



Republican Valley Library System

VALLEYTALK

ISSN 1067-4705

April 2006

Published bimonthly by the
Republican Valley Library
System, 2727 W. 2nd St.
233, Hastings, NE 68901

Editors:

Sherry Houston,
Administrator,

rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

Susan Franklin

Administrative Assistant

Phone: 800-569-4961

[www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/
republican](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican)

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Featured Librarian and Library:

Leila Koetter, McCook City Library

McCook City Library is built on a famous street in McCook named George Norris Avenue. On the street is the house where former Governor Ralph Brooks lived, where current Senator Ben Nelson grew up, where former Nebraska Governor Frank Morrison lived, where the Senator George Norris State Historic site is located and where you can see one of the few Nebraska houses designed by Architect Frank Lloyd Wright.



In the McCook City Library (pictured on page 9), you will find a Children and Youth Librarian named Leila Koetter. Leila's family named all their children names that start with the letter L. Even the middle names start with L and the parents' names and the grandparents' names start with L, but to the children of McCook, Leila Lynette is the Book Lady. Leila has been employed almost 8 years at the Library and during that time she has been actively involved in Children and Youth Services. Every Friday, the Book Lady packs up books, craft projects, and games and goes to different preschools in the McCook area. She gets to each preschool/daycare at least once a month as she goes to three preschool/daycares each Friday. On

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Health Sites Brochure

Republican Valley Library System has created a brochure featuring health sites to be accessed from the internet. It was created for the Hastings Health Consortium, but anyone can use the brochure merely by changing a few words on the front of the brochure and the back, which contains the consortium names. If you would like to use the brochure for your library, it was done on MS Publisher. We will e-mail you a copy of the brochure and you can change it as you like. If you want us to print the brochures for you, we will print them for 25 cents a copy. Call the system office for more information.

Remaining 2005-2006 RVLS Board Meeting

June 2006, RVLS Annual Meeting, Harlan County Dam —See insert!

*We encourage attendance!
All board meetings begin
at 10 a.m.*



Basic Skills: Organization of Materials

Basic Skills/Organization of Materials is one of the four Basic Skills courses required for certification of librarians in public libraries. The course, sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission and Nebraska's Regional Library Systems, addresses the following topics: Basic understanding of organizing materials, Cataloging process, SEARS and Dewey, Cataloging with card format, Automated library, Organizing electronic information, and Sources of cataloging and classification.

The course will be available via in-class instruction or via online format. The in-class instruction requires attendance all three days. In addition to in-class or online instruction, requirements include assignments. Instructors will review assignments and provide participants with feedback. The fee for classroom or online format is \$35.00. Lunch is not included for on-site students. There will be a limit of a total of 15 participants in the online class. On-site participants must register by the dates shown below, according to the class site to be attended. The RVLS site will be North Platte Community College, North Campus, 1101 Halligan Drive, North Platte, April 18, 25, and May 2. Sharon Mason, formerly with University of Nebraska at Kearney, will be the instructor. Register by contacting Jacqueline Crocker, Nebraska Library Commission, jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us, 800-307-2665.



Celebrate National Library Week, April 2-8

April 2-8, 2006 is National Library Week, a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers to their schools, campuses and communities.

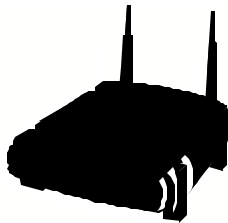
Using the theme, "Change your world @ your library®," National Library Week is the perfect time for Nebraska libraries to invite the community to come in and see how libraries can help Nebraskans change their world. Whether people in your community are looking to make a small change in their lives or a big change in the world, the library has the books and magazines, databases and free Internet access that can help get it done.

National Library Week 2006 marks the sixth year of The Campaign for America's Libraries, a multi-year public education campaign sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country. This campaign supports us all as we speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century. More than 20,000 libraries in all fifty states are being reached by @ your library®, The Campaign for America's Libraries.



