

MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2007

Your System Board:

*Ruth Campbell
Maxine Erpelding
Gail Irwin
Penny Jeffrey
Mary Koch
Laura Martinsen
Michelle Self
Stacy Vogel
Joan Davis, Emeritus*



Public Library
Londonderry, Ireland

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www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/

Disaster Plans

Are you considering writing a disaster plan? Here are tips from a presentation on Disaster Preparedness at the CAL Conference in November, 2006 by Diane Lunde and Carl Stewart

Elements of a Disaster a Plan:

Quick Reference Guide

- Procedures for immediate response to most common disasters
- Done with Security and Building personnel

Basic Information

- Emergency phone numbers
- Phone tree
- Building proctors
- Post evacuation meeting locations
- Location of disaster supplies
- List of vendors
- Floor plans with fire alarms, exits, etc.

The Disaster Team and list of responsibilities

Collection Recovery Priorities

- Priority 1: Irreplaceable materials
- Priority 2: Materials essential to provide basic services or to library operation, materials required by law
- Priority 3: Replaceable materials, i.e., core collections, areas of excellence, materials of high research value
- Priority 4: Nice to have, but not essential
- Priority 5: "Do not salvage" list

Disaster Scale & Recovery Operations

- Level 1: Emergency
 - Minor incidents that do not interrupt library operations
 - Handled by minimal staffing in less than 4 hours
 - Any damaged materials are handled in-house
- Level 2: Small Disaster
 - Limited to isolated area
 - Damage less than 100 items

(continued on page 3)

AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Caldecott Medal

Honors the illustrator of the most distinguished picture book for children published in the U.S. during the preceding year.

Winner:

David Wiesner, [Flotsam](#)

Honors:

David McLimans, [Gone Wild: An Endangered Animal Alphabet](#)

Kadir Nelson (illustrator), Carole Boston Weatherford (author) [Moses](#)

Newbery Medal

Honors the year's most distinguished contribution by a U.S. citizen or resident to American literature for children.

Winner:

Susan Patron, [The Higher Power of Lucky](#)

Honors:

Jennifer L. Holm, [Penny from Heaven](#)

Kirby Larson, [Hattie Big Sky](#)

Cynthia Lord, [Rules](#)

Coretta Scott King Award

Honors a black author and a black illustrator for an outstanding, inspirational, and educational contribution to literature for children and young people published during the preceding year.

Winner (Author):

Sharon Draper, [Copper Sun](#)

Honors (Author):

Nikki Grimes, [The Road to Paris](#)

Winner (Illustrator):

Kadir Nelson (illustrator), Carole Boston Weatherford (author) [Moses](#)

Honors (Illustrator):

Christopher Myers (illustrator), Walter Dean Myers (author), [Jazz](#)

Benny Andrews (illustrator), David Roessel and Arnold Rampersad (editors), [Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes](#)

Winner (John Steptoe New Talent Author):

Traci L. Jones, [Standing Against the Wind](#)

Michael L. Printz Award

Honors literary excellence in books for young adults.

Winner:

Gene Luen Yang, [American Born Chinese](#)

Honors:

M. T. Anderson, [The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing](#)

John Green, [An Abundance of Katherines](#)

Sonya Hartnett, [Surrender](#)

Markus Zusak, [The Book Thief](#)



Public Library DVD

At the recent ALA Midwinter Conference, the Gates Foundation U.S. Libraries team released a wonderful new DVD that tells the story of the value of the Public Library in our community. Copies of this new DVD, and companion brochures, are available AT NO COST to any Public Library.

Just request copies from :

www.gatesfoundation.org

The name of the DVD is *Your Public Library - Keeping your community connected*. The companion brochure is titled - *Keeping your community connected- Why our Public libraries need technology*.



SYSTEM OFFICE MOVING

The Meridian Library System Office is moving from our present location at Central Community College, Kearney Center to the Town Square Office Center, 3710 Central Avenue, Kearney. This is just two blocks from our present location. Driving north on Second Avenue, turn east at Dairy Queen and go one block. We will be located on the upper level.

Our phone numbers will remain the same.

Ten Easy Leadership Ideas to Help School Librarians Become Leaders on Their Campuses

1. Meet regularly with your principal.
2. Attend all faculty meetings.
3. Serve on curriculum and standards committees.
4. Present professional development for teachers and librarians.
5. Engage in collaboration with teachers and technology staff.
6. Meet with school library colleagues.
7. Visit other school libraries.
8. Link to initiatives that are implemented on your campus or in your district.
9. Give recognition to others for their successes.
10. Attend and participate in district, state, and national association meetings and conferences.

