



Southeast Signal

News, Events, and Information from Around the System

From the Director



The latest buzz in library land these days seems to be the idea of libraries dropping overdue fees. This discussion isn't exactly a brand-new thing, but it has grown significantly recently. Some will point to the American Libraries Association's

resolution from January urging libraries to scrutinize and possibly remove overdue fees as a reason for this growth of interest. (The resolution can be [found here](#).)

It has often been said that libraries have these daily overdue fines as an incentive to have books come back on time, but that doesn't seem to hold true. Some research suggests that fines have little to no influence on getting the books back. You can see in the document that San Francisco put together when they were researching this ([found here](#)) that removal of daily overdue fines did not increase the number of overdue books. In a few cases, on-time returns increased.

Recently some very large library systems have dropped overdue fines. To name just a few: Nashville back in July 2015, Phoenix will start later this month, San Diego in 2018, San Francisco in Sept 2019, Chicago just last month and many others.

It isn't just "out there", but it is also here in Nebraska. Lincoln removed the daily overdue fee on children's materials, as has Crete. From what I've found there are a few others in the state that have removed the daily fines for all patrons as well, like Hildreth, Hartington, and Sargent. I'm sure there are others

that might have already done it or are discussing it.

What's interesting is that this is now getting some mainstream attention. Locally NET published a story about it [found here](#). Of course the big markets covered the story when their local library changed their policies. Forbes even published a positive opinion piece on it. Yes, Forbes, the same site that published the anti-library opinion piece in July of last year. The Forbes piece can be [found here](#) – but be warned there's a lot of ads!

I'm not saying that you need to go and change your policies right now. What I am suggesting is that you take a good look at them. Research it and see what the results have been for those that have done it recently and see where some of our longest held assumptions may not be accurate. Watch the recent [NCompass live webinar](#) about it.

Some libraries aren't dropping their overdue fines, but are instead using their library software to send more reminders when books are due and how to easily renew it, or even having their software automatically renew checkouts if certain limits haven't been hit yet.

[One last resource](#) has a trove of articles, white papers, and other resources including many I listed in this article. There's even a map of libraries that have removed overdue fines from their policies.

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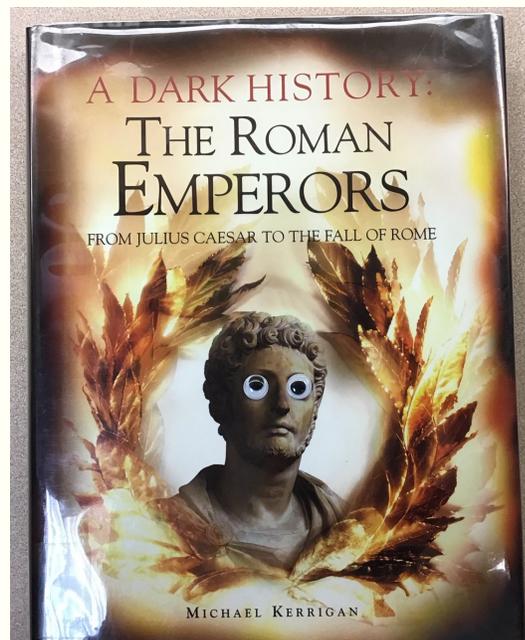
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Calendar



- November 15, [CASTL, Geneva Public Library, "Hoopla"](#)
- November 18, Mickey Mouse Day
- November 19, National Play Monopoly Day
- November 20, National Peanut Butter Fudge Day
- November 21, National Rural Health Day
- November 22, First [Summer Reading Program Workshop](#) (see p. 9)
- November 23, National Eat a Cranberry Day
- November 24-30. National Game and Puzzle Week
- November 28, Thanksgiving, SELS Office Closed
- November 29, Black Friday, SELS Office Closed
- November 30, Computer Security Day
- December 1, Rosa Parks Day
- December 4, National Cookie Day
- December 5, Bathtub Party Day
- December 6, [CASTL, Morton-James Public Library, "Bibliostat with Sam Shaw"](#)
- December 7, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- December 8, Pretend to be a Time Traveler Day

Photos of the Month



Stromsburg Public Library had so much fun putting googly eyes on their favorite book covers last year during October that they revived it for a couple of days this year. It was a big hit on both their Instagram and Facebook pages.

—Project by Emily Tandy

CASTL Wrap-Up

Upcoming CASTL Meetings

November 15
Geneva Public Library
“Hoopla”

December 6
Morton-James Public Library
Nebraska City
“Bibliostat”

January 24
Bruun Memorial Library
Humboldt

February 21
Burkley Library and Resource Center
DeWitt

March 20
Crete Public Library

The October 25th CASTL was hosted by Janet Roberts at Wymore Public Library and dealt with the topic of "Board Meeting Minutes," but the discussion covered other aspects of board meetings as well.

