



Republican Valley Library System

VALLEYTALK

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We reserve the right to edit or
refuse all contributions.

Featured Library:

Mary Lanning Hospital Library

Do you need to know what the symptoms and treatment are for West Nile? Are you a nursing student who has to write a research paper? Are you searching for a treatment for a patient with symptoms you can't explain? Ella Rathod is the librarian who helps find the answers for questions like these. Ella has worked for Mary Lanning Hospital Library for the past six years. Ella serves doctors and nurses employed by the hospital and students who attend Mary Lanning. They have about 65 students in Creighton University School of Nursing—Mary Lanning Campus and Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital School of Radiologic Technology. Mary Lanning also has satellite sites in Holdrege and Kearney.

When Ella does a search she goes to databases such as *Science Direct*, *Ebsco Nursing*, *Cochrane Library*, or *eMedicine*. She usually gives the Doctors pages of abstracts and they return them to



her with the articles or information they would like to read. Sometimes, when a search is really complicated she sends out a request on DOCLINE

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2006-2007 RVLS Board Meetings

November 3, 2006:
C.B. Preston Memorial
Library (Orleans)

January 12, 2007:
vonRiesen Library,
McCook Community
College

March 2, 2007:
Hastings College
Perkins Library

June 1, 2007:
RVLS Board and
Annual Meetings
*Location to be
announced

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

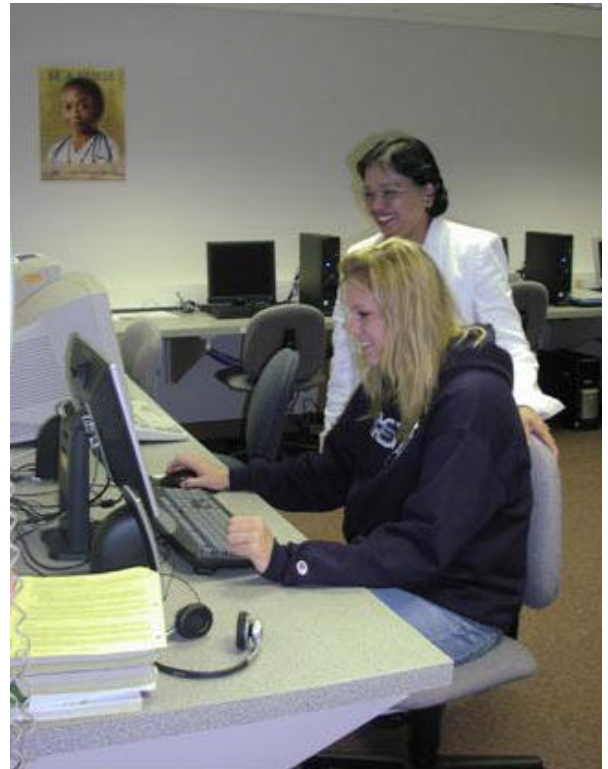


(Continued from page 1)

Featured Library: Mary Lanning Hospital Library

which is run by the National Library of Medicine. The amount of medical literature is doubling every five years and doctors and nurses cannot keep up. The library provides a much needed service for the doctors, nurses, students and patients.

Mary Lanning is one of the few out-state hospitals with a library and librarian. Ella provides the physicians' lounge with physician related books and journals. The main library is primarily for the nursing students although physicians, nurses, and patients use it also. Ella provides large print books for the patient floor where elderly patients usually are residents, and consumer education, consumer health, and fiction for other floors. The children's floor has many children's books which may go home with the patient. Volunteers, on occasion, take a cart of books for patients to make selections. One time a book was returned from the Chicago airport, by a person who said they wanted to finish the book so took it with them. Ella says she is a scavenger. She buys used books and fiction on sale.



Basically, she buys anything she thinks patients might like.

When school starts, Ella does a basic orientation for the new students. She also has a 55 Plus program on basic computer skills. They meet for three sessions of two hours each. The "students" who have to be over 55, learn MSWord, Internet, especially consumer health sites, and e-mail. She charges \$10.00 for the class and has a long waiting list. Ella tries to give the class three or four times a year.

