



Supporting libraries serving our communities

March-April, 2022

SUNdries ~ Nebraska~The Good Life is Calling *Celebrating Arbor Day*

April 29th marks the 150th Anniversary of Arbor Day. The Latin origin of the word means tree. This day celebrates the planting, maintenance and preservation of trees. Not only do all 50 states observe Arbor Day. More than 40 countries do as well. The first documented arbor plantation festival was held in 1594 in the Mondoñedo, Spain. In the United States the origin dates back to the 1870's in Nebraska City when Julius Sterling Morton, a journalist and editor of the state's first newspaper, the Nebraska City News, lobbied his readers and the Nebraska Agriculture Board to plant trees. He led by example by planting trees on his property and inspired the planting of more than a million trees. Arbor Day became an official holiday on April 22, 1885.



The day became officially recognized in 1970. Most states, including Nebraska, observe the day on the last Friday in April, which is an ideal planting time for many regions.

The best resource for Arbor Day information is the Arbor Day Foundation [website](#). Among a variety of topics one can find out how:

Trees:

- Help clean our air.
- Contribute to our health.
- Provide us with oxygen.
- Help clean our drinking water.
- Provide much-needed cooling.
- Help reduce the effects of climate change.
- Help us save energy.
- Benefit wildlife.
- Help reduce crime.
- Increase our property values.





Celebrate Arbor Day
with
Activities
Books
Quotes



Activities:

Visit [Arbor Day Farms](#) in Nebraska City

DLTK [website](#):

Fun Family Crafts [website](#):

Rock your homeschool [website](#)

Books:

Tree Themed Books for Children

House Held Up By Trees by Ted Kooser (Nebraska's own) and Jon Klassen. 2012. Candlewick.

The Tree: An Environmental Fable by Neil Layton. 2017. Walker Books.

Tree Full of Wonder: An Educational Rhyming Book about the Magic of Trees by Anna Smithers, et.al. 2021. Orange Lotus.

Trees by Lemniscates. 2017. Candlewick.

The Things That I LOVE about TREES by Chris Butterworth and Charlotte Voake. 2018. Candlewick.

Ultimate Explorer Field Guide: Trees by Patricia Daniels. 2017. National Geographic for Kids.

Where's the Elephant by Barroux. 2016. Candlewick.

The December 2021 *Booklist Reader* featured an article by Donna Seaman on Tree-Centric Novels. In each of the novels a treasured tree or forest played a prominent role in the stories. Her list included:

The Island of Missing Trees by Elif Shafak.

And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini. 2013. Riverhead.

Barkskins by Annie Proulx. 2016. Scribner.

Deep River by Karl Marlantex. 2019. Atlantic Monthly.

The Enlightenment of the Greenage Tree by Shokoofeh Azar. 2020. Europa.

Harry's Trees by Jon Cohen. 2018. MIRA.

The Island of Missing Trees by Elif Shafak. 2021. Bloombury.

Latitudes of Longing by Shubhangi Swarup. 2020. Random/One World.

The Overstory by Richard Powers. 2018. Norton.

The Weight of Heaven by Thirty Umrigar. 2009. Harper Perennial.

Quotes:

"Other holidays repose upon the past; Arbor Day proposes for the future."

Julius Sterling Morton

"If you would know strength and patience, welcome the company of trees."

Hal Borland

"The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second-best time is now.""

Chinese

"He who plants a tree, plants a hope."

Lucy Larcom

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees; under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

Nelson Henderson

"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

Warren Buffett

"For in the true nature of things, if we rightly consider, each green tree is far more glorious than if it were made of gold and silver."

Martin Luther King



The Arbor Day Foundation created a Tree City program. To achieve this status, municipalities must meet four basic standards.

1. Maintain a tree board or department
2. Have a community tree ordinance
3. Spend at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry
4. Celebrate Arbor Day

This chart lists the Tree Cities in the Western Library System along with the number of years with that designation.

Alliance	29
Bayard	28
Bridgeport	1
Chadron	31
Chappell	30
Gering	31
Grant	25
Imperial	36

Mitchell	18
Morrill	22
Ogallala	37
Potter	28
Rushville	24
Scottsbluff	33
Sidney	35
Trenton	36

Upcoming Dates

March 3 : Nebraska Advocacy Day (see page 16 for details)

March 8: WLS Board Meeting - Riverside Business Plaza, Scottsbluff @ 10:00

March 23-25: Public Library Association Conference. Portland

April 21-22: Nebraska Educational Technology Conference, Omaha

June 9: Bridges out of Poverty—Community Lens. Alliance High School 9:00-3:00

July 19: Western Library System Annual Meeting - 10:00-1:00, Location will be announced soon. Free

September 14-17: Association of Rural and Small Libraries Annual Conference
"Connecting at the Crossroads: On Track to Real Change". Chattanooga, Tennessee

October 4-6: Nebraska Library Association Conference. Kearney, Younes Conference Center.

CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Arthur County Library, Arthur

Grant Amount: \$2,000.00 Total Project: \$2,000.00

Update collection

Gering Public Library, Gering

Grant Amount: \$2,000.00 Total Project: \$2,000.00

Expand & enhance 2 programs: 1 - LEAP; 2 - Story and playtime program

Hastings Memorial Library, Grant

Grant Amount: \$800.00 Total Project: \$800.00

establishing monthly teen nights

Kimball Public Library, Kimball

Grant Amount: \$1,000.00 Total Project: \$1,000.00

Club Next, an afterschool program & Little Readers Storytime

Lied Imperial Public Library, Imperial

Grant Amount: \$750.00 Total Project: \$750.00

Summer Reading Program

Makerspace

Minatare Public Library, Minatare

Grant Amount: \$1,385.00 Total Project: \$1,385.00

"Homework Night" - need to replace computers

Morrill Public Library, Morrill

Grant Amount: \$2,000.00 Total Project: \$3,791.00

Afterschool Program

Summer Reading

INTERNSHIP GRANTS \$1,000.00

Bayard Public Library, Bayard

Hastings Memorial Library, Grant

Kimball Public Library, Kimball

Oshkosh Public Library, Oshkosh

CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

YOUTH GRANTS IN EXCELLENCE

Arthur County Library, Arthur

Grant Amount: \$2,000.00 Total Project: \$2,000.00
update collection

Gering Public Library, Gering

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Afterschool Program
Summer Reading

Hastings Memorial Library in Grant received \$61,637 in grant and matching funds over the past year!!!!



Barnes & Noble lists these as the top books of 2021—Do you agree?

The Lyrics by Paul McCartney

The Sentence by Louise Erdrich

Call Us What We Carry by Amanda Gorman

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

Under the Whispering Door by TJ Klune

The 1619 Project by Nikole Hannah-Jones

Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner

Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead

Pony by R. J. Palacio

Burnt Toast and Other Disasters by Cal Peterzell

Around the Sun

Crawford Public Library ~ Marcella Thompson

“The Long Trail Home-Early Days ‘til Now” is the title of a new book published by Range Conservation and Range magazine edited by C. J. Hadley. Beth Weber Gibbons received two copies in the mail which included a story she’d sent to Range magazine twelve years ago and a check.

The connection began when Beth as a widow was in the farm store to get her tires fixed. The job took so long she picked up a copy of the Range magazine. She read it so long she felt she should purchase the magazine. It was so expensive she decided to write for them. They paid well for stories and pictures so the saga began. Stories were fun and pictures paid more.

Promoting “the heart of cattle country” was an easy challenge. The Weber’s, her parents and grandparents were long time Cherry County residents, who raised cattle and horses.

The story the editor chose was of the Rex Chase family who lived near Elsmere. They shared memories of “God’s Own Cow Country” including a devastating wildfire in 1943.

Deep Roots is feature on page 140-141 in the book. The book presents: A Century of Memories”. You will find stories of ancients who have lived and worked through several wars. Most with the pages come from ranching. They span multiple generations and tiny cowboy earthlings now mimic the old ones. “Nippers and Oldies” is a glimpse at the future and at the past.

Crawford Public Library is honored that Beth has loaned us a copy of the book to be shared with our patrons. This book will not be checked out but you can sit and read through for as long as you want.



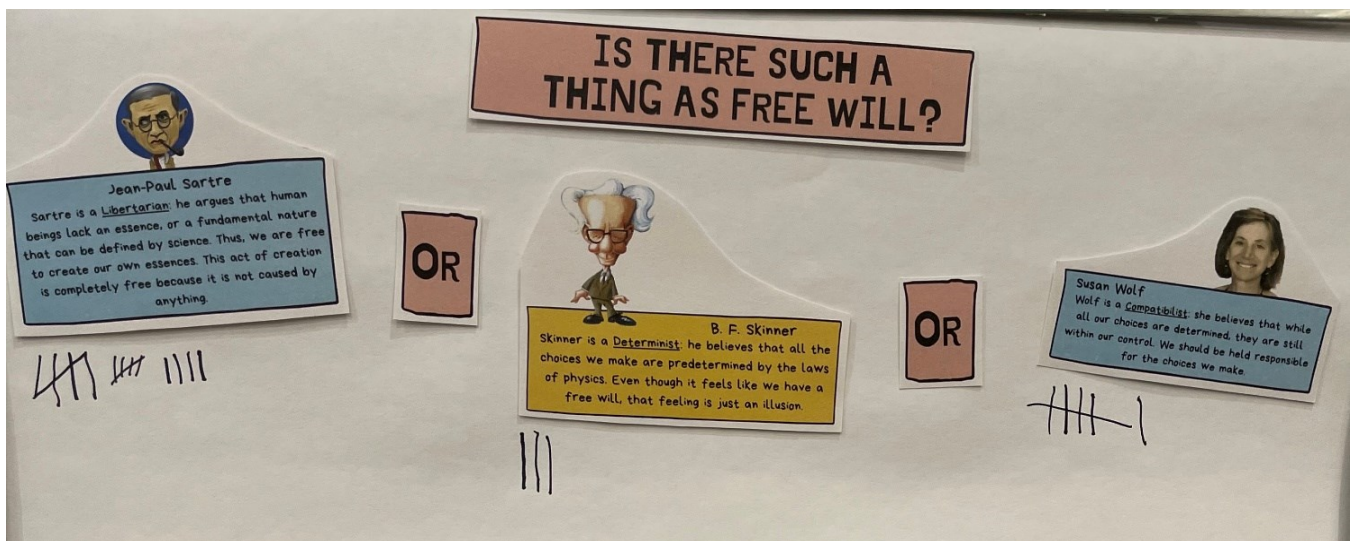
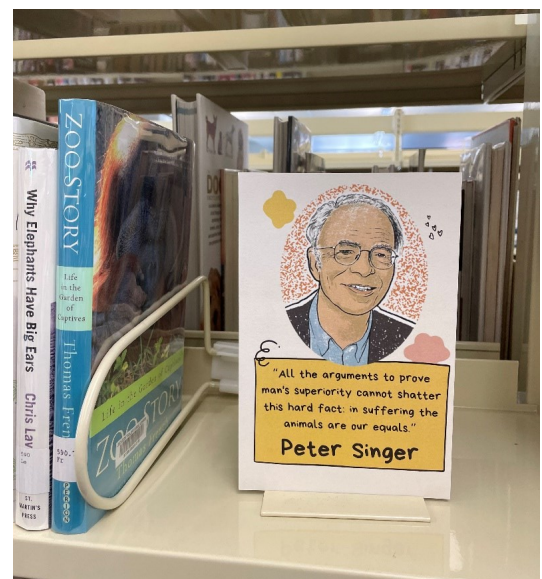
Lied Scottsbluff Public Library ~ Ethan Nelson