During a board meeting, the Open Meetings Act must be placed in a place accessible to all attendees. The Open Meetings Act also says the minutes must include the time the meeting convened, the members of the board present and the members absent, as well as every matter discussed during the meeting. This means that references must be made to all items on the agenda, even if they are simply tabled. Items not on the agenda but also discussed during the meeting must also be in the minutes.

The agenda must be publicly posted in advance in locations easily accessible. Changes may be made to the agenda up to 24 hours before the meeting, and the posted agendas must be kept up to date. The method of posting, including specific location(s), must be included in the minutes.

Votes must be done via roll call and the minutes must include how each member voted, any absentees, and abstentions.

If the library board sets up a task force composed of board members, the task force must either be limited to fewer than a quorum, or if composed of more, the meetings must be posted as would a regular board meeting.

The minutes, as well as all supporting documents, must be available to the public within 10 days (if the board meets again before those 10 days are up, then they must be available by that earlier date) and kept as part of the public record.

Emergency meetings may only be held with good reason and be posted with the reason for the meeting. The minutes must be posted at the end of the next business day. A Board may enter a closed session in any meeting, but only for limited reasons. In that case, the minutes must include the reason, time entered, time came out of, and any action taken afterwards. During a closed session no action may be taken. If the closed session is called to discuss a personnel issue, the person or persons being discussed have a right to request that it be an open meeting instead.

Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

To see the list of upcoming classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration</u>
Dec. 2—Dec. 13	Library Services to Children And Teens	November 4—November 22
Jan. 1—Jan. 30	Communication	November 25—December 25

News Around the System

Popular Program Sponsored by Fairbury Public Library

Story and photos by Debbie Aden

On October 15, Kevin and Charlotte Endorf presented "No Time on My Hands: The story of Grace Snyder" at the Bonham Theater in Fairbury. The library sponsored the event which also included a quilt show from the "Rock Creek" and "Thayer County" Quilts Guilds. The program was very well received, with about 65 people attending.



Fairmont Public Library Busy With Crafts

Provided by Wanda Marget

October was busy with crafts. We decorated small pumpkins and made spooky Halloween gnomes.



News Around the System

Syracuse Book Clubs Enjoy Special Event

By Sue Antes

The Syracuse Public Library Foundation hosted the four Syracuse Public Library book clubs on Thursday October 24th. The dinner was catered by Valentino's, followed by a speaker.

The speaker was Dave Straub of Syracuse. Dave worked for a Boeing crew 50 years ago that helped launch the Apollo 11 rocket and put a man on the moon.



Craft Fair Coming Up in Plymouth!

By Ellen Vorderstrasse

Plymouth Library will be hosting a Craft Fair on Saturday, December 7th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Plymouth Community Center, 313 East Main St.

Our annual craft fair is a great shopping experience with many wonderful vendors. There will be a silent auction during the event; all money raised from the auction will benefit the Plymouth Public Library. If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Ellen Vorderstrasse at plymouthlibrary@diodecom.net.



News Around the System

STEM Club Designs Shirts at Fairbury Public Library

Provided by Linda Dux

The STEM group at the library used the Scan and Cut to make T-Shirt designs. The design says “Library STEM Wizard!”



Crete Public Library Building Update

By Joy Stevenson

Just in time for the weather to turn cold, the new library is completely enclosed. Construction continues apace and we still hope to open to the public on Monday, January 6, 2020. All are invited to the soft opening week to be held Monday – Friday, 6-10 January. We will be providing tours of the new facility along with donuts and coffee.



Exterior photo looking NorthEast



Drive through for pick up and drop off library materials

MORE PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE

News Around the System

Crete Update Continued...



Children's area



Circulation Desk

Fun in Wahoo!

By Carrie Trutna

A teen volunteer is doing her best crazy cat lady impression for Halloween story time and in the other picture it looks like the story was getting really intense !



News Around the System

Call for SELS Board Nominations

The time is near for the next election to choose SELS board members. If you would be interested in serving on the board, or know someone who you feel would be a good board member, I would love to hear from you!

If you work in a library, are a library board member or user of a library in our service area; you are eligible to be a SELS board member. The Southeast Library System serves the counties of Butler, Clay, Fillmore, Gage, Hamilton, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Merrick, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saline, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, and York.

The board governs the Southeast Library System. Board member responsibilities include approval of policies, plans, and budgets, as well as evaluation of the System Director.

Board members serve a three year term. The board meets four times a year at locations around the SELS area and/or webinar, plus the annual meeting in January. The term would begin on January 1, 2020.

