

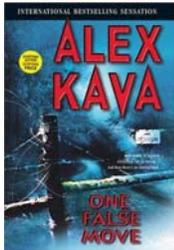
MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2006

Your System Board:

Joan Davis
Maxine Erpelding
Gail Irwin
Penny Jeffrey
Mary Koch
Laura Martinsen
Kristina Owen
Michelle Self
Stacy Vogel



Meridian Library System
Suite B
3519 Second Avenue
Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192

Phone: 308-234-2087

Fax: 308-234-4040

Email:

sosenga@frontiernet.net

Website:

www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/

ONE BOOK, ONE NEBRASKA PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Southeast Library System, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, the Nebraska Library Association, the Nebraska Library Commission, the Nebraska Center for the Book and other statewide organizations are urging all citizens of Nebraska to participate in the ONE BOOK ONE NEBRASKA reads *One False Move* initiative during the year 2006; and

Whereas, Alex Kava, Nebraska writer and author of international best-seller *One False Move*, is critically acclaimed and one of Nebraska's most popular contemporary authors; and

Whereas, *One False Move* employs the art of storytelling and the plot develops throughout the familiar landscape of southeastern Nebraska; and

Whereas, the reading of *One False Move* provides common ground for Nebraska citizens to come together to enjoy the suspense and the setting while reflecting on contemporary society and the nature of crime.

Now, therefore, I, Dave Heinemann, Governor of the State of Nebraska, Do Hereby Proclaim the year of 2006, as

ONE BOOK ONE NEBRASKA READS ONE FALSE MOVE

In Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to

- Read *One False Move*
- Explore the work of one of Nebraska's contemporary authors
- Participate in local community events throughout Nebraska related to *One False Move*
- Engage in a state discussion of *One False Move* with the author during statewide visits



BOOK OF THE MONTH

Anyone who knows my reading tastes is well aware that P.D. James is one of my favorite mystery authors. Her newest novel, "The Lighthouse," is typical James. In fact, she uses the same kind of setting and character types as she did in "The Black Tower" but writes an entirely different book with regards to plot and theme. "The Lighthouse" is set on an imaginary island off the coast of England that is a retreat for the powerful, rich and famous. Only a handful of people are ever on the island at a time. A questionable death occurs and Scotland Yard Commander Adam Dalgliesh and his team of two co-workers, Inspector Miskin and Sargent Benton-Smith, are called in to determine whether it was suicide or murder. It is murder and the team must uncover the murderer among the very small group of island inhabitants. The team has barely started working on the murder when a second occurs. Complicating things even further is a deadly threat that takes Dalgliesh off the case and leaves Miskin and Benton-Smith in charge.

One of the things that James does well is to allow the reader a glimpse of each character at the beginning of the book so you know everyone that is a suspect. It is up to you as the reader, along with the fictional detectives, to solve the mystery. I have to admit I didn't get this one right. I suspected the wrong person all along and was surprised by the murderer. This complex mystery delves deeply into crime and passion and is P.D. James at her best!

What to Look for in a "Guy" Novel

- A male protagonist
- Action that begins quickly, continuing throughout the story
- Questions of "What would I do?" more important than "How do I feel?"
- Plot driven rather than character-driven stories
- An "edge" or an "attitude" in the protagonist

—Paul Kropp

FREE POSTERS PROMOTE TALKING BOOKS FOR NEBRASKANS WITH DISABILITIES

Any Nebraska library is able to request free posters from the Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service. Two posters are available. One is entitled "A Good Book Is Worth Sharing;" the other, "Spice Up Your Life." These may be viewed at www.loc.gov/nls/mediaservices/posterimage.html.

Each is 8.5 x 11 inches for mounting on a bulletin board. The posters contain contact information to direct queries to the Talking Book and Braille Service.

At this point there are no restrictions on the number of posters that can be sent to any one library. Send requests to talking-book@nlc.state.ne.us; or call 1-800-742-7691. Application forms for free talking book service are also available.

