

# LEWIS & CLARK LIBRARY FOUNDATION

*Making a great library even better!*

## LORNA MILNE

### *A Frontier Photographer and a Naturalist: Evelyn and Ewen Cameron*



Helena writer Lorna Milne was the distinguished speaker for the 2019 Stephen Ambrose Memorial Lecture

PHOTO: Annika Borneman

### ABOUT LORNA MILNE

Lorna Milne lives on a small farm in the Helena North Valley with her husband, Jon and a sheep dog named Little Bear. Throughout her 30-year career teaching writing and literature at Carroll College, Milne has worked as a writer. Her published essays and short stories have appeared in *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, *The Boston Globe Magazine*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *Walking*, *Orion*, *Highlights for Children*, and *The Sun*. Now retired from academic life, she is embracing writing as a full-time occupation. Milne holds a degree in journalism from the University of Montana-Missoula, where she also studied photography.

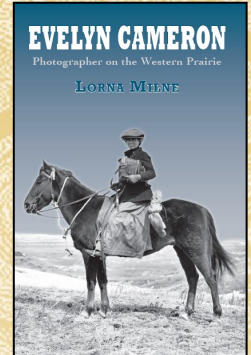
Helena writer, farmer and retired college instructor of writing and literature, **Lorna Milne**, gave the 2019 Stephen Ambrose Memorial Lecture on October 10 at Lewis & Clark Library. An overflow crowd of more than 110 people enjoyed her talk about the well-known turn-of-the-20th-century photographer Evelyn Cameron and her lesser known husband Ewen, with slides of Evelyn's work brilliantly illustrating the stories Milne told about their life together.

Milne described how the Camerons came to make their home in eastern Montana where the land, people, and animals provided a unique blend of resources that sustained their life on the frontier. Evelyn gardened, kept chickens, cows, and horses while learning how to use the camera and develop photographs. She and Ewen traversed the badlands around their ranch to hunt, gather specimens, and study the abundant wildlife. While Ewen took field notes, Evelyn photographed birds, foxes, wolves, coyotes, and bears and the wide expanse of landscape.

Evelyn earned an income taking photos of people engaged in family activities, ranching and farming, but she also took pride in the photos she took that illustrated Ewen's natural history articles published in *The Ibis*, *The Auk*, *Country Life*, and other periodicals. The Camerons worked side by side—one a photographer, the other a naturalist—documenting in journals, field notes, and photographs their mutually fulfilling artistic and intellectual pursuits.

The Stephen Ambrose Memorial Lecture is an annual fall event sponsored by the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation. We thank Lorna Milne for her wonderful presentation and all who came to the lecture and enjoyed the evening.

We also thank Jeanie Warden of **Helena Civic Television** for videotaping the lecture and the dessert chefs of the **Helena High Culinary Arts Club** for their delicious treats.



Milne is the author of the 2017 biography, *Evelyn Cameron: Photographer on the Western Prairie* (Mountain Press Publishing, Missoula).

Milne grew up in eastern Montana, near the Camerons' homesteads. She is currently at work on a collection of essays.

Read more at <http://lornamilne.com>.

Signed copies of Milne's biography are available at the Montana Book Company in Helena.

The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation was established in 1978 to support the Lewis & Clark Library system, beyond what tax monies can provide. In these times of increasing demand for information in all formats, private support is critical to maintaining excellent library services. It is the goal of the Foundation Board of Directors, through the caring and generosity of like-minded citizens, to maintain long-term financial support for the public library.

Lewis & Clark Library Foundation  
120 South Last Chance Gulch  
Helena, MT 59601

Phone: (406) 447-6699  
E-mail: [jfinn@lclibrary.org](mailto:jfinn@lclibrary.org)



# LEWIS & CLARK LIBRARY Remodel Project

*Lewis & Clark Library is evolving and improving, again! We will soon reveal what the Next Chapter for the Library will look like; how it will feel; how it will function; and how it will look.*

