



# Straight *talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

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Kathy Ellerton - System Administrator/Editor

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## National D.E.A.R. Day

April 12, 2006 has been proclaimed National "Drop Everything and Read" Day! The National Education Association (NEA), National Parent Teacher Association (PTA), The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, Reading Rockets and HarperCollins Children's Books today announced a Spring 2006 partnership to establish a nationwide initiative encouraging families to designate a special time to "drop everything and read." On April 12th, families are asked to take at least 30 minutes to put aside all distractions and enjoy books together.

The 90th birthday of beloved Newbery Medal-winning author Beverly Cleary is the official date for National "Drop Everything and Read" Day, and Cleary's most popular children's book character, Ramona Quimby, is the program's official spokesperson (the concept of "Drop Everything and Read" or D.E.A.R. is referenced in the second chapter of *Ramona Quimby, Age 8*).

Ramona's encounter with D.E.A.R. time in *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* was inspired by letters Beverly Cleary received from children who participated in "Drop Everything and Read" activities themselves. Their interest and enthusiasm for this unique reading program inspired Mrs. Cleary to provide the same experience to Ramona, who enjoys D.E.A.R. time with the rest of her class.

Like Ramona, kids enjoy D.E.A.R. (sometimes also known as D.I.R.T., S.S.R., U.S.S.R., S.Q.U.I.R.T., F.V.R. and P.O.W.E.R.) time because they get to read what they want with no questions asked—something that usually doesn't happen during the school day. National "Drop Everything and Read" Day extends that simple pleasure to families at home. With so many other activities and forms of entertainment to choose from, parents need a gentle reminder that reading together on a daily basis is fun as well as important, and that it should be a family priority.

"Parents have a very strong influence on children's motivation to read. Parental modeling is a critical ingredient," said Anna Weselak, National PTA President. "This is a natural partnership for National PTA because National 'Drop Everything and Read' Day encourages parent involvement." While National D.E.A.R. Day will be annually celebrated on April 12, campaign partners hope that families set aside time to read on a regular basis throughout the year.

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Further ideas and resources for making reading a family priority and for celebrating National "Drop Everything and Read" Day are available at [www.dropeverythingandread.com](http://www.dropeverythingandread.com). You can also request printed materials, which include a poster, reproducible handouts, and DVD from [dear@harpercollins.com](mailto:dear@harpercollins.com).

### Favorite Read Aloud Titles

#### For Families with Soon-to-be Readers (Age 4 and under)

*Amelia Bedelia's Family Album* by Peggy Parish  
*Are You My Mother?* by P.D. Eastman  
*black is brown is tan* by Arnold Adoff  
*In the Night Kitchen* by Maurice Sendak  
*New Shoes for Sylvia* by Johanna Hurwitz  
*Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel* by Virginia Lee Burton  
*"More More More," Said the Baby* by Vera B. Williams  
*Pete's a Pizza* by William Steig

#### For Families with Up-and-Coming Readers (Age 5 to 7)

*Big Max* by Kin Platt  
*Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett  
*The Fairy's Mistake* by Gail Carson Levine  
*How to Eat Fried Worms* by Thomas Rockwell  
*My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett  
*Ramona the Pest* by Beverly Cleary  
*Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume  
*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by John Scieszka

#### For Families with Growing Readers (Age 8 – 11)

*Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White  
*Dragonwings* by Lawrence Yep  
*Freaky Friday* by Mary Rodgers  
*Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli  
*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson  
*The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin

#### For Families with Sophisticated Readers (Age 12 and up)

*The Cry of the Wolf* by Melvin Burgess  
*The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien  
*A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck  
*The Pinballs* by Betsy Byars  
*Ruby Holler* by Sharon Creech  
*Sabriel* by Garth Nix  
*Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
*Watership Down* by Richard Adams



## **New *Woman's Day* Asks Readers How The Library Has Changed Their Life**

New *Woman's Day* initiative asks readers to share stories on how the library has changed their life <http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/februray/howhasthelibrary.htm>. It's long been acknowledged that libraries have the power to transform lives. Beginning today, *Woman's Day* magazine wants to hear about it.

As part of its latest editorial initiative, *Woman's Day* magazine is collecting stories on how the library has changed its readers' lives. The magazine announced the initiative in its March 7 issue, which has reached subscribers. In the issue, it declares that "libraries are magical places" and asks readers to submit their stories in 700 words or less. Stories can be sent to [womansday@ala.org](mailto:womansday@ala.org) from now until May 10, 2006, when the promotion closes.

