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## The Latest

### **Medical professionals eligible for CCCU membership**

**Membership available to select employer groups.**

CCCU has close representation among the medical fields. Doug Spring of UMC is a CCCU member of the Board of Directors. We also have Dr. Spencer Luth, DMD as a member of the CCCU Audit Committee. Both are working professionals and both have oversight responsibility at your credit union.

Meet Dr. Spencer Luth, DMD, of Luth and Heideman Dental Care in Las Vegas. At first glance, the office is quite representative of many small medical offices in this highly favored field of CCCU membership. Las Vegas is home to literally hundreds of such offices where thousands of individuals work daily in the various areas of medical care.

However, there is more to learn as Luth and Heideman, like so many rising professionals these days, are involved and ambitious about advancing their capabilities and staying at the top of their field. Dr. Luth is involved in regular professional consulting for other dental professionals who come from all over the U.S. to learn how to perform the newest procedures.

The Luth and Heideman office is outfitted with cutting edge equipment that supports these young professionals in their treatment of patients who are in need of routine fillings, preventive care, and more, including complete reconstruction and replacement of crowns and full sets of teeth.

The office is home to the two doctors and their staff of 10 support individuals who manage details and keep the office running smoothly. All who work in an office like this, whether it is patient care or office management are eligible for CCCU membership.

Dr. Luth, who opened his practice at 6950 W. Smoke Ranch Rd. Suite 150, commented on why he also became involved as a member of the CCCU Audit Committee. "I recognized that CCCU held the same values as I hold related to patient or customer treatment," he said. "I like my patients to know me personally and be able to reach me and ask questions. The credit union works the same way. When I have an account question, I can easily reach a professional who is informed and able to help me."



"I like sharing the best I have to offer with my patients, family and colleagues. Likewise, I like being part of a financial institution that shares financial knowledge with those who seek it, as well." Luth went on to comment, "I'm also very impressed with how CCCU dealt with the economic tsunami that hit our community. Staff and members alike stood by their agreements and worked through the loans and problems we had in a professional way. Things are improving now, and I'm proud to have been a part of it." For information, see: <http://www.lhdentalcare.com>

On a larger scale, University Medical Center (UMC), has been Clark County's only public hospital since 1931. Doug Spring, Director of Human Resources Operations was appointed a member of the CCCU Board of Directors in July of 2007, after having also served several years as a member of the Audit Committee.

"We have 3500 employees on our main campus, and more at our 10 outlying locations, including our Quick Care offices and our Lied Indigent Care facility," said Spring. "And all of them qualify for CCCU membership, actually in two ways. First as employees of Clark County government, and also as medical professionals."

UMC staff members comprise some very remarkable work units, many of them one-of-a-kind in southern Nevada:

- University of Nevada School of Medicine - UMC is the premier teaching hospital in Nevada, partnering with the University of Nevada School of Medicine to provide medical residency programs in surgery, plastic surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, emergency medicine, family medicine, and head and neck surgery.

- Nevada's only Level I Trauma Center and Nevada's only designated Pediatric Trauma Center.

- Lions Burn Care Center - with the only hyperbaric chamber of its kind west of the Mississippi.

- Transplant Center - the only Transplant Center in Nevada, including pediatric transplant services.

- UMC's Cardiology and Stroke Center is the most highly awarded in Nevada.

"The hospital community is a growing field in southern Nevada," said Spring. "With so many choices for care, and choices for hospitals, we are still the safety net hospital for many who need emergency care. With so many on staff, we are still in need of nurses and pediatric professionals."

When asked why he chose to become involved with CCCU, Spring commented, "It's a personal thing for me - the credit union is a place of personal interest. As a member, and as a county employee, our funds pooled together also support each other. We gain strength in our deposits, and we support each other for our loan needs."

"I joined in 1981. Now, on the board, I am pleased to be a part of the growth and changes," said Spring. "I'm actually quite proud of how the credit union faced the challenges we've had in our community. We were prepared before the downturn to be able to deal with the troubles, and now, we've seen over a solid straight year of growth in our earnings. That means a lot." He added, "I'm really pleased to represent UMC and medical professionals on the CCCU Board."

So who all can join CCCU? To comment on that, Marketing Director Craig Fraley was quick to answer. "I speak to literally hundreds of people a week who work in the medical professions," he said. "I visit health fairs, offices, orientations for hospitals, and call on every medical office I can find in the county. Medical employees are one of our largest employer groups."

