



# Straight*talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

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May, 2004 - Published by the Northeast Library System  
Kathy Ellerton - System Administrator/Editor

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Sign up now for the Annual Summer Institute meeting on June 3rd at Wayne State College. This year's highlights include the Database Roadshow by NLC staff, Cataloging Audio-visual Materials by Marilyn Liedorff, Print & Electronic Resources for School Librarians, New Accreditation Standards, Personal Safety in the Workplace and much more.

If you haven't received the registration information, please call the System office at 1-800-578-1014 or email us at [nelibry@megavision.com](mailto:nelibry@megavision.com) to request one or sign up. We're looking forward to visiting with everyone and have a great time!

## Filtering In A Nutshell

As I've traveled across the Northeast Library System this spring, the subject of filtering has often been the topic of conversation.

Between CIPA and Gates computers, trying to understand what is required can often be very, very confusing.

In a nutshell, filters are required if your library meets one of the following:

1. You receive Federal or E-rate funds for Internet Service Provider (ISP) directly or through any grant or regrant program. Recent legislation requires compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) in order for your library to continue receiving these funds.

If you are not required to have filters on your machines now, you may in the future in order to comply with future LSTA grant requirements from the Nebraska Library Commission. Grant recipients would need to comply if their grant funds are

used to purchase computers that access the Internet pay for or Internet access.

2. Your state or local government is considering or has passed legislation requiring filtering for some or all of the computers in your library that have open access to the Internet.

3. Library users, trustees, staff, media or other stakeholders have expressed concern about filtering or the lack of it.

The following are reviews of three filtering products provided by the RVLS office.

**Net Nanny**, Version 5 at [www.netnanny.com](http://www.netnanny.com) was purchased at Best Buy in Lincoln for \$29.99. There is no annual renewal fee. It included one copy of the program on CD ROM, and a two page "Getting Started with Net Nanny 5" Setup guide. "Getting Started" contains brief installation instructions. Be sure to write down the passwords for User Names "Administrator" and "Anybody."



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Wisdom  
outweighs any  
wealth.

~~Sophocles

I recommend that one default be changed. The Automatic Updates are off by default. Go to Start/Programs/Net Nanny 5/ Net Nanny Settings. Enter the password for Net Nanny "Administrator". In the left pane, click on 'System Settings, click List Updates. Under Schedule Updates uncheck "No Automatic Update. I will update manually." Check "Daily" Click on button "Apply".

Since CIPA does not require filtering of text, I suggest you make the following change to avoid over-filtering. In the left pane, click on User Settings, click on "Anybody". You will see the tabs Website Blocking Level, Blocking Options, Filtering, Applications, and Time Limits. On the Filtering tab, under Content Filtering, check "Disable filtering of objectionable words and phrases."

On the Website blocking level tab, one may adjust the permissiveness of the filter. On the Blocking Options tab, one may choose to block using the "Net Nanny List", and/or the "My List", whether to block cookies, whether to block .gif & .jpg graphic files, and whether to block pop-ups. On the Applications tab, one may choose whether to block File Trading, Instant Messaging, Games or Chat Rooms.

To see the list of blocked & allowed sites, in the left pane, click on System Settings, click on Web Sites. The sites are listed and may be edited on the four tabs, "NN Permitted, My List Permitted, NN Re-

stricted, My List Restricted."

Support is available from pay-as-you-go telephone, free email, built-in help, and free FAQs. It has not been necessary to contact support. Operation has been reliable. Two or three times a site has been blocked unnecessarily. Entering a password allows the filter to be bypassed. Entering a password or rebooting turns it back on. You can click on an icon by the clock to enter the password.

**CyberPatrol** was purchased online with a credit card for \$39 and downloaded from [www.cyberpatrol.com](http://www.cyberpatrol.com). It has a one-year subscription and requires a renewal fee. There is no CD ROM and no user manual. Be sure to write down the "Headquarters Password" and the "Deputy Mode Password."

Operation has been reliable. Four or five times a site has been blocked unnecessarily. Clicking on an icon near the clock and entering a password allows the program to be shut down. But to reactivate the program, you have to reboot or got to Start/Programs/Headquarters and open the program to reactivate the filter. The easy way is simply click on the icon near the clock and select Deputy Mode, enter the Deputy Mode password and select Block All, Filter, or Allow All. The Deputy Mode password feature is provided specifically for "persons needing unrestricted Internet access on a temporary basis."



