



Supporting libraries serving our communities

SUNdries

November - December 2020

Joy of Reading

The following excerpts from a Good Reads Blog written by Subodh Sharma lists seventeen reasons for the benefits of reading. Number 12 is reading gives your joy and pleasure.

Celebrate the joy of reading during this holiday season and years to come.

1. It helps you discover yourself
2. Imparts valuable lessons from years of experiences
3. It improves your Focus and Concentration
4. Reading improves your emotional health
5. Importance of Reading in memory enhancement
6. It's a great source of motivation
7. It expands your knowledge and makes you smarter
8. Broadens your Imagination and enhances your creativity
9. It makes you more empathic
10. Reduces stress and helps you sleep better
11. Importance of Reading in enhancing your critical and analytical thinking
- 12. It gives you joy and pleasure**



13. It makes you humble
14. Improves your vocabulary, language command, and communication skills
15. Importance of reading in improving your brain functions
16. Being lonely will not bother you much
17. It makes you a better person

“When you discover the joy of reading, your mind opens to a world of wondrous discoveries and infinite possibilities.”

Julie Anne Peters

“Once you learn the joy of reading a whole world of discovery opens up and you’ll never look back”

Toby Reynolds.

Features in this issue:

Holiday Reads	Page 2
Native American Heritage Month	Page 3
Meet Board President Allie Reisig	Page 8
Can you find all the references to the Joy of Reading or the Joy of Books in this issue?	

Mark Your Calendar

November 9 - 15, 2020
Children's Book Week

The annual celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading. It is **the longest-running national** literacy initiative in the country. Events are held nationwide at schools, libraries, bookstores, homes - wherever young readers and books connect! The 2020 Children's Book Week will take place with 2 dedicated weeks of celebration, one week in May and one in November.

February 26, 2021

7:45-4:00 Mountain;

8:45-5:00 Central

Big Talk From Small Libraries,

Go-To-Webinar sponsored by

the Nebraska Library

Commission and the Association



WINTER HOLIDAY FOOD, SONGS AND STORIES

Children's

Cox, Judy; and Ebbeler, Jeffrey. *Mouse's Thanksgiving*. Holiday House Publishing, 2020

Dines, Katherine. *Hunk-Hunk-ta-bunk-ta holidays: songs and stories that celebrate global light*. Audio CD 2019

Emaus, Janie and Bryan Langdo. *Latkes for Santa Claus*. 2020

Lee, Lyla and Dung Ho. *Mindy Kim and Lunar New Year parade*. 2020

Parr, Todd. *The Joyful Book*. Little, Brown and Company, 2020

Rau, Dana Meachen. *Creating Winter Crafts*. Cherry Lake Publishing. 2014

Teens

Perkins, Stephanie. *My true love gave to me: twelve holiday stories*. First St. Martin's Griffin. 2016

Adults

Carpenter, Holly. *The Cozy Christmas Movie Cookbook*: Skyhorse Publishing. 2019

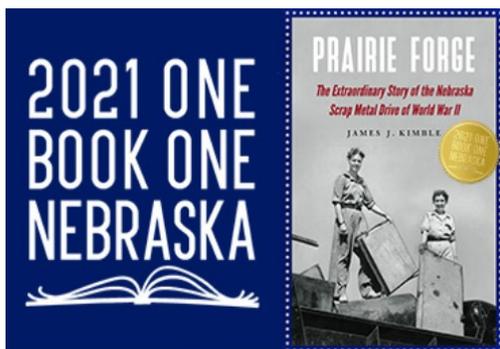
Evans, Richard Paul. *The Noel Stranger*. Simon & Schuster. 2018

Macomber, Debbie. *Holiday Lights*. Mira Books. 2020

May, Katherine. *Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times*, Riverhead Books. 2020

Scheft, Uri. *The Artisanal Kitchen: Jewish Holiday Baking: Inspired Recipes for Rosh Hashanah, Hanukkah, Purim, Passover and More*. Artisan, a division of Workman. 2020

Walsh, Alison and Haley Steward. *A Literary Holiday Cookbook: Festive Meals for the Snow Queen, Gandalf, Sherlock, Scrooge and Book Lover's Everywhere*. Skyhorse Publishing. 2020



Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II by James J. Kimble takes

readers across the entire state of Nebraska during the scrap metal drive early in America's involvement in World War II. When Henry Doorly initially developed a plan to urge citizens to donate scrap metal to help with arms production, he had no idea that his plan would expand from Omaha to the entire state. The book covers every county's participation in the Nebraska Plan, and how it fit into the larger effort on a national level.

