



**January/  
February 2006**

# Eastern Express

## The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

### From the Administrator

Rivkah Sass has been director of the Omaha Public Library only since September, 2003. If you haven't had the opportunity of meeting Rivkah, she is a dynamo who works tirelessly and takes risks to make changes, create programs and services that benefit the Omaha community. What she has done has been noticed not only in Omaha but on a national level when *Library Journal* named her Librarian of the Year!



These are a few of the things Rivkah Sass has managed to get done in the short time she has been in Omaha.

To name just a few of Sass's accomplishments she has:

- \* Reorganized the staff and hired a new assistant director.
- \* Increased both the gate and circulation count by 13 percent.
- \* Closed the 4th floor of the downtown library; a move that allowed the library to be open seven days a week.
- \* Spoken about the library to many literary groups telling the audience that Omaha is a great city and deserves a first-class library.
- \* Made connections with authors with ties to Omaha to come back to the city to perform and formed a partnership with the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts to deliver an art in the library project.



*Risk taker, change agent, library true believer*  
**Rivkah Sass**  
**2006 Librarian  
Of the Year**  
[photo by Kevin Jones]

John N. Berry III, Editor-in-Chief of the *Library Journal*, has this to say about her. "Rivkah Sass is a librarian unafraid of, indeed energized by, risk, happy to force change, and rooted in a library philosophy of service and "give 'em what they want." A person boiling over with enthusiasm for people and a passion for librarianship. Couple these with a career odyssey that has taken her to all kinds of libraries, both as manager and front-line worker, and you have the ingredients for an exceptional, 'Librarian of the Year.'"

For more information go to [www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6298433.html](http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6298433.html)

Omaha Public Library will be holding a press conference/breakfast on January 27, 10:30 am, fourth floor of the W. Dale Clark Library, 215 S 15th Street, Omaha. Mayor Mike Fahey will announce Rivkah's award to the media. Area librarians and officials are invited to attend.

## Legislative Day



February 14 of course is Valentine's Day plus it is Nebraska Library Legislative Day. This is your opportunity to invite the state senator from your district as your guest to a delicious noon luncheon at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln and visit with him/her about what is happening at your library. Tell stories about the ways the library helps people in your community through the programs and services provided by your library.

Here are a few tips when talking to your senator:

- Thank the senator. They work hard and deserve to be recognized for it.
- Know the two or three most important points you want to make and make sure to deliver them.
- Practice. Anticipate what questions will be asked and prepare answers for them that address the points you want to make. Be prepared with quotable facts, stories and examples.
- Never give one-word answers.
- Never repeat a negative. i.e. Why do we need a library when we have the Internet?
- Don't answer if you don't know. It's OK to say, "I'm sorry, I will check on that and get back to you."
- Let your enthusiasm for libraries show. It may be catching.

There are lots of things going happening on Legislative Day. Attend the early morning coffee at 8:30 am at the capitol building. This is a great time to talk informally to senators, or arrange a meeting time with your senator after the legislative briefing that starts at 9:30 am. The briefing is where you will hear about the bills that have been introduced that affect libraries.

Nine outstanding youth volunteers will be introduced at the briefing and recognized at the luncheon. Following the luncheon, Emily Sheketoff, executive director of the ALA Washington Office will address the seminar about library issues at the federal level.

**REMINDER: ELS has scholarship money to help librarians and trustees attend continuing education events such as Legislative Day. There are also funds reserved for attending the ELS Annual meeting in June. Visit [www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern) for more information.**

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## The Unicameral, Your Library, and Your Community

by Nancy Meyer

What do these three things have in common? Everyone who lives in Nebraska should know something about all three and use the first one to be an advocate for the last two.

The Unicameral (Nebraska Legislature) began an unusual session this year on January 4, 2006. This will be the final session for 20 term-limited state senators. Some think this could be contentious and/or an intense session with out-going senators working hard to pass bills. During the first day of the 60-day session at least a dozen bills dealing with tax cuts or tax incentives were introduced.

