink” to browse our Friday posts.

On Saturdays we post “What’s New” this week at the library, so you can quickly find newly released items from your favorite authors and make your library wish list. One last reason to read our blog? Our next blog post could be written by YOU! That’s right! If you are interested in volunteering to write a blog post about a recipe or craft you tried out from a library book, or writing to the Orem Public Library, providing readers with a closer look at the books, movies, and music that make up our fabulous collection, as well as the scoop on what our librarians are really like and what goes on behind the scenes at the library. Whether you’re a long-time fan of the blog or you’ve never heard of it, here are seven reasons to visit us at justbrowsingopl.wordpress.com.

Now Playing at the Library

JUNE SCREENINGS: OCEAN TALES

MONDAY, JUNE 1 6:30PM
The Little Mermaid (G, 1989)
A mermaid makes a bargain with the Sea Witch to meet a human prince.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5 6:30PM
Life of Pi (PG-13, 2012)
A young man who survives a disaster at sea is stranded on a lifeboat with a ferocious Bengal tiger.

MONDAY, JUNE 8 6:30PM
IMAX double feature: Coral Reef Adventure (NR, 2003)
Coral Reef Adventure
The dazzling underwater world of coral reefs in this tropical excursion through the South Pacific will surprise and delight you. Then spend time getting to know the beauty and diversity of the ocean and its importance to all life on earth.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 6:30PM
Cast Away (PG-13, 2000)
A FedEx executive is tested mentally, physically, and emotionally to survive a crash landing on a deserted island.

Song of the Sea (PG, 2014)
The story of the last seal-child, Saorise, and her brother Ben, who go on an epic journey to save the world of magic.

All Is Lost (PG-13, 2013)
After a collision with a shipping container, a resourceful sailor confronts his mortality on the high seas as he is faced with broken equipment, dwindling supplies, a violent storm, and sharks.

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (G, 1954)
A ship sent to investigate a wave of mysterious sinkings encounters an advanced submarine commanded by the megalomaniacal Captain Nemo.

The Poseidon Adventure (PG, 1972)
A group of passengers struggles to survive and escape when their ocean liner capsizes at sea.

Oceans (G, 2009)
An exhilarating look under the sea through the eyes of those that live there. Part thriller, part meditation on the fascinating wonders of the sub-aquatic world.
May & June 2015 Calendar

**JUNE 15, MONDAY**

4:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Shakespeare for Kids: Cymbeline

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Song of the Sea (PG, 2014)

7:00 PM  City Center Park
Summer Concerts in the Park Kickoff: Maddie Wilson

**JUNE 16, TUESDAY**

2:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Children's Summer Reading: Bean Museum Animal Show
Join us as the Bean Museum staff present a live animal show geared toward children.

2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Teen Summer Reading: How to Train Your Garden
Join gardener and tree expert Dave Lawson as he teaches a hands-on class about grafting, gardening, and the inner and outer workings of trees.

**JUNE 17, WEDNESDAY**

2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
CoderDojo
Are you a coding ninja? Would you like to become one? Join us Wednesdays through August 12 to meet other computer coders and mentors, learn new languages, and work on your own projects such as games and mods. Kids 8 and up are invited, as well as teens and parents. All levels and abilities are welcome. Bring your own computer if possible.

**JUNE 19, FRIDAY**

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: All Is Lost (PG-13, 2013)

**JUNE 22, MONDAY**

4:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Shakespeare for Kids: Othello

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (G, 1954)

7:00 PM  City Center Park
Summer Concerts in the Park: Jersey Street

**JUNE 23, TUESDAY**

2:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Children's Summer Reading: J. Scott Savage
J. Scott Savage is the author of 13 novels, including the Farworld fantasy series and the Case File 13 monster series. Join him as he reads from Fires of Invention, the first book in his new series Mysteries of Cove, which tells the story of a 13-year-old boy whose creative talents are viewed with suspicion within the city of Cove.

2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Teen Summer Reading: Birding Skills
Come learn birdwatching tips such as how to identify birdsongs and analyze bird behavior with biologist Merrill Webb.

**JUNE 24, WEDNESDAY**

6:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Utah Valley Writers

**JUNE 25, THURSDAY**

6:30 AM  Rock Canyon
Teen Summer Reading Outing: Birdwatching
Meet us at the Rock Canyon trailhead at 6:30 am and put your birdwatching skills to the test with birding expert Merrill Webb. Bring a pair of binoculars and comfortable hiking shoes.

7:00 PM  Media Auditorium
SCRWI

**JUNE 26, FRIDAY**

5:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: The Poseidon Adventure (PG, 1972)

**JUNE 27, SATURDAY**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
National Federation of the Blind

6:30 PM  City Center Park
Summer Concerts in the Park: Ship's Cove

**JUNE 29, MONDAY**

4:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Shakespeare for Kids: Much Ado About Nothing

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Oceans (G, 2009)

7:00 PM  City Center Park
Teen Summer Reading Outing: Birdwatching
Meet us at the Rock Canyon trailhead at 6:30 am and put your birdwatching skills to the test with birding expert Merrill Webb. Bring a pair of binoculars and comfortable hiking shoes.

**JUNE 30, TUESDAY**

2:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Children's Summer Reading: Timpanogos Cave
Join us as ranger from Utah’s Timpanogos Cave share a fun, educational presentation on what goes on inside a cave, safety rules that every caver should know, and more.