RVLS NEWS

A wireless connection to the Internet through your own laptop computer—



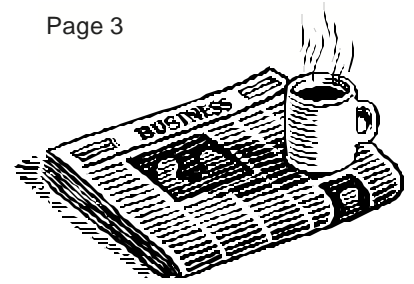
called a “hotspot”—is an incentive offered by Starbucks and many motel chains to attract customers. Now it’s available at no charge from the **Holdrege Public Library System**. “If you have a laptop computer with a wireless network interface card installed, all you have to do is bring it into the library, turn it on and launch your browser, and you’re online,” said Library Director **Pam Soreide**. Soreide said demand for access to the Internet has steadily increased at the library, and that the public terminals are almost always in use. Laptops, which often come from the factory with wireless network interface cards, are frequently carried by businesspeople, students and travelers who are looking for someplace to check their email. “We expect some local people to take advantage of the hotspot, because of the cost of Internet service,” Soreide said, “but it should be a particular benefit to travelers as well, and give them a reason to stop in Holdrege.”

Several **Clay County schools and libraries** were recently recipients of more than \$3,000 in grants from Kinder Morgan, a company which provides natural gas service to area residents. **Sutton Memorial Library** received \$1,000, which director **Gert Schmer** plans to use, in part, for the summer reading program. **Clay Center Public Library** also received \$1,000, which will be used to improve its summer reading program. Congratulations to you both!



Hildreth Public Library’s phone number has changed to 308-938-3008.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development awarded a \$24,000 **grant to the Village of Brady**, NE to assist in the development of a public library for the community’s nearly 400 residents. The village is contributing \$42,150 from fundraising and in-kind contributions joined by \$2,550 from other grant funds. The village purchased a building downtown and is in the process of renovating it. Congratulations, Village of Brady! This is exciting news!

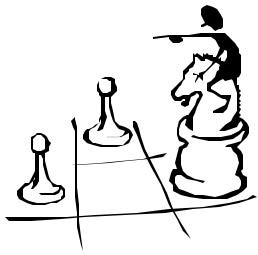


Send us news of your latest programs, projects, and accomplishments at rvlsasst@tcgcs.com or call 800-569-4961.

Libri Foundation Books for Children Grants

The Libri Foundation, a nationwide non-profit organization, is currently accepting applications for its 2006 BOOKS FOR CHILDREN grants. The Libri Foundation will match any amount of money raised by your sponsors on a 2-to-1 ratio; thus, a library can receive up to \$1,050 worth of new, hardcover children’s books. After a library receives a grant, local sponsors have four months to raise their matching funds. Applications must be postmarked by April 15, July 15, and December 15; grants are awarded April 30, August 30, and January 31. Complete details, application guidelines and forms are available at www.librifoundation.org.





National Library Workers Day

National Library Workers' Day is Tuesday, April 4. We encourage you to celebrate the wonderful work of library employees on that day because, after all, Libraries Work Because We Do.



Vendor Day at NLC

The Nebraska Library Commission Network Services Department is sponsoring its first-ever Vendor Day on Wednesday, April 12, 2006 to provide librarians and media specialists an opportunity to watch vendor presentations, as well as to meet and visit with multiple vendors during a single day in order to learn more about their products. The following vendors are slated to attend: CSA, ebrary, EBSCO, Gale, ProQuest, RefWorks, Serials Solutions. For complete details, go to www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/vendorday.html.

It's Your Move

Don't forget that the System office owns **two Alex Kava *One False Move* book kits** to assist your library and its patrons with One Book One Nebraska. Each kit contains ten copies of *One False Move*, book discussion questions and promotional materials. RVLS also owns the unabridged CD version of Kava's novel. Call or email the System office (rvlsadmin@inebraska.com, rvlsasst@tcgcs.com or 800-569-4961) to reserve one of the kits for your library.

2005 IRS Tax Forms are no longer being sent to libraries for distribution, but never fear...UNO has downloaded a "greatest hits" collection of 2005 IRS and Nebraska tax forms and instructions on its library server. Government Documents Librarian James Shaw welcomes you to direct your patrons to UNO's site and to link from your webpage to theirs: <http://library.unomaha.edu>. Look at the right side of the screen to find the link to "Tax Forms for 2005 Available Online." Link directly to the target page at: <http://library.unomaha.edu/researchtools/taxforms/>.

