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Owner

Check it Out!

IT IS FUNNY HOW YOUR perception of things can change. Once upon a time, I dreaded going to the library, a place that had an echoing silence. It was torture for a yappy little one like me to have to roam the aisles in silence. Inevitably, I would forget the code of silence and start talking, only to hear “Shhhh” from my parents, sisters or a nearby reader.

I love the library, now. Every time I go, I am struck by how incredibly amazing it is to have libraries at our disposal. I feel like a kid in a candy shop when I enter, with my eyes feasting on all of the books I want to read. Shelves upon shelves of stories are just waiting to be discovered.

The library represents a sea of knowledge into which you can dive and swim about. Anything you want to know, you can learn about in the library. It gets the wheels turning – what do I want to know about? *Who* do I want to know about? What kind of adventure do I want to go on?

The aforementioned quiet of the library is now a treasured aspect. Sometimes life needs a little bit of quietness. Radios blare in our cars, iPods pump music into our ears at the gym or walking down the street, cell phones are adhered to our hands and ears; when is there time to truly enjoy and marinate in silence? The forced silence of the library is a welcome sound that does not so much leave us with empty minds, but allows them to open and daydream.

Finally though, the best part of the libraries are the stories! Seemingly endless rows of books are full of stories ready to whisk us away, to inspire us and inform us. I am not picky about what I read. Fiction, biography, mystery, romance, suspense, “chick-lit”, classics — I gobble it all up, eager to get lost in a new story.

If a good story is what you want, though, you don’t need to look inside the walls of a brick building to find it. We have our own library of stories all around us here in Spokane and Coeur d’Alene. Life here is like living in a giant library that is ready to be perused—all you have to do is be willing to look around and you will find one great story after another. The stories of the people in our community are like the stories found in the books on the shelves in a library; they come in every genre and are just waiting for you to check them out.

Looking for stories of romance? Read

Editor’s Letter



through the city paper and see the anniversary announcements, or sit with your neighbors who have been married for 75 years, and hear them tell you the secrets of their marriage.

Political scandal and delight more your style? Look at our own city council!

Prefer a story about adventure? Read the tale of Patricia and Laurent Zirotti, on page 134, who had a thriving restaurant in Montana, but decided to uproot and move to Post Falls to start another restaurant, not knowing what the result would be. Adventure pulses through their veins!

Good old-fashioned westerns are being told all around Spokane and Coeur d’Alene this summer in the form of rodeo. On page 68, read about the lure of local rodeo and the interesting people who are bringing them here to our community.

Want a tale of sportsmanship? How about Spokefest, the upcoming event that puts thousands of Spokane residents on bikes in a quest to enjoy the city, the people and the joy of biking.

We have no shortage of stories here. Rather than lining rows of bookshelves, though, they are found along streets and sidewalks, in buildings and on surrounding lakes, and around the dinner tables in houses in your neighborhood. Everywhere around us are great stories waiting for us to check them out. All we have to do is be willing to search for a story that captures our attention, pull it down off the shelf and crack open the cover.

This summer, take time to check out the stories of our community. You might just discover that life here is a bestseller!

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