



Republican Valley Library System

VALLEYTALK

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republican

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NEBRASKA CITIZENS TO READ *MY ÁNTONIA* IN SPRING OF 2005

Citizens across the state of Nebraska will be invited to read the classic novel *My Ántonia* by Nebraska's very own Willa Cather through a new initiative launched by the Willa Cather Foundation, the Nebraska Library Commission, and the Nebraska Center for the Book.

The Cather Foundation and the newly formed One Book/One State Nebraska State Steering Committee, chaired by Sue Maher from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, are hoping that librarians across the state will pitch in to help make this a successful undertaking. Partial funding for the initiative has been provided by the Nebraska Humanities Council.

The concept is not a new one to Nebraskans. Several libraries, including Lincoln, Hastings, and Omaha, have already initiated "One Book/One City or Town or County" reading projects in their communities. Those communities that have not experienced the One Book/One City or Town or County experience will have a unique opportunity to obtain a variety of resources to provide support for the reading of *My Ántonia*. The Steering Committee encourages those communities that have held One Book/One City experiences to build upon previous successes by becoming part of this statewide initiative and encouraging their communities to read this American classic.

Posters, information about *My Ántonia* and Willa Cather, discussion questions/ideas, and other information will be available by the end of the year. The goal is to have every community in the state complete its activities by the end of the third week in April in time for a statewide program on *My Ántonia* to be held in Willa Cather's Red Cloud.

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Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds

The 2005 Summer Reading Program theme, Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds, has a number of suggested directions. The directions include: Dragons & Unicorns; Medieval Life & Times; Knights & Castles; Royal Romps; and Magical Mayhem.

As we collectively gear up for next summer, please share ideas and resources as you come across them! Send them to <rvlsasst@tcgcs.com>.

The next RVLS Board Meeting will be held Friday, January, 14 2005, 10 am, at Holdrege Public Library System, 604 East Avenue, Holdrege, NE.



Librarians in the Spotlight

Joining the corpus of movies in which libraries or librarians play a prominent role is "The Librarian: Quest for the Spear" which will premiere



Sunday, December 5, 2005, at 8 pm (ET/PT—check your local listings). The movie, starring Noah Wylie, combines a "nerdish bookworm," a "holy relic" and the possible cessation of life on earth.

What more could one ask for?

For more details, visit the website at

<<http://www.tnt.tv/Title/Display/0,5918,543783,00.html>>.



RVLS Directory Updates Slow Going

Updating the RVLS Directory has been a slow going process, somewhere on the Scale of Rapidity between the pace of molasses in January and the speed of the proverbial hare.

If you are an RVLS Member library and have already completed the "RVLS Directory Update Self-Service Process," THANK YOU. If you have not, please go to <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/directory.html>>, find your library's entry (use the hotlinked letters at the top of the webpage to skip down to your city), then send an email to rvlsasst@tcgcs.com or call 800-569-4961 with changes/corrections/additions. If your information is correct, as listed, please email or call, anyway, to confirm its accuracy.

Hopefully, the adage that corresponds to the proverbial hare (slow and steady wins the race) will hold true in this instance and I will be able to complete the updates soon! It's my New Year's Resolution!



RVLS NEWS

Wilsonville Public Library's hours are M 8:30-11:30am/6-8pm; W 9-12/4-6pm; Sat 9-10am.

Klyte Burt Memorial Library (Curtis) has changed its Tuesday hours to 2-7pm.

Imperial Public Library hours are 10am-6pm M & W; 1-7pm T; 1-6pm Th; 10am-5pm Fri; and 10am-3pm Sat.

Nancy Cantin, Hastings Regional Center Medical & Patient Library, has a new email address: <nancy.cantin@hhss.ne.gov>.

Bartley Public Library's hours are M, W, TH from 2-7pm.



Hastings Memorial Library (Grant) has changed its hours to: M, T, W 10am-5:30 pm; Th 2:30-5:30pm; Sat 9am-12pm.

Hildreth Public Library's hours are now T 1:30-7pm; W 1:30-6pm; Th 1:30-7pm; F 1:30-5pm; Sat 9am-12pm.