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 will be available after January 1, 2021 at [One Book Nebraska](#). Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page:

[One Book Nebraska Facebook](#)

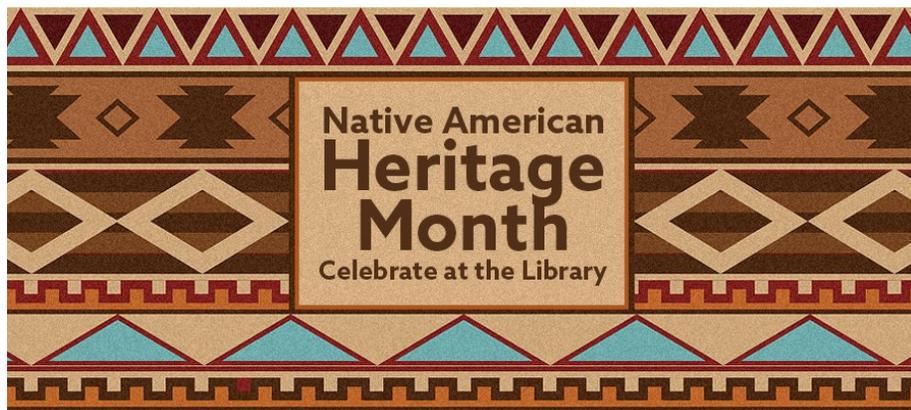
Drone Delivery Services

When schools closed in March due to Covid-19, Kelly Passek, a librarian at the Montgomery County, Virginia School District partnered with Wing, the drone-delivery unit of Alphabet, the parent company of Google.

Book requests were a combination of required reading and reading for fun. Ms. Passek said “We wanted to provide the resources that were needed for the students and we also wanted to provide free-choice options because that’s how our students become stronger students.”

Keith Heyde, the head of Wing’s Virginia operations is quoted. “If we can provide even one or two students a resource they wouldn’t have access to otherwise because they wouldn’t be able to go to the library, that’s a win. It’s not just food and staples that folks need delivered to them, it’s also the little things that can spark a little bit of joy”

[New York Times Article:](#)



Children:

Capaldj, Gina and Pearce. Q. L. *Red Bird Sings: The Story of Zitkala-Sa, Native American Author, Musician and Activist.* Carolrhoda Books, 2019

Jones, Andy T. and Maillard, Kevin Noble. *Fry Bread.* Dreamscape Media. DVD. 2020

Mikoley, Kate. *Native American Ceremonies and Celebrations: From Potlatches to Powwows.* Gareth Stevens. 2018.

Native American Series. Abdo Publishing. Individual books including: Algonquin, Apache, Cheyenne, Cherokee, Iroquois, Kiowa, Navajo, Nez Pierce, Seminole. Sioux.

Various authors and publication dates. <https://abdobooks.com/>

Schroe, Misty. *Jumping Mouse: A Native American Legend of Friendship and Sacrifice.* Page Street Kids. 2019.

Teens:

Harris, Alexandra and Hirsch, Mark G. *Why We Serve: Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces.* National Museum of the American Indian. 2020

Published in honor of the dedication of the National American Veterans Memorial at the National Museum of the American Indians in Washington D.C. on November 11, 2000

Adults:

Forsythe, J. Andrew. *Focus on Feathers: A Complete Guide to American Indian Feather Craft.* Crazy Crow Trading Post. 2019

Harjo, Joy, et al. *When the Light of the World Was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through: A Norton Anthology of Native Nations Poetry.* W.W. Norton & Company. 2020.

Marshall, Joseph. *The Lakota Way: Stories and Lessons for Living.* Blackstone Audio. 2018. Audiobook CD

Orange, Tommy. *Then There. A Novel.* Books of Tape. 2018. Audiobook CD

Sherman, Sean and Dooley, Beth. *The Sioux Chef's Indigenous Kitchen.* University of Minnesota Press. 2017

Treuer. David. *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the present.* Riverhead Books. 2019

CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

News outlets in Western Nebraska reported that the Gering Public Library received a sizable donation from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$30,000. Director Diane Downer said, “We really appreciate this donation during these times when we have had to tighten our belts for the past two budget years. The Library Board can now consider many things on the staff’s wish list for future projects. Libraries today are more than just books, but books are still one of the fundamental reasons we exist. Our donor said it very well in their note. “Stories for all ages of all ages keeps our heritage alive and remembered” We also provide programming from early literacy through adulthood as well as the opportunity to continue learning in our community. It heartens us to know our efforts are validated.”