Websites for Connecting Boys with Books

Michael Sullivan's Connecting Boys with Books website:

www.geocities.com/talestoldtall/BooksforBoys.html#About

Guys Read website:
www.guysread.com

Kid-Safe Graphic Novels for Your Readers:
www.graphicnovels.brodart.com

Resources for finding and teaching classroom-appropriate comics and graphic novels:
www.educationworld.com/a_curr/profdev/profdev105.shtml

From *Connecting Boys to Books*, BER.



Trustee Time: Keeping It Legal

Both trustees and library employees are dedicated to library service. This devotion to the best interests of the library frequently leads to employees volunteering to work some hours without pay. As well intentioned as this practice may be, it is a violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Library trustees need to be aware of minimum wage requirements, the enforcement of them, and library compliance with them. All quotations are from the web site of the Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor: <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/flsa/index./htm>.

1. The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requires that employees be paid at least minimum wage for all hours worked. An individual can be a library employee or a volunteer, but never both. "When Congress amended the FLSA in 1985, it made clear that people are allowed to volunteer their services to public agencies and their community with one exception – public sector employees may not allow their employees to volunteer, without compensation, additional time to do the same work for which they are employed." Therefore, it is a violation of federal law to pay library employees for some hours and not for others.

2. What is the same type of work? "Public sector employees may volunteer to do different kinds of work in the jurisdiction in which they are employed. For example, police officers can volunteer different work (non-law enforcement related) in city parks and schools." This example indicates that there are few circumstances in which any paid library employee can volunteer any work hours to the library.

3. What are hours worked? "In general, 'hours worked' includes all time an employee must be on duty, or on the employer's premises or at any other prescribed place of work. Also included is any additional time the employee is allowed (i.e., suffered or permitted to work.") Even if an employee works additional hours contrary to the wishes of the library, those hours must still be compensated. The library may take disciplinary action in such cases, but must still pay for the hours worked.

4. What are the penalties for failure to pay em-

ployees for all hours worked? Penalties include civil fines and collection of back pay. Employers who willfully or repeatedly violate the minimum wage or overtime pay requirements are subject of up to \$1,100 for each such violation.

Methods of collection of back pay include:

1. Wage-Hour Division may supervise payment of back wages.

2. The Secretary of Labor may bring suit for back wages and an equal amount as liquidated damages.

3. An employee may file a private suit for back pay and an equal amount as liquidated damages, plus attorney's fees and court costs.

4. The Secretary of Labor may obtain an injunction to restrain any person from violating the FLSA, including the unlawful withholding of proper minimum wage and overtime pay.

Library boards are strongly encouraged to pay library employees for all hours worked. A person can serve the library as a volunteer or as a paid employee, but not as both!

- NEKLS "Loose Change," October



New Scholarships Available!

The Nebraska Library Commission established the 21st Century Librarian Scholarships to provide financial support to eligible Nebraskans seeking masters, bachelors, or associate degrees in library science or school library media. These scholarships fulfill the requirements of the grant awarded to the Nebraska Library Commission by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians.

The Library Commission will award scholarships of \$1,000 for students working at the bachelor's or the associate level and \$2,500 each year for students working on master's degrees. Scholarship funds can be used for tuition, course-related materials, and fees associated with the degree programs.

To apply, see Nebraska Library Commission Scholarship Web page (<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/scholarship.html>). For information about the 21st Century Librarian Scholarship Program, contact Pam Scott, Nebraska Library Commission Continuing Education Coordinator, 800-307-2665, 402-471-2694 or Kit Keller, Nebraska Library Commission Planning & Data Services Coordinator, 800-307-2665, 402-471-3216.

Changes! The Grand Island Public Library is undergoing a major expansion project. Groundbreaking for the expansion took place in December.



Artist's rendering of the front of the expanded Grand Island Public Library

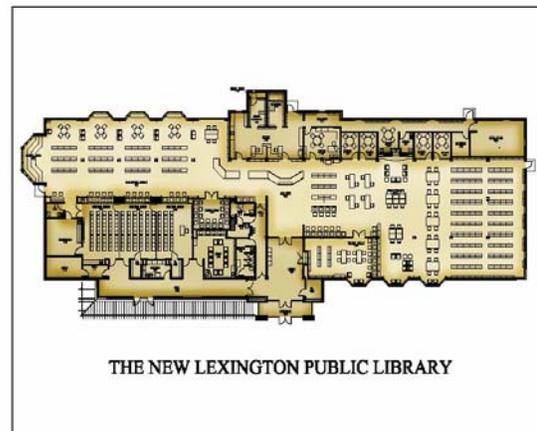


Floor plan of the expanded GIPL



Mayor, Library Director Steve Fosselman, Asst Director Patsy Arnold and Library Board members at the GIPL expansion groundbreaking

The new Lexington Public Library is now open. The dedication and setting of the cornerstone took place in December.