Four of the submissions will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Woman's Day*.

Librarians can promote the initiative in their library by downloading free promotional tools from the @ your library Web site. Tools include a sample press release, downloadable logos, sample newsletter copy and flyer.

In the same issue, *Woman's Day* highlights the two winners from last year's initiative, which asked people why they would want to research their family trees at the library. The four-page article features librarians Howard Grueneberg from the Urbana (Ill.) Free Library and Shellie Cocking from the San Francisco Public Library guiding the winners through library resources to help them discover new parts of their family history. It also includes a sidebar with tips on plotting family history from ALA member Stephen C. Young of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Young is chair of the genealogy committee for the Reference and User Services Association's (RUSA) history section.

The ALA partnership with *Woman's Day* began in 2002 with a series of workshops for aspiring writers led by writers from the magazine. It has developed into a multi-program partnership that has resulted in approximately \$4 million in library-related editorial coverage in five issues of the magazine, donated ad space and an online book club featuring ALA members.

The writing workshops will kick off again this year during National Library Week at 10 community college and public libraries throughout the country. Currently, the *Woman's Day* online book club features YALSA members' book recommendations for young adults, and beginning this summer, the book club will highlight RUSA members. The book club is available by visiting [www.womansday.com/community](http://www.womansday.com/community). *Woman's Day* is a Founding Partner of The Campaign for America's Libraries, the ALA's multi-year public awareness and advocacy campaign to promote the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century.





### **Louise A Nixon Scholarship Available**

Louise A. Nixon (1897-1989) worked constantly to enlighten the legislature about the state's libraries' needs. She served as Assistant Director of the Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau, and as Legislative Council Librarian. She was head of the Nebraska Library Commission from 1950 to 1969. When federal funds became available, she initiated bookmobile demonstration projects; public library construction; extension services; services to institutional residents and the blind and the physically handicapped; and an inter-library communication network. Our lives have been enriched by her open-minded, conscientious dedication to building library service.

The *Lincoln Journal* had this to say about Nixon on reflecting on her life, "There is no single figure of greater 20th century significance in developing Nebraska's contemporary system of community libraries—facilities, collections, trained personnel, cooperative networking."

This scholarship was established to help each recipient reach for Nixon's goals of dedication and vision. Application deadline is April 15th of the current year. New scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

**Purpose** The Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund has been established to support students who pursue graduate level library education on a full or part-time basis. Applicants must meet these Nebraska Library Association guidelines.

#### **Applicant Requirements**

1. Applicant must be accepted by an ALA- accredited graduate school of library/information science; OR Applicant must be accepted by a graduate library media program that meets the ALA/AASL curriculum guidelines within a unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.
2. Applicant must meet one of the following criteria:
  1. resident of Nebraska for at least one year
  2. member of NLA for at least one year
  3. employee, past or present, of a Nebraska library for at least one year.
3. Applicant will submit an official copy of his/her college transcript.
4. Applicant will submit two letters of recommendation.
5. Applicant will write a statement explaining his/her employment history; his/her employment expectations after graduation; and his/her expected graduation date.
6. Applicant will provide estimated expenses.
7. A personal interview may be requested by the Scholarship Committee.

#### **Conditions of Scholarship**

1. Preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate the best potential for employment in Nebraska libraries after graduation.
2. Generally, one award per person is given. Scholarship applicants must be deserving: scholarships will not be awarded automatically if only one person applies.
3. Applications must be received by the NLA Scholarship Committee on or before April 15th of the current year.
4. Scholarships will be paid directly to the library school. If the award exceeds remaining tuition, money can be used for school related expenses.

#### **Application**

To obtain an application, go to [www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm)



### National Volunteer Week April 23 -29, 2006

**Straight-Talk** is published ten times per year by the Northeast Library System. Contact Kathy Ellerton or Shelia Cermak at the Northeast Library System Office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. C.S.T. at 1-800-578-1014 (402)- 564-1586 (Voice) (402)-276-0583 (Cell) (402)-564-7977 (FAX).

Mailing Address:  
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Volunteers make an enormous difference in our libraries. Tens of millions of Americans volunteer. The estimated monetary value of all the volunteering time in the United States is \$272 billion dollars per year!