(by Nance Nassar, School Library Senior Consultant, Colorado State Library, Colorado Department of Education)



Voice of Youth Advocates Review Editor's Choice Books 2006

Acampora, Paul. *Defining Dulcie*.
Booth, Coe. *Tyrell*.
Chambers, Aidan. *This is All: The Pillow Book of Cordelia Kenn*.
Chima, Cinda Williams. *The Warrior Heir*.
Dessen, Sarah. *Just Listen*.
Giles, Gail. *What Happened to Cass McBride*.
Leavitt, Martine. *Keturah and Lord Death*.
Murdoch, Catherine Gilbert. *Dairy Queen*.
Taylor, Kim. *Bowery Girl*.
Valdes-Rodriguez, Alisa. *Haters*.
Werlin, Nancy. *The Rules of Survival*.
Wolfson, Jill. *Home, and Other Big, Fat Lies*.
Zusak, Marcus. *The Book Thief*.

(from VOYA, February 2007)



Disaster Plans (continued from page 1)

- Requires 1-3 staff members
- Disruptions end within a day
- Supplies available in-house
- Damaged materials treated in-house
- Level 3: Medium Disaster
 - Damages less than 500 items
 - Service operations resumed within 48 hours
 - Outside vendors may be needed
- Level 4: Major/Large Scale Disaster or Wide-Area Disaster
 - Contacts: Web, e-mail, phone
 - Library contacts
 - Facilities or Local Contacts
 - State Contacts
 - National Contacts
 - Vendors of emergency supplies and services
 - Vendors of Supplies
 - What to have on-site?
 - What would you need most?
 - How would you get it during an emergency?
 - Establish connections?
 - Would you need ready cash or credit card?
 - Rental Agencies
 - Vendors of Services
 - Local Services
 - Just drying out a carpet?
 - Removing wet carpet?
 - Response time? 24/7?
 - Larger Companies
 - Belfor
 - BMS CAT
 - Munters
- Selecting a Vendor
 - Do they have experience with Library Collections?
 - Does your agency have experience working with them?
 - Do they provide conservation services or could you direct them to use certain conservators?
 - Materials they use (chemicals)
 - Amount of personnel and equipment they might have to dedicate?

Disaster Plans (continued from page 3)

- Procedures for Disaster Recovery:
 - General Guidelines
 - The Pack-Out
 - Recovery of mold materials
 - Freezing of materials
 - Vacuum freeze drying
 - Vacuum drying or thermal vacuum drying
 - Wei T'o Book Dryer & Insect Terminator
 - Freezer drying
 - Desiccant dehumidification
 - Air drying of materials
 - Guidelines for non-paper materials
 - Recovery from a fire disaster
 - Charring and burning of materials
 - Soot damage
 - Heat damage
 - Smoke damage
 - Fact sheet on portable fire extinguishers
 - Procedures and specifications for rehabilitation of dried materials
 - Post-disaster procedures
 - Disaster report form
 - Procedures for testing the disaster plan



Web Sites of the Month

[Monster Librarian](http://www.monsterlibrarian.com) : Collection of horror fiction reading lists for adults and teens. Topics include vampires werewolves, zombies, horror-themed romance, and more. Also includes suggestions for scary books for children, and reviews of horror podcasts. From librarian Dylan Kowalewski. URL: <http://www.monsterlibrarian.com>

[Kiplinger.com: Taxes](http://www.kiplinger.com/money/taxes/): This compilation of articles addresses topics related to U.S. income taxes, such as tax filing, changes to tax laws, and tax breaks. Includes a withholding calculator and state tax profiles. From the website for Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine.

URL: <http://www.kiplinger.com/money/taxes/>

[Best Free Reference Web Sites](http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/rusasections/mars/marspubs/MARSBESTIndex.htm#0.1_L) : "This is an index of the web sites included in the 1999-2006 annual lists issued by the Mars Best of Free Reference Web Sites Committee of the Machine-Assisted Reference Section (MARS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) of ALA to recognize outstanding reference sites on the World Wide Web." Browseable by title. Includes links to annotations and to selection criteria. LII is listed. From the American Library Association (ALA).