Online Tools & Techniques

By Kit Keller, Nebraska Library Commission

The online world changes so rapidly, it's nearly impossible to stay informed about tools and techniques that might make one's working life easier. Included here are some online tools that I use for two main purposes: saving and accessing files; and, finding and evaluating resources.

1. Need to access files when away from your "home" computer? Use eSnips.com (<http://www.esnips.com/signin/index.jsp>) to store files so that you can access them from any Internet terminal. This is a free Web storage site that allows you to store and share resources online.
2. Learn about search tools and read reviews of the various search options. Be aware that this technology changes rapidly, and it's a good idea to check in occasionally with a search review site to see what's new and what's changed. Online searching is a skill that you have to use and update frequently!
 - o Greg Notess' *Search Engine Showdown* <http://www.searchengineshowdown.com/>. *Search Engine Showdown*, the users' guide to Web searching, compares and evaluates Internet search engines from the searcher's perspective.
 - o For a quick review of current search tools, read this page on *Internet Search Engines* provided by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln: <http://www.unl.edu/libr/inet/srcheng.html>
 - o Both Yahoo! and Google maintain blogs about enhancements, tips, and tricks for searching:
Yahoo! Blog: <http://www.ysearchblog.com>
Google Blog: <http://googleblog.blogspot.com>
3. Specialized searching is possible in many ways. Google's Uncle Sam (<http://www.google.com/unclesam>) searches just .mil (military) and .gov (government) Web sites. SearchEdu.com specializes in education topics. (<http://www.searchedu.com/>) And many basic search engines [Google (www.google.com), Teoma (www.teoma.com), Yahoo (www.yahoo.com)] allow domain-specific searching via their Advanced Search pages. This means that it is possible to limit a search to a certain type of domain -- .edu (education), .gov (government), .mil (military), .com (commercial).
4. Sign up for "Tip of the Month" email service from Bates Information Services (<http://www.batesinfo.com/tip.html>). Mary Ellen Bates is internationally recognized as a super-searcher. Her "Tip of the Month" service will keep you apprised of unique searching and Web-related news.
5. Sign up for the Google Alerts Service (<http://www.google.com/alerts>) to be notified of news about a topic of interest.
6. Register to receive a weekly newsletter from ResearchBuzz! (<http://www.researchbuzz.com>) "ResearchBuzz is designed to cover the world of Internet research. To that end this site provides almost daily updates on search engines, new data managing software, browser technology, large compendiums of information, Web directories -- whatever." (<http://www.researchbuzz.com/about.shtml>)

Disaster Planning Workshops

The Nebraska Library Commission will be sponsoring two Disaster Planning, Response and Recovery workshops in May of 2006. The two-day workshops will be held in Lincoln and Scottsbluff. These 2-day classes will help you to understand the importance of library disaster response and recovery planning, be aware of steps to take in developing disaster plans and risk assessment, and become familiar with various disaster recovery activities.

The workshops are being taught by Tom Claeson, Program Director for New Initiatives at the OCLC regional network, PALINET. Tom was most recently the Manager of Education & Planning, Digital Collection & Preservation Services Division at OCLC .

The Lincoln session will be held May 1 & 2 at the Lincoln Firefighters Hall on Victory Lane near Sun Valley Parkway. The Scottsbluff session will be held May 4 & 5 at the Harms Technology Center across the street from Western Nebraska Community College.