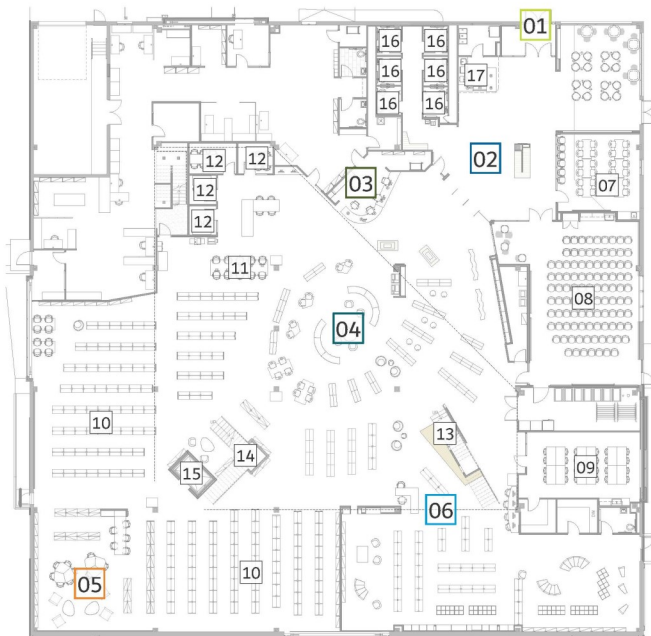
## STRATEGIC plan

The Library building at 120 S. Last Chance Gulch has been an anchor of the community since it was built in 1976. It has seen many transformations over the years. The most recent renovation was fifteen years ago. Since that time, Libraries have evolved; the Helena community's needs have changed; technology constantly advances. The Library's 2018 Strategic Plan has guided us towards a re-imagining of the interior spaces of the Library. And the Strategic Plan tells us we need to make the building safe and accessible for all users. The Strategic Plan clearly states that our children and teen spaces need improvement and modernization.

All of these changes are being made with the Library's increased demands on programs and community space in mind. The Library is a popular building, open to the public, and a community gathering space. The Library strives to be the community's Living Room and we want to make it as comfortable for our guests as possible.



main entrance 01



### FIRST FLOOR PLAN LEGEND

- |                    |                       |                     |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Main Entrance   | 7. Small Meeting Room | 13. New stair       |
| 2. Lobby           | 8. Large Meeting Room | 14. Existing Stair  |
| 3. Front Desk      | 9. "Discovery Room"   | 15. Elevator        |
| 4. Market place    | 10. Collections       | 16. Family Restroom |
| 5. Teen Area       | 11. Public Computers  | 17. Cafe            |
| 6. Children's Area | 12. Quiet Study Rooms |                     |



lobby 02

## PROJECT info

**BUDGET:** Approximately \$6 Million

**FUNDING:**  
 \$4 Million Library Depreciation Reserves (Savings)  
 \$2 Million TBD

**ARCHITECT:** Mosaic Architecture

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR/CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:** Dick Anderson Construction

**TIME LINE:** Approximately 8-10 Months, with demolition and inside construction beginning late November. Anticipated project completion: August 2020.



06 children's



## DESIGN features

Meeting rooms will be improved and expanded; bathrooms will be relocated and modernized; Children's and Teen spaces will be enlarged and relocated; collections will be redistributed with careful consideration; four new quiet study rooms will be created; and finally, the existing Circulation and Information service points will be united into one single-service desk. One of the highlights of the design is to bring the outdoors into the library, and to allow the outside to see just how full of life the Library is inside. Windows will provide that opportunity.



05 teen

And to ensure another forty years of service to the community, construction will improve the building's structural integrity, making it safer during a large earthquake. The building's seismic capabilities will be modernized, just as the interior design will be modernized. The renovation will also improve the Library's accessibility by making all public areas of the building, inside and out, accessible according to ADA guidelines. The parking lot will be reconfigured to improve ADA access and safety. Entryways will be improved and made accessible.



03 front desk

## NEXT STEP: construction!

Construction will drastically improve the first floor of the Library. The main floor will be transformed during the phased construction process, to begin in late fall 2019.



04 market place

The Library has no physical room to grow, so all renovations will be confined to our current space. During the staged construction process the Library will maintain as many services, programs, and hours as possible. Occasionally, those services and programs may be off-site. We will do our best to continue to serve the public during the process.

## Words on Wheels Book Bike!



By *Bretagne Byrd, Bookmobile Librarian*

We started off the Words On Wheels library services with a grand party on the walking mall outside of the library. Since then we have hit the streets of Helena and brought mobile library services to many people. The East Helena, Capitol Square, and Helena Farmer's Markets were some of the largest crowds. Everyone was excited to see the new addition to the library. The bike made it easier to navigate through the larger crowds, stop and chat with people, and also set up in a small space.

We are able to offer free Wi-Fi through a mobile hotspot that not only allowed the public access to the internet, but also provided free internet to the Farmer's Market vendors. We are able to access our database to check out items, update card information, and issue new cards. July to September we were alternatively at the East Helena and Capitol Square markets on Tuesday evenings.