"Some people wonder if they can apply with us, since we are not open to the public," Fraley commented. "So I tell them; if you work for a medical office, no matter what your job assignment is, you are eligible. That includes, physicians, nurses, accounting staff, janitorial, part time, full time, even volunteers."

Fraley also pointed to the list on the CCCU website that describes who can join: *Medical profession includes anyone who works or volunteers for an organization or office such as: hospitals, dental, chiropractic, optical, veterinary, assisted living, hospice, medical supply, pharmaceutical, homeopathic, physical therapy, medical rehabilitation, home health care, lab/diagnostic, blood service, emergency medical care, orthodontia, radiology, cosmetic surgery, mortuaries. Anybody in medical, chiropractors, dentists, staff, nurses, volunteers.* "That pretty much covers it," he said with a laugh. "I love opening the door for new office staff members who never heard about us before."

Many new members who join CCCU comment that they were credit union members before, when they lived elsewhere in the country. They are happy to learn that they have a dedicated medical credit

union in Las Vegas that they can join with their colleagues.

For information, or for an in-office orientation, call Craig Fraley: 702-939-3114. Or see [www.CCCULV.org](http://www.CCCULV.org) . “We love our medical members,” said Fraley.



**Dr. Spencer Luth and staff from left: Rachelle, Denise, Tina, Jennifer, Holli and Katie**

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## The Latest

### **Call for Board nominations**

**Nominations must be received by November 16, 2012**

Call for Board nominations  
Board Nominations

Nominations are currently being accepted for the CCCU Board of Directors. Those wishing to nominate any individual for consideration, please send the candidate's resume to:

Nominating Committee  
PO Box 36490  
Las Vegas, NV 89133-6490

Nominations must be received by November 16, 2012 to be considered in this election.

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## Getting Ahead

### The 7 great ways to improve your credit score

#### For mortgages or for car loans . . .

If you plan to borrow money, it would be to your advantage to be aware of how to manage your credit these days. The higher the score, the lower your loan rate is likely to be. It's more important than ever, considering that even insurance companies adjust their rates to reflect your credit score. Here are some solid ways to manage your own score for the better

1. **DON'T CLOSE CREDIT CARD ACCOUNTS** – If you close a credit card account while you are applying for credit elsewhere, it can affect your ratio of debt to available credit which can have a 30% impact on your credit score. If you really want to close an account, wait until after you close your mortgage loan.
2. **DON'T MAX OUT OR OVER CHARGE EXISTING CREDIT CARDS** – Running up your credit cards is the fastest way to bring your score down, and it could drop up to 100 points overnight. Once you are engaged in the loan process, try to keep your credit cards below 30% of the available credit limit.
3. **DON'T CONSOLIDATE DEBT TO ONE OR TWO CARDS** – Once again, we don't want you to change your ratio of debt to available credit. Likewise, you want to keep a beneficial credit history on the books.
4. **DON'T RAISE RED FLAGS TO THE LOAN UNDERWRITER** – Don't co-sign on another person's loan, or change your name and address. The less activity that occurs while your loan is in process, the better it is for you.
5. **DO JOIN A CREDIT WATCH PROGRAM** – Watch for fraudulent transactions. Your bank, credit union or credit card company may be able to provide you with a free credit watch program that can alert you to any changes in your credit report. This can be a safeguard to help you intervene before the underwriter sees a problem. Credit watch is also offered through the three major credit bureaus. In addition, online banking with your credit union can allow you to keep an eye on your account easily, every day.
6. **DO STAY CURRENT ON EXISTING ACCOUNTS** – Late payments on your



existing mortgage, car payment, or anything else that can be reported to a Credit Reporting Agency can cost you dearly. One 30-day late payment can cost anywhere from 30 to 75 points on your credit score.

7. DO CONTINUE TO USE YOUR CREDIT AS YOU NORMALLY WOULD – Red flags are easily raised within the scoring system. If it appears you are diverting from your normal spending patterns, it could cause your score to go down. For example, if you've had a monthly service for Internet access billed to the same credit card for the past three years, there's really no reason to drop it now. Again, make your changes after your loan funds.