Philosophy at the Library

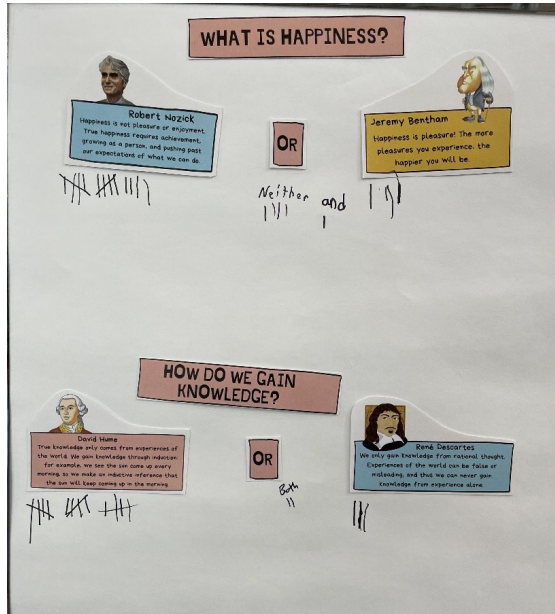
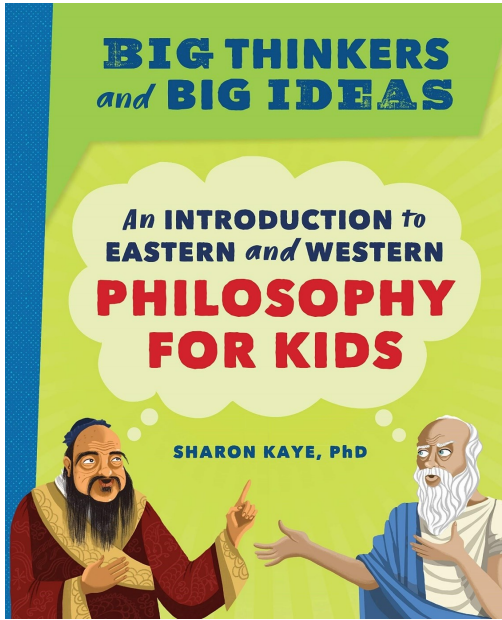
While in college, I was able to take several community service classes that focused on teaching philosophy to middle school and high school students. Philosophy often comes off as an esoteric or cloistered discipline, so one of my interests is making philosophy accessible to children and the general public. One thing I learned from teaching philosophy to children is the importance of keeping the lessons short, clear, and simple. Using some of the techniques from my college classes, I designed a philosophy program for the library that ran through the month of November to celebrate World Philosophy Day on November 18, 2021. It was a passive program, which means that patrons did not have to sign up or register for the program. People were able to participate as much or as little as they wanted on their own time.

The program consisted of a scavenger hunt and a poll. For the scavenger hunt, I printed out pictures of philosophers with one of their famous quotes and hid them in different places in the library. Patrons were then able to search around the library, find the philosophers, and match each philosopher with their corresponding quote on the scavenger hunt sheet.

For the philosophy poll, I put up a big poster and I wrote down several arguments about famous philosophical issues and debates. Patrons could then put a tally mark under the arguments that they agreed with or found most convincing. This activity not only allowed people to think critically about philosophical questions and voice their opinions, but it also introduced patrons to different philosophers across history, from ancient times to the present.



One great resource we have at the library for making philosophy more accessible is a book by Sharon Kaye called “Big thinkers and big ideas: an introduction to eastern and western philosophy for kids.” This is an excellent introductory philosophy book for both children and adults who would like to become more familiar with the field of philosophy.



Alliance Public Library ~ Cynthia Horn

The Alliance Public Library and Keep Alliance Beautiful partnered for a Valentine Box craft event on February 8.

Youngsters and their families enjoyed creating their Valentine box masterpieces together, with a total of 41 people! Several of our craft events throughout the year, including this one, are collaborative efforts between the library and Keep Alliance Beautiful.

We enjoy creating beauty out of recycled materials, including cardboard boxes, paper tubes, greeting cards, tin cans and more. We are so grateful for their work in our community and wonderful ways of working together!



Oshkosh Public Library ~ Elaine Lake

To Decorate or Not to Decorate?

When I worked in this little library from 1986 – 1996, there was no question about decorating the library for every holiday. We didn't. There was no place to buy decorations in town. The former librarian hadn't left any decorations. And the library had a budget of \$1000 per year which had to pay for everything from books to toilet paper so we didn't have the money to buy decorations. We did have a little Christmas tree but that was about it. I was in my early 30's with little kids at home so I didn't have time to decorate anyway.

Over the 23 years that passed between my first stint in "my happy place" and today, the librarians amassed a beautiful collection of décor for every holiday, reading program, and event. This month, I have enjoyed putting Valentine garland within book displays and adding sparkly hearts to desks. We really enjoy using the boxes of treasures in our garage to create lots of contests throughout the year, such as "Count the Bunnies" at Easter and "Find Frosty" at Christmas.

But there have been comments.

"Why is Rudolph peeking over my computer monitor? He is annoying me."