The U.S. celebrates **Irish-American history during March**. One of Ireland's pivotal events was the loss of its potato crop in the mid-nineteenth century. To this day, Ireland has not recovered from the loss of its people - through immigration (many came to America) and death - caused by the "potato famine." Students can learn what happened with primary sources from contemporary drawings/newspapers

and the Irish National Archives. http://www.awesomestories.com/disasters/great_hunger/great_hunger_ch1.htm The website <http://www.awesomestories.com/> is free for all educators, schools and libraries. Simply request an academic membership with this sign-up form http://www.awesomestories.com/group_signup.php.

Ballots for Books, a partnership of the Plains Humanities Alliance, the Nebraska Library Commission and the University of Nebraska Press, provides the opportunity for librarians across Nebraska to help develop a short list of "Librarian's Picks" for the Great Books of the Great Plains Web site (<http://libr.unl.edu:2000/plains/bibs/index.html>). The Plains Humanities Alliance at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln seeks your input on the Great Books of the Great Plains Web site, a fully searchable, annotated bibliography of five hundred useful and easy-to-locate books about life on the Great Plains. Vote for your favorite book by using the link to the ballot page at: <http://libr.unl.edu:2000/plains/bibs/ballot> or the "Nebraska Librarians Vote Now" icon on the Great Books Web site: <http://libr.unl.edu:2000/plains/bibs/index.html>. Librarians representing Nebraska public libraries will receive a free book for their library from the University of Nebraska Press. Books can be chosen online from a selection of University of Nebraska Press titles. Nebraska libraries are encouraged to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity. Use the following user id and password to vote online: your ID is "birds" and your password is

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On the Bookshelf



The following items have been recently added to the RVLS Professional Collection:

- ◆ "Library Challenges and Opportunities" College of DuPage Teleconference Videotape (3/10/2006)
- ◆ *Patrick Jones Workshop* (on DVD and VHS), 12/1/2005, Nebraska Library Commission
- ◆ *The Reference Librarian's Policies, Forms, Guidelines, and Procedures Handbook with CD-ROM* by Rebecca Brumley (2006)
- ◆ *Terrific After-School Programs for K-Grade 5* (on DVD and VHS), 2/3/2006, Nebraska Library Commission

Books on CD:

- ◆ *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamont
- ◆ *A Widow for One Year* by John Irving
- ◆ *Wild Animus* by Rick Shapero

Book on Tape:

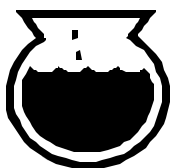
- ◆ *Wild Animus* by Rick Shapero

If you would like to borrow these items, please contact the System office at 800-569-4961 or <rvlsasst@tcgcs.com>. If you would like to see list of all available items (including magazines routed), go to <www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/professional.html>.



“Pets” & “Pets, Pets, Pets”: Ready for Some TLC at Your Library

In anticipation of the upcoming pet-related summer reading program theme, RVLS has added two new storykits to its inventory. “Pets” contains a several pets, including a monkey, turtle, small dog, frog, and dog with puppy. It also includes an activity packet and animal-related floor puzzle, in addition to nine books.



The “Pets, Pets, Pets” kit contains a “Make Your Own Pet” bag with four stuffed animal pets and assorted pet parts that can be velcroed mix-and-match to create wild combinations (raccoon-frog? Turtle-coon? Cat-frog? You get the picture!). The kit also contains a snake slinky, a frog beanie, an activity packet and thirteen books.

To reserve one of these kits, please email rvlsasst@tcgcs.com or call 800-569-4961. To see RVLS's entire inventory of storykits, go to <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/storykits.html>>.





**Celebrate Young
People's Poetry
Week April 10-16**

**LibrarySparks suggests
the following websites
for kids and teachers/
librarians:**

<www.gigglepoetry.com>

**<[www.netaxs.com/~katz/
teachers.htm](http://www.netaxs.com/~katz/teachers.htm)>**

**<[www.poetryzone.ndirec
t.co.uk/howto.htm](http://www.poetryzone.ndirect.co.uk/howto.htm)>**

RVLS Members Are on a Lucky Streak! Congratulations to Dee Yost, Hastings College Perkins Library, who won a Gaylord Bros. Grey/Tundra Colored Team-Work-Table at ALA's Mid-Winter Meeting in San Antonio. The table, from Gaylord's Brain Storming Line, has a dry-erase white board in the middle, and is designed to facilitate one-on-one tutoring or to help study partners work together. Hawaii, innovative work tables...who's next, RVLS members?