For financial tips on credit management, or to apply for a consumer or mortgage loan, call 702-228-2228, or find us online at [www.CCCUlv.com](http://www.CCCUlv.com)



## Getting Ahead

### A tale of two non-profit service companies

#### Nevada Public Radio and CCCU join forces with membership in mind.

*Since the late 1990's, CCCU and Nevada Public Radio have joined together to blend their non-profit missions for mutual strength with community in mind. For CCCU members, it means more like-minded families and individuals have been able to enjoy the benefits of our financial services. For NPR listeners, it means access to a primary financial institution that cares more for them individually than would a for-profit big bank. By joining one, you become eligible to join the other.*

There's a lot in common between the two separate companies. Both offer membership in a non-profit organization. Both seek to enhance the quality of life for their members. Both engage in activities that inform, educate and inspire those members to share the good life with families, co-workers and neighbors in our southern Nevada Clark County community.

Nurtured in its formative years by the Clark County Library District, Nevada Public Radio was incorporated in December, 1975 as an independent, Nevada non-profit corporation. Its flagship station, KNPR signed on the air March 24, 1980 as Nevada's first National Public Radio (NPR) affiliated station. See: <http://www.knpr.org/>

Nevada Public Radio has grown into a non-commercial, radio broadcast network comprised of seven stations, KNPR Las Vegas (88.9), KCNV Las Vegas (89.7) and others throughout the state. It is overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors. The staff now includes 30 full-time employees, plus part time and contract employees, and dozens of administrative and fundraising volunteers. More than 9,000 members and 50 corporations and foundations support the stations.

CCCU, founded in 1951 by 25 Clark County employees, has grown into a \$484 million dollar institution with over 33,000 members. Overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors and an Audit Committee, the credit union is chartered by the state of Nevada to serve a limited list of employers and organizations and is not open to the public. See <http://www.ccculv.org/home/who>

This is where the alliance between NPR and CCCU comes in. KNPR's original founding executive, Lamar Marchese and CCCU President/CEO Wayne Tew came to agreement in 1998 to join efforts to make membership in CCCU possible for those who are members of NPR. Now both membership groups can enjoy their mutual benefits for a better life.

At CCCU, all members benefit because we make members' money work smarter. We help members save money and time. We can do that because, unlike banks, we don't profit at customer expense. Instead, profits are returned to members as lower loan rates and fees, higher savings yields, and cutting-edge services.

KNPR broadcasts with 100,000 watts (ERP), at 88.9 FM. It programs a 24 hour service of National Public Radio (NPR) news and information, with specialty shows like A Prairie Home Companion and Car Talk. KNPR's State of Nevada is a national award-winning public affairs program supported by a dynamic web site.

Independent research shows the combined Nevada Public Radio weekly audience is more than 200,000 listeners, the website attracts approximately 240,000 visitor sessions each month and more



than 200,000 audio downloads of original content.

Nevada Public Radio listeners are unusually active and connected, with listeners more likely than average to go hiking, camping, enjoy theater and concerts, and to enjoy travel outside the country. They are also more likely than average to have savings investments and to stay current with financial planning and money management.

With a lifetime of savings options CCCU is committed to you for life - personal life, family life, recreation and later life. No matter what changes you go through in your financial life, CCCU is there to help with all of them. Our focus is on providing personal service to every member and special financial benefits you won't find at any bank. And that's the real benefit of belonging.

If you know someone who is interested in credit union membership, and who does not work within a CCCU field of employers, refer them to a CCCU membership officer for more information about joining as a KNPR member. Call 702-228-2228, or visit [www.CCCUlv.org](http://www.CCCUlv.org) .



## News & Events

### Celebrate International Credit Union Day

**October 18, 2012**

With seven billion people living in the world, each passing moment provides an opportunity to help one another. By losing ourselves in a cause we believe in and are prepared to fight for, we can find both happiness and genuine success.

This year on October 18, 2012, CCCU and credit unions in 100 countries will celebrate International Credit Union (ICU) Day by banding together and acknowledging their members.

As a credit union member, you belong to a global movement in which people help people. Worldwide, 188 million members experience the benefits of belonging to a financial cooperative that believes in and is willing to fight for this year's message: "Members Matter Most."

CCCU, like all non-profit credit unions, exists to serve you, the member, not to increase the bottom line. A focus on superb customer service and member satisfaction sets credit unions apart from other financial institutions. As not-for-profit cooperative institutions, credit unions return their earnings to members in the form of better rates on deposits and loans, fewer fees and better services.