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Internship Grant Program - Nebraska Library Commission
Application Deadline, **November 10:** 10:59 pm Mountain Time
[Internship Grant Information](#)

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries. - American Library Association
Application Deadline, **December 2:**
[Libraries Transforming Communities](#)

Continuing Education and Training Grants: Nebraska Library Commission
Application Deadline, **December 9:** 10:59 pm Mountain Time
There are three separate grants which cover:

- ◆ Online Learning
- ◆ Attending Conferences and Workshops
- ◆ Continuing Education Projects

[NLC Grants Information](#)



Many Nebraska libraries used the online record-keeping tool, **Reader Zone**, which is a user-friendly way to collect reading data for their Summer Reading Programs. We racked up nearly 1.7 million minutes of reading this summer. In light of the continuing need for online programming, the Nebraska Library Commission awarded a grant from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide year-long access to Reader Zone free of charge for Nebraska libraries.

This access is for public libraries, school libraries, and academic libraries. If you want your patrons to keep track of the reading they do, either by minutes, pages, chapters, and/or books, Reader Zone can do it. If you want to help parents in your community keep track of the books they read in the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, Reader Zone can do it. If a classroom teacher wants to have a reading competition (girls vs. boys or Mrs. Smith’s class vs. Mr. Jones class), Reader Zone can do it. Any kind of reading program recording-keeping, [Reader Zone can do it.](#)

Here is [a link to an educational video](#) that will help you understand the program.

[Click on this link to sign up and get your password for Reader Zone.](#) Thanks goes to Denise Harders from Central Plains Regional System for coordinating.

This project is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Around the Sun

Kathleen Lute Library in Ogallala Builds Dragons

On Saturday, September 26th, the Kathleen Lute Library hosted a Build a Dragon event. There were 79 people in attendance. The library used Noah's Ark Animal Workshops. Chelsea Foust, Youth Services Librarian, recommends Noah's Ark everytime!



BOOKS TO BENCHES

What to do with old print encyclopedia (or other large books)??? Carole Matthews, Librarian for the Hay Springs School District, contributed this article on one idea for repurposing print books. The students at Hay Springs Schools designed and created the benches.

“What to do with old print encyclopedias (or other large books) Here is one idea. Make a bench. Encyclopedia sets are great for this project because they give a uniform look to the supporting legs, but aren’t necessary. Benches in our school have used other weeded books and old text books. They are all hard cover books and most of them are thick books. The bench seats each have their own personality. The bench in our entry lobby is covered with pictures and news articles that create a timeline of school history. The bench outside the third grade greets students with the teacher’s name. One of the benches in the secondary hallway is covered with pages from an old encyclopedia. They can be painted, decouped, or a combination. Whatever fits your fancy. If you want a more uniform look to the legs, the books can be painted. (Check out the instructables website for an example.) Since I didn’t make any of these I checked out the Instructable website and found a set of instructions for a table but the principle applies to a bench. If you’re looking for someone to build a bench for you, talk to your local handyman (or woman) or the high school ITE teacher. They might have students in need of a project. The books have a hole drilled through the center of the book and the books are threaded on to a steel rod. The benches at school all have a wooden base under the books.

Make Table Legs Out of Books <https://www.instructables.com/Make-table-legs-out-of-books/>



Other examples of book furniture can be found:

<https://instead.com/blog/book-furniture/>

https://www.google.com/search?q=book+furniture&tbm=isch&chips=q:book+furniture,g_1:recycled:V7ZlyIS0FSs%

“I love being surrounded by books. For me, they’re like art, little pieces of sculpture placed all over the house, reminding me, always, of the power of the written word. Just looking at them I love being surrounded by books. For me, they’re like art, little pieces of sculpture placed all over the house, reminding me, always, of the power of the written word. Just looking at them brings me the purest kind of joy.”

Oprah Winfrey

Sun Rays



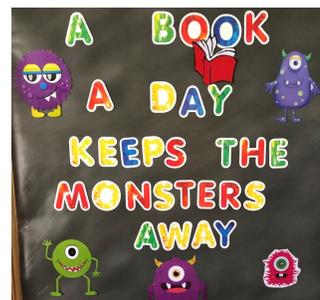
This issue highlights the Bayard Public Library. Becky Henkel, Library Director, authored this piece about the community focused Bayard Public Library.