I was not able to see a list of blocked sites. The help feature says "The CyberLIST Web Categories list as shown on the Categories page is a list of websites that have been carefully researched and categorized according to their type." A person cannot edit the CyberLIST. Provision is made to construct your own list of Blocked and Allowed Sites which overrides the CyberLIST. The permissiveness of the filter is adjusted by Unblocking or Blocking whole Categories in the CyberLIST, or by entering URLs of individual websites. Categories are: Adult/Sexually Explicit, Chat, Criminal Skills, Drugs, Alcohol & Tobacco, Gambling, Glamour & Intimate Apparel, Hacking, Hate Speech, Remote Proxies, Sex Education, Violence, Weapons, and Multiple Category Servers."

To Unblock or Block Categories, got to Start/Programs/CyberPatarol/Headquarters. Open Headquarters. Enter the "Headquarters Password". Click Customize Filter Settings, Click Web Filtering: Customize. Click Select Web Categories. Then check or uncheck the Categories for which you want to change permissiveness.

Support is available for \$9.95 per telephone call, free via email or fax, and through extensive built-in help. Daily Automatic Category List Updates are turned On by default. A dialogue box pops up on the screen for five seconds every morning informing me that updates are being loaded, and

then the box disappears.

CyberPatrol is a more sophisticated filter than NetNanny.

**We-Blocker** was installed on a Gates Library Computer running Windows XP. We-Blocker is a free program which was downloaded from [www.we-blocker.com](http://www.we-blocker.com). It has no CD ROM, no manual and no subscription or renewal fee. I used the default settings, except for changes noted below. Be sure to write down the "Master Controls Password" for User name and "Master USER."

The following changes were made as specified on the [www.pacomputing.org](http://www.pacomputing.org) website. Unlock Centurion Guard and log on with Administrative privileges. Go to Start/Settings/Control Panel. Double click User Accounts. Click "Change the way users long on or off". If a "User Accounts" dialogue box pops up, click Cancel. Be sure "Use Fast User Switching" is unchecked. Click Apply Options.

By the clock, find the strange "We" icon and click on it. Choose "Go to Master Controls." Enter the "Master Controls Password." You should see five tabs labeled Users, System Settings, Custom Filtering, Activity Log, and About We-Blocker.

On the Users tab, select Guest and click Edit. Uncheck "Log this users activity." Uncheck "Block sites that contain bad words?" Notice that you may select what categories this user

is blocked from on this screen. Categories are "Pornography, Adult Subjects, Violence/Criminal Activity, Hate/Persecution, Drugs/Alcohol, Gambling, Weaponry, User Defined Category. Click OK to save. On the System Settings tab, uncheck "Update Without Asking First" since Centurion Guard will not allow updates to be written to the hard drive. Click save and close.

I was not able to see a list of websites blocked by categories in We-Blocker. To add sites to be allowed, go to the Custom Filtering tab, select "My Allowed Sites" button, and type in the URL into the box by the "Allow This Site" button, then click on the "Allow This Site" button, and click on Save and close. I could not get "My Blocked Sites" tab to accept new entries.

Some very limited help is built into the program. FAQs and Tips & Tricks are available on the We-Blocker website. Telephone tech support is available at \$20 per 15 minutes. The manual Update feature sometimes freezes up. This program is limited in its abilities.



## **\$Fundraising Ideas**

### **Cow Pie Bingo**



Experience the sweet smell of success while hosting a cow pie fundraiser. A cow is turned loose on a fenced in area which has been marked off in 500 three-foot, numbered squares. The cow determines the winner by making the first "deposit" on one of the squares. Chances on each square are sold for \$5. The winner receives 20% of the sales or \$1 for every square sold.

Make sure the animal is well-fed on the day of the event, to assure a timely "deposit". Sell squares in advance as well as before 'turning out' the cow. A line judge is required for close calls. Set out clear rules to avoid problems and assure impartiality. If possible, choose a field with stands for the ticket holders to wait and watch for the big moment. A football or soccer field (in off season) might be used if fenced or you have enough volunteers to keep the animal on the grid. Possible sources of the star player: a local dairy, horse farm, etc. to donate the critters "time" and the field to make a grid. In place of a cow, you could also use a horse, goat, or sheep! Choose a docile animal and groom resplendently for the event. Have several volunteers available to patrol the fence and assure no one is able to influence the event in any way. It's best to have a rain date arranged ahead of time, if needed.