RVLS Calendar

April 2006

(March 31) 1-2—Language Arts Festival, Wayne State College Campus, <http://languagefestival.wsc.edu>

2-8—National Library Week, <http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/nlw/NLW.htm>

6—Rural Library Sustainability Workshop, Holiday Inn Express, North Platte, register at

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/gates/gatesrurasustaintrngspg2006.html>

7—"Serving Immigrant Populations: A Library Prototype for Diversity" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-12:30, CCC-Hastings and McKinley Education center-North Platte.

8—An Evening with Joseph Janes, The Internet Librarian, 5:30-9:30, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, NE.

10—Rural Library Sustainability Workshop, Hastings College, Hastings. <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/gates/gatesrurasustaintrngspg2006.html>

10-16—Young People's Poetry Week, www.cbcbooks.org

18, 25, May 2—Basic Skills: Cataloging, North Campus, North Platte Community College, 10-3. See page 2 for more information.

28—"Google Print: Its Impact on Scholarship and Libraries" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-12:30, CCC-Hastings and McKinley Education Center-North Platte.

May 2006

22, 24, 25—gaming@your library Joint Spring Meeting (See page 13)

June 2006

2—RVLS Annual Meeting, Harlan County Dam, Details T.B.A.

July 2006

17, 18—Digitization Workshops, <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskamemories/digitizationworkshops.html>

August 2006

1—Deadline for CE & Training Grants (NLC)

September 2006

5—Recipients of CE & Training Grants will be announced

October 2006

25-27—NLA/NEMA Convention, Omaha Qwest Center.

November 2006

13-20—Children's Book Week, <http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/>

July 2007



Proper Disposal of Computer Equipment (Preventing Toxic PC Junk from Getting into Landfills)

**By John Seyfarth,
Sump Memorial Library**



Everyone that possesses and uses computer equipment will have to get rid of it eventually. Unfortunately, computer equipment has a number of toxic materials imbedded within it. So, environmentally conscious librarians (as I am sure just about all of us are) need to be aware of (a) the hazardous nature of the materials within, (b) how to properly recycle computers and (c) how to dispose of them properly.

First, we need to become aware of just what is so toxic and hazardous about the computer equipment that we are ready to dispose of. According to a recent article in the *Galt Global Review*,

“Landfill and incinerator facilities are often the final resting place for electronic waste. Computers, cell phones, electronic games, television sets – are piling up with increasing rapidity, ready to be burned or buried. But are you aware that these leftover gadgets are loaded with toxins that can leak into the groundwater or produce carcinogens and toxins.

Your computer equipment could contain highly toxic materials.

Computer equipment is a complicated assembly of more than 1,000 materials, many of which are highly toxic, such as chlorinated and brominated substances, toxic gases, toxic metals, biologically active materials, plastics and plastic additives.”

(www.galtglobalreview.com/business/toxic_pcs.html, “Old PC Toxic in Landfill Sites” 1).

Given this, we librarians need to be good shepherds of our environment, and properly dispose of our obsolete assets.

If the computers are not too old, and they are complete, consider donating them to another activity that perhaps can use the lesser capabilities available in these machines. Generally speaking most activities have certain minimum equipment standards, and will require an operational and complete machine (CPU, keyboard, monitor, mouse and the cords). If it is not possible to give them to an activity that can use them as is, or they are not complete, it may be possible to donate them to an activity that can find a home for them. My research today indicates that the Salvation Army in both Omaha and Lincoln will take computer equipment that will run, including incomplete units. They told me today that they will take CPUs, Monitors, Keyboards, Mice, and Printers. The only problem is that they are only located in Omaha and Lincoln, with no facilities further west or north. So, if you can, the equipment can be dropped off at one of the following addresses in Lincoln or Omaha: 82nd and Grover (East of Magelsens) in Omaha; 84th and Park Drive in Ralson; 75th and Dodge in Omaha; 1502 Harland Drive in

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Disaster Preparedness Workshop

May 1 & 2 in Lincoln
May 4 & 5 in Scottsbluff



The Nebraska Library Commission is presenting a two-day disaster preparedness workshop for Nebraska library staff twice in 2006. The two-day workshops will help Nebraska librarians:

- better understand the importance of library disaster response and recovery planning,
- be aware of steps to take in developing disaster plans and risk assessment,
- and become familiar with various disaster recovery activities.

The workshops are being taught by Tom Clareson, Program Director for New Initiatives at the OCLC regional network, PALINET.

Cost for the workshop is \$20. This includes class materials and lunch.