The Bayard Public Library serves a population of approximately 1200 people. We are located one block west of Main Street. We have a city park surrounding our building. Our hours are Tuesday- Friday 9:00 am- 5:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am-noon. Currently during the week we offer private appointments to patrons from 9:00am –10:00 am and 4:00pm-5:00pm. With the spread of COVID-19 I still have my couch covered with plastic and toys and puppets put away. I work alone at the library during the week and I have a part time lady that works on Saturday mornings. I deliver books weekly to the Nursing home here in Bayard and to patrons that don't leave home. This is my fourth year as being library director here in Bayard. My first achievement was getting our public library accredited and then applying for e-rate. I want to thank the Nebraska Library Commission for all the help they give their Nebraska libraries. I have learned so much from weekly webinars that Christa offers and the different grants they have made available and they are always willing to hold special training workshops. One of my favorite parts of working in a library is the people. I love to see how happy they get over finding the right book for them. And working with the children during the summer reading program. New to our library is a teen STEAM program that we continue to add new items to and an adult health literacy program. We are on a break right now because of COVID and people not being able to gather in groups.



The welcoming front doors of the library

One of the library's creative invitations to read!



Western Library System Board



Meet Allie Reisig, Board President

My name is Allison Reisig, and I am the WLS President this year. I am a librarian at Western Nebraska Community College on the Scottsbluff campus. Before starting at WNCC in 2014, I was the Director at Morrill Public Library. I completed my Bachelor's degree in general studies with an emphasis on Library and Information Science from University of Nebraska Omaha in 2017, and am (very slowly) working on my Master's through University of Missouri.

I have been on the WLS board since 2016. This is my first year as president, and I hope I'm able to fill the very large shoes of Maryruth Reed. I really enjoy learning about all the programs, problems, and fun things that are happening in libraries of all types.

In my free time I enjoy hanging out with my husband, two teenage children, and our menagerie of pets. I enjoy reading speculative fiction, crocheting, and avoiding housework for as long as possible.

Letters about Literature

Letters about Literature is a state reading and writing promotion program. Letters About Literature is coordinated and sponsored in Nebraska by the Nebraska Center for the Book and the Nebraska Library Commission, with support from Houchen Bindery, Ltd., Humanities Nebraska, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and Chapters Bookstore in Seward.

To enter, students write a personal letter to an author, living or dead, from any genre—fiction, nonfiction, or poetry, contemporary or classic—explaining how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or themselves. Each letter must be submitted via the [Letters About Literature online platform for Nebraska](#).

Contest participants compete on three levels. Each state winner and alternate in every level receives a cash prize.

Level I for young readers in grades 4-6

Level II for young adult readers in grades 7-8

Level III for readers in grades 9-12

The Letters About Literature [Teaching Guide \[pdf\]](#) provides activities teachers and librarians can use to guide their students through the book discussion and letter-writing process. The guide addresses the LAL teaching strategies and ways in which the program can dovetail with national standards for teaching reading and writing as well as Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Also included are worksheets for duplication and assessment checklists. Webinar for Educators November 4, 2020 - [NCompass Live: Letters About Literature](#) - Recorded Online Session will provide helpful information and resources for teachers and librarians interested in the competition. It also cover the new submission process and be an excellent opportunity to ask questions about the entire competition process.



Western Library System Scholarship Application

- Up to \$300.00 per event for registration, mileage, meals and association memberships
- All member libraries are eligible.
- One scholarship per person every two years.

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:

Send all requests to: Western Library System Fax: 308-632-3978
 615 S. Beltline Hwy West
 Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Email: wlsasst@gmail.com

ASSOCIATION NEWS



Hello All Nebraska Librarians -

On behalf of the NLA Board of Directors, I am excited to announce that the NLA Board members have unanimously approved the next phase of our 125th Anniversary Celebration: welcoming 125 new librarians to the NLA! During the first week in January we will be holding a random drawing for 125 free memberships for anyone who has either never been a part of the NLA, or for those whose memberships have been lapsed for at least 5 years.

Applicants need to fill out [this simple form](#) with their name and email now through the rest of 2020. Only one entry per person will be accepted. That's it! We want this process to be as straightforward as possible. Please note that if a new member wants to join a Section or Round Table, you will need to pay for that membership. If you are a current NLA member, then please help spread the news of this opportunity. Be assured that we have something special coming for you, too, in the near future.

As with any volunteer organization, we are only as strong and impactful as our members make us. With the opportunity to have a large amount of fresh ideas, perspectives, and energy pouring into the NLA, we feel confident that we will continue to benefit Nebraska librarians for another 125 years and beyond.