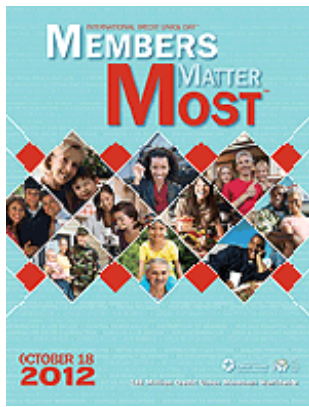
Irrespective of the amount you have on deposit with us, you are a member and an owner, with equal ownership and one vote. Members are never just numbers; your ownership empowers you and provides a voice.

In addition to member control, credit unions offer education and training programs. Fifty-four percent of Americans ages 18 to 34 check their social media accounts daily, while less than one third do a daily check on their financial statements. Credit unions actively focus on creating fiscally responsible members through their wide variety of education efforts, which positively impact savings and spending habits for a lifetime.

Member control, education and training programs, and concern for the community are key cooperative values that differentiate credit unions from other financial institutions. Our people-first philosophy illustrates an underlying credit union message that is simply this: "Members Matter Most."

Thank you for your membership, and for letting us serve you.

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## Lifestyle

### Top Five Pet-Friendly Vehicles

**If bringing along your pet is a priority, these automobiles are right for you**

According to the pet product company Kurgo and the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, 80 percent of pet owners have driven with their pets in the vehicle. If bringing along your furry friend is a top priority, here are two great vehicles (recommended by BarkBuckleUp.com and Edmunds.com) that will keep your pet comfortable and safe regardless of where you go:

**GMC Acadia.** With seating for up to eight and best-in-class interior space, the Acadia is sure to be comfortable even for larger pets. The available three-zone climate control ensures that your pet can stay cool even in the back, and with the OnStar system, experts can connect you to a vet or other emergency personnel in case of an accident.

**Mazda5.** The versatile Mazda5 has available power-sliding rear doors, a generous 27-inch opening to the rear seats and top safety ratings. Securing your pet is a breeze with the LATCH system in both the second and third rows.

Gayot.com has some picks of its own for pet-friendly vehicles:



**Honda Element.** Although the Element isn't available as a new vehicle any longer, there are still plenty of these out on the road, and you can easily find a pre-owned model. With an easy-open tailgate and available "Dog Friendly" package—which includes a soft-sided crate with a built-in, spill-resistant water bowl; a cooling fan; a portable ramp; and dog-patterned floor mats and seat covers—the Element is both fun to drive and safe for your pet.

**Volkswagen Jetta Sportwagen.** Gayot.com recommended the Sportwagen for its 66.9 cubic feet of cargo capacity for your pet and all his or her toys, not to mention its fantastic fuel economy. Excellent road manners, available leatherette seating surfaces (which help with all that shedding hair) and an available sunroof make this model an excellent choice.

Dogcars.com has its own suggestion: the **Volvo XC90 SUV**. The website gave this model a "five-paw rating" in its pet-friendly vehicle list. The XC90 offers plenty of space and the top-notch safety that Volvo has become synonymous with. The XC90 also has a variety of accessories to help keep your pet safe, whether on a short trip across town or a trek across the state.

Once you decide which model works best for you and your family, contact us and we'll help you get the right loan.



## Lifestyle

### Natural Cleaning Products

#### Making the change back to simple, time-tested cleaning solutions

As consumers learn more about the unknown toxins that may be lurking in their cleaning products, more families are making their own natural cleaning products. The ingredients are simple, safe and well-tested. As a bonus, natural cleaning products are also significantly less expensive than their commercial counterparts.

When it comes to natural products, five items that you probably already have on hand stand out for their cleaning properties.

#### Baking soda

This nontoxic, versatile and inexpensive cleaner has been around for decades and was a staple in your grandma's cleaning closet. Sprinkle baking soda on your carpets to remove odors, and place an extra box in the fridge or freezer to keep your appliances smelling fresh. Pretreat laundry spots with a baking soda paste, or sprinkle some in your washer to make the whole load smell cleaner. Deodorize the dishwasher by sprinkling baking soda on the bottom before your next load of dishes.