## **SBC 2004 Excelerator Grant Program**

The SBC Foundation is the charitable giving arm of SBC Communications Inc. The SBC Foundation supports efforts that enrich and strengthen diverse communities nationwide, particularly those with an emphasis on education and technology and those that benefit underserved populations. The Foundation Center has consistently ranked the SBC Foundation among the nation's top six corporate foundations.

In 2004, \$9 million is available to national and local non-profit organizations for projects that use technology to build stronger communities. The SBC Excelerator grant program will award \$5 million in competitive technology-related grants, enabling non-profit organizations to integrate technology into their ongoing operations and community outreach. Interested organizations can apply for this year's grant by downloading a copy of the 2004 Request for Proposals (RFP) from [www.sbc.com/foundation](http://www.sbc.com/foundation), or by calling 800-591-9663.

2004 SBC Excelerator grants will help non-profit organizations across the U.S. improve their operations and build stronger communities through:

- Interactive, Web-based applications that support activities such as service delivery, volunteer recruiting and e-fund-raising.
- Technology training programs for non-profit staff members.
- High-speed access to the Internet and email.
- Network connectivity enabling easy sharing of database applications and information systems.

To qualify for an SBC Excelerator grant, an organization's major focus and project must emphasize education, community development, health and human services, or arts and culture. Grant funds may be used for data communication services, hardware, software, technology training, personnel, and application development. Grants will range from \$2,500 to \$25,000 and are one year in length. Collaborations by two or more organizations will be considered for grants up to \$50,000 for one year.

**Completed applications are due by August 13, 2004.**



**Straight-Talk** is published ten times per year by the Northeast Library System. Contact Kathy Ellerton or Rosemae Schaeffer at the Northeast Library System Office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. C.S.T. at 1-800-578-1014 (402)- 564-1586 (Voice) (402)-564-7977 (FAX).

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Subscriptions to Northeast Library System **Straight-Talk** are \$10 per year (10 Issues).

To subscribe, send cash or check with mailing information to the System Office. Advertising: Businesses wishing to advertise in **Straight-Talk** should contact the System Office for current rate information.

ISSN 1064-9816  
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 Volume 1, #2

### National Geographic Index

National Geographic, one of the most popular magazines, now has an online index for searching any of the National Geographic Society's publications. This free index contains more than 23,000 bibliographic records and includes National Geographic magazines from 1888 to the present, Adventure magazine, Traveler magazine, Kids magazine (formerly World), and Explore! The index is at: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/publications/explore.html>

CopyCat Magazine Index can be found on the web at: [www.copycatpress.com/cmindex.htm](http://www.copycatpress.com/cmindex.htm). Libraries in the Northeast System that carry the magazine include Norfolk Public and Winside Public Library.



Graves Public Library in Wakefield held their ground breaking ceremony for their new library on Friday, April 23. Already the site is a beehive of activity with people and trucks. Nancy Fredrickson said they hope to be in their new building in October.



The new St. Edward Public Library dedication will be held on May 29th at 10am. Everyone is invited to attend and share this exciting event.



"A new library is like finding a \$100 bill on the sidewalk". by an unidentified patron at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library in Michigan.



American Journeys contains more than 18,000 pages of eyewitness accounts of North American exploration, from the sagas of Vikings in Canada in AD1000 to the diaries of mountain men in the Rockies 800 years later.

Read the words of explorers, Indians, missionaries, traders and settlers as they lived through the founding moments of American history. View, search, print, or download more than 150 rare books, original manuscripts, and classic travel narratives from the library and archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Funded by the U.S. Institute of Museum & Library Services and by private donors, American Journeys is a collaborative project of the Wisconsin Historical Society and National History Day. It's created for students exploring National History Day's 2004 theme, "Exploration, Encounter & Exchange" and everyone else who loves American history. The website's address is: <http://www.americanjourneys.org>.



## Economic Information

Are you confused by the latest press releases on the economy? One day the talking heads say we are having an "economic boom" and the next day we hear the "economic indicators predict growth". Whom do you believe? Below is a list of web sites that provide unbiased economic information.

### Regional Economic Indicators

[www.kc.frb.org/publicat/red/histdata/rhedmain.htm](http://www.kc.frb.org/publicat/red/histdata/rhedmain.htm)

The Tenth Federal Reserve District publishes a monthly regional economic update with analysis of the construction, banking, energy, and agriculture industries. State-by-state analysis is also published at this Internet site.



