



Trails

THE VALUE OF A PUBLIC LIBRARY

Article by Tina Walker

As many of you know, it is very difficult to explain to folks outside the library, the value of having a public library. Sure, some patrons and community members understand, but this battle is one that has been long fought and will continue for eons to come. In order for Keene Memorial Library to help our City Council, patrons, and board understand the value we provide to our community, we do two things 1) collect lots of statistics and 2) use a Library Value Calculator.

I know taking statistics is very time consuming and often times difficult, but honestly, if you want people to listen, show them the numbers. We track everything we do in the library including door counts, checkouts, meeting room usage, electronic resource usage, computer usage, wifi usage, etc... We breakdown stats into children vs adult vs YA materials. We have multiple people keeping stats and we all combine the stats onto 1 spreadsheet that I can use during annual reporting. This way, I shouldn't have to go hunting for numbers. I also have the spreadsheet setup to auto-calculate the yearly totals. Each tab is a single month and the final tab is "totals" that all auto-calculate from the

previous tabs. IT takes time to setup, but it can be copied year after year. And I can quickly pull from this spreadsheet anytime I need to for presentations or justifying expenses.

The other item is the Library Value Calculator that our IT guy, Kelly Olson, borrowed from the ALA website <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/library-value-calculator>. This calculator allows you to enter in the value of services at your library and translate that into value of your users. For instance, our last page of the 2017-18 annual report shows KML's Total Value of Service to be \$2,411,451.40. Since our budget is only \$1 million, we show double the value for the buck! Some of the services we include in this calculation are adult books borrowed, audiobooks borrowed, meeting room usage, database searches, and children's programs. Anyone can use this value calculator to come up with a services value for your community. I strongly recommend keeping stats and using the calculator to show all of your stakeholders the value you bring to the community. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me with questions at tina.walker@fremontne.gov

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- MPLA Report
- National Library Week Celebrations
- PLA's Social Justice and Public Libraries Scholarship Experience.
- Humbugs and Romance in the Review Corner
- 2018 NLA/NSLA Joint Conference Scholarship Experiences

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E-mail: trls.director@gmail.com

AT THE TRAILS OFFICE

Scholarships

TRaiLS 2018-2019 continuing education scholarships are available to attend state, regional, and nationwide conferences and events. Any director, media specialist, staff member, or trustee at libraries in the TRaiLS service area may apply. Applications will be reviewed by the scholarship committee after the deadline to apply for each specific scholarship has passed. Scholarship recipients will be notified prior to the event with money awarded after attendance of the event.

An application to apply can be found at <http://libraries.ne.gov/trls/calendar-2/scholarship-opportunities/>

Did You Know:

Facilitating book clubs or literature circles is getting easier! Check out nebookclub.pbworks.com to see all the book club kits that are available to share with other Nebraska libraries.

Upcoming Events!

Keep an eye out for these exciting workshops by checking out [our website](#), the [NLC Calendar](#), or our email blasts on the ListServ. (Not sure if you're on the email list? Sign up at: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/lists/subscribe2.asp?> And select TRLS in the dropdown menu.)

- ◆ WordPress Workshop
- ◆ The Annual Meeting
- ◆ The Youth Services Retreat

Giveaway Items

At the office, we're parting with our professional development collection as well some titles from our book kits, so head on over to trails.libib.com/i/give-away and see if there's anything your library may need.

If there is, send Chelsea an e-mail at trls.assistant@gmail.com and she can help figure out a pickup or drop-off date.



MPLA REPORT

Article by Evonne Edgington

The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a 12-state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals, and friends of libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. My name is Evonne Edgington and I am the MPLA Nebraska Representative. I report to MPLA about Nebraska Libraries events and news. One of the goals for the President of MPLA is to increase membership in the organization. I would urge everyone to go to the MPLA website to learn more

about MPLA and how to join. <https://mpla.us/>

A little about me: I work for Omaha Public Library as a branch manager at the Millard Branch. I have been with Omaha Public Library for almost 18 years. If you have any questions that I can answer about MPLA, please contact me. My email: eedgington@omahalibrary.org

MPLA annual conferences are held jointly with a member state. This year it will be with New Mexico State Library Association in Albuquerque, NM, October 30 through November 1.

WAYNE STATE COLLEGE CARDS PROGRAM ENDING

Article by Marilyn Quance

The Wayne State College CARDS program will no longer be available. Any future requests for supplemental book borrowing will need to go through the Nebraska Library Commission.

We want to thank all who supported the program.