2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Teen Summer Reading: Whale Rider (PG-13, 2002)
Celebrate the bond between humanity and nature at our screening of Whale Rider, a contemporary story of love, rejection, and triumph as a young Maori girl fights to fulfill a destiny her grandfather refuses to recognize.

**LAPTIME & STORYTIME**

**MUSIC & MOVEMENT STORYTIME 10:00 AM**

**EVERY TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY**

10:00 AM Ship’s Cove (cancelled June 3rd)

Laptime for infants and toddlers
10:30 AM Storytelling Wing (cancelled June 3rd)

Storytime for preschoolers and up

**SATURDAY STORYTIME 10:30 AM**

Saturdays
10:30 AM Media Auditorium

**KIDS CHESS**

Thursdays, 4 pm - 6 pm
Children’s Mezzanine
Open Chess, Thursdays, 6 pm - 9 pm
Book Discussion Room
Bring your own board or use one of the Library’s.

**Parent Education Resource Center (P.E.R.C.)**

Located in the north wing basement of the Orem Library

**JUNE 17 - AUGUST 11**

June - August Hours
Tuesday 9:30 AM to 7 PM
Wednesday 10 AM to 4 PM
Thursday 10 AM to Noon

**ESL Class**

April 1 to June 24 | Mondays & Wednesdays
9 AM - 12 PM | Media Auditorium
Class requires a $20 book/ Es necesario comprar un libro de $20
For more information, contact Nathan at 801-229-7389

**Pins & Needles**

Tuesday 10-12 | Media Auditorium

**WEDNESDAYS**

4:00-5:30 PM

**R.E.A.D.**
The Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D.) program improves children’s reading and communication skills by employing a powerful method: reading to an animal. But not just any animal. R.E.A.D. companions are registered therapy animals who volunteer with their owners/handlers as a team, visiting schools, libraries, and many other settings as reading companions for children. If your child would like the experience of reading to a friendly animal companion, sign up for a reading time and date at the Children's Desk or call 801-229-7161 to schedule an appointment.

**MAY EVENTS**

**MAY 1, FRIDAY**

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Oliver Twist (PG-13, 2005)

**MAY 2, SATURDAY**

4:00 PM  Fireplace
Utah Vocal Arts Academy
The Utah Vocal Arts Academy presents a spring recital entitled “Encores,” featuring encore performances from UVAA singers who won prizes this year at the Classical Singer, YoungArts, NATS, Schmidt, and other national and local vocal competitions.

**MAY 4, MONDAY**

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Great Expectations (NR, 1946)

**MAY 6, WEDNESDAY**

7:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Resonance Story Theatre Presents Regi Carpenter: Snap! Regi Carpenter is an internationally known storyteller who has been featured at the National Storytelling Festival and International Storytelling Center. Join her for Snap!, a performance piece she describes as “the incredible true story of my own breakdown, institutionalization, and road back to freedom as a sixteen-year-old girl.” Snap! won the 2012 Boston Story Slam and was featured on the popular storytelling website The Moth. Due to this program’s sensitive focus on mental health recovery, we recommend it for teens and adults.

**MAY 7, THURSDAY**

2:00-5:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Storytelling Workshop with Regi Carpenter
Interested in exploring the craft of storytelling and performance? Join storyteller, author, and teacher Regi Carpenter for an intensive workshop that will demonstrate how to develop your imagination, strengthen your story structure, and increase your performance abilities in telling your own stories. Call or text 801-633-4918 to reserve a spot for this free workshop.

6:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Utah Valley Writers

7:00 PM  Fireplace
Timp Tellers: Beginnings
Join us for a workshop from Steffani Raff on crafting the perfect performance abilities in telling your own stories. Call or text 801-633-4918 to reserve a spot for this free workshop.

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: The 39 Steps (NR, 1935)
MAY 8, MONDAY
4:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Shakespeare for Kids: King Lear
Prepare yourself for a tearjerker! King Lear features disloyal children, mad kings, wise fools, and a wild storm.

6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: IMAX double feature: Coral Reef Adventure (NR, 2003) / The Living Sea (NR, 1995)

JUNE 9, TUESDAY
2:00 PM  City Center Courtyard
Children’s Summer Reading: Nature Art Carnival
Bring your imagination and create your own collection of nature-inspired artwork. Wear something you can get messy.

2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Teen Summer Reading: Over/Under
Learn the dos and don’ts of traveling over ground with biking experts from the SBR Cycles-Larry H. Miller Ford Provo racing team and underground with experienced Utah caver Richard Downey.

JUNE 10, WEDNESDAY
2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
PERC Game Day
Kids and teens are invited to join the PERC staff for an afternoon of board games.

6:30 PM  WeNooch Society
JUNE 11, THURSDAY
2:00 PM  Murdock Canal Trail
Teen Summer Reading Outing: Bike Ride
Grab your bike and helmet and join us for an energizing and enjoyable bike ride along the scenic Murdock Canal Trail.

6:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Utah Valley Writers : Adam Sidwell: The Writer’s Path

FRIDAY, JUNE 12–SATURDAY, JUNE 13
Orem Summerfest
City Center Park
Start the summer off right in this annual celebration of summer with carnival rides, music, food, a parade, fireworks, and more.

JUNE 12, FRIDAY
6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Cast Away (PG-13, 2000)

JUNE 13, SATURDAY
2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Tumbleweeds Film Festival Screening: Antholy (PG, 2013)
12-year-old Pelle develops superpowers when he is bitten by an ant.