Last year Ella got a \$6000.00 grant from the National Library of Medicine. With the money, she bought six PDAs for faculty and students to use and become technologically up-to-date. Whole medical reference books can be downloaded to the PDA. The

(Continued on page 14)

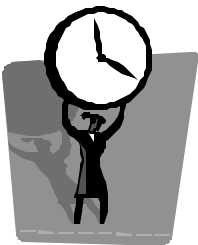
RVLS NEWS

Kristin Benjamin

(kbenjami@esu11.org) is the new media specialist at **Axtell Community School**. Kristin replaces **Linda Reeson**; Kristen's house are 8am-4pm. Welcome, Kristin!

Kathy Carlin, former media specialist at **St. Cecilia School** in Hastings, has taken a job at the **Hastings Regional Center**. **Marilyn Zysset**, formerly of **Hastings Public Library**, will replace Kathy. Good luck in your new positions within RVLS!

Deb Jameson is now the media specialist at **Wallace Public Schools** She replaces **Jennifer Lorenz**. Welcome, Deb!



Nelson Public Library's hours have changed on Thursdays to 3:30-7:30pm; the rest of the hours are the same. The library's

phone number is now 402-225-7111.

Axtell Public Library has a new email address: <24618@rcom-ne.com>.

Hildreth Public Library's hours on Thursdays will change October 1. The new hours will be 10-12/1:30-7pm. Destiny will be its automation system.

Kaye Banzhaf, Medicine Valley

Schools (Curtis) reports a change in hours on Fridays: 8am-2:45pm.

Nuckolls Library, Central Community College Hastings Campus has new hours: M-TH 7:30am-9pm, F 7:30am-4pm.

McCook Senior High School has a new mailing address: 600 West 7th, McCook, NE 69001.

Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (Curtis) has a change of hours: M-TH 8am-11pm, F-8am-5pm, Sun 6pm-10pm.

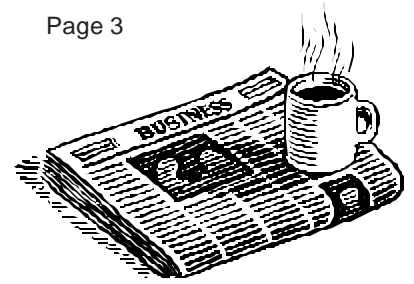
Linda Morris's hours have changed. She is at **Perkins County Schools (High School)** in **Grant M, W**, and alternating Fridays from 8-3:45. The High School has a full-time paraprofessional now; welcome to the System, **Carol Murray!**

Patsy Marrs, Sutherland Public Library, has a change of email address; it is now <patsymarrs@yahoo.com>.

Patty Birch, North Platte High School, has a changed email address: <pbirch@nppsd.org>.

Superior Public Schools now uses Follett as an automation system.

Trudy Evert and **Lois White** are the current library assistants at **North Platte Community College Learning Resource Center**.



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

Judy Ryan is the paraprofessional at **District # 15 (Hastings)**. Welcome, Judy!

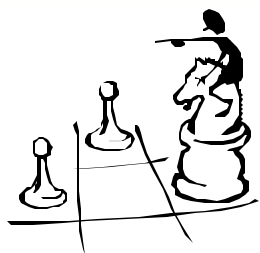
The **Class I** schools in Hastings have merged with **Adams Central** to form **Adams Central Public Schools**. In addition to **Adams Central JR/SR High School**, the elementaries included are: **Juniata, Tri-View (Hastings), District 15 (Hastings), Ayr, and Wallace (Hastings)**. See the online RVLS Directory for each school's information.



Rachael Phillips, Funk Public

School, is the proud grandmother of a baby girl. Kaylie Michelle Phillips, 7 pounds, 15 ounces, 21 inches long, was born July 26. Congratulations, Grandma Rachael!

Harvard Public Library's email address has changed to



Scholarship Committee to Sponsor Silent Auction

The NLA Scholarship Committee will hold a silent auction at this year's annual NLA/ NEMA conference. All proceeds from the auction will assist students who are attending graduate school or additional training to enhance their library skills.