We serve all types of libraries and we strive to have that diversity in our board as well.

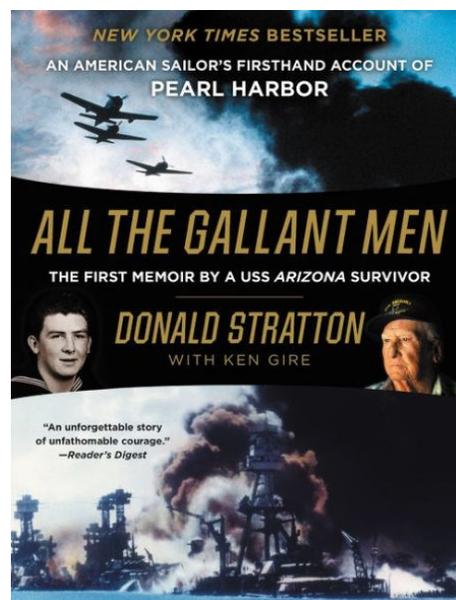
The deadline for all nominations is December 2. To self-nominate, please send your name, library and role with said library, and a short (under 100 words) biography to scott.childers.sels@gmail.com. To nominate someone else, please send their name, contact information, and if you have already approached that person or not.

Thanks so much for your consideration!

***All the Gallant Men: An American Sailor's Firsthand Account of Pearl Harbor* Chosen as 2020 One Book One Nebraska**

All the Gallant Men is the first memoir by a USS Arizona survivor. Born in Inavale, Nebraska and raised in Red Cloud, Donald Stratton joined the Navy in 1940 at the age of eighteen. On December 7, 1941 he was a Seaman First Class on the USS Arizona. Stratton's account of the Pearl Harbor attack is seventy-five years in the making, as he finally shares his personal tale at the age of ninety-four. His story is one of survival and determination as he recovered from the severe injuries he sustained in the attack, and ultimately re-enlisted to fight again. For more information, [click here](#).

SELS will soon have a book kit to lend so that book clubs at your library can participate in One Book One Nebraska.





Summer Reading Program 2020 Workshops



Imagine Your Story

Walt Branch Library

Lincoln, NE

10—3:15

November 22, 2019

4 CE

Syracuse Public Library

Syracuse, NE

10—3:15

March 13, 2020

4 CE

FREE! Topics will include: 1. Fairy Tales, Legends, Myths, Oh My! Hear About New Titles 2. Imagination Stations: Tween Programming for Summer Reading 2020 3. Activities to Fire Up Imagination in Children 4. Summer Crafts Sampler and 5. Outreach and School Partnerships.

Registration is available now for the Walt Branch Library workshop at <http://bit.ly/SRPW2020>.

Registration will become available for the Syracuse Public Library workshop in January. The content of the workshops will be the same.

This program is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Library and Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Spring 2020

January 13, 2020 – May 8, 2020

Enrollment for Spring Semester opens

Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019



LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

- Professional competencies including legal and ethical responsibilities
- Reference interview process
- The Reference collection
- Evaluation and use of digital resources, including databases, and websites

LIBR 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies

Patty Birch, Instructor

- Basics of Collection Management including terminology and models
- 21st Century Literacies
- Selection, Acquisition, Deselection/Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom and Copyright

LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification

Ruth Carlock, Instructor

- The bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- Machine-Readable Cataloging Record (MARC record)
- Resource Description and Access (RDA) Instructions

Spring 2020	Fall 2020
Libr 2100 Reference Resources and Services	Libr 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services
Libr 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies	Libr 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies
Libr 2210 Cataloging and Classification	Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum

For more information on the Library and Information Services program, see:

<https://www.cccneb.edu/lis/>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson

djohnson@cccneb.edu, 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

Central Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



University of Missouri–Columbia
School of Information Science and
Learning Technologies (SISLT)

Nebraska & Iowa
Virtual Open House

**Saturday November 16, 2019
10-11:30 am**

Zoom (<https://mizzou.zoom.us/j/223300681>)

Join us for an open house and learn about the opportunity
to earn your MLS from Missouri!

- In-state tuition
- Rolling admissions
- Most classes online, fits your schedule

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Program Liaison, SISLT

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System Spotlight

SELS WEBSITE



Looking for some information about Southeast Library System or its services? Google us from your phone, computer, or tablet. Usually the simple search “sels ne” brings us up as the first result.

When you land on our homepage, you will see blogposts. Usually the first is about an upcoming event.

You can also access a page that conveniently lists upcoming events and meetings, a page with information about each of our book kits, as well as current and previous newsletters, information about the journal article request service, and the details about SELS scholarships. If you haven't already, check out our website at <http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/>

Southeast Library System

<http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/>

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