

**2017-2018  
WEBER READS**



## Dear Weber County Residents:

Weber Reads is designed to create a community-wide discussion by providing opportunities for people to read, reflect, and engage in meaningful dialogue. This dialogue is built around selected texts which help illuminate experiences and beliefs that transcend group values to unite us as human beings. The success of this program has been acknowledged by the American Library Association, which has three times chosen Weber Reads to receive its Community Reading Program "Best of Show Award."

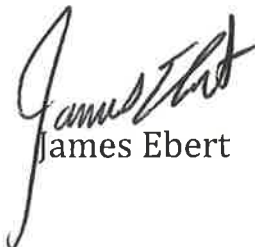
During 2017-2018, we will explore the topic of "Fire." We will read science books, myths and legends, true stories of disastrous fires and those who fight them, novels, poetry, and short stories. Many beautiful and readable books about this topic are available to individuals and book clubs at all Weber County Library locations.

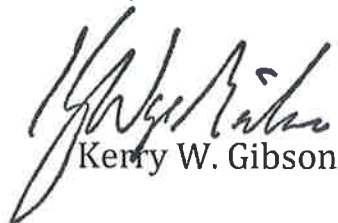
To help facilitate involvement of young people in our discussions, every school in the County will receive Weber Reads teaching materials, created by teacher consultants from the Wasatch Range Writing Project, the local site of the National Writing Project. Copies of appropriate texts for children and teens, purchased in part by Friends of the Weber County Library, are being given to each school library, along with an invitation to have librarians from the Weber County Library System visit classrooms to deliver a special presentation.

The Library Board will sponsor local book groups wishing to hold their discussions at a Weber County Library, and invite the community to join their conversations. If requested, the Library will provide refreshments and a discussion leader for these meetings. You are also invited to attend special programs hosted at the Library, on the campus of Weber State University and throughout the community. Watch the Library Web site ([www.weberpl.org](http://www.weberpl.org)) for details.

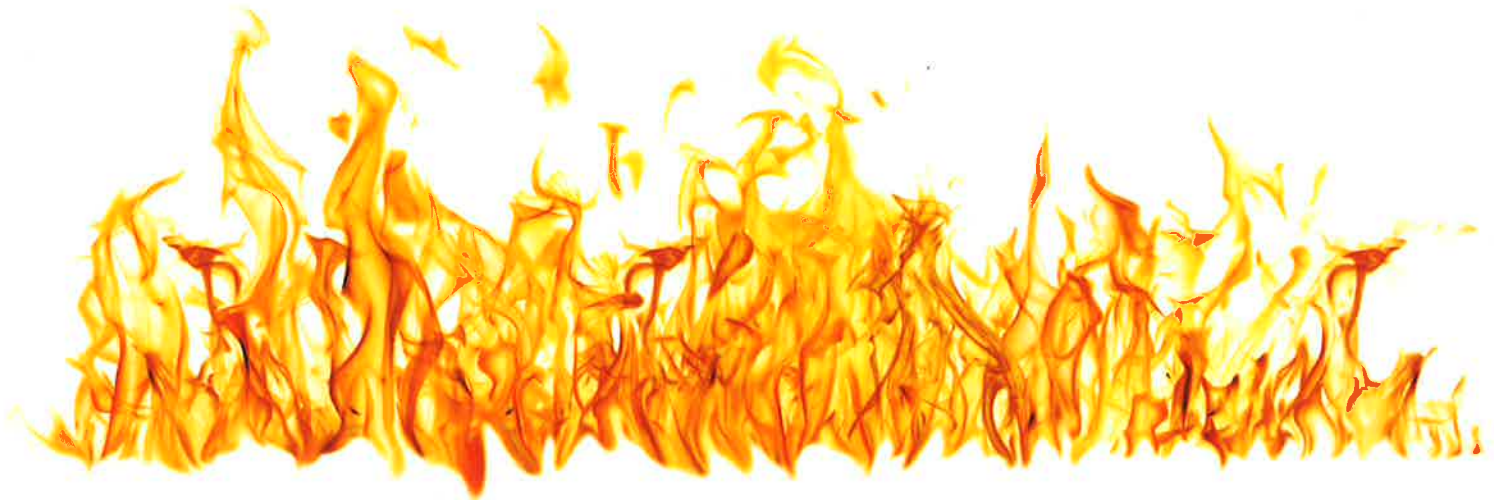
Please join us as ideas hit against one another, create sparks, and kindle an intellectual fire within each of us.

Weber County Commissioners,

  
James Ebert

  
Kerry W. Gibson

  
Jim Harvey



## 2017-2018 WEBER READS: FIRE

Welcome to Weber Reads 2017-18! Weber Reads is a coalition of people from the Weber County Library, the Wasatch Range Writing Project, Weber and Ogden School Systems, and Weber State University. Following the initiative of One Community One Book from the Library of Congress, we in Weber Reads pick a topic, an author or a book every year and encourage people to learn, read and discuss the ideas we encounter.