Need ideas to show your appreciation. Here are some ideas:

Wrap a few cinnamon buns or cupcakes with a note saying, "Thanks for working your buns off!" or "You take the cake!"

Give a potpourri packet with a note saying "You've given our project the sweet smell of success!"

Take a small box of raisins, attach a strip of magnetic tape to the back and attach a small note saying, "Thanks for raisin' all those funds." These can be put on refrigerators or filing cabinets at work.

Smile, and say "Thank You!"

Give your volunteers a bag of mixed nuts with a note attached stating, "We would go 'nuts' without your support!"

Wrap candles in cellophane and tie them with a note stating, "You light up the lives of so many!"; or "You lighten our load by volunteering."; or "No one holds a candle to you!"

Fill an heirloom box with artifacts from the organization's past, and include a note that says, "Thank you for being part of our history in the making".

Use children's drawings or pictures of a past charitable event to make a bookmark. Laminate it and include a message on the back.

Bring volunteers together for a recognition brunch/lunch/tea/dinner in their honor.

Send an anniversary card to volunteers highlighting their year(s) of service. Note how they made a difference in your organization over the past year(s).

Take photographs of volunteers while they are "on the job" and later give each volunteer a photo of him/herself in a frame with a 'thank you' message.

Highlight a "Volunteers of the Month" in your newsletter and/or on your office bulletin board.

Fill a wine glass with candy and attach a note saying, "A toast to a job well done!"





March 15 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Central Community College - Columbus Campus Library at 10am.

March 15 - **NLA Paraprofessional Spring Meeting: Encourage Someone@your library.** Videoconference begins at 10am.

March 31 - April 2 - **Language Arts Festival** at Wayne State College. For more information, contact Dr. Stan Gardner at 402-375-7259.

April 3 - **Basic Skills: Organization of Materials** at Lifelong Learning Center, NECC, Norfolk starting at 10am.

April 7 - **"Serving Immigrant Populations: A Library Prototype for Diversity"**, College of DuPage teleconference starting at 11am.

April 11 - **Basic Skills: Organization of Materials** at Lifelong Learning Center, NECC, Norfolk starting at 10am.

April 12 - **Gates Rural Sustainability Workshop** at

Niobrara Room, Student Center, Wayne State College, starting at 9am.

April 13 - **Gates Rural Sustainability Workshop** at Holiday Inn Express, Columbus, starting at 9am.

April 14 - **NMRT & NLA Diversity Committee Spring Meeting: Discussing Diversity** at Little Priest Tribal College, Winnebago. Lunch & business meeting at noon with program to follow at 1pm.

April 18 - **Basic Skills: Organization of Materials** at Lifelong Learning Center, NECC, Norfolk starting at 10am.

April 28 - **"Google Print: It's Impact on Scholarship & Libraries"**, College of DuPage teleconference starting at 11am.

May 1 & 2 - **Disaster Preparedness Workshop** in Lincoln sponsored by the NLC. For more information, go to: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/distasterreg.html>



**New @ NLS**

**Always a River, Sometimes a Library: Rick Anderson Reexamines Library Practice and Patron Service**, College of DuPage Video, 2006, 2 hrs.

Rick Anderson explores the three ways the library profession is broken, and the four ways to fix it. He uses the Mississippi River as a metaphor for patron behavior, and gives us new and useful ways to think about our patrons.

**"A Common Purpose: Community Foundations & Libraries"** by Stephanie Gerding, Public Libraries, January/February 2006, p.32-36.

The author states that community foundations and libraries share a common purpose in wanting to enhance their community's quality of life. She goes on to discuss how community foundations and libraries can form strong partnerships.

**"Doing the Job Without the Job Doing You In"** by Gail K. Dickinson, Library Media Connection, February 2006, p.20-22.

Gail Dickinson discusses how school media specialists can become a valuable partner with the classroom teacher.



It's RAG (Reading & Games) Time at the **Albion Public Library**. About forty students race to the library after school for an hour with a snack, reading and games.

Diana Johnson, Library Director at the **Stromsburg Public Library**, was recently re-appointed to the State Advisory Council on Libraries.

Soup weather was all the **Meadow Grove Public Library** was hoping for during a recent soup dinner fundraiser, but got a blizzard instead.