"This is a library. We don't want to see all this STUFF around when we come in." (I've heard that one several times.)

"Your decorations are taking up too much room in the garage."

My response to the commenters is, "We just want to make people happy for the time they are in here." Let them rest their eyes on our goofy, light up gnomes. Let them look at our antique sequined handbags and tell us their memories of their own treasures. Let our sparkly silliness be their momentary joy.

I think you all can relate to this: During this, so far, two year pandemic, I have seen the emotions of my patrons run the gamut from depressed to frantic to a look of long suffering endurance. I really think colors, texture, lights and seeing children in the library improves patrons' moods. It is a thrill to watch some of them walk through the door into our tiny library and SMILE when they see a string of lights, a psychedelic bowl

with candy, and fun new books.

Even though we've received complaints and one board member worries that we are over-filling the garage, I think I will keep putting up our seasonal decorations. I don't like clutter so I don't THINK I am putting out too many. I guess I'll wait to see if anybody staggers backward when they open the door. To me, that might be a sign that I'm over-stimulating their fragile moods! We love it when our many, many senior citizens put the library on their weekly "places to stop" list. They come in and sit for a while , just looking around at the bright colors.

I really think it's some kind of therapy for them, don't you?



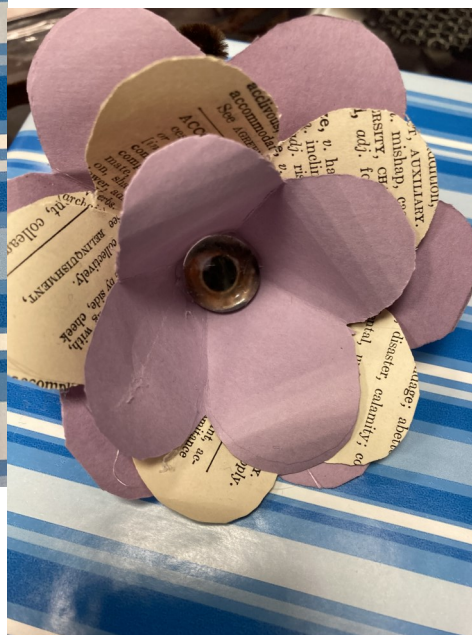
Lied Scottsbluff Public Library ~ Elaine Bleisch

Teen Celebrate “Val-o-ween”

This year, teens at the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library celebrated a new holiday – “Val-o-ween,” a combination of Valentine’s Day and Halloween. Sixteen teens gathered in the teen room on a Friday afternoon to enjoy cookies and make crafts. The crafts were a twist on more traditional Valentine’s Day and Halloween motifs and included zombie dolls, creepy portraits, bouquets of spooky flowers, and “Zombeanies.”

The Zombeanies were the most popular craft and were made from pink or green fleece. Teens measured their head, added a few inches, and used that measurement to cut out a rectangle of fleece that was 15” high. They then folded it in half and sewed a simple seam. Since many had never sewn by hand, it was an easy way to introduce the skill, since it didn’t have to be perfect – in fact, the more imperfect, the better! They then folded the bottom up and added buttons for eyes and could embroider scars if they wanted. The top was cut into strips down about four inches, then gathered to make a pompom. The zombie dolls also required some sewing skills, as they were cut out of felt and stuffed with fiberfill after being sewn around the edges. They could also give the dolls hair with yarn.

The event was such a success that plans are being made for a repeat next year, but also for a crafting day for teens in April. The library’s Teen Advisory Council (TAC) will be planning the craft day, with each member taking on a craft to teach other teens. TAC has really taken off this year, with ten new members and more joining each month. The group was dormant for over a year due to COVID-19 restrictions but helped plan several teen events this year, including a Halloween party and a Game Show night. They are also helping with STEAMPunks, which is a program for third-eighth graders with a focus on STEM and the arts. This program started off meeting once a month and is now meeting twice a month. Students have worked with the 3-D printer, made catapults, learned a little about computer coding, created Christmas cards, learned acting games, and made marble runs. Still to come are making videos, pulleys, scrapbooking, and Rube Goldberg machines.