The cost to attend the workshop is \$20.00. This amount covers both days registration, refreshments and lunch. **Subsidies for travel and lodging will also be provided by the Nebraska Library Commission. More details on this process, as well as online registration will be available after the first of the year.** For more information on Disaster Planning in libraries visit Web Junction's Community Center at:

<http://webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=11514>



OCLC CATEXPRESS OFFER: FREE TRIAL MONTH

OCLC CATEXPRESS OFFER FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS: 13 MONTHS FOR THE PRICE OF 12

NEBASE is again offering a free trial month of

the OCLC CatExpress service to new subscribers. CatExpress provides web-based copy cataloging to libraries at a low, flat-fee subscription price.

The OCLC CatExpress trial subscription is a no-risk way to see if CatExpress is right for you and your library. Many libraries new to OCLC would like to know what kind of hit rate they will receive with CatExpress. You may also want to know how the records from OCLC can be processed by your local system. The trial option allows you to do real work with CatExpress, before committing to a subscription.

The introductory subscription is for the month of June 2006, and is free. NEBASE will be taking orders for the CatExpress Free Trial Month from now through May 19. The free trial month will begin on June 1, 2006.

If you do not wish to continue with CatExpress, simply cancel before the end of June. If you do not cancel within that first month, the subscription automatically rolls over to the regular 12 month subscription, which runs from July 2006-June 2007.

If you decide to continue with CatExpress after the free trial month is over, you don't need to do a thing. You will automatically be added to NEBASE's CatExpress Group Subscription. You will only pay for the regular 12 month subscription, receiving 13 months of CatExpress access for the price of 12.

To learn more about CatExpress, and to see the special NEBASE Group Subscription Pricing, go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/nebase/catx.html>

To sign up for the CatExpress Free Trial Month offer or if you have any questions, contact Christa Burns at 402-471-3107, 800-307-2665 or cburns@nlc.state.ne.us.

Christa Burns
OCLC Member Services Coordinator
Nebraska Library Commission

Rock County Library Receives Grant

The Rock County Public Library received a \$1,000 grant from the Dollar General Corporation to purchase pre-school and lower elementary discovery packs. The program is titled, "Every Child in Rock County Ready to Read." A discovery pack is a themed back pack that contains books, puzzles, an activity guide and supplemental items that the child can handle that ties-in with the theme of the pack. The materials in the pack encourage the development of language skills such as counting, patterning and sorting, or science concepts.

In collaboration with preschool, day care providers, and the Rock County elementary schools, the Rock County Public Library wants to provide literacy materials that support reading readiness and nurture family interaction. In addition, this program will provide an opportunity for volunteer service to members of the local high school Girl Scout Troop. This Troop will deliver the packs monthly to the preschool and three day-care providers in the community. An opportunity for interaction between the two age groups will exist.



Library Director Selected for Kearney Public Library

After conducting a national search, Matthew Williams has been appointed to the position of Library Director for the City of Kearney. Mr. Williams has been working for the past 10 years at Watertown Public Library in Wisconsin where he was also the Director. While there, he and his staff members were able to develop an excellent collection and innovative programming. His success can be attributed to sound planning for technology combined with the establishment of working partnerships within the community and with surrounding libraries. Matt has a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Rosary College, now known as Dominican University, which is accredited by the American Libraries Association. His first day at the Library was January 23, 2006.

Gates Rural Library Sustainability Workshops

April 6th: Holiday Inn Express, North Platte or
April 11th: Elks Club, Ord

Pam Scott will present this workshop which will include Library Community Connections, Using WebJunction, Action Planning, Evaluation, Technology Upgrade and Maintenance, Staff and Patron Training, Funding, Outreach and Advocacy.

9:00-4:00; 8 ce credits; No cost, lunch included.

To register: www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/grants/rural.html



Coffee and Youth

Through its Giving Voice program, the Starbucks Foundation, a philanthropic vehicle of the Starbucks Coffee Company, will fund programs for youth, ages 6-18, that integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities where they live.

The Starbucks Foundation invites Letters of Inquiry from qualifying organizations that work with underserved youth in one of two areas: 1) Arts & Literacy—programs that innovatively address literacy and learning for the 21st century, provide high standards of excellence in mastering basic skills, and promote youth voices through a variety of venues; and 2) Environmental Literacy—programs that offer place-based approaches to addressing environmental literacy and empower youth to be heroes for a sustainable environment in their own communities.

Grants range from \$5000 to \$20,000. Deadlines: September 1 and March 1, annually (Letters of Inquiry).

