



# NLC *Interchange*

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Newsletter  
of the  
Nebraska  
Library  
Commission  
Talking Book  
& Braille  
Service

## Advisory Committee Receives New Members

Five new members were recently appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Talking Book and Braille Service, and one was reappointed for an additional two-year term. New on the committee are Brenda Elson and Mary Trenerry, of Omaha; Marjorie Harrison, of Gering; and Robert Kalin

and Nancy Larimer, of Lincoln.

Reappointed for an additional term is Shirley Schmidt, of Columbus. Other members include Joan Davis, of North Platte; and Bob Deaton and Ana Kalin, of Lincoln.

## Great Decisions for 2008 Now Available

The *2008 Great Decisions Briefing Book* is now available on cassette, courtesy of the Arizona Regional Library. Published annually by the Foreign Policy Association, *Great Decisions for 2008* covers the Iraq end-game, European Union at 50, Talking to our enemies, Russia,

U.S. defense and security policy, Latin America: shift to the left?, U.S.-China trade policy, and Private philanthropy.

To borrow a copy, please contact your Readers Advisor.

## Questions and Answers

Question: I enjoy reading older books, even though they are not current bestsellers or written by the newest authors. Do you have

older books in your collection? I see mostly newer ones.

April

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# Questions and Answers

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Answer: We have older books and newer books. The newest books from Library of Congress are listed in Talking Book Topics. If the new books were recorded in our own studios, they are announced in our newsletter. But our collection of books on cassette goes back over thirty years. If you have a favorite author, title, or subject in mind, you should contact your Readers Advisor. You

could also search the “That All May Read” online catalog over the Internet. Use your browser to find National Library Service, or enter [www.loc.gov/nls/](http://www.loc.gov/nls/); then click on “Search the Catalog” at the top of the page. When the search form appears, set Location at “NLS Only.” Set Material Type at “Sound Recording.” Book numbers that begin with RC would be found in our collection. ■

## Magazines Celebrate Nebraska’s Good Life

Here are some cassette magazines specifically about Nebraska that help us appreciate the good life we enjoy:

*Nebraska Farmer*, published monthly, offers crop reports, articles on farm life, and new agricultural methods and technology. Another magazine from our studios, *Nebraskaland* showcases Nebraska’s beautiful state parks and other outdoor recreational opportunities. It is published ten times a year by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Also published by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, *Trail Tales* is a quarterly magazine for younger readers who love Nebraska’s outdoors and nature.

*Nebraska Life*, published bimonthly, features events, travel, and community profiles. A bimonthly magazine that includes Nebraska, *Midwest Living* covers places to visit, recipes, gardens, hobbies, restaurants, editorials, and more—all about Midwest states.

Published ten times a year, with an emphasis on Husker football, the *Big Red Report* attempts to cover the wide range of sports that are part of the University of Nebraska’s athletic program.

To request any of these magazines, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Readers Advisor. ■

# Good Books to Celebrate Spring

Winter ends at last, and springtime keeps us busy with lawn care, flower and vegetable gardening, and graduation. Here are some wonderful books to welcome spring.

**RC 47646** *O Pioneers!*, by Willa Cather  
Hanover, Nebraska. Since her Swedish father's early death, Alexandra Bergson has been in charge of the homestead as well as her younger brothers. Their fortunes rise and fall with the weather and the crops. Under Alexandra's guidance, the family eventually prospers. In middle age, when her old flame, Carl Linstrum, returns to Hanover, Alexandra has a chance for personal happiness.

**RC 51515** *Tulipomania: the Story of the World's Most Coveted Flower and the Extraordinary Passions It Aroused*, by Mike Dash

Natural and economic history of the tulip, from its origins in Central Asia to its

phenomenal popularity in seventeenth-century Europe. Examines the craze for tulip bulbs in the Netherlands in the 1630s—when a rare bulb fetched a higher price than a masterpiece by Rembrandt—and the repercussions when the futures market crashed.

**RC 58357** *100 Words Every High School Graduate Should Know*, from the Editors of the American Heritage Dictionaries

The American Heritage College Dictionary web site list of vocabulary words evolved into a published book by popular demand.