I asked several senators for their outlook and comments on this session. Gwen Howard feels that "The major issues for this session will probably be tax cuts, school boundaries, stem cell research, concealed weapons, motorcycle helmets and funding for state colleges and universities. There are always unforeseen issues that pop up during the session that nobody sees coming." Matt Connealy thinks that the important issue this session will be "Fiscal Responsibility." The issues that first come to mind for Abbie Cornett are "those related to school boundaries, concealed weapons, fetal assault, repealing the mandatory helmet law, and lethal injection." Lowen Kruse considers management of funds, balancing tax cut proposals with expenses and a dangerously low reserve important issues this session. Kruse includes education, funding for libraries and ESUs, and health care management in his list.

Another question I posed was - how might the citizens of Nebraska become more involved in their government. Senator Connealy recommends staying informed through any news you can read or watch and then let your voice be heard by testifying, writing letters and calling your state senator. And Senator Howard is concerned that "too often the only voices heard in the Capitol are those of the lobbyists. Senators want to hear from their constituents so that they can better represent them." Senator Kruse suggests preparing brief statements of issues you are most concerned with and then present them to your representative. Senator Cornett recommends "become active in your community and local political campaigns, and VOTE."

To contact (or to find) your state senator go to [www.unicam.state.ne.us](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us). I highly recommend subscribing to the *Unicameral Update*, the weekly news

magazine. It is free, and it is also available online [www.unicam.state.ne.us/update](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/update). To request the print version (which every library should have) send your name and address to:

Unicameral Information Office  
Nebraska Legislature  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68502

Of course, I had to ask about term limits. Not all the senators I asked cared to comment, however, I feel that Senator Gwen Howard's comment really says it all. "I ran for the Legislature knowing that term limits were in place. I do think that the legislature will be losing a tremendous amount of experience and knowledge when 20 senators leave after this session. I would guess the final decision on term limits will be made by the Nebraska Supreme Court which shows that our system of checks and balances works. I would certainly accept whatever decision is made by the Supreme Court." Term limits for Senator Kruse "have few benefits, but cause many more problems. If we leave them in place, the legislature will become weaker and the executive stronger."

What are your hopes and dreams regarding this legislative session? If I were to reply to my own question I would have to say, "I hope more than ever before the citizens of Nebraska would know and care about the business at hand and feel compelled to voice their opinion in a positive manner." The senators replied this way:

- Senator Matt Connealy - "Put the State in good shape before term limits changes the Legislature."
- Senator Abbie Cornett - "I hope that we can come to an equitable agreement regarding school boundaries."
- Senator Lowen Kruse - "My hope for this session is that we will be able to fully debate key issues. This is a good body, with much experience and real caring. It may be our best chance for gaining and expressing wisdom."
- Senator Gwen Howard - "My hope is that this session is a productive one and that we do not get bogged down with petty or personal disputes. I believe that my colleagues are all committed to doing what is best for our state."

"The 2006 Session will be a barn burner. Or a quagmire. Or a bodacious party. Or a free-for all. Take the first one...the rest mislead."

**Senator Lowen Kruse**

# System News



## Gretna Public Library

During the last week of November and the first week of December, the Gretna Public Library collected nearly 1,000 books in an effort to help rebuild the Gretna, Louisiana Public Library. According to the Mayor of Gretna, Louisiana, their parish library was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Back in September, when someone here in Gretna, NE got wind that there was a Gretna, LA and found out about all of the destruction that area experienced due to Katrina, a first relief effort was organized back in October to help send a semi full of basic necessities down to hurricane victims in the Gretna, Louisiana area. Now another effort has been organized to send another shipment of goodies down to Gretna, LA leaving on December 12, 2005. Gretna Library Director, Jennifer Jazyuka, after hearing of the destruction their local library underwent, decided to organize the staff of Gretna, NE's library to help get Gretna, LA's library get back on it's feet. The books will be included in the shipment that goes down on December 12<sup>th</sup>. "It has been a wonderful thing to watch so many citizens of the Gretna area come in and drop off brand new books for donation to help the Gretna, LA Library--this is such a great community!" It may just be start to all of the help that establishing a new library will need, but we hope that they will feel the hope that we are sending to them as well as library materials.

## Creighton Health Sciences Library

Siobhan Champ-Blackwell & Stephanie Weldon have an article, "Free Online Consumer Health Classes" published in the *Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet*, 2005, Vol 9 Issue 3.

## Ashland

The Ashland Public Library Foundation will hold a fundraiser for a new library with U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser on Sunday, February 5, 2006 at the Ashland-Greenwood High School. Each English, Language Arts, or Creative Writing teacher will submit a poem from each class for judging. The winning poems will be included in a book to be on sale that day, and the winning poets will be given a chance to recite their poetry at this event. The foundation also had a fundraiser in September with liver music from two Russian exchange students, an art auction, wine tasting and even a celebrity grape stomping event.