Sincerely,
 Rebecca McCorkindale
 NLA Past President
 For questions, please contact: nlaexecutivedirector@nebraskalibraries.org

LEARNING

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:

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>

<u>Letters About Literature</u>	Nov 4	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>Creating an Open Educational Resource: Grenzenlos Deutsch</u>	Nov 10	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>Summer Reading Program 2021: Tails and Tales</u>	Nov 18	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>Pretty Sweet Tech</u>	Nov 25	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>Reading Diversely</u>	Dec 2	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>Esports and Evidence-Based Connected Learning</u>	Dec 9	9am-10am (Mountain)

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

Dates	Course Title	Instructor	Registration Deadline
11/30 - 12/11	Library Services to Children & Teens	Sally Snyder	10/26 - 11/20



Sam Shaw, the Nebraska Library Commission's Planning and Data Services Coordinator, will be offering online training on Zoom for Bibliostat. Every year, the Nebraska Library Commission participates in a national program of public library data collection called the Public Library Survey. This session will provide an overview of the data collection program, and specifically the data collection tool used in Nebraska, Bibliostat. The survey runs from mid-November to mid-February every year. The survey is required for Nebraska accredited libraries, and unaccredited libraries are eligible for a one-time grant (Dollar\$ for Data) if they complete the survey online via Bibliostat. The times below offer a choice of the same training on different dates.

December 1: 10-1 Mountain Time

December 2: 1-4 Mountain Time

E-mail cindy.osborne@nebraska.gov or call 308-632-1350 to register. The link to the training will be sent to those interested in late November. If you wish to attend with others, the meeting room at the Western Library System offices will host the Zoom sessions.

You can also choose the trainings offered by the other Regional Systems.

Central Plains: November 10: 8-12:00 Mountain Time. The link to the registration form is:

<https://forms.gle/Vk6QisjsdqFRUuRG7>

Southeast: November 19: 8:30-12:30 Mountain Time The link to the registration form is:

<https://forms.gle/PK7vN5cy9ajrit1i6>

Library and Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Spring 2021

January 11, 2021 – May 6, 2021

Enrollment for Spring Semester 2021 opens

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020



LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

- Professional competencies including legal and ethical responsibilities
- Reference interview process
- The Reference collection
- Evaluation and use of digital resources, including databases, and websites

LIBR 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies

Patty Birch, Instructor

- Basics of Collection Management including terminology and models
- 21st Century Libraries
- Selection, Acquisition, Deselection/Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom and Copyright

LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification

Ruth Carlock, Instructor

- The bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- Machine-Readable Cataloging Record (MARC record)
- Resource Description and Access (RDA) Instructions

<i>Fall 2021</i>	<i>Spring 2022</i>
Libr 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services	Libr 2100 Reference Resources and Services
Libr 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies	Libr 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies
Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum	Libr 2210 Cataloging and Classification

For more information on the Library and Information Services program, see:

<https://www.cccneb.edu/lis/>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson

djohnson@cccneb.edu, 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

Central Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

E-Rate Training

Christa Porter, Nebraska's State E-Rate Coordinator for Public Libraries will explain the E-Rate program, how to submit your applications, access and use your accounts. The sessions will be presented on Go-To-Webinar.

The same information will be provided at each workshop, so you only need to attend one session. A recorded version will also be made available after November 24. To register, go to the Nebraska Library Commission's Training & Events Calendar and search for e-rate 2021. [Training and Events Calendar](#)

Times are for the Mountain Time Zone

Tuesday November 17: 12-3pm

Thursday November 19: 8:30-11:30am

Monday November 23: 12-3pm

Featured Resource from the Nebraska Library Commission

Discounts ~ Databases & eResources



The Nebraska Library Commission has arranged for discounted pricing for

Nebraska libraries on the following database products. <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/discounts/index.aspx?>

Academic (Lexis-Nexis – 2020)
Academic Completer (formerly ebrary) 2020
Academic Video Online
Access Video Online
ACM Digital Library
African-American History Online
African American Studies Center (AASC) - 2019
ALLDATA
AMA Manual of Style Online
American History Online
American Indian History Online
American National Biography - 2020
Ancient and Medieval History Online
Annals of America History Online 2020

Biblical Studies Online 2020
BioOne 2020
Black Historical Newspapers 2020
Black Historical Newspapers 2020
Bloom's Literature
Britannica Image Quest 2020
Britannica Online - 2020
Britannica Online Academic Edition – 2020
Britannica Online Public Library Edition 2020
Britannica Online School Edition 2020
Britannica's Original Resources 2020