### Economic Review

[www.kc.frb.org/publicat/econrev/ermain.htm](http://www.kc.frb.org/publicat/econrev/ermain.htm)

In support of the Federal Reserve's responsibility to help formulate and implement the nation's monetary policy, the Bank's Economic Research Staff performs basic economic research and analyzes the regional, national, and international economies. This research is published quarterly in Economic Review. This Internet site includes issues of Economic Review back to 1994.

### Beige Book

[www.kc.frb.org/publicat/beigebk/bbkmain.htm](http://www.kc.frb.org/publicat/beigebk/bbkmain.htm)

The Summary of Commentary on Current Economic Conditions by Federal Reserve District, commonly known as the 'Beige Book', is published eight times each year. Each Federal Reserve District Bank conducts a survey of current economic conditions by interviewing a sample of businesses representing the primary industries in their district. The results are summarized by district and industry.

### Consumer Confidence Survey

[www.conference-board.org](http://www.conference-board.org)

The Conference Board is a nonpartisan, non-advocacy organization that publishes monthly and quarterly surveys on consumer confidence and other macroeconomic topics, as well as special reports that discuss these topics in depth. Basic information on the economy is free, while many research reports are fee-based. Portions of the Conference Board publication, Across the Board, are available for free. (The Conference Board is supported by a membership of more than 2,900 enterprises in over 60 countries.)

### Survey of Current Business

[www.bea.doc.gov/bea/pubs.htm](http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/pubs.htm)

The Survey of Current Business is a monthly journal written by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, an agency of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce. The journal pulls together estimates, analyses, research, and methodology based on statistics generated from BEA's national, regional and international economic accounts. These three economic accounts present basic information on such key issues as U.S. economic growth, regional economic development, and the nation's position in the world economy. This site has Survey of Current Business articles from 1994 to the present.

### U.S. Industry & Trade Outlook

[www.ntis.gov/product/industry-trade.htm](http://www.ntis.gov/product/industry-trade.htm)

Business professionals, investors, researchers, and students can use the "Outlook" to get information on U.S. industries, how these industries affect the U.S. economy, and where they are going in an increasingly global marketplace. Individual chapters from the U.S. Industry & Trade Outlook can be purchased and downloaded in PDF format.

**Dr. Ed Yardeni's Economic Network**

[www.cm1.prusec.com/yardweb.nsf/\(YardeniHome\)?OpenAgent](http://www.cm1.prusec.com/yardweb.nsf/(YardeniHome)?OpenAgent)

This award-winning site is chock full of daily reports and audio forums. Essays cover global investments and economic forecasts. Monetary policy and electronic commerce are discussed. This site can be used as a base page for links to global markets, economic information, and industry forecasts.



**Norfolk Public Library's 10th Annual Literature Festival**

This year's festival features Robert J. Blake, 2005 Golden Sower Award for TOGO, Elisa Carbone 2005 Golden Sower Award nominee for Storm Warriors, and Will Weaver, 2005 Golden Sower Award nominee for Memory Boy.

**9:00 - 10:15am** - Writer's workshop for Students by Robert J Blake, Elisa Carbone, and Will Weaver

**or**

**9:00 - 10:15am** - 2004 Golden Sower Award Previews by Karen Drevo & Marci Retzlaff of Norfolk PublicLibrary

**10:30-10:45am - BREAK**

**10:45-11:45am** - Presentation by Robert J. Blake

**11:45-1:00pm - LUNCH**

**1:00pm - 2:00pm** - Presentation by Elisa Carbone

**2:00pm-3:00pm** - Presentation by Will Weaver

**3:00-3:15pm** - Door Prizes - Must be present to win!

**3:15-4:00pm** - Autograph session with authors Robert J. Blake, Elisa Carbone, and Will Weaver.

Please note: Teachers employed by Norfolk Public Schools who wish to receive 2 Professional Growth Points and Public & School Librarians who wish to receive 5 continuing Education Hours (from the Nebraska Library Commission) for attending the Festival - Be sure to sign in to get your Points/CE Hours.

**Tickets:** Youth (Age 18 & under): \$5.00/advance or \$7.00/door

Adults: \$15.00/advance or \$20.00/door

Advance tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library or by mail order. To order tickets by mail, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with full payment (make checks payable to: "Norfolk Library Foundation -- Literature Festival") to:

Literature Festival  
Norfolk Public Library  
308 Prospect Avenue  
Norfolk, NE 68701

For more information, contact Karen Drevo at the above address or by: Phone: 402/844-2100, Fax: 402/844-2102 or by email: [kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us](mailto:kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us).