Congratulations and a big welcome to Mary Pavlik and Lisa Ziegenbein. Lisa replaced Karen Costello who has resigned from the **Creighton Public Library**. Lisa, as you may recall, was the former director of the Verdigre Public Library. Mary Pavlik has accepted the position as the director at the **Verdigre Public Library**.

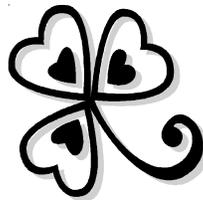
Sue McLain, a speaker from the Nebraska Humanities Council presented "A Century of Fashion: Lingerie" at the **Hruska Memorial Public Library** recently. The "Food for Thought" program has become so popular, attendees are asked to call ahead and reserve a seat!

Antique enthusiasts are lining up at the **Columbus Public Library** to access PriceMiner, an online database for art, antiques and collectibles. Library patrons can access photographs and actual sales prices

for over 27 million items!

The groundbreaking ceremony date has been set for the new **Lied Randolph Public Library**. The ceremony will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2005 at 2:00 in the afternoon at 111 North Douglas Street. Governor Dave Heineman will be there for this special event. A reception will follow at the Randolph City Auditorium.

Recently the **Schuyler Public Library** found itself on the front cover of the January 20th edition of *Hispanos Unidos*, a Spanish language newspaper. The newspaper also had an article about the library's computer classes on the front page in the February 17th edition.



### WebJunction Updates

Check out these new additions to WebJunction - <http://www.webjunction.org>.

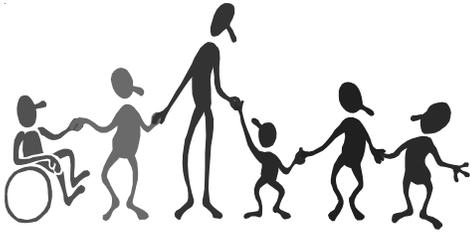
\*WebJunction February Focus: Space Planning. Is a new library building or renovation in your future? Or are you just feeling the urge to rearrange the furniture? Tools and resources that will help you make the best use of that always scarce library resource--floor space at: <http://webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=12748>

\*Resources for Working with Computers and Spanish Speakers. WebJunction's Spanish Language Outreach Program has gathered everything from posters to training materials to help your Spanish-speaking patrons get the full benefit of your public access computers. Go to: <http://webjunction.org/do/Navigation?category=7843>

\*Accessible Technology for All of Us. In an article now available on WebJunction, Sherry E. Gelbwasser shows how adaptive technologies increase computer usability for everyone--not just people with disabilities. Go to: <http://webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=12114>

Help WebJunction Improve TechAtlas! Your real-world experience in the library trenches can help the WebJunction team improve the TechAtlas suite of technology planning tools. Participate in a one-hour technology planning focus group on March 16. Go to: <http://webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=12607>

Jay Johnson Public Library (KS) is a WebJunction February Library of the Month. If you think "space planning" means big spending, find out how the Jay Johnson Public Library in rural Kansas doubled its size and added special features --all on a very right budget. Check it out at: <http://webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=12759>



NMRT and the NLA Diversity Committee invite you to attend

**Discussing Diversity: A Spring Program at the Little Priest Tribal College Library**

When: Friday, April 14, 2006 from 1:00PM - 5:00 PM  
Where: Little Priest Tribal College Library, Winnebago, NE

**Lunch (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)**

Lunch/NMRT business meeting (all are welcome for lunch). "Indian tacos" (taco-type fillings on Indian flatbread, vegetarian version available) will be served.

**Discussing Diversity Sessions (2:00 PM -5:00 PM)**

Session I: Tour of and discussion about the Little Priest Tribal College Library, led by Gretchen Healy, LPTC Library Director. Beside serving a diverse community, LPTC Library is also a dual public-academic library.

Session II: Mini-workshop about reaching diverse groups, including break-out sessions for brainstorming strategies for particular communities.