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# Good Books to Celebrate Spring

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**RC 58405 *Memorial Day***, by Vince Flynn

CIA agent Mitch Rapp leads a commando raid into Pakistan and uncovers an Al Qaeda plot to unleash a nuclear device in the United States on Memorial Day. Even with the bomb successfully disarmed, Rapp fears his team has not thwarted the terrorists' plans. Violence and strong language.

**RC 59072 *Miracles Happen: One Mother, One Daughter, One Journey***, by Brooke and Jean Ellison

Dual account of Jean Ellison and daughter Brooke, who at age eleven was struck by a car and left paralyzed from the neck down. They recall the accident, Brooke's battle to stay enrolled in school, her graduation from Harvard, and the nature of their extraordinary bond.

**RC 59460 *Blue Dahlia***, by Nora Roberts

Widow Stella Rothchild returns to Tennessee with her two sons to run a nursery business on Roz Harper's ancestral estate. Stella falls in love with landscape designer Logan Kitridge, but the ghost haunting the

manor disapproves. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex.

**RC 60852 *Paths of Desire: the Passions of a Suburban Gardener***, by Dominique Browning

*House and Garden* editor-in-chief documents the fifteen-year restoration of her suburban New York garden after a violent storm destroyed a retaining wall. Chronicles with good humor the much-needed renovations and offers helpful advice for enthusiasts and novices cultivating land in idiosyncratic environments.

**RC 62554 *The Complete Houseplant Survival Manual: Essential Know-hows for Keeping (Not Killing) More than 160 Indoor Plants***, by Barbara Pleasant

Identification and care of 160 common flowering and foliage houseplants. Discusses feeding, cleaning, pruning, repotting, and watering, as well as soil, terrariums, bonsai, diseases, drainage, fungus, bugs, lighting, propagation, and more. ■

# New Cassette Books from Our Studios

## *Fiction*

### ***One Part Angel***

**RC 1021**

by George Shaffner

read by Carol Yoakum

2 cassettes

In this off-beat humorous novel, a mysterious salesman, Vernon Moore, returns to the small town of Ebb, Nebraska, where he is needed once again to help rescue people's lives. Told from the point of view of Wilma Porter, who runs the town's only bed-and-breakfast, the story centers around Vernon's efforts to reform Matt, Wilma's grandson, who is charged with arson and attempted murder of the town's beautician, who is also Wilma's best friend. Other dilemmas include a pending and sinister business deal involving the richest man in town, and the survival of a religious cult, headed by the Reverend Gault. Sequel to *In the Land of Second Changes* (RC 1012).

### ***The Book of Ralph: a Novel***

**RC 1034**

by John McNally

read by Mary Elizabeth Anderson

2 cassettes

Southside Chicago, 1978, Hank is a solid student from a lower-middle-class family who wants to do well as he enters eighth grade. His plans take a turn when he forms an unexpected friendship with

Ralph, an older student who has been held back two grades and whose life is marked by parental neglect and whose family includes an assortment of felons. Hank is attracted to Ralph's crazy schemes but also afraid of where those actions may take both of them. Years later, Hank, now an accountant whose love life has fallen apart, returns to Chicago and unexpectedly reconnects with Ralph, who still lives on the edge. Hank understands that Ralph's rules for living, which include accepting disappointment and rejection and making pragmatic ethical choices, might reflect reality after all. Some descriptions of sex and some strong language.

### ***Dying to Decorate***

**RC 1049**

by Cyndy Salzmann

read by Margaret Polk

2 cassettes

Liz Harris and her closest friends form an informal but committed Friday Afternoon Club for mutual support. After the death of her husband and mother, Liz slips into a bout of depression. Rallying to her aid, her friends spend a weekend with her at Locust Hill, a Civil War era mansion which Liz recently inherited. As they are redecorating, they discover a hidden room, made all the more disconcerting by an old family diary. Book contains numerous recipes. Book one of A Friday Afternoon Club Mystery series.

# New Cassette Books from Our Studios

Continued from page 5

## ***Crime & Clutter* RC 1050**

by Cyndy Salzmann

read by Alice Timm

2 cassettes

Though it had been a year since Mary Alice lost her father, she dreaded having to clean out his locked storage unit. She welcomed the help offered by her six loyal friends, all members of the Friday Afternoon Club. As they sift their way through his clutter from the sixties, they discover a dark side to Mary Alice's past—one that involves her father's abandonment of her and her mother in order to join the counterculture. With her friends' support, Mary Alice searches for a way to forgive a father she hardly knew. Book contains numerous recipes. Book two of A Friday Afternoon Club Mystery series.