RFP link: <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/3498/starbucks>

Board Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2006
Lexington Public Library, Lexington NE

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:11 am by President Gail Irwin.

ROLL CALL: Board members answering roll call were: Rosalyn Lamb substituting for Joan Davis, Maxine Erpelding, Gail Irwin, Penny Jeffrey, Mary Koch, Laura Martinsen, Darlene Catlin for Kristina Owen, Michelle Self, and Stacy Vogel. Also present were Administrator Sharon Osenga, Shannon Behrhorst from NE Library Commission, and Administrative Assistant Christie Behle.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A report from Shannon Behrhorst of the NE Library Commission was added to the agenda. Motion by Penny Jeffrey, second by Maxine Erpelding, to approve the agenda with this addition. Motion carried. Minutes from the previous meeting were not included in the board packets so will be reviewed at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: Several Thank You cards have been received.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The budget looks fine for half way through the fiscal year. Penny Jeffrey moved to approve the treasurer's report and the bills for August - December, second by Stacy Vogel. Roll call vote unanimous. Motion carried.

NLC REPORT: Shannon Behrhorst reported on upcoming workshop opportunities. Information on these is available from their website. A request for additional funding has been submitted to assist with school media center database services. Free Talking Book & Braille Service posters are available from the Commission.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

System Car: The new system car is working out well. The Commission granted us funds towards purchase price and licensing. Payments are less than was budgeted.

Workshops: Board packets included evaluations from Public Planning Workshop, Bridges Out of

Poverty Workshop and Patrick Jones Teen Workshop. RVLS and MLS are co-sponsoring Online Reference Workshop February 10th. NELS, RVLS, and MLS are co-sponsoring Youth Services Retreat in March with one of the days for Summer Reading Program.

Literary Ireland Tour: Deadline is January 31st.

LSTA Grant: The Regional Library Systems submitted a grant for From Audio to Digital: The New Listening Revolution to fund iPods and Mp3 players.

SYSTEM BUSINESS:

Audit: The System had a Financial Review for the 2004-2005 fiscal year rather than an audit. This was suggested by the accountant and approved by the Commission. Motion by Stacy Vogel, second by Mary Koch, to approve the Financial Review. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Annual Meeting: A suggestion for the annual meeting was a presentation by Dean Jacobs about his extended trip around the world. Another suggestion was the speaker on Black Cowboys. It was decided to try to schedule a speaker for a Monday or Friday in June.

NEMA Scholarships: Stacy reported that there may be scholarships available soon for graduate level courses.

Proposed bill: Sharon shared information from Rod Wagner regarding a proposed bill that would give city councils and village boards authority over public libraries.

Youth Services Grants: Members reviewed grant applications. After discussion and ballot voting, grants were awarded to Litchfield Public School and Broken Bow Public Library.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be a conference call Monday March 27th at 3:45pm.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 by Gail Irwin.

Respectfully submitted,
Christie Behle, Administrative Assistant

Encourage Someone @ your library®

Wednesday, March 15, 2006 10 am-1 pm CT
Paraprofessionals Spring General Meeting
1:00 - 1:45 p.m.

- **Session I** - Encouraging Community Participation in our Library
Speakers: Karen Frank, Greenwood Public Library; and La Raine Cihak, Gilbert Public Library in Friend
- **Session II** - Encouraging From Within
Speaker: Becky Pasco, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- **Session III** - Encouraging Through Mentoring
Speaker: Cindi Hickey, Library Consultant

Register Now!

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/2006Spgmtg/2006Paraspgconfwebsite.html>



ALA Book Awards

Caldecott Honor books:

"Rosa," illustrated by Bryan Collier, written by Nikki Giovanni

"Zen Shorts," written and illustrated by Jon J. Muth

"Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride," written and illustrated by Marjorie Priceman

"Song of the Water Boatman and Other Pond Poems," illustrated by Beckie Prange, written by Joyce Sidman

Newbery Medal

"Criss Cross," written by Lynne Rae Perkins

Newbery Honor books:

"Whittington" by Alan Armstrong, illustrated by S.D. Schindler

"Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow" by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