URL: http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaourassoc/rusasections/mars/marspubs/MARSBESTIndex.htm#0.1_L

[Seize the Daylight: Who Knew? A Brief History of Daylight Saving Time](http://www.seizethedaylight.com/dst/)

Companion to a book about the history of daylight saving time (DST). Features a brief overview of the history of DST (including the contributions of Benjamin Franklin, World Wars I and II, and the 1973 oil embargo), and current observance of DST in the U.S., the U.K., and beyond. The "About the Book" section offers fun facts about DST. From a consultant who advised the U.S. Congress about its 2005 legislation to extend DST.

URL: <http://www.seizethedaylight.com/dst/>

[The History of St. Patrick's Day](http://www.history.com/minisites/stpatricksday/): History and related information about this holiday celebrated on March 17 in honor of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Includes information about items associated with the holiday, such as parades, the shamrock, leprechauns, and corned beef. Also includes links to information about Irish travel destinations and literary Ireland. From the History Channel.

URL: <http://www.history.com/minisites/stpatricksday/>

(copyright Librarian's Index to the Internet, lii.org)



St. Patrick's Gravesite
Downpatrick, Ireland

**Meridian Library System
Board Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2007
Garfield County Library, Burwell**

CALL TO ORDER: President Gail Irwin called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Board members answering roll call were: Joan Davis for Ruth Campbell, Maxine Erpelding, Gail Irwin, Penny Jeffrey, Mary Koch, Michelle Self, Laura Martinsen and Stacy Vogel. Kristina Owen was absent due to schedule conflict. Administrator Sharon Osenga, Assistant Delilah Gillming and Richard Miller from NLC were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Kristina Owen's resignation was added to the agenda. Stacey moved to approve agenda, Penny seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Maxine made a motion, seconded by Michelle, to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2006 meeting as written. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Gail passed around several pieces of correspondence.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sharon reported extra \$1000.00 that was received this quarter was used to replace Sharon's computer with an I Mac. A motion was made by Mary and seconded by Penny to approve the claims for November and December 2006. Roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION REPORT FROM RICHARD MILLER:

Richard highlighted the following upcoming events: the College of DuPage Teleconference on "Next Gen Librarianship: Where Do We Go from Here" by Rachel Singer Gordon on Friday Feb. 9; Flickr Training still has spots available for the Feb. 16th session. Also Legislative day is Feb 14th. He also talked about the Now Hiring@your library campaign.

Richard reported that Open Meetings Act Posters were mailed to all Nebraska public libraries for possible display. He also reminded the board of items on the commission's website such as discounts on various products and services from several providers and the Youth Grants for Excellence Recipients for 2006 which were awarded to 21 public libraries or systems. Finally, NEBASE Network Education Exchange is a cooperative online training program that allows member libraries to register for workshops offered by other OCLC Regional Network Libraries at member rates. Search under the term "Network Education Exchange" on the Commission's website.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Sharon will be attending the PLA Spring Symposium in San Jose March 1-3 and stay on afterward for a couple of day's vacation. She will also be attending the NMLA/MPLA Conference in Albuquerque March 13-16.

Evaluations and accounting for the Nancy Bolt Effective Leader-

ship workshops were reviewed, workshop was well received. Upcoming Workshops include the Summer Reading Workshop in Oconto on March 30th and Customer Service Workshop in North Platte on April 3rd. RVLS and MLS are also considering co sponsoring a digital camera workshop where attendees will work with editing digital pictures. Sharon's presentation at ESU 17 about regional systems went well. The Regional Library Systems have written a Library Improvement Project Grant at NLC for computer training sessions to be presented around the state by Scott Childers from UNL. We will know if we receive the grant in the next few months. Sharon also highlighted various library visits.

With the success of the Literary Ireland trip this past summer the Systems are considering sponsoring a trip to Scotland in summer 2008. We will be working with the same company.

Sharon told board about the Leadership Institute this summer, July 9-13. Information will be sent out to directors to encourage applicants. Also State stat reports are due. Only 5 system members have completed them. The deadline was extended to March 1st for those affected by the storms.

SYSTEM BUSINESS:

Youth Services Grant: Board discussed the Youth Services Grant applications that were submitted Following discussion and tally process, grants were awarded to Valentine Public Library and Morton/Bryan Elementary Schools in Lexington.

Office Lease: CCC is terminating lease. Sharon believes there is a 30 day clause in lease to release us if new facilities are secured prior to end of lease. Rod from the Commission has indicated they will help with moving expense. Sharon reported on several possible new locations.