UPCOMING BASIC SKILLS COURSE AND REGISTRATION DATES

Class Dates:	Class Title:	Registration Dates:
6/10 - 6/21	Library Finance	5/13 - 5/31
7/8 - 7/19	Reference	6/10 - 6/28
7/29 - 8/9	Library Policy	7/1 - 7/19
8/19 - 8/30	Collection Management*	7/22 - 8/9

Calendar of Events

[Accreditation/Community Needs Workshop](#)

Wayne Public Library
13 May 2019
1:00pm—4:00pm

[Golden Sower Day](#)

Seward Memorial Library
24 May 2019
9:00am—3:00pm

[Accreditation/Community Needs Workshop](#)

Hruska Memorial Public Library in David City
28 May 2019
1:00pm—4:00pm

[Accreditation/Community Needs Workshop](#)

Online
30 May 2019
1:00pm—3:00pm

[TRaiLS Communications Meeting](#)

Online
7 June 2019
12:30pm—1:30 pm

[DiSPEL Meeting](#)

Osmond Public Library
10 June 2019
9:00am—11:30am

[TRLS Communications Meeting](#)

Online
11 July 2019
12:30pm—1:30pm

LIBRARY NEWS

Bellevue University Celebrates National Library Week!

Article by Megan McIntosh

The Bellevue University Library celebrated National Library Week with good food, friends, and festivities. The library's own musical group "The Sounds of Knowledge" performed and were even [featured](#) in the Bellevue Leader later in April. The twenty-fifth "Friend of the Library" was recognized during National Library Week, with Dr. Cleve Evans, Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences winning the honor. Dr. Evans was the very first "Friend of the Library" back in 1995 and has remained a longtime supporter and volunteer for the library.

May is a busy month for the BU Library, as thematic workshops on the Avengers and Game of Thrones will be held May 6 and 13, respectively. The library will also host a talk by Dr. Fred Kader, a survivor of the Holocaust in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day on May 9. On May 14, the library will hold a screening of the movie Mainland with a panel of students and faculty who have lived in China for a discussion of educational and cultural differences after the film. Although the library slows down for the summer, keep an eye out for any upcoming events on our website [here!](#)

Celebrations at Walthill Public Library

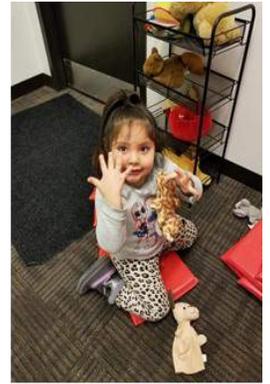
Article by Nola Briggs



Pie Day Celebration in March!



Spa Night Fun for All Ages!



An Egg-citing time at the library!



LIBRARY NEWS

Hartington Public Library's Curious Celebration!

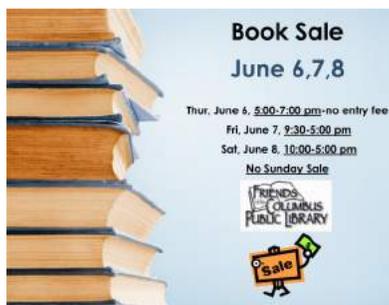
Article by Tami Anderson

The Hartington Public Library celebrated National Library Week with a Curious George theme! The Man in the Yellow Hat made an appearance at a special StoryTime with over 40 kids in attendance. They had many library visitors who traveled to area businesses reading the pages to a book during a downtown StoryWalk. The upper elementary students did an iPad scavenger hunt with QR codes where they discovered new books with the help of book trailers. Door prizes were given away at the end of the week!



Columbus Public Library's Busy June!

Article by Kelli Keyes



To start off the fun of summer reading, the Friends of the library are having a summer sale!



David Marsh from Humanities Nebraska, bring the Civil War to life with songs and stories. Songs like "Dear Old Dixie".



David Seay, through Humanities Nebraska, features demonstrations and stories of folk instruments such as harmonica, penny whistle, Indian flute, ocarina, pan pipes, yak horn, bugle, and limber toys.



2018 NLA/NSLA Joint Conference

Article by Kathy Schable

For those of you who have never had the opportunity to attend a NLA/NSLA Joint Conference, I highly recommend that you make a point of attending one in the future. There are so many wonderful sessions, fantastic Exhibitor Displays, and great opportunities to meet others in our field.

attended sessions on Toddler Concept Bags, Inexpensive Teen Nights, Fixer Upper: Library Addition, Virtual Field Trips, Trapped Behind the Desk, Organizing for Change, Library Newbies, and Popular Teen Novels. Every session gave me something that I could apply to my own library.

For small libraries on a tight budget, it is made possible by participating in TRaiLS Scholarship program. I enjoyed every session that I attended and met so many wonderful people and was able to compare stories with so many. I came away with so many ideas that I can easily carry over to use in our programs. Most of the ideas I gathered can be done on a limited budget; which made them more feasible for our small library. I

I am so grateful for the opportunity to attend these wonderful conferences and am looking forward to attending next year's conference.

2018 NLA/NSLA Joint Conference

Article by Jacob Neill

I attended my first-ever conference, the 2018 NLA/NSLA Joint Conference, in early October.