The committee is requesting donations of new items that can be sold. If you are able to donate items, please contact Mary Gubbels of Omaha, 402-592-8408 (h) or 402-597-2040 (w); or Myrna Tewes of Lincoln, 402-304-2878 (h), so that delivery arrangements can be made.

For photos of the items to be auctioned, go to <<http://www.2006nla-nemaconference.info/>>, scroll down the page and click on "NLA Scholarship Committee Silent Auction."

If you have questions about the auction, please contact Kathy Jacobs, Scholarship Committee Chair, at the South Sioux City Public Library, 402-494-7545 or e-mail <[kjacob@southsiouxcity.org](mailto:kjacobs@southsiouxcity.org)>



It's Your Move

Tired of having to move word processed documents around by emailing them or storing them on jump-drives? Take an **online word processing tool** for a drive! Sites such as <www.zohowriter.com>, <www.writely.com>, and <www.thinkfree.com>. As the August 2006 issue of *School Library Journal* explains, online word processing sites contain all of the features of traditional word processors, but are convenient, available through any online connection, and handy in collaborative situations.



Use ALA's online toolkit "**A Small But Powerful Guide to Winning Big Support for Your Rural Library**" to find a plethora of ideas for winning support in your community. Go to <<http://www.ala.org/ala/olosbucket/supporttoolkit/toolkithome.htm>>. (Seen in the August 2006 *Straight Talk*.)

Students and teachers have free access to **historic films**, including WWII newsreels and NASA documentaries, thanks to Google and the National Archives. Google digitized the films, which also include early footage of the Civilian Conservation Corps workers and Native American activities. Go to <<http://video.google.com/nara.html>> for

specific titles. (Seen in August/September 2006 *Panhandle Sun*.)

For **Spanish-language versions of common library forms**, flyers, signs, book summaries, programming ideas and more, go to **SOL (Spanish in Our Libraries)** at <<http://www.sol-plus.net/index.htm>>. See its sister site, **PLUS (Public Libraries Using Spanish)** for more resources to assist in welcoming Spanish speaking patrons. Check PLUS out at <<http://www.sol-plus.net/plus/home.htm>>. (Sites mentioned in the October 2006 *LibrarySparks*.)

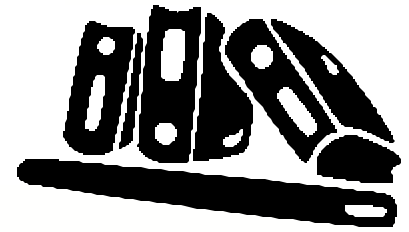
The October 2006 *School Library Media Activities Monthly* mentioned the following two links: Visit **Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site** at www.carolhurst.com for book reviews, book lists, activities, professional development resources and more. Go to **readingrockets.org** for information about reading, resources, research and more.



WE NEED YOU!

Have you read a good book lately? We'd love YOU to write a book review for VALLEYTALK! Submit reviews in MS Word .doc or .rtf format to rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

On the Bookshelf



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

- ◆ *Super Searchers Go to School: Sharing Online Strategies with K-12 Students, Teachers, and Librarians* by Joyce Kasman Valenza, ed. By Reva Basch (2005)
- ◆ *Teach Beyond Your Reach: An Instructor's Guide to Developing and Running Successful Distance Learning Classes, Workshops, Training Sessions and More* by Robin Neidorf (2006)
- ◆ *The Revised Guide Book to Nebraska's Public Meeting Laws* by John Spatz (2006)
- ◆ *Windows XP Annoyances for Geeks 2nd ed.* by David A. Karp

Books on CD

- ◆ *Bee Season* by Myla Goldberg
- ◆ *Good to Great* by Jim Collins
- ◆ *Origin in Death* by Nora Roberts writing as J.D. Robb
- ◆ *Ricochet* by Sandra Brown
- ◆ *The Serpent on the Crown* by Elizabeth Peters
- ◆ *A Slight Trick of the Mind* by Mitch Cullin
- ◆ *Twelve Sharp* by Janet Evanovich
- ◆ *Two Little Girls in Blue* by Mary Higgins Clark

Books on MP3

- ◆ *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens
- ◆ *Johnny Tremain: A Story of Boston in Revolt* by Esther Forbes
- ◆ *Peter and the Shadow Thieves* by Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson

If you would like to borrow these items or be placed on the bookmarks magazine's routing list, 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>.