This year, we will explore the topic of Fire, a particularly complex and compelling subject. Every summer, we are reminded of how close to our lives fire can come, of how fragile our world seems when the night sky reddens and the wind thickens with soot. In those moments fire threatens. Yet we also know that fire is a creator as well as a destroyer, that seeds blossom in its heat, animals find new forage and the soil is renewed. We know that for millennia, people have gathered around fire to warm themselves, to eat, to talk, to tell stories. In the 20th and 21st centuries, we have begun to realize that our connection with fire is a complex one. What can threaten can also benefit; what can destroy can also create.

We invite you to join us in our exploration of fire. To help facilitate involvement of young people in our discussions, every school in the County will receive the Weber Reads teaching materials. In this box, you will find lesson plans written by teachers in the Wasatch Range Writing Project, along with a list of the lessons and a bibliography. You will also find appropriate texts for children and teens, purchased in part by Friends of the Weber County Library, for each school library. We will read science books, myths and legends, true stories of disastrous fires and those who fight them, novels, poetry and short stories. Students at all levels can consider the many aspects of fire and learn about fire safety.

All of the Weber Reads lessons can be found on the Weber County Library's Web site ([www.weberpl.org](http://www.weberpl.org)). All of the books in the bibliography are available at all Weber County Library locations, along with many other beautiful and readable books about this topic.

We have included a list of the teachers who wrote these lessons and their contact information. We welcome your comments, questions, and suggestions for extensions and adaptations. Such collaboration is at the heart of both Weber Reads and the Wasatch Range Writing Project.



We extend an invitation from the librarians at the Weber County Library System to come to your classroom to deliver a special presentation. In addition, there will also be special programs hosted at the Library, on the campus of Weber State University and throughout the community. Watch the Library Web site ([www.weberpl.org](http://www.weberpl.org)) for details.

Here in Utah, we live close to the natural world. Many of us live close to the interface of the wild and the urban. We hope that through the lessons and books given to the schools, and through Weber Reads programs throughout Weber County, we can begin to discuss the complex questions and changing perceptions of fire in the 21st century.

Weber Reads is a community organization sponsored by the Weber County Commission, Weber County Library, the Standard Examiner, and Weber State University. Working together, we have previously prepared lessons and purchased books on the following topics:

- *Beowulf* – 2008
- *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelly – 2009
- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain – 2010
- *Narrative of the Life of A Slave*, by Fredrick Douglass and *Life of A Slave Girl*, by Harriet Jacobs – 2011
- The Founders and their Documents – 2012
- Emily Dickinson – 2013
- *The Odyssey*, by Homer – 2014
- *Charlotte's Web*, and other writings, by E. B. White – 2015
- Shakespeare – 2016
- The Japanese-American Internment During World War II – 2017

Materials on these topics may be found on the Weber County Library and Weber State University Web sites.







## 2017-2018 WEBER READS: FIRE

### Lessons

### Author

#### Elementary Only

Campfire Safety .....	Felicia Bedwell
FIRE! FUEGO! .....	Pat Lowe

#### Elementary and Secondary

Destroyed or Reborn? .....	Pat Lowe
Fire Metaphor Narrative Writing .....	Kristine Langford
Fire Poetry .....	Felicia Bedwell
Fire Safety .....	Kristine Langford
Good Guy? Bad Guy? Volcano Rising .....	Judy Chesley
The Great Fire: Text Jigsaw .....	Gwen Romero
I Was There .....	Judy Chesley
Long Live the Legend of Smokey Bear .....	Paula Simonson
Poetry: Proof of Learning .....	Pat Lowe
Using Sources: Interview with the Forest Service .....	Gwen Romero
Wham! Pow! Kaboom! Vocabulary for Volcano/Fire .....	Judy Chesley
Wind, Fire and a Horse: Commemorative Stamp of Goliath, a Hero .....	Judy Chesley
Yellowstone Burning .....	Pat Lowe

#### Secondary Only

Image Journal: Fahrenheit 451 .....	Gwen Romero
-------------------------------------	-------------





## **2017-2018 WEBER READS: FIRE**

### **Contact Information for Wasatch Range Writing Project Teacher Consultants for Weber Reads 2017-2018**

Felicia Bedwell ..... fbedwell@wsd.net  
Judy Chesley ..... jchesley@dmail.net  
Kristine Langford..... krlangford@wsdstudent.net  
Pat Lowe ..... pjhlowe@gmail.com  
Gwen Romero ..... romerofive@gmail.com  
Margaret Rostkowski ..... mrostkowski@weber.edu  
Paula Simonson..... pasimonson@wsd.net