CatExpress
Chelsea House Biographies Online
Classroom Video on Demand
The Columbia Gazetteer of the World Online
Columbia Granger's World of Poetry Online
Columbia International Affairs Online
Columbia University Press
CountyWatch
CQ Magazine
CQ Press
CQ Researcher
Credo
CultureGrams

Dictionaries Online
Dictionary of National Biography Online
Discoverer

EBSCO
Electronic Enlightenment
Encyclopedia of Social Work 2020
Ethnic NewsWatch 2020
Facts on File News Service
Faulkner Advisory for IT Studies
Faulkner Information Services
Ferguson's Career Guidance Center
Films on Demand

Global Issues Library 2020
Grove Art Online - 2020
Grove Music Online – 2020

Health & Fitness Magazine Archive
Health Reference Center

Infobase Learning
Issues & Controversies
Issues & Controversies in American History

LaunchPacks: Science 2020
LaunchPacks: Social Studies
Learn360
LearningExpress 2020
LexisNexis 2020
LGBT Magazine Archive 2020

Mango Languages
MathSciNet
Merriam-Webster Unabridged 2020
Modern World History Online
Morningstar Investment Research Center

National Geographic Magazine Archive, 1888-1994
NetLibrary (eBooks)
Nexis Uni 2020
Nursing Education in Video 2020

OCLC Services
O'Reilly for Public Libraries Basic 2020
O'Reilly for Public Libraries Complete 2020
OverDrive
Oxford Dictionary of National Biography Online 2020
Oxford English Dictionary 2020
Oxford Handbooks Online 2020
Oxford Handbooks Online 2020
Oxford Islamic Studies Center 2020
Oxford Online Law Resources 2020
Oxford Scholarship Online 2020
Oxford University Press 2020

Project MUSE 2020
ProQuest 2020
ProQuest Historical Newspapers

Researcher 2020

Sage Full-Text Collections
Scholastic (LexisNexis) 2020
Science Online
Security Management Practices (SM)
Sherston America
SIRS 2020
SIRS Discoverer 2020
SIRS Issues Researcher 2020

Today's Science

US Newstream 2020

WebDewey
Who's Who and Who Was Who 2020
World Almanac for Kids
World Cinema Collection
World Geography and Cultural Online
World News Digest
World Religions Online
Writers Reference Center

Fun Facts

The following statistics are excerpts from the American Libraries article by Alison Marcotte, September 1, 2020. The statistics feature the far-reaching impact and facts about small and rural libraries.

1/3 - Proportion of US public library buildings that serve a population of 2,500 people or fewer.

1 in 5 - Number of people in nonmetro areas who live more than six miles from a public library.

1.9 - Number of full-time staff members the typical rural library employs, in a space that is 2,600 square feet on average.

19 million - Number of Americans who lack access to high-speed broadband internet. In rural areas, home to one-fourth of the nation's population, the digital divide hits hardest, with approximately 14.5 million people lacking internet access.

33% - Percentage of US adults living in rural areas who reported not reading a book in 2019, according to a Pew Research Center study. By comparison, 24% of US adults living in urban and suburban areas reported not having read a book last year.

94% - Percentage of schools in rural areas that have a library or media center.

75 - Number of bookmobiles in Kentucky, the most of any state.

8 - Number of bookmobiles in Nebraska.

- Columbus Public Library
 - Hastings Public Library
 - Kearney Public Library
 - Lincoln City Libraries
 - Rock County Library (Bassett)
 - Sidney Public Library
 - Thomas County Library (Thedford)
 - Valentine Public Library
- 1** - Number of bookmobiles in the Western Library System
- Sidney Public Library



Imagine... One million children waking up on your favorite winter holiday to find a gift-wrapped book on their bed!

A Book on Every Bed is an initiative to spread the joy of reading and the love of literacy in the winter holiday season. The way it works is simple-Buy a favorite book (new or used!) for your child or children and wrap it. After children have fallen asleep on any winter holiday, place the gift-wrapped book at the bottom of their bed. They will wake to find and open their first present, and maybe even stay in bed longer to read it!



Western Library System Resources

Available to Check Out
Binding Machine
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 (see picture below)
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)
COOL Laminator
Disc Repair System (WLS staff will do this for you)
Embroidery Machine



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



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, 2020 thru June 30, 2021, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

Western Library System Board of Directors

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