RVLS Board Officers for the 2006-2007 Year Are:

Judy Grandstaff, President

Norma Dannatt, Vice President

Suzann Christensen, Secretary



Encourage Teens to Read

Celebrate Teen Read Week™ October 15-21, 2006, by encouraging teens to read for fun and to use their local libraries to discover their interests.

The theme is "Get Active @ your library."

Find tips, data and resources, recommended reading, Teens' Top Ten, and more at <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm>.



RVLS Calendar

October 2006

- 6-8—Nebraska Center for the Book Festival at Nebraska Wesleyan University
- 12-13—12th Annual Youth Services Retreat Featuring Judy Freeman, Camp Carol Joy Holling, Ashland
- 15-21—Teen Read Week™, <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm>
- 25-27—NLA/NEMA Convention, Omaha Qwest Center, <http://www.2006nla-nemaconference.info/>
- 25—Excursion to Historic Brownville, Nebraska: Book Town, U.S.A., Nebraska Regional Library Systems' Preconference, 9:30am-5pm
- 25—Blockbuster Marketing with the Hollywood Librarian, 9:30-4.
- 27—"Best New Technologies: keeping Up with the Storm" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-12:30, Hastings & North Platte
- 31—Basic Skills: Public Administration, North Platte Community College, North Campus; for info, go to www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=7832

November 2006

- 3—RVLS Board Meeting, 10am, C.B. Preston Memorial Library (Orleans)
- 7—Basic Skills: Public Administration, North Platte Community College, North Campus
- 14—Basic Skills: Public Administration, North Platte Community College, North Campus
- 13-20—Children's Book Week, <http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/>
- 16—Nancy Bolt, North Platte Community College (flyer on Page 10)

January 2007

- 12—RVLS Board Meeting, 10am, McCook Community College

February 2007

- 9—"Next Gen Librarianship: Where Do We Go from Here?" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-12:30, Hastings & North Platte

March 2007

- 2—RVLS Board Meeting, 10am, Hastings College Perkins Library.
- 14-16—Mountain Plains Library Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM, www.mpla.us. (Regional Library Systems' Bus Trip, 13-17).
- 23—"Library Transformation: Making It Happen" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-12:30, Hastings and North Platte

April 2007

- 3—Karen Hyman, North Platte Community College (watch for details!)



NLA/NEMA 2006 Conference: Libraries: Vital, Vibrant, Visionary

Mark your calendars for the premier library event of the year! The Nebraska Library Association and Nebraska Educational Media Association cordially invite you to Omaha's beautiful Qwest Center October 25-27 to hear a wonderful lineup of conference sessions, visit our great exhibits, and have a great time with your colleagues! For more information go to the conference web site www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference and click on the 2006 conference.

Thursday Keynote: Stephen Abram, MLS

Stephen is Vice President, Innovation for SirsiDynix, president elect of SLA and is the immediate past president of the Canadian Library Association and an SLA Fellow. He is also the past president of the Ontario Library Association. In June 2003 he was awarded SLA's John Cotton Dana Award and the University of Toronto's Jubilee Award. Stephen is one of the first of Library Journal's Movers and Shakers.

Web 2.0: the Library 2.0 in Your Future There is a global conversation going on right now about the next generation of the web. It's happening under the name of Web 2.0. It's the McLuhanesque hot web where true human interaction takes precedence over merely 'cool' information delivery and e-mail. It's about putting information into the real context of our users' lives, work and play. Concurrently, a group of information professionals are having a conversation about the vision for what Library 2.0 will look like in this Web 2.0 ecosystem. Some are even going so far as to talk about Web 3.0! Web 2.0 is coming fast and it's BIG! What are the skills and competencies that Librarian 2.0 will need? Hear what adaptations we'll need to make to thrive in this future scenario.