The Nebraska Library Commission will cover costs of lodging for attendees traveling more than 90 miles one-way to the workshop.

- Monday & Tuesday, May 1 & 2 (9:00am - 4:00pm each day)
Firefighters Hall, 241 Victory Lane, Lincoln, NE
- Thursday & Friday, May 4 & 5 (9:00am - 4:00pm each day)
Harms Technology Center, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE

CE Credit: 12 hours

Registration Deadline: April 24, 2006 Because of the limited number of seats available for each workshop, each institution is limited to one attendee.

Day 1

- Introduction to Emergency Preparedness & Recovery
- The Planning Process
- Risk Assessment
- Preservation Assessment
- Facilities Risk Assessment
- The Disaster Plan
- Establishing Salvage Priorities

Day 2

- Mitigation & Response
- Health & Safety Precautions
- Equipment & Supplies
- Recovery: Drying Methods
- Demonstration I: Recovery of Books & Paper
- Demonstration II: Other Media
- Wet-Book Pack-Out Exercise
- Sources of Disaster Recovery Assistance
- Cooperative Disaster Planning
- Wrap-up & Evaluation

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Featured Librarian and Library: Leila Koetter, McCook Public Library



Leila is pictured above at RVLS's Make & Take workshop at McCook City Library (pictured below) in February. Dana Wade, Director of Culbertson Public Library, and Leila spiritedly created pet mice out of construction paper.



Wednesdays, Leila has a story hour in the library for preschool children.

For 11 years Leila was the director of a Child Development Center at McCook Community College. She taught first year college students and day care providers child development and child care. She is also trained in Kindermusic. Each summer, McCook Library has a very large summer reading program and Leila does things as varied as a petting zoo, a mini train ride, a pumpkin patch. She uses 6th graders as mentors for the summer reading program.

For the 6th graders and beyond, Leila has a teen program. The students have done a variety of things such as a cemetery project, complete with etchings and genealogy and a speaker who brought in a polygraph machine for the students. Now what junior high student wouldn't love those classes?

Leila is a survivor. Three years ago, Leila's husband thought he had the flu for a few days and finally decided to go to the doctor. He was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia and was dead 2 hours later. Leila had 3 young children, a newly moved house that wasn't even set on the foundation and a huge loan for haying equipment. She just kept putting one foot in front of the other and she has survived and she has plans.

Leila wants to start a reading group with junior high students, and Leila has started working toward a media endorsement to add to her teaching degree. She will then try to get a Media Specialist job in a school system. After her life the last few years, I told her taking

classes, working at her job, looking for another job, taking care of her children, oh, and did I mention the dating part—she has a new man in her life—these things will be **no problem!!**

A nice lady, in a nice library, in a nice town, Leila Koetter, McCook City Library, McCook, NE.





Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales

Republican Valley Library System held two highly successful summer reading program workshops this year in McCook and Aurora. Sally Snyder from the Nebraska Library Commission and Patty Sinclair from Madison, Wisconsin gave presentations at both workshops. In Aurora, a two day workshop was held with presentations the first day about reading to Spanish speaking children, reading to preschoolers, teen reading and how to do a book talk. Attendees were enthusiastic about the ideas and ready to try many of the ideas for books, crafts, and songs. Each site had a kitty litter cake for everyone to sample. RVLS thanks Betty Oliver from Beaver City and Vicki Casper from Hildreth for graciously making these very disgusting treats. The theme of this year's summer reading is so much fun. Who doesn't love pets and pet stories? We look forward to an exciting summer of reading for the children in Nebraska.



Pictured above are January Aldinger and Cindy Gitt from Holdrege Public Library System. To the left are Diane Moore, Bartley Public Library; Keri Anderson, Hoesch Memorial Library (Alma); and Raylene Stephens, C.B. Preston Memorial Library (Orleans). All attended the McCook site and are in the process of making mouse pets.

Trustee Citation Award: Nominate Now!

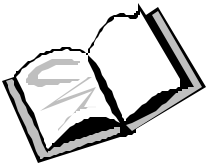
It is time to think about nominating your outstanding trustee(s) for the Trustee Citation Award. The recipient must be a member of the Trustees, Users and Friends Section of the Nebraska Library Association.

Send three letters of support for your nominee with your letter of nomination by July 10th to the TUFCS Chair, Maggie Harding, PO Box 98, Crete NE 68333.