#### Vinegar

Vinegar is also non-toxic and safe for children and pets. Combine one part vinegar with one part water and use as a window or toilet cleaner. Add one cup of vinegar to your mop water to keep floors clean. To clean your washer of unwanted smells, place a cup of vinegar in the washing machine and run empty. Have something that needs cleaned? Chances are, vinegar will get the job done. And don't worry about that vinegar smell — it evaporates within a few minutes.

#### Lemon

Lemon has natural cleaning and disinfecting qualities. After cutting and juicing a lemon, use the cut ends to scrub your cutting boards to keep them free of bacteria. Add salt to cut lemons and scrub down your grill grates for a cleaner surface. Place leftover lemon rinds in the microwave for two minutes. Let sit for five minutes, and then scrub the walls of your microwave for an easier-to-scrub surface. Squeeze a little lemon in your dishwater to help degrease hard-to-remove foods.



## **Cornstarch**

While not as widely-known for cleaning as baking soda, corn starch has many of the same properties and can be used for a variety of household cleaning jobs. Sprinkle on oil stains in the garage or driveway to help soak up slick surfaces. Use as a laundry starch by mixing with water in a spray bottle, or mix with baking soda and sprinkle on carpets to freshen and deodorize.

## **Borax**

Borax has been around for ages and was one of the first natural cleaners used in households. Mix two tablespoons to each cup of water for a general cleaning spray. Add a half cup to each load of laundry for cleaner clothes. Sprinkle Borax in your garbage disposal and let sit for 30 minutes to spruce up bad smells. (While not harmful in small or diluted amounts, Borax — sodium borate — can be harmful to children and pets if ingested, so keep out of reach of little hands and paws, and away from food.)

To make the change to natural cleaning products in your home, switch just one of your cleaners and then gradually add more. Transitioning to more natural cleaning products is not only less expensive, but results in less waste and a more healthy home environment.

## Lifestyle

### Choosing the Right Computer: Laptop vs. Desktop

#### How to pick the right computer for your lifestyle

The computer is an essential tool in today's society, but choosing the right device can be a challenge. There are many competing brands that offer a variety of features and functionality. One of the first choices to make is whether to purchase a laptop or a desktop. This will dictate other decisions, such as furniture, placement, accessories and style.

#### Size matters

The appeal of the laptop is its portability. If you buy a laptop, you can grab your computer and go — you aren't tied down to a computer desk and can work just about anywhere in the house. With advancements in wireless technology, connecting to the Internet in a variety of places is a snap.

Still, some prefer to leave the computer in one spot rather than carting it around the house or risking damage in transit. In addition, the desktop is a better value in most cases when it comes to power, memory, storage, speed and monitor size. The desktop is larger than the laptop and can include more components. However, manufacturers have reduced the size of desktops in recent years for easier storage.



#### What is your style?

When you buy any product, you want a good fit for your lifestyle. One of the temptations of new technology is that it is exciting, and unique features can be intriguing even if they are not particularly right for you. Therefore, buying a computer is about finding an appropriate fit. Are you a traveler? Do you like to carry a computer around to various locations? Or, do you prefer to do most of your computer work from one comfortable spot in your home? For mobile people, the laptop is an obvious choice. However, some individuals find that they do not really need to carry a computer around with them, which makes the desktop and its better value a bit more appealing.

#### Customizing hardware

Again, style and features are key to choosing a laptop or a desktop. Do you prefer a larger monitor?

Do you like to use a full-sized keyboard and mouse instead of a more compact keyboard and a touchpad? Will you be editing video, which is enhanced by additional computing power and memory? Are you into computer-based gaming? These are all questions to consider before making your purchase. In addition, there is the issue of comparing companies. Dell, Sony, Apple and HP all allow consumers to customize their selections and build the exact computer they want.

Ultimately, purchasing a computer is about selecting a device that fits your needs and budget. Plenty of devices come with interesting bells and whistles, but this is also a depreciable item that will eventually be replaced by something new. Buy a computer that is right for you, but keep in mind that you can always upgrade to something more exciting in the future.