Friday Keynote: Nancy Pearl, MLS

Nancy is the former director of the Washington Center for the Book at the Seattle Public Library. She speaks to library and community groups across the country and reviews books regularly on NPR's Morning Edition, Wisconsin, Seattle, and Tulsa public radio stations. She is the author of *Book Lust: Recommended Reading for Every Mood, Moment, and Reason* (Sasquatch Books, 2003); *More Book Lust: 1,000 New Reading Recommendations for Every Mood, Moment, and Reason* (Sasquatch Books, 2005). Among her many honors and awards are the 2004 Women's National Book Association Award, the 2004 Louis Shores Greenwood Publishing Group Award for excellence in the reviewing of books and other materials for libraries, the 2004 Media and Communications Award from the Ontario, Canada, Library Association, the Public Library Association's 2001 Allie Beth Martin Award. In 1998, Library Journal named her Fiction Reviewer of the Year. Many of us also know Nancy as the model for the Librarian Action Figure. Nancy will give a talk entitled "The Pleasures and Perils of a Life of Reading." Nancy will talk about her relationship to reading, how she came to write *Book Lust* and *More Book Lust*, and some of the perils she's discovered in her love affair with books. Along the way she will, of course, be recommending some good books to read.

Wednesday Events

Recruiting the Next Generation of Librarians at the Movies Daylong preconference sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission, Bus Tour of Historic Brownville. Daylong excursion sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems.

Screening of the Hollywood Librarian Movie

Tour of Washington Branch Library sponsored by the NLA Diversity Committee. 7:00-9:00 pm

Accommodations

A block of rooms is reserved at the Hilton Hotel, connected by walkway to the Qwest center. Conference rates are \$124 double, \$134 triple. Reserve online at www.hilton.com or call 1-800-HILTONS. Specify the conference rate and reserve early to ensure receiving the conference rate.

~ Convention Registration Form on Page 11 ~



PC Problems and Digital Clicks Workshop

Sponsored by RVLS and Meridian Library Systems



As I was sitting at the Wilson Center in Hastings College listening to John Seyfarth from Sump Memorial Library in Papillion on Friday, August 25, I really just wanted to figure out a way to have John cloned so he can come to the office and fix anything that needs fixed and then head out to other RVLS libraries and fix their computer/networking problems, too. John made everything seem so easy and he did such an excellent presentation covering PC problems such as “What are some things you should do on a monthly basis? (Disk cleanup and disk defragmenter)

Weekly?” (chkdsk) We gave him a list of questions and he didn’t act like any of them were silly or unimportant. As a matter of fact, he suggested the first thing we need to do before we do anything else when we have a computer problem is check to see that the computer is plugged in. He had three calls in one day in which the computer was unplugged—I know none of us would do anything like that! He just gave superb, easy to understand

information and recommended a book which RVLS ordered for its professional library called *Windows XP Annoyances for Geeks* by David A. Karp (0569008767). (To borrow it, email rvlsasst@tcgcs.com or call 800-469-5961.)

This is the picture that no one took of the really good workshop even though every participant had at least one digital camera there and the person writing this article had two and took no pictures so one of the next workshops will be how to take marvelous digital photos to put in the newsletter.

He also showed us how to transfer pictures from our digital cameras to the computer and how to manipulate those pictures. We decided that we need another workshop on how to take good digital pictures.

John prepared a CD for each person in the group that included things like Irfanview Photo Editing and Spybot. One person commented in

her evaluation that this was the best workshop she had been to all year. Maybe the most important thing for all of us from the workshop was John Seyfarth’s phone number and address. He said call anytime and he will help us with any computer problems. I put his number on speed dial!



RVLS Directory Update

Thank you to member librarians and media specialists who have already verified their libraries’ information for the 2006-2007 RVLS Directory. If you have not yet done so, please go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/directory.html>. Find your library’s entry, then email rvlsasst@tcgcs.com with verification of accuracy OR changes, additions, corrections, etc. Thanks!