## ***The Secret of the Flying W* RC 1053**

by Dale Janda

read by Judy Hanefeldt

2 cassettes

Part white, part Indian, John Doddling has earned a reputation on the Kansas and Nebraska frontier prairie as a sly card shark, gunslinger, and financier. His search for an old friend takes him to the Flying W, a Montana ranch that is plagued with a sniper in the hills.

Contains some violence and strong language.

## ***Non-Fiction***

## ***Buffalo Gals: Women of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show* RC 1004**

by Chris Enss

read by Tamara Wellmann

1 cassette

Between 1883 and 1916, Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show entertained thousands throughout the United States and Europe. Among his top entertainers were women sharp shooters, bronco riders, and cast members for reenactments of battles and train robberies. A number of his women performers achieved celebrity status in a rough world dominated by men.

## ***Weed 'em and Reap: a Weed Eater Reader* RC 1019**

by Roger Welsch

read by Gail Barnard

2 cassettes

Best-selling humorist tells how to identify edible wild plants and serve them as salads, stews, vegetables, teas, or desserts. His good-natured enthusiasm for wild fare includes morels, cattails, acorns, grapes, berries, dandelions, sour dock, and much more. ■

## More Golden Oldies

Here are some great books recorded in our studios during past years. To order, please check the box next to the RC number and return this page to Talking Book and Braille Service, or contact your Readers Advisor.

**RC 842 *Brownville, Nebraska Territory: Story of a Town***, by Dorothy Broady  
1 cassette  
Nebraska history

**RC 843 *The Joy of Grandma's Cooking: a Treasury of Recipes and Stories***, by Clarice Carlson Orr  
2 cassettes  
Recipes and short stories

**RC 847 *The Man with the Giant Stride: the Story of Ken Witt***, by Joe Swatek  
2 cassettes  
Biography

**RC 857 *Free Money***, by Dale Janda  
2 cassettes  
Crime fiction

**RC 864 *J. Sterling Morton***, by James C. Olson  
3 cassettes  
Biography

**RC 871 *Fishing: From Nebraskaland Magazine***, edited by Tom White and Don Cunningham  
2 cassettes  
Fishing

**RC 872 *Sterling's Carrie***, by Margaret V. Ott  
2 cassettes  
Biography

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## Form and Mailing Instructions

Use pages 7 and 8 to mark the books and magazines you wish to order, then put the page into an envelope and mail it to the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book & Braille Service, 1200 N Street, Suite #120, The Atrium, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

**Big Red Report**

**Midwest Living**

**Nebraska Farmer**

**Nebraskaland**

**Nebraska Life**

**Trail Tales**

**RC 1004**

**RC 1019**

**RC 1021**

**RC 1034**

**RC 1049**

**RC 1050**

**RC 1053**

**RC 47646**

**RC 51515**

**RC 58357**

**RC 58405**

**RC 59072**

**RC 59460**

**RC 60852**

**RC 62554**

# Golden Oldies From Our Studios

Continued from page 7

❑ **RC 873 *People of the Old Missury: Years of Conflict***, by Nancy M. Peterson  
3 cassettes History of the West

❑ **RC 885 *KRVN: the First 50 Years of Service to Agriculture***, by Max Brown and Eric Brown  
2 cassettes Nebraska history

❑ **RC 886 *The Man Who Ate the 747***, by Ben Sherwood  
2 cassettes Fiction

❑ **RC 887 *Dunwoody Pond: Reflections on the High Plains Wetlands and the Cultivation of Naturalists***, by John Janovy, Jr.  
3 cassettes Natural history

❑ **RC 888 *Waiting for My Sailor***, by Genevieve Eppens  
1 cassette Autobiography

❑ **RC 890 *The Sunrise Serenade: a World War II Bomber Crew Story***, by Jerry Penry  
3 cassettes War biography

❑ **RC 892 *My Folks Rode the Rails***, by Vicki Schalansky  
1 cassette U.S. history

❑ **RC 897 *Of Rice and Men***, by Leland E. Mitchell  
1 cassette War autobiography

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Talking Book and Braille Service  
Nebraska Library Commission  
The Atrium • 1200 N St. • Suite 120  
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Free Matter  
For the Blind or  
Handicapped