## Author Visit

Children's author, Robert San Souci, visited five schools in the Omaha area during Children's Book Week in No-

ember. Mr. San Souci is the author of 95 books including many folk tales and scary story collections. His latest books, *Zigzag*, was released in October.

## School Book Club at La Vista

The reading club at La Vista Junior High Schools works a bit differently than most book clubs. Because they have 15-25 students at the meetings, it is impossible to all read and discuss the same book. They meet after school for an hour once each month and spend the first 15 minutes sharing what they have read while they eat (yes, food is essential.) Donna Wenzel, media specialist, booktalks new books and club members get first chance at checking them out. Sticky notes are put on each book and the reserve list is long by the time each book is passed around. Pictionary, Bingo, Jeopardy games are played using categories like genre, authors, titles and first lines. One activity that was popular was a PowerPoint slide with a book review that was combined into a kiosk-style show put on the circulation computers.

## Scribner

The Scribner Public Library has started a book discussion group for K-grade 2. The "Book Bunch" meets once a month after school. A different book is chosen every month and through interlibrary loan each child gets a copy. After discussing the book they have a treat and an activity. In November the book was *Casey at the Bat*, illustrated by Christopher Bing, who had visited the school. The children rate the books with smiley, frowny or non-descript faces on a chart. So far only one frowny face. In December the book was *The Polar Express*. Contact Jeanette Groppe for more information on this program: [stories@gpcom.net](mailto:stories@gpcom.net).

## Retirement

After 41 years in the education field and 29 years as an Educational Media Specialist, Bill Beck is retiring from the Wahoo Public Schools at the end of the current school year. Bill has always been so supportive of the Eastern Library System and a regular attendee of the Annual Meeting. We will miss see you, Bill. Good wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

## Seen in the Scribner/Hooper Newspaper

"Happiness is...having our Superstar librarian, Karla Shafer, represent Hooper at the National Library Conference in Boston, March, 2006. We are so proud that Karla was selected to attend this major convention, and we know that she will bring back a wealth of knowledge and new ideas for our library. Please join us in congratulating Karla on her achievement.

[The Hooper Library Board]

## Worth Checking Out

Roxanne Cox, McGoogan Library of Medicine, provided this list of her picks of the **ten best Internet web sites to provide consumer health information.**



- Medline Plus: [www.medlineplus.gov](http://www.medlineplus.gov)
- Lab Tests Online: [www.labtestsonline.org](http://www.labtestsonline.org)
- Cancer: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)
- Alternative Medicine Foundation: [www.amfoundation.org](http://www.amfoundation.org)
- Mayo clinic: [www.mayoclinic.com](http://www.mayoclinic.com)
- Centers for Disease Control: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
- National Center for Health Statistics/Fast Stats: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/default.htm)
- Noah: New York Online Access for Health: [www.noah-health.org](http://www.noah-health.org)
- MEDEM: An Information Partnership of Over 45 Medical societies: [www.medem.com](http://www.medem.com)
- Healthfinder: [www.healthfinder.gov](http://www.healthfinder.gov)

The Baright Public Library (Ralston) has a **Scottish collection of fiction and nonfiction titles** provided by the Scottish Society of Nebraska. Over 100 titles are in the collection. While titles may not be interlibrary loaned, the collection may be used in-house.

**In November, Eastern Library System sponsored an excellent workshop on grief.** Participants in the workshop learned techniques in helping library customers who are dealing with difficult issues from Joy Johnson, co-owner and counselor at The Centering Corporation, the largest publisher of grief resources in the country. The system office has a brief list of Centering Corporation resources as well as a bibliography of the UNO Library grief resources put together by Arlene Wright, librarian at the University Library. There is also a list of grief support groups in Omaha. For a copy of any of these lists, please call the system office.

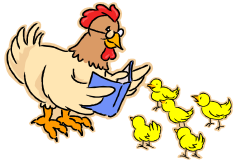
Since the Terri Shiavo case libraries across the country have received many requests for information on **assisted directives**. One source of assisted directives is the Casa de la Luz Foundation in Tucson, AZ. Called *Five Wishes*, the directive is available free upon request from [www.casafoundation.org](http://www.casafoundation.org).