"Princess Academy" by Shannon Hale

"Show Way" by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Hudson Talbott

Printz Award

"Looking for Alaska," written by John Green

Printz Honor books:

"Black Juice" by Margo Lanagan

"I Am the Messenger" by Markus Zusak

"John Lennon: All I Want Is the Truth, a Photographic Biography" by Elizabeth Partridge

"A Wreath for Emmett Till," written by Marilyn Nelson, illustrated by Philippe Lardy

Coretta Scott King (Author) Book Award

"Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue," written by Julius Lester

Honor books:

"Maritcha: A Nineteenth-Century American Girl" by Tonya

Bolden

; "Dark Sons" by Nikki Grimes

"A Wreath for Emmett Till," written by Marilyn Nelson

Coretta Scott King (Illustrator) Book Award

"Rosa," illustrated by Bryan Collier, and written by Nikki Giovanni

Honor book:

"Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan" by R. Gregory Christie

Pura Belpré (Illustrator) Award

"Doña Flor: A Tall Tale About a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart," illustrated by Raul Colón, and written by Pat Mora

Honor books:

"Arrorró, Mi Niño: Latino Lullabies and Gentle Games," selected and illustrated by Lulu Delacre

"César: ¡Sí, Se Puede! Yes, We Can!" illustrated by David Diaz, written by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand

"My Name Is Celia/Me Llamo Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/La Vida de Celia Cruz," illustrated by Rafael López, written by Monica Brown

Pura Belpré (Author) Award

"The Tequila Worm," written by Viola Canales

Honor books:

"César: ¡Sí, Se Puede! Yes, We Can!," by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand

"Doña Flor: A Tall Tale About a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart" by Pat Mora

"Becoming Naomi León" by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Schneider Family Book Award for books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience

"Dad, Jackie, and Me" written by Myron Uhlberg, illustrated by Colin Bootman and published by Peachtree Press, wins the award for children ages 0 to 10.

Kimberly Newton Fusco is the winner of the middle-school (ages 11-13) award for "Tending to Grace," published by Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books.

The teen (ages 13-18) award winner is "Under the Wolf, Under the Dog," written by Adam Rapp and published by Candlewick Press.

New Award - First time to be awarded!

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for the most distinguished beginning reader book

"Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas," written by Cynthia Rylant and illustrated by Suçie Stevenson

Honor books:

"Hi! Fly Guy" by Tedd Arnold

"A Splendid Friend, Indeed" by Suzanne Bloom

"Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa" by Erica Silverman, illustrated by Betsy Lewin

"Amanda Pig and the Really Hot Day" by Jean Van Leeuwen, illustrated by Ann Schweninger

Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award

"Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley," written by Sally M. Walker

Honor book:

"Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow," written by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

Margaret A. Edwards Award

Jacqueline Woodson is the 2006 Edwards Award winner. Her books include: "I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This," and its sequel, "Lena," "From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun," "If You Come Softly" and "Miracle's Boys."

Mildred L. Batchelder Award for an outstanding children's book translated from a foreign language and subsequently published in the United States

"An Innocent Soldier." Originally published in German in 2002 as "Der Rusländer," the book was written by Josef Holub and translated by Michael Hofmann



FAVORITE BOOK SURVEY

Do you have an all-time favorite book? Are you willing to share title and author with us? Please send the information to me at my e mail address: sosenga@frontiernet.net. I will compile the responses and report them in the next newsletter. It's always fun to see what everyone chooses!



The **2005 Booklist Top of the List** winners are:

Adult Fiction: "The March," by E. L. Doctorow (Random)

Adult Nonfiction: "American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer," by Kaie Bird and Martin J. Sherwin (Knopf)

Youth Fiction: "Elsewhere," by Gabrielle Zevin (Farrar)

Youth Nonfiction: "Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow," by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Scholastic)

Youth Picture Book: "Michael Rosen's Sad Book," by Michael Rosen and illustrated by Quentin Blake (Candlewick)

Reference Source: "Encyclopedia of Religion," edited by Lindsay Jones

(Macmillan)

Video & DVD: "Einstein's Big Idea" (WGBH)

Audio: "Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell," by Susanna Clarke; read by Simon Prebble (Renaissance)



SYSTEM AWARDS YOUTH SERVICES GRANTS

The recipient's of the 2005-6 \$500 Youth Services Grants are:

Litchfield Public Schools for the *Six Traits Writing with Picture Books as Models* project.