Excess Furniture: Sharon suggested we place old computer out for bid but to wait a few more months to ensure we retain all necessary information on the computer. Also Sharon stated we would not be needing the white bookshelves either. Stacey motioned to open up for bids the Dell computer and to give away bookshelves, Penny 2nd the, motion carried. It was decided to offer bookshelves to anyone willing to pick them up.

Survey: Surveymonkey is services available online to help write, send and tally results of surveys. Thought is might be useful in the future.

T-Shirts: Sharon suggested a MLS T-Shirt, RVLS System had T-shirts printed and was well received. System paid half and remainder was covered by individuals. Sharon will get additional information.

Resignation: After discussing Kristina Owen's resignation, Maxine motioned that Joan Davis finish the remaining few months of Kristina's term. Michelle seconded, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be an April 13, 2006 conference call at 3:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Delilah Gillming
Administrative Assistant



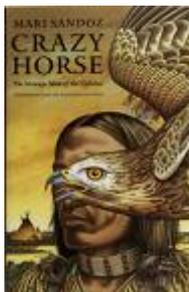
SANDOZ WORK IS 2007 ONE BOOK
ONE NEBRASKA SELECTION

Chadron State College through the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center, the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society, the Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Association, and a number of other statewide organizations are encouraging you to join us in celebrating the ONE BOOK ONE NEBRASKA reads CRAZY HORSE initiative during the year 2007.

Sandoz' *Crazy Horse* blends an understanding of our common history with an appreciation of our region's cultural diversity and the reading of *Crazy Horse* provides a common ground for Nebraska citizens to come together to learn about and discuss Native-American culture, plains history, and contemporary issues. Published in 1942, *Crazy Horse* is one of the best-known books written by Sandoz.

The committee is currently working on book kits and speaker lists. The committee anticipates having these ready in February. Additional events scheduled 2007 include Mari Sandoz' Birthday celebration (May 10), activities in the Heritage Village at the Nebraska State Fair (August 24 – September 3), and the Sandoz Literary Teleconference on September 9th.

Details concerning programs, resources, and activities of the 2007 One Book One Nebraska celebration will be available at www.onebookonenebraska.org. Information is also available from Sarah Polak at the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center, 308-432-6066. Additional information can be found on the Mari Sandoz Heritage Society website, www.marisandoz.org, on the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center website, www.csc.edu/sandoz, and on the University of Nebraska Press website, www.nebraskapress.unl.edu.



Gothenburg Public Library hosted a Gingerbread House competition at Christmas. There were 27 entries and over 80 people attended the Open House. This is the

“Three Little Pigs” winning entry.



**Maximizing the Value of Friends:
FOLUSA Training**

The Nebraska Library Commission recently purchased memberships in Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) for all Nebraska public libraries to ensure that their library staff, Friends, Trustees, and Foundations can take advantage of FOLUSA's services to enhance fundraising advocacy, and public awareness. As a component of this initiative, training supporting library Friends and Boards of Trustees will be presented March 27 from 1:00-3:30 at the Holiday Inn Express in North Platte and March 28th from 9:30-Noon at Keene Memorial Library, Fremont. The workshop will cover the following topics:

- Starting and Strengthening Your Library Friends
- Fundraising and Friends
- Friends as Advocates

Register as early as possible due to space limitations at the Nebraska Library Commission home page: www.nlc.state.ne.us. Scroll down to the article “Maximizing the Value of Friends” and click on the link. Registration link is in the article. Registration deadline is March 20th.



Sally Reed, Executive Director of FOLUSA will be the presenter.

Feature on Nebraska Book Club Kits Titles

Lisa Kelly – Nebraska Library Commission

Empire Falls by Richard Russo c2001 was amongst the final five selections for the 2003 One Book/One Lincoln Selection <http://www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/obol/obol2003/front.htm#nominees>. It was also a selection I recently read for my book group and my first Russo novel. Sometimes picking up a book that's been given the Pulitzer Prize can be daunting. No worries here. How often is the story of the everyday man written in such lovely and readable prose? Miles Roby is the character upon which all relationships are built in this novel and Miles is someone that you may not care for immediately, but you feel you know him. It's Miles' daughter and a veiled mystery of his past that hooks you into the book and makes you want to know more. At least that's what my book club members all said. A great deal of this book takes place in the grill named for the town in which it is located. As with many novels, place is a character in this book and it's nice to be in the Northeast region of the United States, Maine specifically. Regardless of the location, elements of the town apply to anywhere in the United States. *Empire Falls* is a working class town where hard times have finally taken their toll. The royalty of the city, Mrs. Whiting rules over the citizens financially and otherwise. Miles' father Max and the priest provide needed comedy to the story and Miles' brother David is the character who is often assigned dialog you wish you could insert to snap Miles out of his stuck-in-a-rut life.