For the months of July and August, staff members also rode the bike to local parks that offered the free lunch program by Montana No Kid Hungry. We had ready-made Take 'n Make science crafts to hand out for kids and families to make a craft together at home. These were extremely popular and we often



*The WOW library bicycle is reaching patrons all over the county ... thanks to the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation*

ran out. Parents really appreciated that we would bring the bike to the parks where they were already hanging out with their kids. Some of the parks that we visited were Centennial Park, Memorial Park, Anchor Park, and Cherry Hill Park.

One of our adventurous staff members was interested in a "location rotation" bike shift where we came up with a list of places we would like to offer WOW services, but needed a first visit to see how things would go. These turned out to work great! Next summer we have a list of places that will get added to a schedule. Some of these locations included Carroll College, Helena College, Mt. Helena Trailhead, and Barney Park.

We were also able to offer a special event at the Memory Care Unit at Touchmark Assisted Living for folks who are unable to get to the library or the Bookmobile. We rode the bike into a garden courtyard at Touchmark and had a nice afternoon snack, several read-aloud short stories, and had a WOW bike show and tell. People really enjoyed getting a visit from the library and looking at the books the bike had to offer. Many also remembered some good library experiences that they have had in the past.

Overall, the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation has enhanced the library services provided by Lewis & Clark Library to more people in our county with the purchase of the Words On Wheels library bicycle. We are able to take free Wi-Fi to public spaces and offer traditional library services, such as items for checkout. Through programming on the WOW bike we are able to reach several underserved populations who often are without library services.



*We owe the Library Foundation and our generous donors a great amount of thanks for this cool tool that lets us bring so much to so many people. ~ Bretagne Byrd*



## FOUNDATION FUNDS IN REVIEW

As of June 30, 2019 the Foundation's assets totaled **\$872,328**. The Foundation's total FY 2019 revenue totaled \$201,791.50 which includes \$16,843 in dividends, \$87,680 in donations (including an unsolicited gift of \$32,000), Boone Trust income of \$63,336, miscellaneous donations of about \$4,855, and an unrealized gain/loss of \$29,006. In September, the Foundation transferred **\$26,304.08** (30% of the FY 2019 charitable gifts revenue) to the Permanent Endowment.

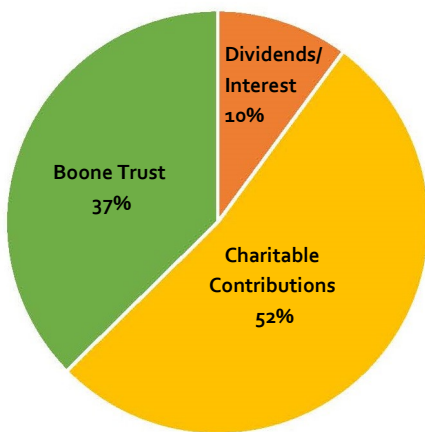
As of June 30, the Permanent Endowment managed by D.A. Davidson held total assets of **\$642,840.06**. A second investment account at D.A. Davidson holds **\$108,040** in "liquid" funds that can be made available as needed.

## YOUR GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

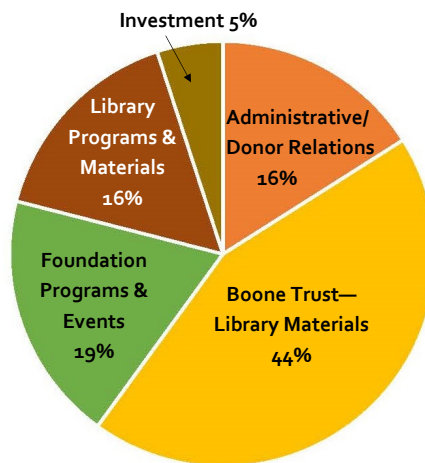
### LIBRARY WISH LIST FOR FY2020

- Augusta Library Branch—TBD \$ 500
- Lincoln Library Branch—TBD \$ 500
- Year-two books for new moms and babies \$ 500
- Support for VolunTEEN Program \$ 500
- Science program supplies \$ 600
- Book vending machine refills \$ 1,000
- East Helena Branch new monitor \$ 1,000
- WOW Book Bike giveaways \$ 2,000
- Quarterly inserts in Helena IR \$ 2,600
- Adult Programs – speaker fees \$ 8,800

FY 2019 REVENUE



FY 2019 EXPENDITURES



John Finn, Babs Leaphart and Anne Pichette staff a Donor Lounge table at the Library during the 2019 Greater Helena Gives 24-hour fundraising event. Since 2017, donations given during the Greater Helena Gives campaign have brought in a total of \$3,214.64 to the Library Foundation. **THANK YOU!**



The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation has earned a 2019 Gold Seal from **GuideStar** by updating the information on our Nonprofit Profile. Now our donors as well as 10+ million GuideStar users can find in-depth information about our goals, strategies, capabilities, and progress. GuideStar partners with Network for Good, Amazon Smile, and Facebook to provide accountability and transparency for nonprofits. Visit [GuideStar.org](http://GuideStar.org) for details.