As a brand-new library science student, attending a library conference seemed mostly out of reach until I could out of school or find a full-time job. However, the TRaiLS Scholarship helped enable me to take part in my first one, and it was a fantastic experience.

My trip's highlight was visiting the pre-conference ALA Advocacy Bootcamp with Jamie LaRue and Marci Mereola. Not only were they both phenomenal orators that were a pleasure to be in the room with, but they had such an engaging presentation that it convinced me I should be deeply involved in advocacy, too. I'm now planning on registering for and attending our Advocacy Day in 2019, and I'd love to invest myself more in the future.

Many of the sessions I visited were loaded with interesting and intriguing ideas, like one on how libraries can work with the Nebraska Writer's Guild for programming, and another on emerging technology trends. Even if my library ultimately doesn't implement these concepts, it was amazing to see how others are innovating at their home libraries — and since I'm a prolific note-taker, I can literally carry these ideas with me wherever I go and call back on them if I ever have a need to.

Between all of the new people I met and everything I learned in my sessions, it was a really rewarding experience for me, and I couldn't be more grateful to TRaiLS for helping make it happen.

PLA's Social Justice and Public Libraries: Equity Starts with Us.

Article by Anneka Ramirez

In February, with the help of a TRLS Continuing Education Scholarship, I had the opportunity to attend PLA's Social Justice and Public Libraries: Equity Starts with Us Symposium at the Denver Public Library. Close to 100 attendees came from all over the U.S. to learn, share, and grow in our personal and professional understandings of social justice and oppression.

Mia Henry facilitated the first day of the symposium. Mia founded Freedom Lifted which conducts educational tours of the Deep South and explores the U.S. Civil Rights Movement and Black Freedom Struggle. Members of the PLA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force also assisted in facilitating the day and a half training.

The symposium purposely and explicitly focused on racial equity to create a framework for our understanding of social justice in public libraries. This was not to the exclusion of other ways people experience oppression and marginalization, such as gender, class, religion, etc. Rather, equity that begins with race brings our awareness to the inextricable nature that race has in U.S. society.

As a group we learned social justice definitions to ground our discussions; explored the Racial Equity Impact Assessment created by Race Forward; examined scenarios in Collections, Community Programs & Engagement, Core Services, Environment Space & Structures, Hiring, Retention & Staffing Models, Policies & Practices to help us

identify impact on marginalized communities and next steps to address negative impact. Personally reflecting on the ways my identity and worldview shape my librarianship was beneficial. When I only see the services we provide from my own life experiences, I can and will often miss barriers to access that folks in my community may experience. There are many opportunities for growth when I am open to expanding my worldview and understanding of how others experience the world and the ways that oppression excludes people from participating fully in a community.

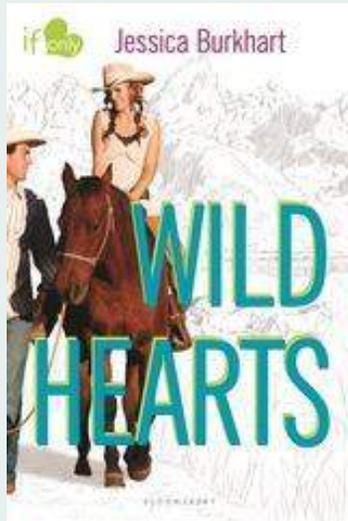
At their heart, public libraries are about inclusion and access for all; however, that inclusion comes with intentional work and does not just happen on its own. I am immensely grateful to have attended this Symposium to gain tools and knowledge to bring back to Nebraska public libraries.

Racial Equity Impact Assessment – Race Forward
<https://www.raceforward.org/practice/tools/racial-equity-impact-assessment-toolkit>

Social Justice Definitions – Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/oB6RIKHUBPeWeURMWk9JQ3FuajA/view>

Advancing Racial Equity in Public Libraries – GARE
<https://www.racialequityalliance.org/resources/advancing-racial-equity-in-public-libraries-case-studies-from-the-field/>

REVIEW CORNER



Wild Hearts

By Jessica Burkhart

Recommended for 7th grade and up.

Article by Marilyn Quance

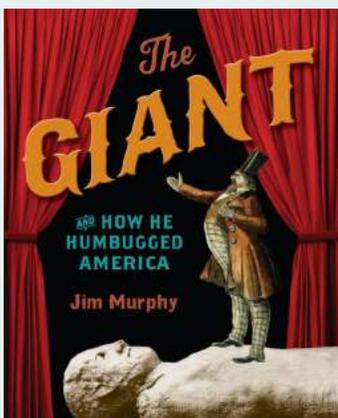
Brie is used to moving. Mom, Dad, and Brie have been moving about every nine months to a year for quite some time because of Dad's job of land developer. This time they are moving to Lost Springs, Wyoming, where they are to build a motel. But most of the townspeople were not happy to see them come to town because the construction site was a main area for the wild mustangs. Brie becomes involved with a girl named Am and a boy, Logan, who are willing to do

anything to save the mustangs. As Brie comes to know and love the horses, she finds her first love, and becomes quite good at lying to her parents. Trying to find a way for what she believes in, saving the mustangs, and staying true to her family provides the setting for a book that girls 7th grade and up will enjoy.