Broken Bow Public Library for the *Lapsit Storytime* project.

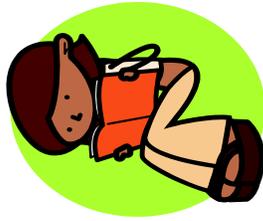


ONE BOOK, ONE NEBRASKA MATERIALS

Book discussion bags with copies of *One False Move*, book discussion questions and promotional items will be available for lending through the Nebraska Regional Library Systems and the Nebraska Library Commission. Other programs and events planned include an author tour and a program with Alex Kava at the NLA/NEMA Conference in Omaha, October 26th. For more information on programs and resource ideas go to the One Book One Nebraska website at: www.onebookonenebraska.org.

The System Office should have the books available for loan by mid-February. If you would like to borrow a set, please contact the System Office.





Come for a time of learning, laughter and leisure at the beautiful Leadership Center in Aurora, Nebraska.

March 9, 2006
1:00 PM—8:00 PM
6 NLC Continuing Education
Credit Units

March 10, 2006
Summer Reading
Program Workshop
9:00 AM—3:00 PM
5 NLC Continuing Education
Credit Units

Sponsored by Meridian
Library System, North-

YOUTH SERVICES RETREAT



Day 1:

Spanish Storytimes: Karen Drevo and Marcy Retzlaff, Norfolk Public Library.

Featured in *Library Sparks*, this program will show you how to add Spanish language experiences to storytimes and lapsits. This is for the librarian/teacher who speaks little or no Spanish and wishes to spice up their children's programs with fingerplays, songs, and stories in English and Spanish.

Teen Programs that Work: Carol Eshleman, North Platte Public Library and Celine

Stahlnecker, Grand Island Public Library. Teens are busy! The library is competing for their time, and library programming for this age group is an important factor in keeping them coming to the library. This program will discuss teen/young adult programming ideas that any library can implement to keep teens @ their library.

Model Pre-School Storytimes: Michelle Schmer, Sutton Public Schools

Beyond Harry Potter: Book Discussions for Grades 4-6: Sharon Osenga,

Meridian Library System. Please read Mr. Tucket by Gary Paulsen and come prepared to discuss.

Reception, Talk time, Game time, Free time

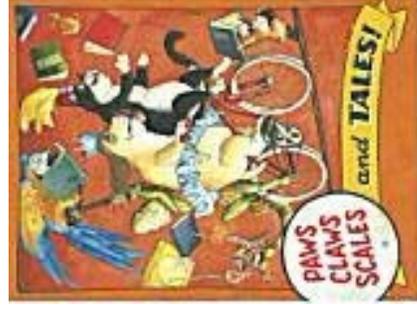
Day 2:

Summer Reading Program Workshop: Patti Sinclair, Collaborative Library Summer Program Coordinator. Bring your manual and craft kit.
Theme - Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales.

Young Adult Theme - Creature Feature

Cutting machines will be available both days.

Bring your own paper. Special papers will be available for sale.



REGISTRATION

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 28, 2006!

Step 1: Fill out the information below:

Your Name _____

Library _____ City _____

Email _____

Phone (include area code) _____

Step 2: Check ONE of the following options:

_____ Day 1 only (3/9/06), \$20.00

_____ Day 2 only (3/10/06), \$20.00

_____ Both days (3/9-10/06), \$30.00

Step 3: If you chose "both days" in Step 2 and intend to stay overnight, choose ONE of the following room options:

_____ Private room, \$86

_____ 2 people/room, \$69 per person

If you would like to choose your roommate, list name below; otherwise, roommates will be assigned.

Step 4: Mail a copy of this registration form to:
Meridian Library System, 3519 2nd Avenue, Suite B,
Kearney, NE 68847-2911.