**The National Center for Education Statistics has issued the first report on U.S. adult literacy** in ten years. The report found that 41 million Americans have below basic literacy skills, including 11 million who are non-literate in English. The more than 16,500 public libraries in the country are in a position to reach and help people of all ages and education levels. Ninety-four percent of public libraries serving more than 5,000 people provide some type of literacy services. If your library is not offering community residents help with literacy skills and would like to do so, please call the system office. The full report can be seen at [nces.ed.gov.naal](http://nces.ed.gov.naal).

### Stressed at Work—A Matter of Facts

- About 48 percent of U.S. executives admit to having a messy desk but claim to know where everything is, while 12 percent say their desks appear organized but they have no idea where to find anything. Executives waste six weeks a year searching for lost documents.
- Average office space per person dropped for the U.S. worker from 410 sq.ft. in 1997 to 355 sq.ft. in 2001 (includes common space like copy rooms, kitchens, lobbies).
- Two to 2 1/2 weeks of vacation is average for the U.S. worker, while Europeans receive five. Between 1969 and 1987, American workers added 163 hours—an extra month—to their working calendar.
- The average organization makes 19 copies of each document, spends \$20 in labor to find a document, loses one of every 20 documents and spends 25 hours re-creating each lost document.
- E-mail had increased print volumes by 40 percent or more. The average worker prints out 45 sheets of paper each workday.
- The average U.S. worker is interrupted about seven times an hour. The average interruption takes five minutes.
- About 80 percent of medical expenditures in the U.S. are for stress-related health problems.

Source: National Association of Professional Organizers' report on Organizing Statistics, [Seen in *USA Today*]



## For Children's Librarians & Media Specialists

### Young Adults and Libraries

"If you have yet to establish a Teen Advisory Board in your library, you have not taken the first step toward programming nirvana." So says Kevin A. R. King, Lead Librarian in Teen Services at the Kalamazoo Public Library. King has written a helpful article about establishing Teen Advisory Boards (TABs) and what to do to make such a board successful. \*VOYA, December 2005. To interlibrary loan a copy of the article, call the system office.

Patrick Jones, co-author of *Connecting Young Adults and Libraries*, shared many ideas and ways to reach young adults in his full-day workshop sponsored by the Regional Library Systems and the Nebraska Library Commission on December 1 in Seward. Jones is an outreach librarian at Hennepin County (MN) Public Library and has been working with teens for many years. Jones began his presentation with a discussion of ten core values of service for young adults, based in part of a list developed by the Search Institute called 40 Developmental Assets. For more information visit [www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org).

Jones asked librarians to practice RAP:

- R—Remember what it was like to be a teen.
- A—Accept the teen as is.
- P—Project that the teen is you in a library.

### Best Books

Other articles you may want to interlibrary loan are from the December 2005 *School Library Journal*.

- "Best Books 2005"
- "Adult Books for High School Students"

### A Story About Book Clubs and Reading

Robin Schrack, Gretna High School media specialist, conducts two very successful book clubs. Robin recently asked for help in locating 70 copies of two books by author Sharon M. Draper—*Tears of a Tiger* and *Battle of Jericho*. (Thanks to all the libraries who sent books.) Colleen Vincent, media specialist at Beveridge Magnet School (Omaha) e-mailed me that while she was unable to loan Robin any books, she did have an interesting e-mail exchange with the author, Sharon M. Draper.

Now for the rest of the story. Colleen had corresponded with Draper about the power of her books and how she bought two at-risk students each a copy of *Tears of a Tiger*; one read the book and the other one listened as she read (and cried as she read) to him. Draper responded individually to the two young students who were "nearly blown away" as she had sent autographed copies. The author said she writes "for the Sammies of the world."

### Grants Awarded

The Nebraska Library Commission awarded a total of \$35,495 in grants to 20 libraries to assist in providing improved services to children and young adults, and to provide continuing education opportunities for child and young adult librarians. Libraries in ELS to receive a grant are:

Lyons Public Library (\$1,413) for furnishings for teen area in their new library building. Programs will be planned based on topics indicated by the teen advisory board.

Baright Public Library (Ralston, \$2,526) will form a teen Library Advisory Committee. The project includes plans to begin two book clubs and purchase CDs and books, appropriate furniture, an information sign, three boom boxes with headphones.