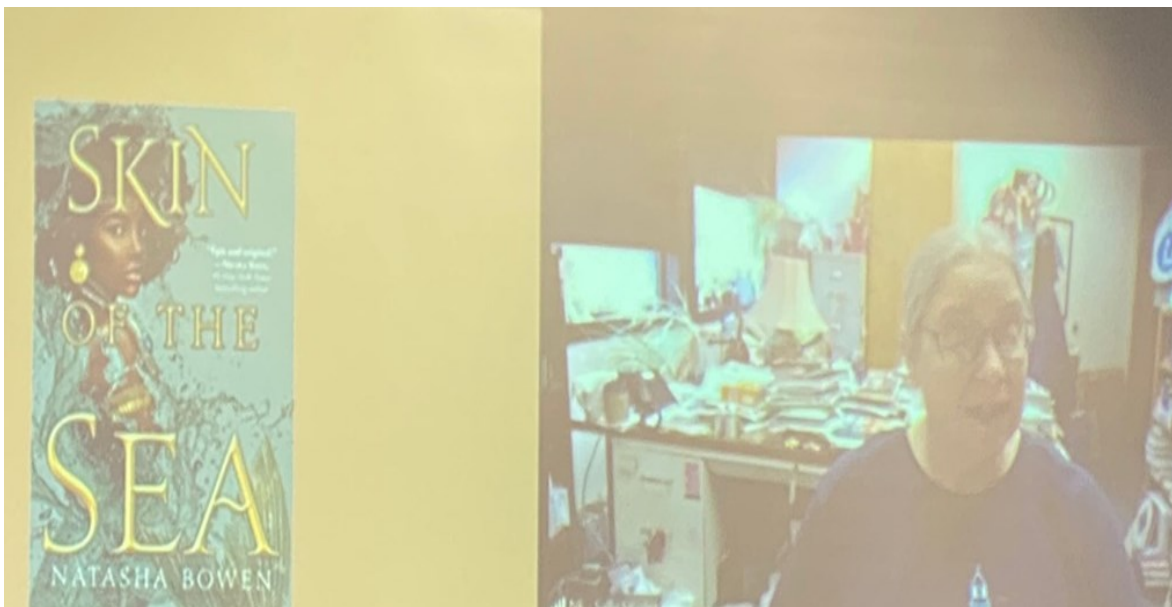




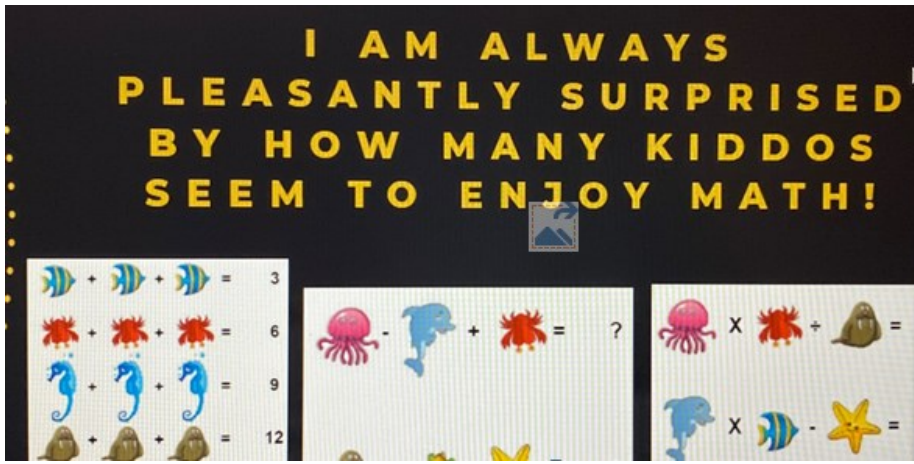
Sadly, the workshop at Hastings Memorial Library in Grant was cancelled due to weather. We were able to meet at the Alliance Public Library on February 24th. Here are pictures of the event. Credits to photographer Jan Jolliffe. Kudos to the Summer Reading Committee: Sarah Alfred, (chair), Amelia Shada, Christie Clarke, Davina Butler and Jan Jolliffe!



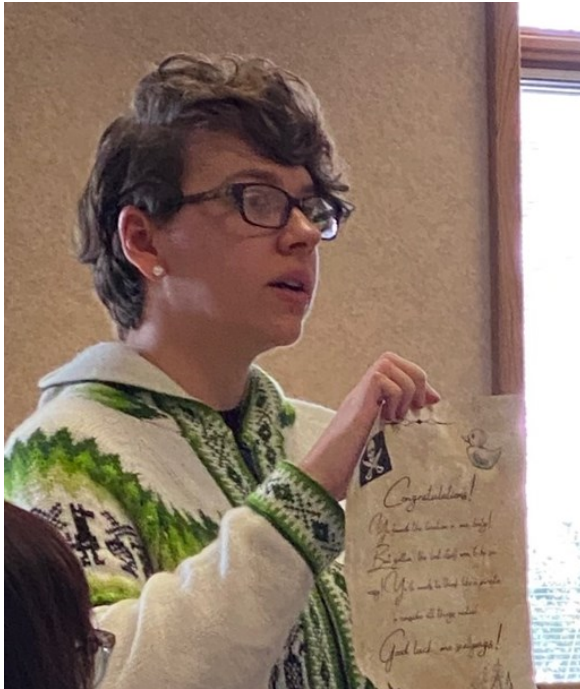
24 in-person and nine virtual attendees watching Sally Snyder's 2022 book recommendations.



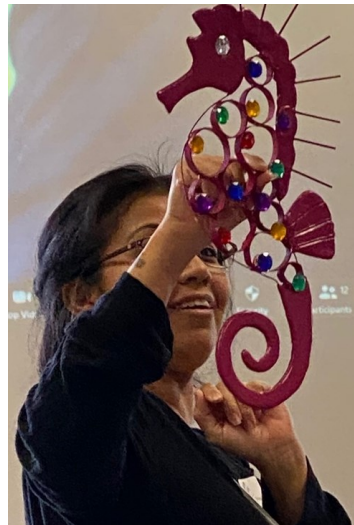
Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission, Zooming in to enthrall the attendees with the exciting book selections.