I'm not sure if this is an indicator of successful book selection, but our book group discussed this novel for almost two full hours and still had issues yet to consider. What I adore about the magic of a book discussion is what I learn from the others and revelations about the book that I would have never achieved without examining the text with a group. It doesn't always happen and sometimes it requires a bit of cajoling, but when you have a book club epiphany, you want more and more.

Again, this is another book where you can add in a movie/book discussion. Paul Newman read this book (who also played the lead role in another Russo book made into a movie, *Nobody's Fool*) and worked with HBO to produce *Empire Falls* with no time constraints on the final movie so it was released as a mini-series. I watched the movie the day after I finished the book and enjoyed very much the visualization of a story I'd had in my mind in a different way. I think the book had more humor but it's not a difficult thing to watch Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward act.

Want to couple this book with food? It's a snap with diner food of which I always lean towards Grilled Cheese and chips. Here's a recipe for a dressed up Grilled Cheese Sandwich to head you towards the Empire Grill. I'll let you choose your own beverage.

The Ultimate Grilled Cheese Recipe

5 servings

25 min 15 min prep

1 (3 ounce) package cream cheese, softened

3/4 cup mayonnaise

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

1/8 teaspoon seasoning salt

10 slices Italian or sourdough bread

4 tablespoons butter, softened

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and mayonnaise until fluffy.

Stir in cheeses, garlic powder, and seasoned salt.

Spread five slices of bread with the cheese mixture, about 1/3 cup on each.

Top with remaining bread slices.

Butter the outsides of sandwiches; cook in a large skillet over medium heat until golden brown on both sides and cheese is melted.



Duane Munson Scholarship

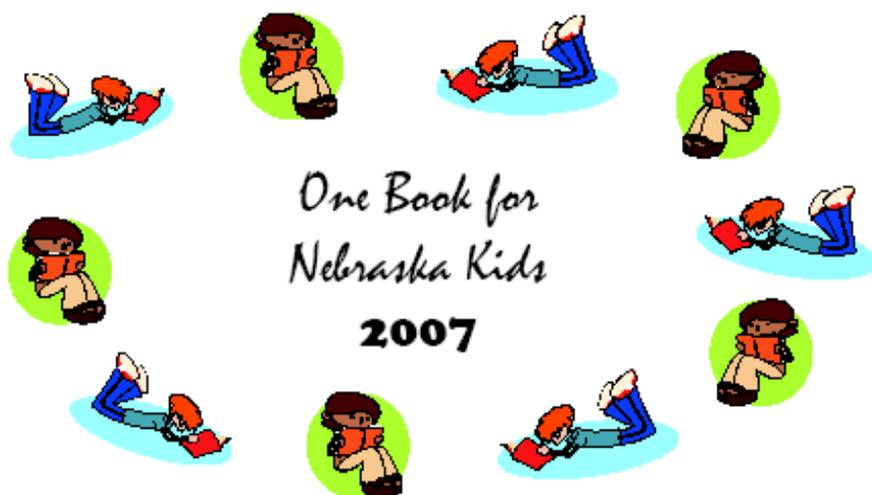
Purpose: The Duane Munson Scholarship was established to help practicing librarians and paraprofessionals gain additional library-related education and training. Full-time and part-time employees are eligible for this scholarship. Applicants must meet these Nebraska Library Association guidelines.

Applicant Requirements:

- Applicant will offer proof of acceptance for the program.
- Applicant must meet the following criteria – Employee of a Nebraska library or educational unit for at least **one** year and member of NLA for at least **one** year
- Applicant will submit an employment record.
- Applicant will submit two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with his or her professional qualifications.
- Applicant will submit a statement explaining why training is important and how it will enhance the applicant's professional growth.
- Applicant will submit her or his estimated expenses. Expenses may include tuition, fees, books, and travel.

Scholarship Conditions: One scholarship (\$250.00) will be given each year. One award per person is given. Scholarship applicants must deserve the award. Scholarships will not be awarded automatically if only one person applies.

