

## NEW HOURS AT THE LIBRARY

Starting June 1, the library will **close one hour earlier, at 8 pm** instead of 9 pm, Monday-Thursday evenings. This change, approved by the Library Board in February, came after careful consideration.

“When we looked at the data for the past 12 months, it was very clear that use of the library drops dramatically in all areas – checkouts, foot traffic, staff interactions, and computer use – after 8pm,” said Library Director Betsy Stroomer.

*“By closing an hour earlier Monday through Thursday, we will gain more than 1,000 staff hours a year to provide better service both here in the building, and off-site in the larger community. No one on the staff will lose hours, and we’ll be able to use those hours more effectively. We have already planned more computer classes at the library, and will offer expanded summer reading activities at Lamont Does Park.”*

## QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS!

### *What will the new hours be?*

**Monday-Thursday, 10 am-8 pm**  
**Friday and Saturday, 10 am-5 pm**  
**Sunday, 1-5 pm**

### *Will anyone lose their job?*

**No – Our budget hasn’t been cut.** We will be reallocating staff hours, and some staff schedules will change, but **no one will lose hours or be laid off.**

### *Why are you doing this? If your budget isn’t being cut, then what’s the deal?*

To serve the community better! We have a lot to do, and not enough hours to do it all and do it well. Our budget is stable, but we don’t anticipate being able to ADD positions or staff hours any time in the foreseeable future, so we need to use the hours we have more efficiently to deliver programs and services. It’s not efficient to have four-five people staffing a mostly empty building from 8-9 pm, four nights a week.

Our strategic plan dictates that we take more services into the community, to meet our users (and potential users) where they live and work. We need to spend fewer staff hours IN the library so that we have hours available to send staff OUT into the community.

***Who will be most affected?***

The change will mainly affect non-city meeting room users who schedule meetings to end later in the evening, and some internet and wireless users.

Remember, many of our resources such as our catalog, Overdrive downloads, databases, and Learning Express are available online 24/7.