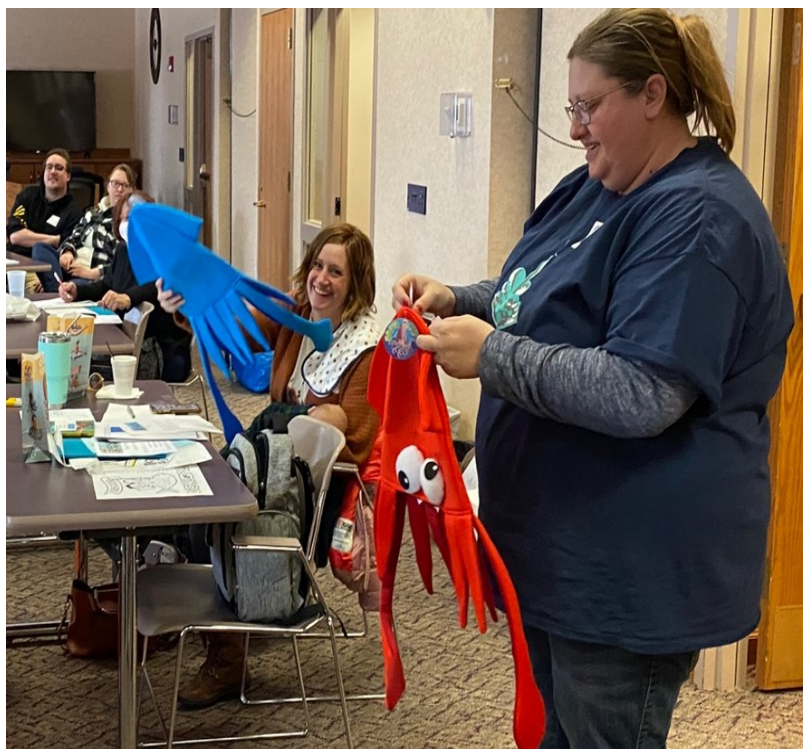
Tammi Thiem, Director, Three Rivers Regional Library System with her informative, fun Breaker Box presentation.



Lexi Tallmon, showing the scroll from her captivating presentation on her Pirate Breaker Box for the Gering Public Library teens. Argh.



Priscilla Plasencio, Mitchell Public Library, showing her creative seahorse and sea turtle made from recycled material and added "gems"



Sarah Alfred, Morrill Public Library awarding one of the Squid Hat prize winners. Our youngest attendee and his Mom Rachael Price, Gordon City Library won a blue hat.



Western Library System Board News

At the January 11th Board Meeting, Elaine Lake, Library Director for the Oshkosh Public Library, was welcomed as the newest member. Elaine is the second of two Public Library representatives.

Would you like to become a board member?

The Board is responsible for the Policies and Procedures and Plan of Service for the Western Library System. The Board oversees the budget and assists the Nebraska Library Commission with the hiring of the Director. Board members advocate for the libraries, librarians and community members from the areas they represent as well as librarianship and libraries in general .

Board members serve three year terms and can serve for two terms. The Board meets six times a year the second Tuesday in January, March, May, September and November. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for July and the date is determined by the Annual Meeting Committee. The board meetings are in person and on Zoom.

Members also serve on a committees within the board

Currently, there is an opening for a Board member from District C (Cheyenne, Deuel and Kimball counties).

Anyone from the community with an interest in supporting libraries serving their communities may serve on the Board. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Allison Reisig, the Board President.

allison.reisig@wncc.edu

At the end of June, there will be three openings on the Board. The incumbents that are not term limited may run for the position.

Representatives for:

Academic/Special Libraries. Position term limited

District D: (Arthur, Garden, Grant, Hooker, Keith, McPherson)

School Library Representatives

If you are interested in running for the position or know of someone who would be interested (and have their permission) please contact Jennifer Holthus, grantcolibr@nebnet.net

Current Board Members and their area of representation:

Academic/Special Large: Allison Reisig

At –Large: Amber Sweetland

Public Library Representatives: Elaine Lake, Sarah Alfred

School Library Representatives: Judy Starke, Matt McLaughlin

District A: Rossella Tesch (Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan, Sioux)

District B: To be approved at the March 8, 2022 Board Meeting

District C: Open (Cheyenne, Deuel, Kimball)

District D: Jennifer Holthus (Arthur, Garden, Grant, Hooker, Keith, McPherson)

District E: Beth Falla (Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins)

For general questions regarding board membership, please contact the WLS Office. wls@westernlibrarysystem.com or 308-632-1350.



According to the American Library Association’s (ALA) website. National Library Week is a time to celebrate our nations' libraires, library worker’s contributions and promote library use and support. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is sponsored by the ALA and observed in libraries across the country each April. All types of libraries—school, public, academic and special—participate. In the mid 1950’s research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and musical instruments. Concerned that Americans were reading less, the ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens organization called the National Book Committee in 1954. The committee’s goals were ambitious. They ranged from “encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time” to “improving incomes and health” and developing strong and happy family life. With the cooperation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958 with the theme “Wake Up and Read”

Molly Shannon is the 2022 honorary chair of National Library Week.

Daily Commemorations:

Monday, 4: Release Date of the State of America’s Libraries Report

Tuesday, 5: National Library Workers Day

Wednesday, 6: National Library Outreach Day—includes the Bookmobiles

Thursday, 7: Take Action for Libraries Day

Molly Shannon writes of her distinction.

“I am so honored to serve as honorary chair of National Library Week for 2022. My mom was a librarian. She encouraged kids to read. So, the work of librarians and libraries has such a special place in my heart.

Libraries are places where communities connect—to things like broadband, computers, programs and classes, books, movies, video games, and more. But most importantly, libraries connect us to each other. Supporting National Library Week in this role allows me to connect to my mother's memory and all the librarians out there. Thank you for everything you do.”



School Library Month is April

The following is excerpted and adapted from "American Association of School Libraries (AASL) Celebrates First National School Library Media Month," which appeared in the Spring 1985 issue of School Library Media Quarterly (p. 83-84). The AASL efforts for a national School Library Month were spearheaded by Lucille Thomas, chair of the School Library Media Month Committee. Thomas and her committee gathered ideas from previous state and local celebrations for school libraries, and compiled a fifty-two-page handbook for the first national observance. The theme of the first national observance of School Library Month was "Where Learning Never Ends: The School Library Media Center."