Applications must be received by the NLA Scholarship Committee on or before April 15th of the current year. Scholarships will be paid directly to the recipient as soon after selection as possible.



One Book for
Nebraska Kids
2007

Sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission & the Regional Library Systems - 2007

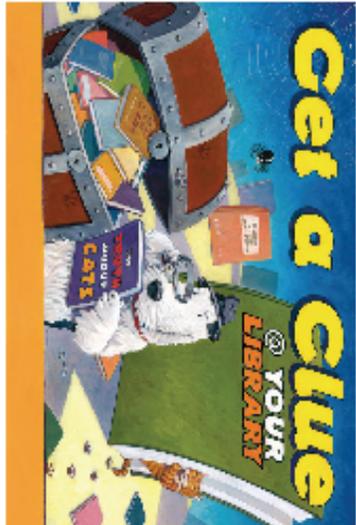
Wouldn't it be great if kids all over Nebraska were talking about books? We are starting a new program where kids can all read and discuss the same book. This year's book is aimed at fourth to sixth graders. It is about a boy who risks a lot to try to rescue a bear cub: *Rescue Josh McGuire* by Ben Mikaelson. A book bag containing 15 paperback copies of the book along with discussion questions, activities and background information is available from the regional library system offices.

Plans are underway to set up one or two opportunities for youth to interact with the author via the computer. Date(s) and time to be announced.

February and March are the designated months for this year's book discussion; however, this is a great book to read anytime and librarians may borrow the book set whenever it is available and fits into their library or school's schedule. In the future we plan to promote the One Book for Nebraska Kids or One Book for Nebraska Teens for January and February as the designated months.

This is the kickoff of an ongoing event that will alternate between upper elementary age level and middle school age level titles. A title for middle school age, the "One Book for Nebraska Teens," will be selected for the 2008 program.





**Summer Reading Program
Workshop 2007**

OFFICIAL MEMO

To: Librarians
From: Meridian Library System
Please report on Friday,
March 30, 2007
Time: 0930 to 1530 hours
Place: Oconto Community
Center
Your Mission: Training on the
Summer Reading Theme.
Essentials: Your manual,
craft kit items, and imagina-
tion.

Schedule

0930-1100 N.L. Sharp, Author

1100-1200 Sally Snyder
"Get A Clue" Book
Reviews

1200-1300 Lunch

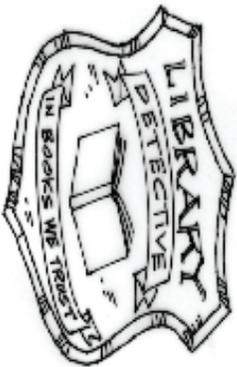
1300-1530 Ideas presented by:

Sharon Osenga,
Meridian Library System
Joan Chesley,
Children's Librarian
Sally Snyder,
NE Library Commission

**This is an important mission
should you decide to accept it.
Your library, your community and
your country need you!**

• Lunch is included in the
registration fee.

• 5 Continuing Education Units



REGISTRATION

Registration must be received by March 23, 2007.

Name _____

Library _____ City _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Mail registration to Meridian Library System, 3519 Second Avenue,
Suite B, Kearney NE 68847. Enclose \$20 per person attending.



The Customer–Centered Library

How to stop tweaking and start doing it with 12 new steps for 2007

Presenter Karen Hyman is a New Jersey-based consultant from the South Jersey Regional Cooperative. She has done multiple training sessions on a national level for PLA, ALA, and other state library organizations.

Learn

- ♦ how to see from the customer’s point of view.
- ♦ how to focus on user needs/expectations and service opportunities.
- ♦ how to develop and implement the culture, policies, services and environment that support a customer centered library.
- ♦ how to operate your library for the convenience of the customer.
- ♦ how to make customer service a way of life in your library.

April 3 North Platte Community College 10 am - 3 pm (Central Time)
 North Campus \$10 fee includes lunch
 North Platte, NE 4 NLC Continuing Education Credit Units

April 4 Columbus Public Library *This workshop is sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.*
 2504 14th Street
 Columbus, NE

Register:

Send \$10/person by March 28th to:

Nebraska Regional Library Systems c/o Eastern Library System 11929 Elm St., Ste. 12, Omaha, NE 68144

Name _____

Library _____

Email _____

_____ North Platte site

_____ Columbus site

Now Hiring @ your library®, a new section of Nebraska Library Commission Website is now live. It provides easy access to information about library education options, scholarships, job openings, library careers, mentoring, and recruiting. Nebraska and regional job listings have been repackaged and are now provided through a searchable job bank resource at www.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/JobsAndCareers.asp.