Beaver City Elementary School has a new media assistant, **Kim Rogers**. Welcome to RVLS, Kim!

Librarian Sister M. Francesca Santacroce reports that

St Michael's Elementary School's information is: 721 Creighton Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901; phone 402-462-6310; fax 402-462-6035; email <sfrances@esu9.org>.

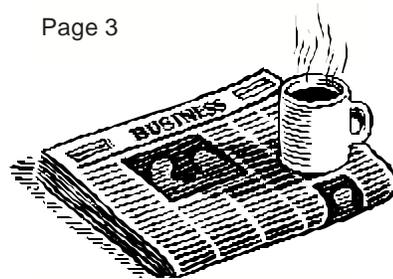
Holdrege Public Library System has begun a new service for the community: public faxing. "We have had



numerous requests about the possibility of this type of service. We

are happy to be able to provide a new service to our patrons," said **Cindy Gitt**, Children's Librarian and Acting Interim Director. A fee of \$1 per page (incoming or outgoing) will be charged to the customer. In other news, the library is celebrating the holiday season by offering a color copy special from Friday, November 26 to Thursday, December 30. Color copies are currently made by the library staff for one dollar per sheet on 8 1/2 x 11", 8 1/2 x 14" or 11 x 17 size papers. During the holiday season, the copies will be made for just fifty cents per page.

Looking for licensed **Cat in the Hat** merchandise? Go to <http://www.bostonamerica.com/prod.l_cat.html>.



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

Farewell to an RVLS Board Member

Merle Murphy, RVLS Board Member since June 2003, will resign from the Board, effective December 31.

Merle and his wife Janet have sold their home in Curtis and will be moving to eastern Nebraska in early January. In his resignation letter, Merle writes, "I thank you for letting me be a part of the RVLS Board. It has been an interesting and enjoyable time."

Thanks, Merle, for your service and good luck to you both in your new home!





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One Book, One State

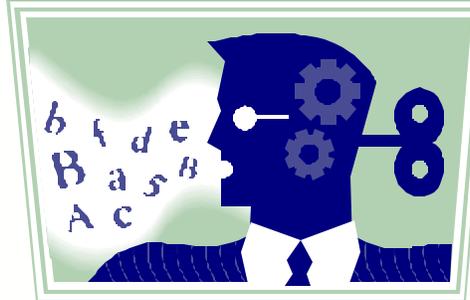
Participants in One Book/One State from across Nebraska will be invited to attend the Cather Foundation's 50th Annual Spring Festival on April 29-30, 2005, in Red Cloud, Nebraska. Cather scholars from throughout the United States will be available to lead discussions and answer questions about *My Ántonia*.

A writing competition will be conducted for secondary students in schools across the state. Winners will receive prizes and awards at the 2005 Spring Festival in Red Cloud on April 29th in special ceremonies at the newly restored Red Cloud Opera House.

For more information, visit www.willacather.org or contact Betty Kort, Executive Director, The Cather Foundation, 413 N. Webster Street, Red Cloud, NE 68970; 402-746-2653; <willacather@gpcom.net>

It's Your Move

Can you define the following words: tommyrot, odeum, supernumerary, Ikebana? If you're interested in beefing up your vocabulary, check out **A.Word.A.Day (AWAD)**. You may sign up for a free subscription, after which you'll receive a word a day. Each email parses the word of the day to give you its pronunciation, part of speech, origin, and two quotations within which the word is used in context. Go to <<http://www.wordsmith.org/awad/>> to see past words or to subscribe.



System office or Shawna Ley, 800-543-2180.

The November 2004 issue of *School Library Journal* (page 28) suggests some websites to assist in solving the problem of email

spam. Try these sites:

<spam.getnetwise.org>

<spam.abuse.net>

<www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/chainmail/index.html>

<www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/edcams/spam/consumer.htm>.