AASL officials, local and national dignitaries got the month off to a rousing start on April 1, 1985 with a ceremony on the west steps of the U.S. Capitol. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) delivered the keynote address. Moynihan told the school librarians in the audience, "I want to thank you for what you do. I hope you know how important your work is. You change lives for the better. You touch people while they can still be touched."

In 2010, the name of the celebration was changed to School Library Month after the Board of Directors voted to readopt the professional title school librarian, from the former school library media specialist.

Semper Disco - Always Learning

Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events: Sessions count for CE credits.

NCompass Live is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am, Mountain Time. For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to the [website](#).

NCompass Live Webinars	Date
What Changes to Public Service Loan Forgiveness Mean to You	March 2
The Importance of Chit-Chat to Your Small Library	March 9
Can You See Me? Collection Development for Marginalized Communities	March 16
If You Build It, Will they Come? Makerspaces Work in Small, Rural Communities	March 23
Pretty Sweet Tech:	March 30
Tweak Your Library's Social Media	April 13
Starting a Board Game club at a Small Library	April 20
Pretty Sweet Tech	April 29

2022 Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

Class	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
3/21 - 4/1	<u>Library Technology</u>	Amanda Sweet	2/14 - 3/11
4/1 - 4/30	<u>Introduction to Cataloging</u>	Self-paced	2/21 - 3/18
4/18 - 4/29	<u>Library Finance</u>	Holli Duggan	3/14 - 4/8
5/9 - 5/20	<u>Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*</u>	Holli Duggan	4/4 - 5/2
6/6 - 6/17	<u>Readers' Advisory</u>		5/2 - 5/30
7/4 - 7/15	<u>Reference</u>	Christa Porter	5/30 - 6/24
7/25 - 8/5	<u>Library Policy</u>		6/20 - 7/15
8/15 - 8/26	<u>Collection Management*</u>	Denise Harders	7/11 - 8/5
8/29 - 9/9	<u>Programming & Outreach</u>	Christa Porter	7/25 - 8/19
9/19 - 9/30	<u>Community & Library*</u>	Sam Shaw	8/15 - 9/9
10/17 -	<u>Management/Supervision</u>	Holli Duggan	9/12 - 10/7
11/7 - 11/18	<u>Leadership</u>	Holli Duggan	9/26 - 10/21
11/28 - 12/9	<u>Library Services to Children & Teens</u>	Sally Snyder	10/24 - 11/18

Nebraska Library Association (NLA) Advocacy Day—March 3, 2022

Emily Nimsakont, NLA President wrote the following in the latest newsletter. “This month, I'd like to take a look ahead to NLA Advocacy Day. On March 3, we will gather in Lincoln for this event. I will focus instead on the importance of library advocacy. Library advocacy can take many forms. One of those is legislative advocacy. Since the Nebraska Legislature is currently in session, this flavor of advocacy is certainly at the forefront of the minds of our advocacy committee members. This year, there are several bills relating to libraries being discussed by the legislature. Checkout the information from the Advocacy Committee for more information about NLA's position on these bills and actions that the Association as taken. Library advocacy can also involve the much more local approach of being an advocate for your library in your community. You can form connections with local officials (your mayor, city council members, etc.) and other organizations in your community and make sure they know what your library has to offer If you want to learn more about how to be an advocate for your library, there are several places you can turn. The [NLA website](#) has a page devoted to advocacy. You can also consult the American Library Association's Advocacy [web page](#). [EveryLibrary](#) is a non-profit organization devoted to library advocacy, and their website is a good source of information as well. Regardless of which type of library advocacy you choose to focus on, being a strong voice in favor of your library can be instrumental to its success. Make a difference for your library by telling its story!”

Join us for the 2022 NLA Advocacy Day!

Thursday, March 3, 2022
The Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel
333 S 13th Street - Lincoln

9:00 - 10:30 AM - ARBOR I & II - LINCOLN MARRIOTT CORNHUSKER
LIBRARIES AT THE STATEHOUSE: LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY KICKOFF
Legislative Day offers a unique opportunity to showcase the work of libraries to elected officials and their staff. This session will help you leverage your expertise and experience for advocacy that yields results for libraries, librarians, and the communities you serve. We'll talk about fine tuning messages, sharing stories, responding to opposition, and cultivating relationships for short and long-term advocacy wins.
Megan Murray Cusick, MLIS, Deputy Director, State Advocacy, Public Policy & Advocacy, American Library Association (ALA)
*ALA presenters will be presenting "live" virtually to in person attendees at the Cornhusker

10:30 - 10:45 AM
HOW TO MEET WITH YOUR STATE SENATOR - NLA LOBBYIST FIRM REMBOLT LUDTKE

10:45 - 11:00 AM
DESIGNATED TIME FOR VISITS AT THE NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING ON YOUR OWN

11:50 - 1:30 PM
ANNUAL ADVOCACY DAY LUNCHEON - ARBOR I & II - LINCOLN MARRIOTT CORNHUSKER
OUTSTANDING LIBRARY VOLUNTEER RECOGNITIONS
2022 NEBRASKA LEGISLATIVE SESSION BRIEFING WITH NLA LOBBYIST FROM REMBOLT LUDTKE FIRM

\$35 Ticket - [Register Here!](#)

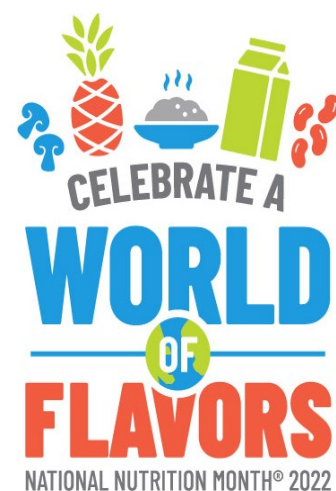
National Nutrition Month—March 2022

Every March, registered dietitian nutritionists celebrate National Nutrition Month which was created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Their [website](#) describes the month as a means to share knowledge and tips to increase awareness about the importance of good nutrition.