## Re-designing a School Library Media Center

How does a school library media center become a library for the twenty-first century? According to Harry Myerberg, "the twenty-first century library will be a flexible work and social setting for multiple activities: simultaneously a classroom, computer lab, reading room, study hall, conference center, theater, lecture hall, teacher's lounge, community center, and a place for parents to meet".

The school library media specialists at the School Library Media Center at Delsea Regional High School re-designed their media center.

The first step in the project was to decide on the objectives for the re-design. The first objective was to consider the traffic patterns and how specifically the room was used. The layout had the seating divided into three sections which meant that some students always had their backs to the teachers. Also, it was not conducive to large group presentations.

The second objective was to provide greater visibility in the room. Reference shelves blocked the view and it was impossible to keep track of students during study hall.

Once the objectives were clarified, the school library media specialists enlisted the aid of their CAD teacher who assigned a student to provide a scale drawing of the proposed changes. After the specialists explained their needs to the student and where they

thought the furniture and shelving should be moved, the student measured the shelving and space to make sure that what was proposed would fit in the new setup. The student prepared two versions of the proposed changes. The detailed sketch showed the entire room with all the tables, chairs, shelving, computer area, and circulation area clearly labeled.

Next, the specialists prepared to meet with their principal. During the meeting, the instructional advantages to the changes were stressed as well as how having an open space for large group meetings would benefit the school community. The principal approved the changes and the next step was to approach the superintendent with the plan.

A meeting was arranged with the superintendent. Before meeting the superintendent, the specialists met with the maintenance supervisor to gain his support. This was very important because the maintenance department would be needed to help move the shelving. They discussed the scale drawings, the proposed changes, and a time frame for how the work could be accomplished during the school year without interrupting library services. The meeting was a success and after the superintendent reviewed the plan with the school board, the library media specialists were given the go-ahead to begin re-configuring the media center.

Students volunteered to help

move the books, clean shelves, and scan the books for inventory. The process involved moving books from one section to book carts in the correct order so they could easily be moved to their new location. Next, the maintenance staff moved the shelving to the appropriate area. Then the books were placed onto the relocated shelves. The process took four weeks to complete. In addition, during this time the bookshelves were cleaned, and books were repaired, weeded, and inventoried. The project was all done without closing the media center or inconveniencing the maintenance staff. Since the maintenance staff only needed fifteen or twenty minutes to move each section, it was easy for them to fit the work into their schedules.

The re-design of the library media center was a three-year-project from the beginning of the idea that the library media center was not designed for effective use to the very last book being moved and placed in its new shelving location. However, during this process the library media specialists learned to plan objectives, provide a scale drawing, and to involve key players as stakeholders in the re-design project. They also learned to be patient and flexible. What was once a viable learning center has increased its usage and flexibility to benefit the school and the community.

(taken in part from Re-Designing a School Library Media Center by Mary Moyer and Rosalie M Baker, Library Media Connection, April/May 2004, pp. 24-25.)





# The Reviewer's Chair



## Giraffes Can't Dance

By Giles Andreae

Everyone in the jungle can dance and prance. All except Gerald Giraffe. His neck is so long – he is so tall and his legs are so thin and his knees are so wobbly when he tries to dance. Poor Gerald Giraffe is miserable – until he meets Cricket. Cricket convinces Gerald Giraffe that when you are different, you need different music. Cricket has Gerald listen to the music around him, and wonder of wonders, Gerald Giraffe can boogie!

This is a fun book with a good lesson for us all. With a reading level for grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, I recommend this book for school and public libraries.

-Joan Chilvers, Pierce, NE

## The Girls

By Amy Goldman Koss

Five friends lead by fascinating and dangerous Candace, this book is about

exclusion and cliques in Middle School. Told from five different points of view, the author leads us to understanding of each character more deeply. Maya was the first to be excluded from the group. Renee and Brianna were good friends and didn't want to be snubbed. At the slumber party, they went along with the others and don't see how manipulating Candace really is. School is painful and Maya finds out who true friends really are.

I found this book to be easy to read. It captures you immediately with the fast paced plot. There are very valuable lessons to learn.

With a reading level for grades 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>, I recommend this book for both school and public libraries.