Selection will be made on the basis of the following criteria:

Contribution toward the implementation of sound, efficient library policies resulting in the advancement of library service within the community. Contribution toward the strengthening of library services outside the area of the local community (regional, statewide or national).

Effectiveness in serving jointly as the library's spokesperson to the community, and the communities' spokesperson to the library.



Places

By Cathy A. Leininger Mohnike, Title I Reading Teacher, Sutton Public Schools

March 1st, Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Ahh, Lenten memories! Out at the farm Lent meant real sacrifices...no movies, no dances, no candy, no, no, no. That was back when men were men and Lent was Lent. By the time Easter rolled around you knew that you had done something to be proud of. One of the sacrifices our family made was to get up at the crack of dawn and go to daily Mass. Every day, Monday through Friday, for six weeks, all of us would be up and out the door, though usually not in cheery fashion. I have to admit that besides the internal (and hopefully eternal) reward there was an external reward for our piety. Mass was over at 8:00 so there was no time to go back to the farm for breakfast. So we all were carted down to D&D Bakery where we each got a still warm from the oven cinnamon roll and a glass of milk. Our family hardly ever ate out, probably for two reasons. One being that it was too expensive to feed all eight of us and the second being that we were an unruly group. Well, not me. I was “ruly” but the rest of the crowd was definitely of the unruly variety. But let’s talk about the bakery. The whole ambience of the bakery was intoxicating. I envied the town kids who could come to the bakery whenever they wanted. What a luxury! Then there were those mysterious little stairs. Where did they go to anyway? But the best thing was being a silent observer of the adult conversation. Diz would come out with his cigarette and join the tables filled with the morning coffee and roll crowd. His smoke and the conversation swirled around our table. Heady stuff for a child.

I stayed up way past my bedtime reading, The Tender Bar: A Memoir, by J. R. Moehringer. His book brought back memories of how places inhabited by adults can have long-lasting effects on impressionable youths. J. R.’s mother leaves his father due to abuse issues causing him to be raised in a house of women. J.R. desperately wants a paternal influence in his life. He finds the father figures that he needs in the local bar where his Uncle Charlie is one of the bartenders. This bar, Publicans, and the men that inhabit it become a defining part of his life. Just like Norm from the TV series, Cheers, he wanted to go where “everybody knows your name”. It didn’t hurt that bartenders’ nephews drank for free. Uncle Charlie was a gambling bartender which eventually got him in trouble with the mob. Charlie had a soft spot for any underdog, which didn’t exactly make him the world’s best gambler. In 1987 he sunk a wad into the Marvin Hagler/Sugar Ray Leonard bout where he took the underdog, Sugar Ray. Charlie’s bar-stopping description of the fight showcases him as a great storyteller. As the daughter of a boxer, I laughed out loud at J.R.’s observation ...”*Every bar has some affinity for boxing because drinkers and boxers sit on stools and feel woozy and measure time in rounds.*” My dad was a great boxer, only losing one fight in his career. There’s nothing like boxing talk. It is irrefutably tough. For a stretch of time, J.R.’s nights at Publicans were broken up while he attended and graduated from Yale. His mother was aghast when at his graduation celebration at Publicans he announced his goal was to write the next great American novel about... Publicans. She was less than impressed. Way less! The guilt he felt over disappointing his mom motivated him to get a job at Lord and Taylors in the Home Fashion department. He

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Which Comes First?

cringed at sinking to being a crystal salesperson. What made it even worse was that he was absolutely wonderful at selling Home Fashions. The first day on the job he broke the all time record for newcomer sales. Much to his chagrin he went on to win the salesperson of the day numerous times.

Finally J.R. is forced to realize that his love affair with Publicans is overshadowing all else in his life. He leaves dates early to get to the bar before last call, he doesn't want a job that interferes with his bar time, and his only friends are an odd assortment of bar rats. Reluctantly he comes to the decision that to move onward and upward he was going to have to break away from the bar. He saw that that life and those men had taken him as far as they could. He would have to leave behind Uncle Charlie and the other men who loved him and nurtured him with their slightly skewed male wisdom. The swirl of conversation mixed with smoke and beer that gave him a man's perspective and helped him grow from boyhood to manhood was keeping him from moving to the next phase of his life. Regretfully, he made the break.

Places are like that. They capture memories of people and times in our lives. Sometimes they form us in ways that we don't realize until a book like The Tender Bar reminds us that we all want to be in a place where "everybody knows your name".