**CLICK** (Children's Librarians Information Coffee Klatch) met this month to "book-talk" their selected books. Here are some of their suggestions:



**Overdrive** by Eric Walters (and other selections by the same author, Orca Book Publishers)

**Blood Red Horse** by K.M. Grant - the 1st in a trilogy

**Arthur King of the Middle March** by Kevin Crossley-Holland (the crusades come to life!)

**Young Warriors**, stories of strength, edited by Tamora Pierce and Josepha Sherman

We discussed the controversial author Chris Crutcher and his books that are at times considered over the edge but popular with teens.

The next **CLICK** meeting will be at the Gretna Public Library on April 3rd, 9:30 am. Our topic for the day will be "Lists." You are asked to bring copies of any lists you might have that you have found helpful. Lists of websites, popular teen books, acceptable teen books for the discerning parent, periodicals that teens would like, and any other helpful hints or suggestions that you can share. Bring along 15 copies, please.

The Omaha Public School library media program has begun a self-study which will become the basis for long-range planning. The goal is to collect data to measure the effectiveness of the library program in each school. The results will be analyzed to help determine areas needing improvement. "Research conducted in 16 states has shown that effective school libraries do have an impact on student achievement."

[seen in *Library Media Update*, OPS]

## OCLC CATEXPRESS OFFER: FREE TRIAL MONTH

\*OCLC CATEXPRESS OFFER FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS: 13 MONTHS FOR THE PRICE OF 12

NEBASE is again offering a free trial month of the OCLC CatExpress service to new subscribers. CatExpress provides web-based copy cataloging to libraries at a low, flat-fee subscription price.

The OCLC CatExpress trial subscription is a no-risk way to see if CatExpress is right for you and your library. Many libraries new to OCLC would like to know what kind of hit rate they will receive with CatExpress. You may also want to know how the records from OCLC can be processed by your local system. The trial option allows you to do real work with CatExpress, before committing to a subscription.

The introductory subscription is for the month of June 2006, and is free. NEBASE will be taking orders for the CatExpress Free Trial Month from now through May 19. The free trial month will begin on June 1, 2006.

If you do not wish to continue with CatExpress, simply cancel before the end of June. If you do not cancel within that first month, the subscription automatically rolls over to the regular 12 month subscription, which runs from July 2006-June 2007.

If you decide to continue with CatExpress after the free trial month is over, you don't need to do a thing. You will automatically be added to NEBASE's CatExpress Group Subscription. You will only pay for the regular 12 month subscription, receiving 13 months of CatExpress access for the price of 12.

To learn more about CatExpress, and to see the special NEBASE Group Subscription Pricing, go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/nebase/catx.html>.

To sign up for the CatExpress Free Trial Month offer or if you have any questions, contact Christa Burns at 402-471-3107, 800-307-2665 or [cburns@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:cburns@nlc.state.ne.us).

## Valentine's Day

What do you remember about Valentine's Day in years past? Perhaps it was that extravagantly decorated box that you took to school in hopes of filling it with lots of Valentines. The first mass-produced Valentine cards were sold in the 1840s. According to Hallmark this is the second most popular card-giving occasion of the year (Christmas is first.)



Legends abound as to origin of this day. Some think it originated to commemorate the anniversary of the death of St. Valentine, a Roman clergyman who was executed on February 14, about 270 A.D., for secretly marrying couples in defiance of the local authorities. Others claim that that holiday began as a Roman fertility festival. Maybe the greeting card, candy, floral and jewelry industries had something to do with it.

Books you might want to consider:

*Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch*, by Eileen Spinelli

*Roses Are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink*, written and illustrated by Diane de Groat

*Valentine's Day*, written and illustrated by Anne and Lizzy Rockwell (mother and daughter)

*Too Many Valentines*, by Margaret McNamara

## Bits and Pieces

**The Valley Public Library** has moved, literally. The entire building was moved to a different location with a permanent foundation. It not sits where the former city hall building was located. The modular building and its contents were moved with much volunteer help. The new location has less truck traffic and more parking spaces. An open house will be held this month.

### Computer Tip

[seen in *Smart Computing*, December, 2005]

Question: The abbreviated menus in Office 2003 can be annoying. How can I expand my toolbar so I see everything on two lines? Is there a way to see all of my menu options immediately?