The author's appreciation and love of horses is illustrated throughout the story. The descriptions of the scenery was a good treat to the imagination. Good book for any library that has girl horse lovers among their readers.

Submit news, articles, pictures, or resources for the newsletter to Chelsea at trls.assistant@gmail.com.

Please feel free to email or call with suggestions and comments for the newsletter or system.



The Giant and How He Humbugged America

By Jim Murphy

Recommended for grades 6–8.

The story begins on a small farm in Cardiff, New York, in the October of 1869. The farmer, Mr. Newell, asked some men to dig him another well near the barn. In the process of excavating, the well-diggers hit something solid and it turned out to be a blue-gray stone that was shaped exactly like a very large foot. They continued carefully removing more soil and soon had uncovered an entire body-shape that measured 10 feet and four inches in length. Mr. Newell and the men assumed that the figure was a petrified stone giant from the ancient Onondaga Indian tribe. News of the discovery spread very quickly, people traveled great distances to view the petrified body, and the cost of the viewing was nearly a full day's wages.

Mr. Newell even sent the petrified giant out to tour the United States, with numerous visits to the large cities, only increasing its fame. Anthropologists, paleontologists, and scientists viewed the body and could not come to an agreement as to whether it was truly a petrified man or a statue. So, in total, approximately six million citizens paid to view the body and to decide for themselves. The farmer reaped huge financial rewards and became especially wealthy. But he did so by duping the entire nation by creating the biggest swindle of its time.

I highly recommend this work on non-fiction for any school or public library or private collection. It not only embraces a lesser-known piece of history but it engages the readers as they develop thought

processes of how to determine credible and incredible reports. The reader will learn that not everything printed in the newspaper is factual, that even experts make mistakes, that it is sometimes reasonable to challenge the credibility of experts and their professional opinions, and that, yes, non-fiction (true) books can be written about lies (fiction).

I would also like to note the use of the word 'humbugged' in the title. Most readers might recall, "Bah! Humbug!" being used by Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* with the meaning of 'humbug' as 'hogwash'. But 'hoax' is an extension of it; a 'hoax' is simply a deeper pile of hogwash.

This book chronically traces the hoax over its three-month span, contains historic photos, replicas of newspaper articles, cartoons, source notes pages, a bibliography, and an index all of which acquaint the reader with methods for research and continual learning. There is also a section regarding four other very famous hoaxes which could entice the reader to explore other conspiracy theories. The author has also included a section about his method of research; another great learning tool for the readers.



University of Missouri–Columbia
School of Information Science
and Learning Technologies
(SISLT)
Virtual Open House

**Saturday May 18, 2019
10-11:30 am**

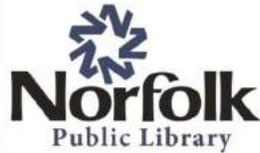
Zoom (<https://mizzou.zoom.us/j/820475365>)

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E-mail: engandle@missouri.edu



LITERATURE FESTIVAL

25th Annual

Saturday, July 27th 2019

8:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Activities begin at 9:00

Norfolk Public Library

308 W Prospect Ave, Norfolk, NE

Featuring:

Troy Cummings



2020 Golden Sower Award Nominee for *Can I Be Your Dog?*

Rob Buyea



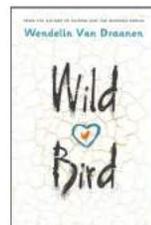
2020 Golden Sower Award Nominee for *The Perfect Score*

Geoff Herbach



2020 Golden Sower Award Nominee for *Hooper*

Wendelin Van Draanen



2020 Golden Sower Award Nominee for *Wild Bird*

ALSO: 2019-2020 Golden Sower Previews by Karen Drevo & Amber Peterson;
Book Sales of Golden Sower nominees by Barnes & Noble (20% discount for educators and librarians);
Sales of Golden Sower Items; Autograph Session/Book Signing ; Door Prizes;
Continuing Education Hours from the Nebraska Library Commission for School & Public Librarians;
Professional Growth Points for Teachers/Staff employed by Norfolk Public Schools.

Tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library, online at www.norfolkne.gov/library (Click on Programs & Events) OR by mail order (see attached registration/order form). For more information and details about group rates, contact Karen Drevo at NPL by phone at 402.844.2108 or email at kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us

A wonderful way to spend a summer day for literature lovers of all ages!