Folkmanis Puppet Order

RVLS will be placing a Folkmanis puppet order in mid-October.

You may submit orders until Friday, October 13, 2006.

To request a current (206-2007) Folkmanis catalog, call 510-658-7677 or check the Folkmanis website at www.folkmanis. Please order as soon as possible!



Jamie LaRue, An Offer They Can't Refuse: Community Based Librarianship

The Fall Colloquium was held at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, NE on September 14. The speaker was Jamie LaRue, Director of Douglas County Libraries near Denver, CO. What a great evening it was. Mr. LaRue took Douglas County Libraries from the bottom in every measurable category, to one of the top three libraries in every category. He did this through research and his understanding about the marketing of libraries. He did this by realizing that most of the questioning about the library was directed to the men in the community and women were 79% of his patrons. LaRue says "Women are the brokers of culture in society:" (We all knew that, didn't we?) So he started surveying and questioning the women.

Some of the highlights of his talk were:

If you open the doors of the library and provide good hours and service you will get 35 to 50% of the market. If you have good public relations and well thought out and well done promotion you will increase your usage by 5 to 15%. If you market the library using surveys, focus groups and community relations you will increase another 5 to 15%. If you leave the library and become involved with the community and are visible you will have a successful library which reaches 95% of the community.

People see libraries as a public good, but in today's world they like to see a return on their investment.

He ended with 3 points:

Show up.

Pay attention.

Keep in touch.

After hearing Jamie LaRue speak, I could understand why his libraries have achieved the excellence they have. I would highly recommend going to a workshop given by Jamie LaRue if you have the opportunity.



Are you

A library director?

A trustee?

A supervisor?

Aspiring to be a leader?

Join us for

LEADING AT THE LIBRARY

with ***Nancy Bolt***

(consultant with Nancy Bolt & Associates / formerly Director of Colorado State Library)

November 14, 2006 – Wahoo Public Library

- **how to be more confident in your abilities and competencies**
- **how to take intelligent risks**
- **how to lead productive meetings**
- **how to improve your communication skills**
- **how to build professional relationships**
- **how to think beyond the library walls for community planning**

Learn:

November 15, 2006 – Tilden Public Library

November 16, 2006 – North Platte Community College-North Campus

November 17, 2006 – Scottsbluff Public Library

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. local time / \$10 fee includes lunch

Nancy Bolt also initiated the successful Bulgarian/Colorado Library Partnership with the purpose of building international library relationships; currently there are 25 such alliances. Nancy will also speak about Bulgaria, its libraries, and what contributes to a viable partnership with libraries in other countries. Funding for these partnerships comes in part from the sale of hand-crafted jewelry, which will be available for purchase. *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.*

Register and make checks payable to **Nebraska Regional Library Systems (NRLS):**

11929 Elm St., Ste. 12, Omaha, NE 68144

800-627-7884 / 402-330-7884 Fax 402-330-1859; ktooker@alltel.net / nmeyer@alltel.net

Specify the site where you will attend.

Name _____ Email _____

Library _____ Site _____

Open Meetings Law

By Sherry Houston, RVLS Administrator

On July 26, I attended a meeting concerning the Open Meetings Law Act. It was given by John Spatz, who is Legal Counsel for the Nebraska Association of School Boards. There has been a change in the Open Meetings Law Act. Here are some of the points he emphasized in his presentation.

Only a “Public Body” is subject to the Open Meetings Law. (Most Library Boards would be subject to the Open Meetings Law)

An agenda must be posted in a public place prior to the meeting. Some examples are the agenda can be posted on the post office door, the library door, the school, or in the newspaper. This agenda should be posted a reasonable time before the meeting. Mr. Spatz recommended posting the agenda at least 48 hours before the meeting and the “agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting”. (Agenda items like “personnel” may not be specific enough. You may have to say “accept resignations of staff”)

One copy of the Open Meetings Act shall be posted in the meeting room accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public must be informed as to the location of the Open Meetings Act. (You can obtain copies from your city clerk)

A sub-committee “may not hold hearings, make policy or take formal action”. A sub-committee cannot have a quorum of board members. (If you have 6 members on your board, you cannot have 4 members in a sub-committee)

Any gathering of a quorum of the board is a meeting unless it is a chance meeting or traveling to attend a convention or workshop.