Answer: These are two common complaints that can easily be remedied. With an Office 2003 application running (such as Word 2003), click Tools and Custom-

ize and select the Options tab. To sort your toolbars into two rows (rather than just one row), select the Show Standard And Formatting Toolbars On Two Rows box. Office applications also rely on context-sensitive menus that display your most recent choices in abbreviated menus, introducing a brief delay before displaying the entire menu. Some users like this because it reduced clutter, but many users find this behavior annoying. You can opt for full menus by selecting the Always Show Full Menus box on the same tab.

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### Free:

1. ScanPartner 620C. Scanner platen handles single journal page.
2. Panasonic KX-FP200 plain paper fax machine. Comes with extra film.

**Contact:** Kenny Oyer, Hartigan Medical Library, Alegant Health Bergan Mercy Medical Center  
(402-398-6092 or koyer@alegent.org)

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## Free (raffled)

**The System Office has the following available to any library. Please submit your name, library and contact information by mail, fax or email (no phone calls) by February 8th. Enter separately for each item. We will draw a name and will contact you to arrange for pick up at our office.**

- Gateway Computer, Monitor and mouse. 1999. Pent III 450 Mhz, 128 MB Ram, Zip and CD-ROM drives. 13.6 GB hard drive. 17 inch monitor.
- HP DeskJet 812C Printer

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**State Advisory Council on Libraries Appointments:**  
Cindy Gitt (Children's Librarian, Holdrege Public Library System)

Kris Rogge (Johnson)

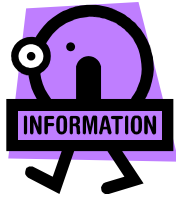
### Re-Appointments:

Janice Boyer (University Library, University of Nebraska at Omaha)

Theresa Jehlik (Omaha Public Library)

Diana Johnson (Stromsburg Public Library)





## Cultural Encounter Kits Available

[Seen in: *Straight-Talk from the Northeast Library System*]

Encounter kits designed to give Nebraska youth a better understanding of the Germans from Russia and Mexican-American cultures are ready for use statewide in schools, libraries, museums and other organizations who serve youth grades 4-8. The kits are available for loan through the Nebraska Humanities council (NHC) as part of the NHC's new program emphasis, The New Nebraskans.

The kits explore immigration patterns by pairing a new immigrant group with a more established group. Teachers already report positive results after testing the kits in the classroom, according to Gwendolyn Meister of the Nebraska Folklife Network.

"Kids especially enjoyed interviewing each other about their own folk groups," she said. "It helped them get to know each other in a different way than their usual classroom interaction."

Nebraska's Hispanic population grew 155% from 1990-2000, and Germans constitute the state's largest traditional immigrant group, so it is likely that youth from both ancestries will participate wherever cultural encounter kits are used.

Multiple resources can be used creatively to teach youth who learn in different ways. The kits contain practical and user-friendly lessons, plus a manual, books, CDs, tapes and artifacts of traditional clothing, games, celebrations, music, crafts, foods, history, maps, religious expression, language, stories and other aspects of each culture. The kits' in-depth information promotes cultural knowledge and understanding.

"Excellent kit! You've done a great job of providing plenty of resources. And the kit is formatted in a way that teachers can take only what they need or want to use," said Cindy Simonson, a 4th grade teacher at Sandhills Elementary School in Halsey. The kits have a flexible format with lesson plans that are keyed to required educational standards.

Each kit will travel to an estimated 25 schools and youth organizations during the school year, reaching at least 3,750 people annually. Encounter kits pairing Swedish and Vietnamese cultures are scheduled for use by fall 2006.

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## Free Posters Promote Talking Books For Nebraskans With Disabilities

Any Nebraska library is able to request free posters from the Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service. Two posters are available. One is entitled "A Good Book Is Worth Sharing" and the other is "Spice Up Your Life." These may be viewed at [www.loc.gov/nls/mediaservices/posterimage.html](http://www.loc.gov/nls/mediaservices/posterimage.html)

Each is 8.5 x 11 inches for mounting on a bulletin board. The posters contain contact information to direct queries to the Talking Book and Braille Service.

At this point there are no restrictions on the number of posters that can be sent to any one library. Send requests to [talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us) or call 1-800-742-7691. Application forms for free talking book service are also available.