-Karma Ragland,  
Atkinson, NE

## Hill Hawk Hattie

By Clara Gillow Clark

Times are sad with Ma gone and Pa and Hattie have just turned ornery as they try to manage on their own. Pa is off cutting timber all day, which means Hattie has to run the house, milk the cow, fix

meals and keep the firewood cut. Soon the cow dies and

One day Pa comes home from town with a package, which contains overalls, a shirt and long johns. This is not the pretty dress Hattie was hoping for and soon she finds out she will be going to the timbers to help Pa. The work is hard, but Hattie, who is now called Harley, learns to do her share. As they work, Jasper, who is two years older than Hattie, tells of the adventure they will be having soon when they raft the logs down stream to sell. After being on the river raft for a short while, Hattie/Harley finds she has the touch just as Pa does for moving the logs down stream. The adventures on the river will keep the reader turning the pages to get another glimpse of river rafting. Only by reading this book, designed for 4th grade and up, will the reader find out who discovers that Harley is really a girl and what happens at the end of the journey down the river. I would recommend this book for Public and School libraries. — Pat Thompson, WSC

## Lucas

By Kevin Brooks

If ever there was a summer to alter a person's life, the summer when Caitlin McCann was fifteen years old was the summer of change for her. That was the summer that she met Lucas. That was the summer that her brother returned home from college



and turned her peaceful life upside down. That was the summer that her best friend abandoned her for a “faster” group of friends.

The summer of her fifteenth year was the summer that Caitlin had to rebel against a community that pitted status and popular opinion against a curious newcomer. It was the summer that she learned about love and hate and death.

Although the reading level may be age 12 and up, the subject matter may be more appropriate for older youth. I recommend this book for both school and public libraries.

–MeMe Smith, Schuyler Public Library

### The Berry-Picking Man

Author: Jane Buchanan

Meggie is a nine-year-old whose family still sees her as the “baby.” To complicate things, her mama has taken on “Sam” as a project—an elderly man who has been hospitalized most of his life due to mental challenges. Meggie grows as she learns a big lesson in generosity.

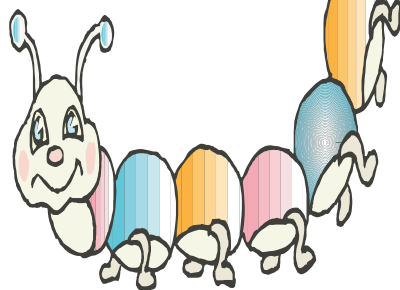
This story can be compared to the book *Petey*. I highly recommend this book. *Petey* is one of my favorites, and with a reading level of 7-10 years, this book carries a similar message for younger children. I recommend it for any library. –Janet Davis, Atkinson, NE

### Capp Street Carnival

Author: Sandra Dutton

This book is definitely limiting. I didn’t like all the incorrect grammar used to portray how someone from Kentucky might talk. It was just bad English. The basic story line was okay; just lose the hokey that went along with it. Three middle-school students decide to organize a carnival to help a small child with medical expenses. Mary Mae Kreb has wanted to be a country singer ever since her great-granny gave her a guitar. Throw in some matchmaking with the single girl that lives with Mary Mae’s family and you pretty well have the story line.

I wouldn’t buy the book; I don’t want our students to think that someone from Kentucky really acts and talks that way. It this is supposed to be funny, it was lost on me. –Carol Tramp, Wynot Public School



**"a little humor"**

Knock knock.  
**Who’s there?**  
Clothes on.  
**Clothes on who?**  
The library’s **clothes on** Thanksgiving, but we’ll be open again on Friday!

Knock knock.  
**Who’s there?**  
Cardigan.  
**Cardigan who?**  
Oh, no! I went to the library and forgot my card-igan!

**Librarian:** Knock knock.  
**Kid:** Who’s there?  
**Librarian:** Winnie Thupp.  
**Kid:** Winnie Thupp who?  
**Librarian:** He’s in the juvenile fiction, and so is Piglet!

**Outside of a dog, a book is a man’s best friend. Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read.**

— Groucho MARX



**May 17 - Understanding E-Metrics** at Omaha Public Library.

May 19 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Pender Public Library at 10am.

May 17 - **Understanding E-Metrics for Public Libraries Workshop** at Omaha Public Library from 9am - 12 noon.