**Registration**

Deadline: April 3, 2006

Cost: \$15 with lunch; \$10 without lunch

Please return bottom of this form with a check payable to NLA NMRT to:

Chris Jorgensen  
5611 Emile St.  
Omaha, NE 68106

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NMRT/Diversity Committee Spring 2006 Program Registration at LPTC

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Lunch? Yes  No  Meat or vegetarian? (circle one)



**Wanted: Read Aloud Nebraska Communities**

Read Aloud Nebraska (RAN) is seeking applications from Nebraska communities interested in designation as a "Read Aloud Community" for 2006. This designation will emphasize the commitment of local libraries, businesses, civic organizations, and governments to the importance of reading aloud to children. "Read Aloud Communities" receive recognition on the RAN website, a certificate, eligibility to apply for RAN mini-grants, and information and public relations materials regarding reading activities in Nebraska. The "Read Aloud Communities" program is an initiative of Read Aloud Nebraska, a public nonprofit organization whose mission is to "promote healthy, successful children and families through reading aloud." Applications (one per town) and further information may be obtained from [www.readaloudnebraska.org](http://www.readaloudnebraska.org). There is no fee, but applications must be received electronically by April 1, 2006.



# Spring Colloquium

An Evening with

## Joseph Janes

The Internet Librarian



Join us for a stimulating presentation by Joseph Janes, American Libraries Internet Librarian, as he encourages libraries to become technologically proactive rather than reactive. He will also address the importance of retaining the friendly, human aspects of the library while installing and utilizing new technologies. Janes is the associate dean in the Information School of the University of Washington in Seattle and is glad to be "part of a profession that embraces and fosters change and complexity."

**Saturday, April 8, 5:30-9:30 p.m.**

at The Cornhusker Hotel

Yankee Hill III

333 S. 13th Street, Lincoln, NE

### Schedule of Events

- 5:30-6:30 Social hour, cash bar
- 6:30-7:30 Dinner
- 7:30-8:30 Presentation by Joe Janes
- 8:30-9:30 Discussion

Meal Choices: Meals include choice of coffee, tea or milk with chocolate chip cheesecake for dessert.

#### Option 1: Chicken Marsala

Boneless, skinless chicken breast sauteed in Marsala wine topped with mushrooms and bacon. Served with rice, garden salad, fresh vegetables, and roll and butter.

#### Option 2 (Vegetarian): Champagne Pasta

Bowtie pasta in a light champagne sauce tossed with spinach, capers, olives, mushrooms, red onions, tomatoes, and Parmesan cheese. Served with a garden salad, and rolls and butter.

**The Spring Colloquium is sponsored jointly by: the Eastern Library System, the Southeast Library System, the Omaha Public Library, the Lincoln City Libraries, and the University of Nebraska-Omaha.**

This project was sponsored in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Yes! I want to participate in the Spring Colloquium: An Evening with Joseph Janes, Internet Librarian

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Library \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work email \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Selection (circle 1): Option 1 Chicken Marsala      Option 2 (Vegetarian): Champagne Pasta

Send completed registration form and payment of \$35.00 to: Southeast Library System  
5730 R Street, Suite C  
Lincoln, NE 68505  
Registration Deadline: **Friday, March 31, 2006**

### Winter Workshop 2006

On February 1st, 45 librarians, trustees, and school media specialists attended 'blizzard of fun@your library', the System's winter workshop, at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk. The weather cooperated and we didn't have a blizzard of the wet, snowy kind!



Ruth Karlsson of the Nebraska Department of Revenue gave all of us information to think about regarding sales taxes and libraries.



Scott Childers, Assistant Systems Librarian from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln told us how to get our own blog up and running!



Susan Steider, Young Adult Services Librarian , Eiseley Branch, Lincoln City Libraries, told us how to get in the groove with graphic novels.



Kay Hershey, Library Services Coordinator from Metropolitan Community College gave us the latest copyright news.



Mary Jo Ryan of the Nebraska Library Commission discussed the READ software and how it can be used at your library.





## The Reviewer's Chair

### ***The Dog Who Cried Wolf***

By Keiko Kasza

Have we all not wished we were something or someone else during our lives? Moka a good dog and playmate of Michelle's decides after hearing a story about wolves that he too wants the freedom that wolves have in their lives. Moka is tired of being on a leash, having to be dressed up for tea parties and being a house pet so he runs away to the mountains to live as a wolf. Moka soon learns to be thankful for all things in his dull life. What a great book to teach about being content and grateful for where life has put us. The whimsical illustrations are colorful and details and will add to the conversation that is sure to go on about this story. Written for preschoolers through 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.

~~Pat Thompson—WSC

### ***Emma In Charge***

By David McPhail

This is a simple but very appropriate book in the "Emma" book tradition. This story highlights that little girl (and maybe boy) tendency to want to be the boss and to play teacher with her toys. It will give kids some good ideas about how to pretend to play school. Preschoolers love

Emma and any Emma book is a great addition to any collection.