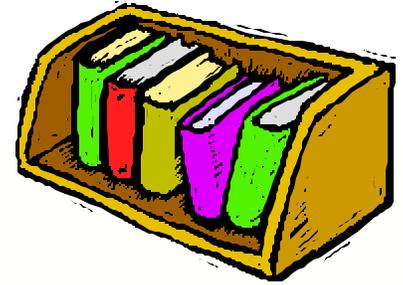
The hybrid **Octo-November 2004 VALLEYTALK** issue was published online-only; there was not a hard copy. It and past issues of *VALLEYTALK* are archived online at <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/newsarchives.html>>.

Google Scholar is a newly unveiled version of the popular search engine that yields only scholarly literature (peer-reviewed articles, etc). Check it out at <<http://scholar.google.com/>>; learn about it at <<http://scholar.google.com/scholar/about.html>>.

Highsmith, Inc. is extending a 15% catalog discount (certain exclusions apply) to Nebraska Library Commission (NEBASE). Please refer to Discount No. 89933. Minimum order \$25. For more details, contact the



On the Bookshelf



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

- ◆ "The Role of Teaching in Modern Libraries" Video (College of DuPage Teleconference, 11/19/2004).

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

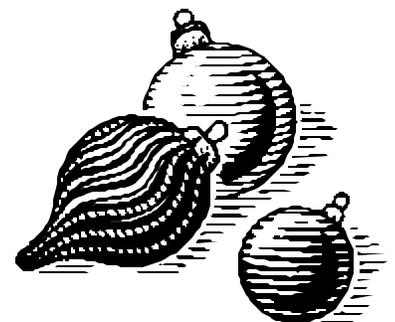
Deck the Stacks with Ornaments, Jolly

Christmas is coming, so why not sponsor an ornament contest? Put out some craft books such as *Christmas Ornaments Kids Can Make* and *More Christmas Ornaments Kids Can Make* by Kathy Ross (1998 and 2000, respectively), provide materials, and let the kids decorate ornaments, then hang them on the library tree.

Have library patrons vote on their favorites (be inventive in selecting categories) and reward the winners with a Christmas treat and their pictures on the library bulletin board.

To find additional craft titles, use NebraskaAccess <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/>> and go to the *Books-in-Print* database.

~ Adapted from the November/December 2004 issue of
Eastern Express





NLA Officers Elected

**NLA Vice
/President/President
Elect:** Joan Birnie
NLA Secretary: Julie
Simpson

Section Chair/Elect:

College & University:
Kay Hershey

Paraprofessional: Matt
Rohde

Public Library:

Robin Brooks

SCYP: Kim McCain

S&I: Tom Schmitz

TUFS: Charles Gordon

ITART: Pam Bohmfalk

**New Members Round
Table:** Chris Jorgensen

Technical Services

Roundtable: Jeff
Tangemen

RVLS Calendar

December 2004

6, 13, 20—Basic Skills: Public Library Administration, North Platte Public Library, 120 W. 4th Street. Contact Jacque Crocker, 800-307-2665 or <jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us> by November 22 to register.

10—E-Rate Workshop, 10-1 CT, Hastings Public Library. To register, email Jacque Crocker at <jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us>.

January 2005

7—Winter Workshop, cosponsored by Meridian Library System and Republican Valley Library System. (See insert)

14—RVLS Board Meeting, 10:00a.m., Holdrege Public Library System, 604 East Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949.

21—"Dealing with Difficult People" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-1. Contact System office for details.

February 2005

18—"Library Marketing: Tips & Techniques" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-1. Contact System office for details.

23—Nebraska Library Association Legislative Day, Lincoln.

March 2005

4—RVLS Board Meeting, 10a.m.. Located T.B.A.

11—"Reference Tools for the Information Age" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-1. Contact System office for details.

16—"Reaching Out @ your library" 2005 Paraprofessional Spring Conference, details T.B.A.

18—Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds Summer Reading Program 2005 Workshop. Location T.B.A.

18—"Library Transformation: Library as Place" College of DuPage Teleconference, 11-1. Contact System office for details.

September 2005—SAVE THE DATES!

28-30—NLA/NEMA Annual Convention, Lincoln.

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Wishing you a joyous and
jolly holiday season!