Meritorious Service Award, Mari Sandoz Award Nominations Being Sought

The NLA Citation Committee invites nominations for the Meritorious Service Award and the Mari Sandoz Award for the year 2006.

The **Meritorious Service Award** is given annually to a person, corporation, or organization which has contributed to the improvement of library service in a local community, region, state agency, or in library legislation.

The **Mari Sandoz Award** recognizes significant, enduring contribution to the Nebraska book world through writing, film production, or related activity.

Nomination procedures:

1. The original letter of nomination should include the nominee's name, address, telephone number, accomplishments, and any relevant supporting documentation. The letter should include the name, title, address, and telephone number of the person or group making the nomination.
 2. At least four additional letters that support and endorse the nomination are required. Such letters may provide further information about the nomination.
 3. The NLA Meritorious Service Award may be given to an individual or group.
- Nominations and letters of support must be received by May 30, 2006.

Mail to: Sally Payne, 222 N Jefferson St., Papillion, NE 68046 Nominations may also be submitted via e-mail to spayne@monarch.papillion.ne.us



gaming@yourlibrary

Public Library Section & Trustees, Users & Friends Section Joint Spring Meeting

Monday, May 22, 2006 Gering Public Library
 Wednesday, May 24, 2006 Lexington Public Library
 Thursday, May 25, 2006 La Vista Public Library

Program

8:45-9:30 Registration

9:30-9:45 Welcome from PLS chair Stephen Hunt & TUFSS chair Maggie Harding

9:45-12:30 Opening Session: Russ Harper, Librarian at A.V. Sorensen Branch of the Omaha Public Library will enlighten you about the hot topic of gaming@yourlibrary.

11:00-11:30 Break

12:30-1:30 Catered Lunch and Update on NLA Business

Librarians continue the discussion stimulated from this years "Spring Colloquium" with Joe Janes, American Libraries Internet Librarian

1:30-2:30 Mary Jo Ryan will discuss "Encouraging Through Mentoring"

2:30-3:00 Maggie Harding will talk about TUFSS by-law changes

To register, contact Stephen Hunt, Plattsmouth Public Library, 402-296-4154



About Wireless {by Sherry Houston}

As I was sitting in Panera, drinking coffee and watching people work on their computers and connect to the internet, I wondered how this wireless thing really works and how it works for libraries. I knew many libraries have wireless for their patrons already, and many in the RVLS system told me that they were already hooked to wireless or thinking about getting wireless. I decided to ask a friend who is also a computer guy. I knew he could explain how wireless works in simplistic terms so I could have a vague idea of what I am talking about. Here is his first statement "Wireless works well"....now that I understood.

Here is some of the rest of the information (the part I sort of understood). You must have a high speed internet connection that is connected to a router. In the router are various ports, where you hook in the lines that go to your computers. In one of those ports, you put in an inexpensive device for the wireless to connect. It just snaps in. I could do that, I know! If your library has large open rooms, you can get the cheapest of these devices as the range will cover a couple of floors. This will cost you less than \$100.00. This creates a wireless environment inside your library and will allow several people to use their wireless systems in your library. If you end up with half the junior high after school and they all have wireless laptops, you may have to look for a bigger system as the system will become very slow.

You don't have to pay for the wireless after the initial cost as you are already paying for internet to come into your library. (Unless you are one of the lucky libraries who get their internet free from their internet provider). If you are afraid people will access your computers outside your library, you can have an encryption system which means you have the wireless access set up so that you have to give people a password to access the system. It can be an easy password which can be changed if necessary. This is very easy to do with Windows XP—so says the computer guy!

If you have wires strung all over your Carnegie library and no way to hide them, getting wireless for your work stations is a good alternative and your computer savvy patrons will be thrilled. What a wonderful world!!!

Thank you to Ken Spray, owner of dataacc.net, Clay Center, Nebraska for his input.



Nebraska Sales Tax and Libraries

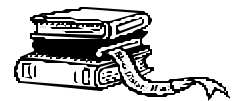
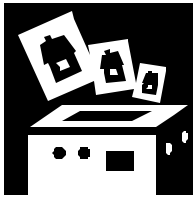


The following information on Nebraska sales tax is provided by Ruth Karlsson with the Nebraska Department of Revenue. She can be contacted to answer questions or other inquiries via email: Ruth.Karlsson@rev.ne.gov or via phone: 402-471-5992.