This Website supports the work of the Library Commission's federal grant, *Recruiting the Next Generation of Nebraska Librarians @ the movies*. With this \$343,682 grant awarded from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in FY 2005, the Nebraska Library Commission began developing a campaign to recruit the next generation of Nebraska librarians and train and support current library workers. The project grew out of a recommendation from the Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries, and was prompted by the need to fill current and expected job vacancies, as identified by the Library Commission's Recruitment and Retention Task Force.

The goal is to increase the number of professionally trained librarians and media specialists in Nebraska. The Library Commission's grant is part of the \$19 million "Recruiting and Educating Librarians for the 21st Century" national initiative. Through this project, high school and college students are recruited, matched with mentors and educational opportunities, and provided with stipends, grants, or scholarships to support the pursuit of pre-professional and professional education. For *Recruiting the Next Generation of Nebraska Librarians @ the movies*, the Library Commission developed a marketing plan to create awareness and identify prospects for library service careers. The focus is recruiting talented and diverse library personnel for all types of Nebraska libraries, matching them with mentor/recruiters and educational/employment opportunities, and providing grants, scholarships, and stipends to support their pursuit of pre-professional and professional training.

Scholarships are available to students seeking a master's degree in Library and/or Information Science, master's degree in Education in School Library Media, bachelor's degree in Library Studies, or a Library Technical Assistant degree. Since November 2005 state and federal scholarship funds awarded are approximately \$88,000. To reach Nebraska's growing Hispanic community, the Library Commission funded Spanish-speaking interns at nine libraries across the state through a partnership with the Nebraska Humanities Council's "Prime Time Family Reading Time" program.

Mentoring is an important component of the recruitment activities. The primary strategy is a one-on-one, each-one-recruit-one, mentoring approach. Mentors and recruiters will be trained to use a multimedia package (including a video PSA for television and movie theatres, print and broadcast communication, Web resources, and exhibits/displays) to identify prospects and inform them about the opportunities for rewarding careers in library service. The resources will be made available to K-12, postsecondary, and public library staff, as well as library supporters and advocates, helping them to form a statewide network of mentors and recruiters. Please request a recruiting kit if you would like to test the materials at a local community or school career fair. For more information contact Mary Jo Ryan, Nebraska Library Commission Communications Coordinator, 402-471-3434, 800-307-2665, mjryan@nlc.state.ne.us.

Accessed Now Hiring @ your library® by clicking the "coffee cup" icon on the left side of the Nebraska Library Commission Home Page (www.nlc.state.ne.us) or directly at www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.com and www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.org.



Nebraska's Concealed Handgun Permit Act

January 3, 2007 marked the day that Nebraska's Unicameral reconvenes. It also marked the day that Nebraskans could begin applying for a permit to carry concealed handguns. (If you want to read the law, see sections 69-2427 through 69-2447 Neb.Rev.Stat.) Section 69-2441 lists locations in which people, even with a permit, are not allowed to carry a concealed weapon; these places include schools, prisons, courthouses, financial institutions, and others. Public libraries are not on this list. This same section also allows, however, for libraries and other entities to post "conspicuous notice[s]" that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited in or on the place or premises. . . ."

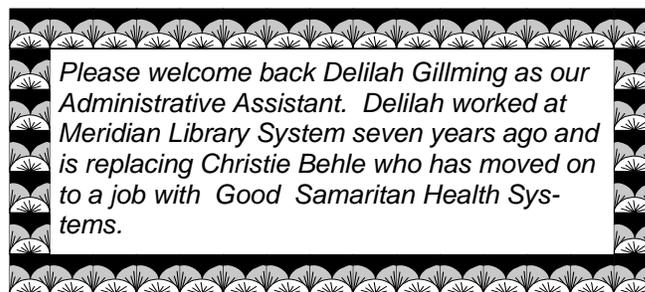
Have you discussed this yet with your library board and with your city or county attorney? You may want to. It also does not appear that college and university libraries are listed as exempt locations. Check with your college or university administration about this.

For a copy of a printable poster, go to the following URL on the Nebraska State Patrol's website:
http://www.nsp.state.ne.us/Docs/forms/CCW_Sign.pdf

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