[Nutrition.gov](#), a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) website has resources that can help people of all ages make healthier food choices and live an active lifestyle. The website provides interactive tools, recipes and physical activity tips.

The [Life Cycle](#) section serves as a provides age-specific nutrition information from infants to older adults.

Good information and resources to share with your patrons and students!



Unify Challenge for Nebraska!

On March 1,3 and 5, Nebraskans will have the opportunity to focus on solving problems together. Civic Nebraska and Unify America are hosting this Unify Challenge with one-to-one video conversations. The program connects two people in Nebraska who may have differing political, ideological and geographic views. Nebraska will be the first state to participate in the Unify America Challenge. The [website](#) offers more information and sign-up instructions. Sign up for a productive one-on-one online conversation to listen to a fellow Nebraskan, hear new perspectives and problem-solve issues facing all of us.

Tuesday, March 1 at 12pm Central; 11:00am Mountain

Thursday, March 3 at 7pm Central; 6pm Mountain

Saturday, March 5 at 10am Central; 9am Mountain



Western Library System Scholarship Application

- Up to \$300.00 per event for registration, mileage, meals, etc.
- All member libraries are eligible.
- One scholarship per person every two years.
- Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System

Name:

Library/School Agency:

Phone and Email:

Event Date:

Requested Amount:

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth. Be as specific as possible with the date, location, and function of the Activity:

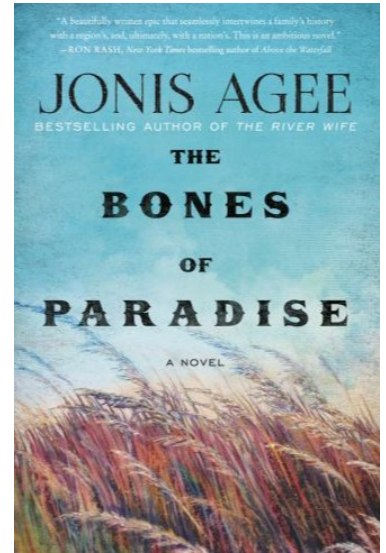
Complete the Google [Application Form](#), E-mail or mail to:

Western Library System
615 S. Beltline Hwy West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

2022 One Book One Nebraska ~ *The Bones of Paradise*

During 2022, join fellow Nebraskans by reading and discussing *The Bones of Paradise: A Novel* (William Morrow, 2016). The novel was written by Jonis Agee, a native Nebraskan and was selected for the 2022 One Book One Nebraska.

The press release announcing the selection stated “*The Bones of Paradise* is a multigenerational family saga set in the unforgiving Nebraska Sand Hills in the years following the massacre at Wounded Knee—it is an ambitious tale of history, vengeance, race, guilt, betrayal, family, and belonging, filled with a vivid cast of characters shaped by violence, love, and a desperate loyalty to the land. The One Book One Nebraska selection committee enjoyed the intricate plot development and well developed characters. They felt that the novel was a compelling read and contained a variety of themes that would engage discussion on a number of topics. Jonis Agee is an award-winning author of twelve books. Her awards include the John Gardner Fiction Award, the George Garrett Award, a National Endowment for the Arts grant in fiction, a Loft-McKnight Award, a Loft-McKnight Award of Distinction, and two Nebraska Book Awards. A native of Nebraska, Agee teaches at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.



Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities are available [here](#).

Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>.

One Book One Nebraska is sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and Nebraska Library Commission. The Nebraska Center for the Book brings together the state’s readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission.

A bookkit with ten copies is available to check out from the Western Library System.

Kids: *The Adventures of Beanboy* by Lisa Harkarder

Activities

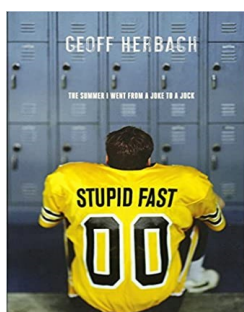
[Author Information](#)
[Teacher Guide](#) from Reading to Kids
[Book Club Kit](#)
[Blank Comic Template](#) from Scholastic
[Read-alikes](#)

Puzzles

[Tile Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Crossword](#), [Answers](#)
[Letter Drop Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Word Search](#), [Answers](#)



Teens: *Stupid Fast* by Geoff Herbach



Activities

[Author Information](#)
[Discussion Guide](#) from Sourcebooks
[Book Club Kit](#)
[Read-alikes](#)

Puzzles

[Tile Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Crossword](#), [Answers](#)
[Cryptogram Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Word Search](#), [Answers](#)

Western Library System Resources

Available to Check Out
Blocks Rock
BookKits (check WLS website for list)
Breakout Kits - One Platform - Escape Room
Cricut and Heat Press
Dragon Puppets - 1 red and 1 green
EVO Ozobot
Frog Guiro
Gizmos and Gadgets
LEGO Boost and Book
Makey Makey Classics
Makey Makey STEM Kits (12 projects)
Speaker System with microphone
Star Punch (3 1/4 inches across)
Star Wars Droid and R2-D2

In Office Use
Book Repair System (Self-serve)
Disc Repair System (WLS staff will do this for you)



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Only .50¢ per book.

Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment. 308-632-1350, Toll-Free 888-879-5303.

The ECO AUTOSMART DISC REPAIR SYSTEM is a full service machine, not just a buffer. It cleans and repairs your valuable discs. As long as the discs are not cracked we can fix them!

From July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

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