## Lifestyle

### Back to School: Five Chapter Books for Kids

#### Ready, set, read

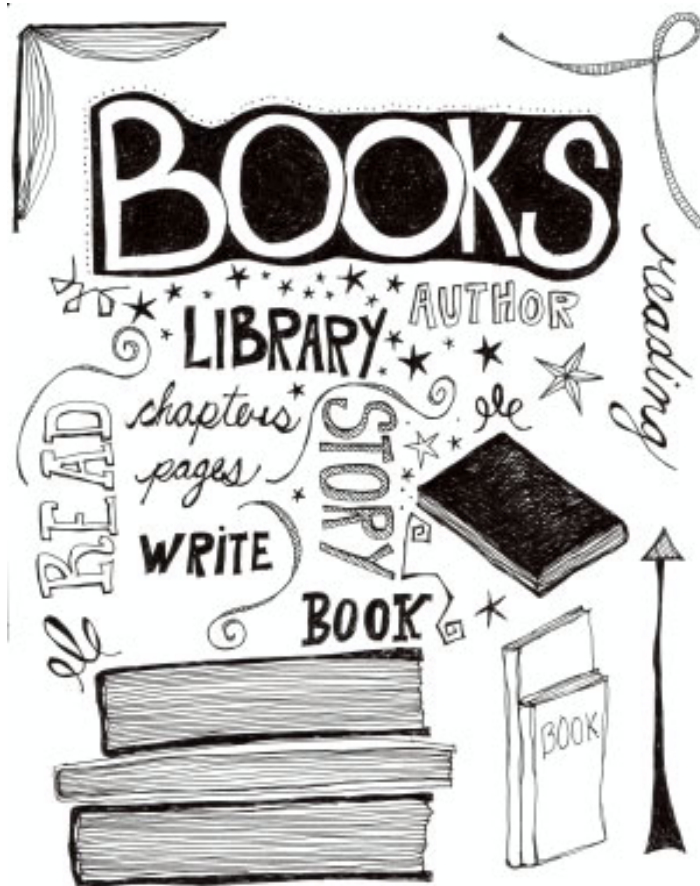
When young readers are ready to begin taking on chapters of their own, few things are better than a new chapter book that piques their interest. Start September off right with a new chapter book or two, and get those neurons firing just in time for the new school year.

#### ***Sir Licksalot and the Island Fools*, by D.L. Carroll**

This is the second book in the Sir Licksalot series, and it arrives with accolades. It was published in June of this year, and already the book has won the Family Review Center's Gold Award. In order to be eligible for the award, books must demonstrate product quality and family friendliness as well as "fill a void." The book follows main character Blaze N. Haught and his friends as they return to Mavericks only to have their plans fall apart leading to lots of fun and adventures. The Family Review Center lauds Sir Licksalot as "a must-read that every child will enjoy."

#### ***National Geographic Kids Chapters: Dog Finds Lost Dolphins and More True Stories of Amazing Animal Heroes*, by Elizabeth Carney**

Not all kids' chapter books need to tell tall tales. The National Geographic Kids Chapters series gives young readers an avenue into nonfiction in a way that appeals to anyone with a natural curiosity. *Dog Finds Lost Dolphins* will especially interest young (or maybe even not-so-young) animal lovers. The subject of the title story is Cloud, a dog trained to



track stranded dolphins.

### ***Middle School: Get Me Out of Here!*, by James Patterson**

Anyone wary of making the jump from elementary school to middle school might relate to James Patterson's tale of Rafe, a new seventh-grade student who finds a lot more than he bargained for when he's accepted into an art-focused middle school in the big city. The book is a sequel to the New York Times Bestseller, *Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life*. One thing that might make it appealing to young readers is that even though it's a chapter book, it doesn't leave illustration by the wayside — the 288-page book includes more than 100 illustrations.

### ***Lego Ninjago: Cole, Ninja of Earth*, by Greg Farshtey**

Though the Lego Ninjago series probably won't win any literature awards, there is one thing that it might win: the interest of a young reader who otherwise has trouble focusing on a long story. If your young reader is a fan of the *Lego Ninjago* TV show on Teletoon, these books might be one way to channel his passion for the story from the screen to a book.

### ***Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio**

Released in February, *Wonder* has already earned a spot on the New York Times Bestseller list. It tells the story of August Pullman, a boy born with a deformity that has kept him out of public school - until now. The book switches between multiple perspectives to tell a story about one community trying to find empathy and compassion. Author R.J. Palacio has referred to the story as "a meditation on kindness." It's one book that might deliver a message of acceptance at a time when young readers most need to hear it.