What is sales tax?

- * Sales tax is a transactional tax. It is imposed on the transaction called the sale rather than the item sold.
- * A sale is the transfer of title or possession of an item or taxable service for a consideration.

Several examples of these sales at a public library are photocopies, computer disks, book bags, bookmarks, etc. Sales tax must also be charged at book sales and items sold at fundraising auctions (even silent auctions).



- * A lease or rental is treated exactly the same as a sale because a lease is considered to be a sale.
- * Remember: a sale is the transfer of title or **possession**, and since there is transfer of possession in a lease, a lease is a sale.
- * There is **no** sales tax charged/collected on: ILL transactions, faxes, non-resident card fees, or the use of meeting rooms.

How is sales tax collected?

- * Sales tax is collected by the retailer (including providers of taxable services such as public libraries) who is acting as an agent for the state. The retailer also holds a sales tax permit.
- * Sales tax is calculated in gross receipts. The point of delivery determines the tax rate. All transactions are presumed to be taxable. Retailers (including public libraries) must collect the tax or document why they didn't.
- * Public libraries should work with their city/village administration concerning the holder of the sales tax permit and the required remittance of the sales tax to the Department of Revenue. This remittance would pertain to the amount of sales tax collected on sales at the library.

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It's Your Move

"b8rdsneb." Vote now! All votes must be tallied by April 15.

Trustees: you may now browse the **list of videos available from NLC** for viewing for CE credit. Go to <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/trustees/videolist.html>> to view the list.

It's time to start thinking about voting for the **2005-2006 Golden Sower Awards!** All vote tallies must be submitted by April 15, 2006! If at all possible, please submit your school/library vote totals using the on-line voting tally sheet. Go to this site for voting instructions and a link to the on-line voting tally sheet: <<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/nugget/voting/vote.htm>>.

For a complete listing of **Library Science Coursework being offered Summer 2006**, go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/1828.html>; for a listing of **courses being offered Fall 2006**, go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/1876.html>.

Don't forget the **Gates Rural Library Sustainability Workshops** that will be offered in late March/early April 2006 for library staff and trustees in communities of 25,000 population and under. These workshops are being sponsored by the Gates Foundation, WebJunction, and the Nebraska Library Commission. For complete details, go to <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/gates/gatesrurasustaintrngspg2006.html>>.

CE & Training Grants applications must be postmarked no later than August 1, 2006. Go to <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/grant.html>> for complete details.



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Proper Disposal of Computer Equipment

Bellevue; 48th and Leyton in northern Lincoln; 48th and VanDorn in southern Lincoln.

If you have equipment that simply needs to be recycled, then there are some recyclers available to take your equipment and recycle it in an environmentally conscious way. Generally, they take any equipment, but there is unusually per pound fee of from \$0.25 to \$0.35. The important thing is that they will separate and properly dispose of the toxic materials and ensure that they are recycled in a manner that does not affect the environment. It is important that before you give them a call before you take the material to them and they will advise you what they will take that day:

CP Recovery, 7534 F Street, Omaha, 402-331-1630

Electronic Recyclers, 1528 North 16th Street, Omaha, 402-408-0053

Computer Renaissance, 330 North 48th Street, Lincoln, 402-564-4040

Lincoln Action Program, 240 P Street, Lincoln, 402-471-4528

These are the only recyclers that I could find in Nebraska.

Hopefully, the information presented here may help you to properly dispose of your obsolete or non-operational computer equipment.



Republican Valley Library System
2727 W. 2nd Street # 233
Hastings, NE 68901-4684

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Hastings, NE 68901
Permit No. 565

Serving Counties:

Adams
Chase
Clay
Dundy
Franklin
Frontier
Furnas
Gosper
Harlan
Hayes
Hitchcock
Kearney
Lincoln
Logan
McPherson
Nuckolls
Perkins
Phelps
Red Willow
Webster



Folkmanis Puppet Order

RVLS will be placing a cooperative puppet order of Folkmanis puppets in time for use during your summer reading programs. Don't miss this opportunity to purchase "pets" for your library such a variety of kittens and dogs, a hamster, an iguana, a bunny and other domesticated friends.

You may submit your orders until April 12.

To request a current Folkmanis catalog (2005-2006), call 510-658-7677 or check www.folkmanis.com for pictures of puppets.

Please let us know if you intend to order so we don't submit without your order!