You cannot list the names of the public, who attend the meeting, but the public has the right to speak, and the public must be accommodated. The public must be able to hear. The board can create reasonable rules for public participation, but they must be available to the public.



The most significant change in LB 898 is “it shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time”. The citizen has 120 days after the meeting and if the court finds that the open meetings law was violated, any decisions that were made will be void. If there is a substantial violation, the citizen can bring suit between 120 days and 1 year.



Blockbuster Marketing with the Hollywood Librarian

October 25, 2006 • 9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. CT / 1316 Jones Street • Omaha, Nebraska

The Preconference will feature Ann Seidl, the writer and producer of a documentary film, *The Hollywood Librarian: Librarians in Cinema and Society*. Seidl's presentation will cover the purpose and progress of this unique film project and look at its implications for library customer service and marketing. Join us to:

- Explore the diversity of library staff and the roles that everyone in the library can play in marketing and customer service.
- Learn about historical and current attitudes toward (and images of) library service careers by analyzing how movie clips and other media present librarians.
- Explore strategies to increase public awareness of the complex nature of librarianship and how to help library staff redefine themselves, with a focus on professional image and self-esteem.
- Identify what library staff and supporters can do to promote library services and library service careers.
- Learn more about Nebraska Library Commission recruitment tools and activities, funded through the federal Institute of Museum and Library Service Librarians for the 21st Century project.

Cosponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission; the Paraprofessional Section; the Trustees, Users, and Friends Section; the New Members Roundtable; and the Diversity Committee of the Nebraska Library Association. **This Preconference is FREE of charge!**

Registration: <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/2006preconf/2006preconference.html>>.

Excursion to Historic Brownville, Nebraska: Book Town, U.S.A.

Pre-Conference Program Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems
October 25, 2006, 9:30am-5pm ~ \$20 (includes lunch + wine tasting) ~ 5.5 C.E.

Visit historic Brownville and hear the story of how it became an international Book Town in the movement founded by Richard Booth, Hay-on-Wye Wales, Oxford graduate and self-proclaimed "King of Books". Jane Smith, The Lyceum/Bookstore & Café, will present on Brownville's designation as a Book Town, one of three in the United States, after which there will be time to tour the shops before visiting the Whiskey Run Creek Winery and perhaps take a stroll along a river walking path. Transportation will be provided round-trip from Omaha, departing at 9:30am.

EXCURSION TO HISTORIC BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA: BOOK TOWN, U.S.A.

Pre-Conference Program Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems

Name: _____

Library: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please send registration form + \$20 fee (checks payable to NRLS) by **Wednesday, October 18** to: Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144

NLC to Provide FOLUSA Membership for Nebraska's Public Libraries

FOLUSA is the acronym for **Friends of Libraries U.S.A.**, a national group that supports and encourages activities of public library Friends Groups. In keeping with the idea that **library advocacy** is a good thing to do on a continuing basis in order to keep the importance of local public libraries foremost in communities, the Nebraska Library Commission has committed resources to provide membership for all of Nebraska's 273 public libraries in this worthwhile organization.

Many of you have already received an e-mail from Beth Nawalinski, FOLUSA's Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator, in which she points out the benefits of belonging to FOLUSA. These include:

- Membership beginning October 1, 2006
- Four copies of the newsletter, *News Update*, which is chock-full of ideas for Friends Groups (Please get to FOLUSA the four names of people who will be receiving these newsletters as soon as you can.)
- A "members-only" section of the FOLUSA website with good ideas for Friends, trustees, foundations and libraries themselves on fund-raising, advocacy, etc.