~~Heather Reid, Parent,  
Omaha,

### ***Amazing Gorillas!***

By Sarah L. Thomson

Everything a beginning reader wants to know about gorillas is not included in this book. There is, however, just enough information to pique a youngster's curiosity and cause him/her to go in search of other material. This non-fiction title point out the similarities between human and primate families and introduces some beginning terminology. It also addresses the fact that gorillas' habitats have been diminishing due to logging and mining and that these mammals are becoming endangered. This book is recommended for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up in public libraries.

~~MeMe Smith, Schuyler Public  
Library

### ***Ella Takes the Cake***

**By Carmela and Steven  
D'Amico**

Ella loves to help in her mother's bakery, but most of her helping is limited to small, unimportant jobs that keep her out of the way. Finally, Ella has the chance to make an important delivery and encounters several challenges along the way. Children will identify with Ella's desire to help out and prove herself a big girl. This book is recommended for

Pre-school through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in both school and public libraries.

~~Latricia Olson, Randolph  
Public School

### ***Tackling Dad***

By Elizabeth Levy

Combine football, friendship and family relationships to make interesting reading for both boys and girls. A young girl follows in her dad's footsteps by playing on a middle school boys football team and gains some respect from her divorced parents and her team members. An easy reader that is action packed enough to hold the interest of a young reader. The book also deals with issues of divorce and remarriage. This book is recommended for grades 3-7 in both public and school libraries.

~~Sandra Lyons, Stromsburg  
Public Library

### ***Subway***

By Anastasia Suen

This is a very quick read, my six year old son read it to me. It is a cute story about a subway ride. There are many bright pictures and simple words. It would be very good for beginning readers. This book is recommended for Kindergarten or 1<sup>st</sup> grade in any library.

~~K.P. Schuyler, NE

### ***All About Frogs***

By Jim Arnosky

This nonfiction book gives a lot of information about both frogs and toads. The book has



detailed pictures to enhance the material. I would consider this book an excellent choice for a children's collection. I would recommend this book for very young children through middle elementary in public or school libraries.

~~Sharon Kinnan, Oakdale, NE

***The Yawn Heard 'Round the World***

By Scott Thomas

This is a story about a little girl named Sara, who didn't want to go to sleep. But when she yawned, it set a change of events throughout the world. From Sara's house a yawn started and continued with other people yawning around the world until it made it back to her house, where she was fast asleep. The illustrations went well with each page. Very colorful and cheery. The story rhymed well throughout the book, which made the reading flow well. This book is recommended for grades 2-3 in any library.

~~Sarah Klinetobe, O'Neill, NE



***Heron Cove***

By Ruth Wallace-Brodeur

Sage is sent to live with her great-aunts who she has not seen in years. She feels her mother is just pushing her away to chase another wild dream. However, the aunts are thrilled to have her live with them and Sage learns some family secrets that help her understand her mother. It's easy to get caught up in Sage's family story. Her disgruntlement with her mother is probably felt at one time or another by many middle school students. This book is recommended for a middle school level in both public and school libraries.

~~Deb Daehnke, WSC

***The Berenstain Bears' New Pup***

By Stan & Jan Berenstain

Mama Bear and cubs went to Farmer Ben's for a dozen eggs, but came home with a pup also. Her cubs were sure they could take care of it and clean up after it, but it took Mama Bear's encouragement. It was used as a learning tool to teach the children of responsibility. It is recommended for ages 1-3 in school libraries.

~~Inez Barth, Stanton, NE

***Everybody Makes Mistakes***

By Christine MacLean

Imagine your family getting ready for your Aunt's wedding and that you are the ring bearer and your sister is the flower girl. Now imagine that the ring bearer decides to help

his little sister get ready for the wedding and styles her hair with chewing gum and puts on her make up with permanent markers. Read this hilarious book to find out what happens. This book is recommended for Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

~~Carol Tramp, Wynot Public School

***The Story of Frog Belly Rat Bone***

by Timothy Basil Ering

Cementland was a bleak and inhospitable place full of piles of junk, but a small boy persisted in searching through the junk-piles for a treasure. One day he found a box with a wrinkled note attached: "Put my wondrous riches into the earth and enjoy!" The boy opened the box and saw many colourful packages, which, when opened, contained tiny grey specks. The boy filled containers with dirt, sprinkled the specks into the containers, and waited, but nothing happened. Dejected, the boy left.