May 20 - NLA PLA Spring Meetings present **'Being a Professional Person - it is not all about the Credentials** by Dr. Mary Bushing or **Teen Space: Capturing Teen Imagination in the Library** by Kimberly Bolan Taney at Seward Memorial Library at 10am.

May 21 - NLA PLA Spring Meetings present **"Teen Space: Capturing Teen Imagination in the Library** by Kimberly Bolan Taney at NECC Lifelong Learning Center at 10am.

May 26 - **Lewis & Clark's Corps of Discovery Through the Eyes of a Crew Member** at Ramsey Theatre, Wayne State College at 7pm.

June 3 - **Annual Library/Media Training Institute** at

## Mark Your Calendar

Wayne State College at 9am - 5:30pm.

June 15 - **Database Roadshow 2004** at Seward Memorial Library at 9am.

July 21 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Little Priest Tribal College in Winnebago at 10 am.

July 26 - **We're All in This Personnel Thing Together, Aren't We?** workshop at Schulyer Public Library from 9:30am-3:30pm.

July 31 - Norfolk Public Library's **10th Annual Literature Festival** 9am - 4pm at NECC/ Lifelong Learning Center.

Sept. 15 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at ST. Edward Public Library at 10am.

Oct. 6-8 - **"Virtual Places, Physical Spaces - Nebraska Libraries Now"** NLA/NEMA Annual Conf. in Grand Island.

## When Was Your Library Founded?

Recently author Oliver Pollak compiled a listing of library founding dates based upon Women's Club and Carnegie building lists. Please take a moment and look at the list at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us>. If your library is listed incorrectly or is lacking in information, please contact Lisa Kelly at [lkelly@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:lkelly@nlc.state.ne.us).

## The New Nebraskans

Over the past 30 years, Nebraskans have welcomed many new immigrants and refugees into our communities. These new Nebraskans come from a variety of locales such as Africa, Iraq, Mexico and Vietnam. The experience of several of Lincoln's newest residents are documented in the video "The New Nebraskans" produced by Nebraska Educational Television. Copies of this 37 minute video are available for loan through Lincoln City Libraries interlibrary loan department. For additional information about the video contact Sheila Jacobs at 402-441-8546 for e-mail at: [s.jacobs@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us](mailto:s.jacobs@mail.lcl.lib.ne.us)

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## We're All In This Personnel Thing Together, Aren't We?

Municipal clerks, Board members, Librarians: Mark your calendars for a public library-related personnel workshop in July 2004. Maggie Stine and Jack Schultz, two attorneys with labor expertise from the law firm of Harding, Schultz & Downs, will present a jam-packed workshop.

If you have ever been kept up nights by worrying about:

- √ Performance evaluations, recruitment & hiring
- √ Wages and benefits
- √ Conflicts of interest
- √ Disciplining
- √ Termination
- √ Volunteers
- √ Board powers
- √ Grievances
- √ The "open meeting" law
- √ "At will" employees
- √ Personnel policies, etc.



These workshops are sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission, in cooperation with the Regional Library Systems, and supported by the Institute of Museum & Library Services under provisions of the Library Services & Technology Act, as administered by the state of Nebraska.

Workshops will be offered at four Nebraska locations:

- ◆ Tuesday, July 20, 2004 - Wilson Public Library, 910 Meridian, Cozad
- ◆ Friday, July 23, 2004 - Platter River State Park, 14421 346th St., Louisville
- ◆ Monday, July 26, 2004 - Schulyer Public Library, 1123 A St., Schuyler
- ◆ Thursday, July 29, 2004 - Alliance Public Library, 1750 Sweetwater Ave., Alliance

Each workshop will run from 9:30 am to 3:30pm local time. Cost to attend: \$10 for first person registered from each town, \$5 for each additional person from the same town. For example, if your city clerk, a library board member, and the librarian attend, all three will participate and have lunch for \$20. Lunch will be provided onsite. Make checks out to the Nebraska Library Commission.

Each person participating in either the Public Librarian or Board Certification process will receive 5 CE credits. Continuing Education (CE) Credits are issued by the Nebraska Library Commission as part of the Nebraska Public Librarian or Board Certification Program.

Send payment with registration from, including location and sandwich preference for each participant to:

Jacque Crocker  
Nebraska Library Commission  
The Atrium, Suite 120  
1200 N Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508-2023

You can call Jacque at 800-307-2665 or 402-471-4037, fax her at 402-471-2083 or e-mail reservations to [jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us). Payment must be received by July 10 to complete registration. For questions concerning the workshop content, please contact Richard Miller at the above address or by e-mail at [rmiller@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:rmiller@nlc.state.ne.us).