A copy of *Making Our Voices Heard: Citizens Speak Out for Libraries* containing practical advocacy ideas to tell your library's story

The decision to provide membership to all of Nebraska's public libraries is in keeping with recent efforts including:

- Workshops sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- The production of fact sheets of interest to libraries and board members

The revision of the Nebraska Library Board Manual in conjunction with the TUFSS Section of NLA (with meetings for input, and the unveiling of the new manual at this year's NLA/NEMA Annual Conference in Omaha)

So this FOLUSA membership is another piece of that very important need to tell the story of your library's importance – continually. We hope every Nebraska public library will use this membership for your local efforts to do this. Please let us know if you have any questions concerning this.



(Continued from page 2)

Featured Library: Mary Lanning Hospital Library

hospital thought it was such a good idea after Ella gave several programs to promote the PDA use, they offered to buy the software if the student or hospital employee buys the PDA. The PDAs can be synched with the computer; the user has Power Point and internet access and can hook it to an LCD projector. Ella has made people who use the library at Mary Lanning techno-wizards. Ella says the library planted the seeds. At RVLS, we think this idea is "really cool."

Ella started in Public Libraries in Shelton and Grand Island, but she loves working in the Medical Library field. Of all the advice Ella could give, her parting words were, "librarians need intellectual freedom to be creative in their job." She should know as she is doing some very creative things at Mary Lanning Hospital Library.



(Continued from page 3)

RVLS NEWS

<harvardnelibrary@windstream.net > (formerly Alltel). Hours are now T, W, TH 2:30-6:30 F, sat 9am-1pm.

Kathy Brochtrup has transferred from **Adams Middle School** in North Platte to the elementary program. Kathy will be the media specialist at **Cody, Hall** and **Lake Maloney** elementary schools.

Twenty children, preschool through sixth grade, participated in the 2006 Summer Reading Program at the **Stratton Public Library**. Children read books from June 5-July 15 to earn 50 cent coupons redeemable at two Stratton businesses, Scott's Sinclair and Dairy King. 183-50 cent coupons were earned. 758 juvenile and young adult books, plus 70 videos, were checked out. To show their progress earning the coupons, the children picked their choice of a small cat or dog eraser which they moved along a numbered pathway. The goal was to reach the big red barn at the end of the path. The children also were given farm scenes on which they placed a farm-related sticker for each coupon they earned. The red barn and farm scene were made/drawn by Adina Golding. Story and craft time was held every Monday afternoon during the six weeks with an average attendance of nine young people. Five young adults participated in the "Creature Feature @ your library" YA program. The young adults earned points by reading books, volunteering at the library, watching videos, or doing research projects. The summer reading program concluded with a party at Pitner Park on July 20. All who participated and their families were invited to attend. Sixteen children and teenagers, plus eleven adults, attended the party. The coupons and prizes were handed out. The Library Board Ladies served a picnic supper of hot dogs, chips, Kool-Aid and brownies.

Printha Fox, Palisade Elementary School, reports a change in hours to 2:00-4:00pm.

Eustis Public Library has a change in hours to: W 3-6pm, Sat 9:30-11:30 am.



BASIC SKILLS: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Basic Skills class Public Administration will be offered at North Platte Community College, North Campus, in North Platte, NE. Cindy Mielke the director of Goodall City Public Library, Ogallala, will be the teacher.

The dates are Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and Nov. 14.

To register, go to

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=7832> or call

Richard Miller at the Nebraska Library Commission 800-307-2665.

Republican Valley Library System
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Republican Valley Library System Board & Administrator

Back Row: Judy Grandstaff, Blue Hill Public Library; Sherry Houston, RVLS; Nancy Cantin, Hastings Regional Center; Terri Johnson, North Platte Public Library; Vicki Casper, Hildreth/Axtell Public Libraries; Patty Hall, McCook Public Library; Tony Anderson, Alma.

Front Row: Suzann Christensen, Hastings Middle School; Norma Dannatt, Imperial; Laura Cundiff, Clay Center.

Not pictured: Sonja Burpo, Imperial; Sherrie Dux-Ideus, Central Community College-Hastings; Vivki Perrie, Superior Public Library.