From stories with timely morals to books that entice reluctant readers, these five new chapter books for kids might hold the key to unlocking your young reader's love of literature.

## Lifestyle

### Movies Based on an Actual True Story

**From con men to survivalists and rock stars, the best stories of the cinema are true tales**

We all know of big blockbuster films based on true stories, such as *Titanic* or *Schindler's List*. There are many other movies based on real life stories that may be less well-known but are no less compelling. The following are just a few examples.

#### ***Catch Me If You Can* (2002)**

Although this isn't one of Leonardo DiCaprio's biggest movies, he does a great job portraying Frank Abagnale, a con man who adopted different identities with absolute precision. You will enjoy watching him as he gets deeper and deeper into his cons in order to avoid detection. *Catch Me If You Can* would seem ridiculously implausible if it weren't true — but it is.

#### ***Into The Wild* (2007)**

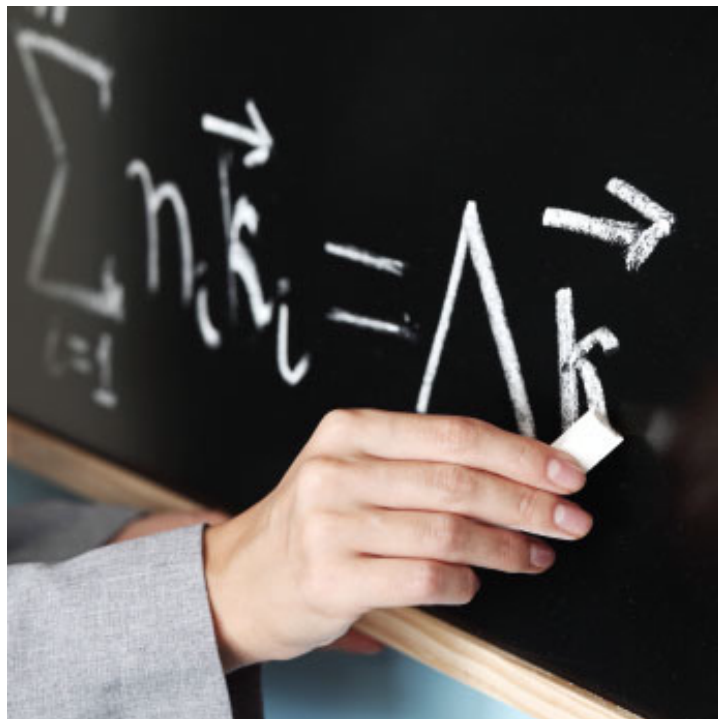
Based on a true story, *Into The Wild* is the gripping tale of one young man's attempt to leave behind the trappings of civilization in favour of a simpler life of honesty and self-sustainability. This fascinating film dramatizes the real life story of Christopher McCandless, who gave up everything he had and simply walked alone one day into the Alaskan wilderness.

#### ***My Left Foot* (1989)**

The true story of Irish writer Christy Brown is told in this fine drama. Convincingly portrayed by Daniel Day-Lewis, Brown was initially considered to be incapable in a day and age when his affliction, cerebral palsy, was greatly misunderstood. *My Left Foot* is an uplifting story of a man's triumph over a universe that says he can't, but Christy Brown shows us that he can.

#### ***A Beautiful Mind* (2001)**

*A Beautiful Mind* is a biographical film centering on the life of Princeton mathematician John Nash. This film chronicles Nash's genius, as well as his lifelong struggle with mental illness. Starring Russell





Crowe in one of his most unforgettable roles, this film leaves you feeling for Nash's difficulties and cheering for his ability to harness his own thinking, which ultimately allows him to live a semblance of a normal life.

***The Doors* (1991)**

Oliver Stone's *The Doors* tells us the story of one of the most beloved rock bands of the 1960s. The film focuses on the charismatic lead singer, Jim Morrison, played by Val Kilmer. The movie is filled with the music of the band as performed by Kilmer and others; the actor bears an uncanny resemblance, both visually and vocally, to the late singer. This is an interesting look at the 1960s and showcases the good, the bad and the ugly of the era.

Enjoying a film that has a basis in reality gives it an added dimension of plausibility that makes it even more exciting to watch. This list is just a small sampling of true-life-inspired movies; there are many other great titles available. As long as there are movies, we can be sure that some of the best will be true tales like these.