When the boy returned the next day he saw that someone had taken the specks, and he knew that he would need a guardian to protect the specks. He assembled wet smelly socks and other junk, formed a giant creature and named it Frog Belly Rat Bone, the monster-guardian of the treasure.

Frog Belly Rat bone proved to be a true guardian: He helped the boy plant and nurture the specks, he stopped three thieves from taking the specks, and, ultimately, he befriended



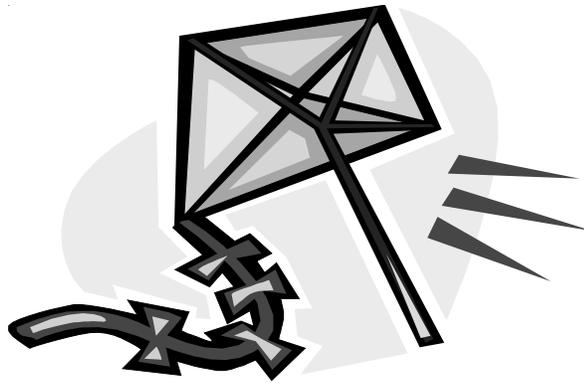
the thieves and invited them to also care for the specks.

Illustrated and hand lettered by the author, this unique book will appeal to children ages 3-8.  
~~Neligh Public Library

***Beloved Dearly***  
By Doug Cooney

Twelve-year-old Ernie is a budding entrepreneur who is always looking for a new business opportunity. When he finds a vacant lot in his neighborhood, he decides to offer pet funerals. He hires Dusty, a creative coffin-maker, and Tony, who loves to dig holes; but the business really takes off when he hires a professional mourner, a crybaby, named Swimming-Pool.

This is a well-written book for 4th-6th graders that gives a subtle message about relationships, both familial and communal, loss, and expression of feelings.  
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**NetLibrary Subject Sets Discount**

OCLC recently announced a **25% discount** on NetLibrary subject sets designed for **Public, Academic, and Community College Libraries**. To receive this discount, all you have to do is order an academic, community college, or public library subject set before June 23, 2006.

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Please Note: K12 Subject Sets are not eligible for this 25% discount. However, if you are interested in K12 content, nine NetLibrary subject sets have been developed for the K12 community and are currently being sold for \$500/set. For more information about NetLibrary K12 subject sets, go to: <http://www.oclc.org/info/k12subjectsets/>

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## **gaming@yourlibrary**



Public Library Section and Trustees, Users and Friends Section  
Joint Spring Meeting  
Monday, May 22, 2006 Gering Public Library  
Wednesday, May 24, 2006 Lexington Public Library  
Thursday, May 25, 2006 La Vista Public Library

### **Program**

8:45-9:30 Registration  
9:30-9:45 Welcome from PLS Chair Stephen Hunt and TUFSS  
Chair Maggie Harding  
9:45-12:30 Opening Session  
**Russ Harper**, Librarian at A.V. Sorensen Branch of the  
Omaha Public Library will enlighten you about the hot topic of

gaming@your library.

11:00-11:30 Break

12:30-1:30 Catered Lunch & Update on NLA Business

Librarians will continue the discussion stimulated from this year's "Spring Colloquium" with **Joe Janes**,  
American Libraries Internet Librarian

1:30-2:30 Mary Jo Ryan will discuss "Encouraging Through Mentoring"

2:30-3:00 Maggie Harding will talk about TUFSS by-law changes

### **REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: Gering\_\_\_ Lexington\_\_\_ LaVista\_\_\_  
PLS Member\_\_\_ TUFSS Member\_\_\_ Non-Member\_\_\_

Registration by **May 17, 2006**

Member \$15.00 (includes lunch)

Non NLA-member registration \$20.00 (includes lunch)

Make check payable to NLA PLS and mail to:

Stephen Hunt  
Plattsmouth Public Library  
401 Avenue A  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
Voice: 402-296-4154 or Fax: 402-296-4712



**The Northeast Library System serves the following counties:  
Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota,  
Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk,  
Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.**

**"Indoors or out, no one relaxes  
In March, that month of wind and taxes,  
The wind will presently disappear,  
The taxes last us all the year."  
—Ogden Nash**

**Check out our web site at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/northeast/nesys.html>**



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