## Personnel Workshop July 2004 Registration Form

Name and position of each attendee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Location attending (please choose one):

\_\_\_\_\_ Wilson Public Library (Cozad), July 20

\_\_\_\_\_ Platte River State Park (Louisville), July 23

\_\_\_\_\_ Schuyler Public Library, July 26

\_\_\_\_\_ Alliance Public Library, July 29

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Calculate fee by starting with \$10 for the first person from your town and adding \$5 for each additional person)



### What's New at NLS

Please call the system office at 1-800-578-1014 to check out one of the following items:

**The Public Libdrary Start-Up Guide by Christine Lind Hage.**

This book provides step-by-step guidance on starting libraries literally from the ground up.

**Teen Spaces: The Step-by-Step Library Makeover by Kimberly Bolan Taney.**

A guide to help public and school libraries plan and implement dynamic spaces for teens.

**Solving Difficult Situations by Library Video Network, 2003.**

This 28 minute video demonstrates ways to handle difficult situations in your library such as: bomb threat, violent patron, sexual harassment and inappropriate use of the Internet.

**The Visible Librarian: Asserting Your Value with Marketing and Advocacy by Judith A. Siess.**

This hands-on guide is packed with all the best marketing library services.





The following libraries in the Northeast Library System have been awarded LSTA grants by the Nebraska Library Commission:

- ★ Atkinson Public Library - \$6,990
- ★ Central City Public Library - \$8,465
- ★ Hartington Public Library - \$3,704
- ★ Neligh Public Library - Amount pending
- ★ Orchard Public Library - \$5,444
- ★ Randolph Public Library - \$2,853



### Quality Library Furnishings

- Bookcases and Shelving
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*For more information contact us at:*

800 Pioneers Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68502  
Phone: 402-471-4597 or 800-348-7537  
[www.corrections.state.ne.us/csi](http://www.corrections.state.ne.us/csi)

### Book Award Nominations Sought

The Nebraska Book Awards, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission, recognizes and honors books written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or relating to Nebraska. Submit nominations for the 2004 Competition (books with 2003 copyright) by June 30.

Books must be professionally published, have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), and be bound. Books may be entered in one or more of the following categories: Anthology, Children/Young Adult, Cover Design/Illustrations, Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry. Certificates will be awarded to the winners in each category. Award winners will be announced at the Nebraska Book Festival on September 17-18, 2004 at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The winning books will be displayed at the Book Festival.

For more information and entry forms, see the Nebraska Library Commission home page, <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/publications/BookAwardsInvitation.pdf> or contact Mary Geibel at 402-471-2045 or 800-307-2665 or by email at: [mgeibel@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:mgeibel@nlc.state.ne.us). Send the entry form, three copies of the book and the \$40 entry fee to: NCB Book Awards, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.



## Excaliber Award For Outstanding Public Librarian

The Public Library section of the Nebraska Library Association is accepting nominations for the Excaliber Award for Outstanding Public Librarian. This award honors the career accomplishments of a public librarian who has demonstrated an outstanding record of service to his/her local library and to the library profession. The following categories suggest areas in which the nominee may have rendered significant service. Preference will be given to those nominees who have achieved excellence in more than one of these areas:

- Development of outstanding service in field(s) of expertise, e.g. reference, children's, technical, administrative.
- Involvement in statewide library service.
- Record of library leadership in local community, regional area or in the Nebraska Library Assn.
- Encouragement of community/institutional support for the library

The nominee must be a member of the Public Library Section of the Nebraska Library Association. The 2004 Nomination Committee members are: John F. Dale (chair), Ruth Strassler, and Verda Blaine.

### Nomination Form

Please send a statement of nomination with a description of the nominee's contributions to any Excaliber Nomination Committee member. Supporting letters of nomination and other materials may also be submitted with nomination. Deadline for nominations is August 1, 2004.

Person Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

Library and Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Send nomination forms by August 1 to:

Excaliber Award Committee Chair  
John F. Dale  
Lincoln City Libraries  
Bennett Martin Public Library  
136 S. 14th  
Lincoln, Nebraska 685081

**Deadline for nominations is August 1, 2004**

**The Northeast Library System serves the following counties:  
Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota,  
Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk,  
Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.**

Nothing happens unless first a dream.

~~Carl Sandburg



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