The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation is committed to:

- Managing our finances competently,
- Informing the community of our activities,
- Maintaining financial accountability, while also
- Respecting the privacy rights and wishes of our donors and
- Respecting the authority of the Lewis & Clark Library Board of Trustees to set library policy and the responsibility of the library director and staff to operate the Library.



## Legacy Donors—2014 to 2019

### Editor Level \$25,000 - \$49,999

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We call it Legacy Giving ... because our donors are creating a legacy of support for the public library they love. Donors allow the Library to invest in lasting improvements that are enjoyed today and long into the future by patrons throughout our county.

And we honor our donors' generosity and interest in the Library with special events, such as an after-hours dinner and a "first look" at the Library's remodeling plans or a behind-the-scenes look at how the library is run by the Library's talented staff. *More exciting donor-only events coming up in 2020!*



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*Our vision is that each member of our community will have superior access to the highest quality library and information services now and into the future.*

There are several ways to support the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation:

- Send a check by mail
- Donate online
- Make a planned gift
- Amazon Smiles\*
- Greater Helena Gives
- State Employees Charitable Giving Campaign

\* Amazon.com will donate a percentage of your purchases to the Foundation when it is selected as your Amazon Smiles charity.



## A Message from our Board President



The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation is proud of the hard work of the amazing Library staff and honored to have the support of so many generous donors. With your help, the Library Foundation continues to make a great library even better! Whether you visit the main branch in downtown Helena, one of the branch locations throughout the county, the Bookmobile, Book Bike, and/or use the many online resources the Library provides, you are a valued patron and the Library is here to serve you.

The Foundation is excited to continue supporting Library staff wish list items like the WOW Book Bike you've likely seen around town. Thanks to your support, the Foundation has been able to sponsor the NEA Big Read and is now in its 13th year at our Library. Foundation sponsorship assists in providing the BIG READ book free for participating community members as well as related public programs.

Thank you! *Anne Pichette, Foundation Board President*

## Foundation Board visits Augusta in August!

The August 2019 meeting of the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation Board was held at the Augusta branch library. Members enjoyed a catered lunch on the lovely covered patio (see below) behind the Library building on Main Street.

Branch Librarian **Holly Herring** updated the Board on the branch's activities that included a special star-gazing event in September centered around the new telescope purchased by the Foundation. The Augusta library is busy, with nearly 300 card-holding patrons checking out books. The library also sponsors book clubs and a new yoga class.

The Foundation is committed to responding to the needs of the branch libraries and to that end would like to invite patrons who reside in Augusta, East Helena, and Lincoln to join the Foundation Board when we have openings. Please contact Library Director John Finn.



**Starting in the center, then clockwise:** Barb Benish, John Finn, Joe Furshong, Virginia Reeves, Merry Fahrman, Anne Pichette, Terry Cohea, Patti Borneman, Opal Winebrenner, Art Butler, Emily Free Wilson, and Kathy Hamill.



## 2019 FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Pichette, **President**  
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**MAKING A GREAT  
LIBRARY  
EVEN BETTER!**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

**Emily Free Wilson** joined the Board in 2017 and during her first term helped raise \$1,000 from the sale of Little Free Libraries constructed by her son's Boy Scout troop and painted by Capital High School art students. She actively and cheerfully participated in the mundane as well as fun activities of the organization, and will be missed when she departs Helena for a new venture on the Oregon Coast. Thank you, Emily!

We will also bid farewell, but not goodbye, to **Barb Benish**, who has served on the Foundation board since 2011 and will complete her final term at the end of 2019. Barb has volunteered countless hours to attend meetings, serve on committees, help with events, and has shared great ideas and creative energy that has advanced the Foundation's work. Thank you, Barb!

Our newest board member is **Bethany Flint**, who attended her first meeting in September and will bring a wealth of nonprofit and business management experience to the Board. Bethany is a managing partner at Blackfoot River Brewing Company. Welcome, Bethany!

Board member **Virginia Reeves** hosted a workshop at the Library as part of this year's NEA Big Read. She led participants through the process of making their characters change their settings, much like the moss in *Lab Girl* changes the ground. Reeves is hoping to bring more creative writing workshops to the Library's offerings in the future. Stay tuned!