### Working @your library®: for Love or Money

This advocacy video focusing on library worker salaries has been purchased by the Paraprofessional Section of NLA and is available from the Nebraska Library Commission. Call the Information Services\Reference desk 471-4016 or 800-307-2665 and ask to borrow that video from their collection.

## Eastern Library System 2006 Children's / Youth Services Grant

Introduction: Eastern Library System is offering two (2) \$500 grants for projects and/or services that will benefit children and young adults. These grants are open to all ELS member libraries that provide services for children and/or young adults. (Schools should submit an application from the district, not from an individual school.) Grant funds are to be an addition to the current budget.

Description: Projects and / or services should include one of the following:

- Collection development (1) to replace worn or discarded books and /or (2) from recommended lists (Golden Sower, Caldecott, Newberry, Notable Books, etc.) Provide list of what will be purchased.
- Children's literature course from any university or college.
- New program or service for children or young adults.

Instructions: Complete the following form and submit six (6) copies by March 1, 2006, to: Kathleen Tooker, Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144. **Faxes will not be accepted.** Applications will be reviewed by the Eastern Library System Continuing Education Committee.

Library Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

If awarded a grant, does the grant go to the library or library Friends or foundation? \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer all of the following statements on a separate page(s). **Address each bulleted and numbered section by titles, i.e. B. Project Description, B. 4 Implementation.**

A. Project Title

B. Project Description (must address each of the following):

1. Identify need

2. Goals

3. Objectives

4. Implementation

5. Evaluation

C. Estimated cost / budget and total cost

D. Benefit to children / young adults. State in terms of results and outcomes for them based on goals.

E. Starting and completing dates

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grant Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Eastern Library System 2006 Adult Services Grant

Introduction: Eastern Library System is offering two (2) \$500 grants for projects and/or services that will benefit adult library customers. These grants are open to all ELS member libraries that provide services for adults. Grant funds are to be an addition to the current budget.

Description: Projects and / or services should include one of the following:

Collection development either recommended fiction or non-fiction titles.

Provide list of what will be purchased.

New service or program for adult customers.

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Library Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

If awarded a grant, does the grant go to the library or library Friends or foundation? \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer all of the following statements on a separate page(s).

**Address each bulleted and numbered section by titles, i.e. B. Project Description, B. 4 Implementation.**

A. Project Title

B. Project Description (must address each of the following):

1. Identify need

2. Goals

3. Objectives

4. Implementation

5. Evaluation

C. Estimated cost / budget and total cost

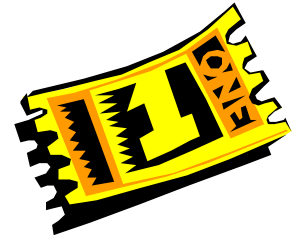
D. Benefit to adult customers. State in terms of results and outcomes for them based on goals.

E. Starting and completing dates

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grant Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Upcoming Events



- February 6, 2006—"Always a River, Sometimes a Library: Rick Anderson Reexamines Library Practice and Patron Service" - Teleconference, 11am—1 pm at Creighton University Health Sciences Library and Bellevue University.
- February 14, 2006—Legislative Day (see flyer in this newsletter)
- February 24, 2006—Summer Reading Program (see flyer in this newsletter)
- March 1, 2006—Direct Meeting, Springfield Public Library, 9:30 am.
- March 7, 2006—Introduction to Digitization, Cornhusker Council Outdoor Education Center, Walton, NE—9 am–4pm [www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskamemories/digitizationworkshops.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskamemories/digitizationworkshops.html)
- March 8, 2006—Introduction to Scanning Principles and Best Practices (as above)
- March 10, 2006—"Library Management Hot Topics: A Roundtable Discussion with Experienced Library Managers" - Teleconference, 11am—1 pm (see 2/6 for site)
- March 15, 2006—Paraprofessional Spring Meeting - <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/paraspringmeeting.html>
- March 17, 2006—ELS Board Meeting, Wahoo Public Library, 9:30 am
- March 20-24, 2006—Public Library Association Conference, Boston
- April 2-8—National Library Week
- April 3, 2006—CLICK Meeting, Gretna Public Library, 9:30 am
- April 8, 2006—Spring Colloquium, Lincoln (more information in next newsletter)

*For more information on any of these events, call the System Office.*

*Eastern Library System  
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12  
Omaha, NE 68144*

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