*Be sure to mail payment with your registration.
(Add Step 2 & Step 3 together for payment amount.)*

Registrations must be received by **February 28, 2006!**

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- The Leadership Institute is located on Hwy. 34 just 3/4 mile east of the Hwy. 14 & 34 junction. The address is 1609 E. Hwy. 34, Aurora.
- Day 1 begins at 1:00 PM. Room check-in is at 5:15 PM and dinner at 5:30 PM. If you're not staying overnight, you will be finished around 8:00 PM.
- Each guest room has two standard-size double beds. Bedding and towels are provided.
- Day 2 begins at 8:00 AM with breakfast for those that spent the night. The Summer Reading Program Workshop begins at 9:00 AM for everyone. (Don't forget your manual and craft kit!) Lunch will be served at noon and you should be on your way about 3:00 PM.
- Pool/hot-tub is open 24 hours for overnight guests.

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD NOMINATION FORM

Do you know someone who would be interested in serving on your Library System Board? The Meridian Library System is accepting nominations for one 3-year board term beginning July 1, 2006.

Nominees for the positions must be library customers. Nominees representing any of the System counties are welcome.

On the back of this form, you will find additional information about the System Board and its role.

Nominee information:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE HOME _____ WORK _____

LIBRARY CONNECTION _____

E-mail address: _____

Please submit nominations by May 1, 2006 to:

Meridian Library System
3519 Second Avenue, Suite B
Kearney NE 68847

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE SYSTEM BOARD?

The System Board is the governing body of the Meridian Library System; its function is similar to that of a public library board of trustees or any non-profit corporation. Board member tasks and accomplishments include:

- Be an advocate for the System and System services
- Budget preparation
- User satisfaction survey and evaluation of System services and programs
- Evaluation of progress toward meeting the goals and objectives stated in the System Strategic Plan
- Design of specifications for provision of System services

HOW OFTEN DOES THE SYSTEM BOARD MEET?

The System Board meets at least five times per year, at such time and place as may be designated. As a general rule, the Board meets every two months. Meetings usually last about two hours.

ARE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REIMBURSED FOR EXPENSES?

Members are not permitted to receive a salary, wage or fee for their services. However, they are reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in carrying out their duties. The cost of travel to and from Board and committee meetings is reimbursed at the current Federal allowable rate; example of other reimbursed expenses are telephone charges and postage.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING PARTICIPATION ON THE MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD, CONTACT ONE OF THESE CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

Joan Davis	308-382-2345
Maxine Erpelding.....	308-583-2525
Gail Irwin.....	402-387-2032
Penny Jeffrey.....	308-858-4964
Mary Koch.....	308-537-2591
Laura Martinsen.....	308-754-5223
Kristina Owen.....	308-346-4150
Michelle Self.....	308-647-5198
Stacy Vogel	308-385-5886

WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Body Image

This annotated list of fiction and nonfiction books for middle and high school students focuses on themes related to body image, such as weight, body shape and size, eating disorders, food addiction, physical deformities, skin conditions, piercing and tattoos, and self-acceptance. Includes titles for and about both girls and boys. Compiled by library media teacher Mary R. Hofmann. From School Library Journal. URL: <http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6277819.html>

Body Image and Your Health

Articles and links to resources (many from government agencies) on topics related to body image, such as weight, eating disorders, cosmetic surgery, and children's body images. The "BodyWise" handbook includes facts sheets for school personnel and health care providers on recognizing eating disorders and promoting positive body image behaviors. Site also provides material on healthy eating and physical activity. From the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Women's Health Information Center (NWHIC). URL: <http://www.4woman.gov/bodyimage>

Everything Valentine's

Hundreds of ideas for Valentine's Day crafts, gifts, cards, games, and treats for the classroom, spouses, and others. Includes illustrated instructions. From FamilyFun magazine. <http://familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts/season/minisite/valentines-main-ms/>

Tokens of Love: Lace-Paper Valentines

This beautiful Web site features a collection of Victorian lace-paper valentines. The valentines are "accompanied by interesting quotations from newspapers and magazines of the Victorian period," as well as some details about size, date, and origin, plus tidbits of information about the manufacturing process. From the Scrap Album. <http://www.scrapalbum.com/stvalent.htm>

The History of St. Patrick's Day

History and related information about this holiday celebrated on March 17 in honor of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Includes information about items associated with the holiday, such as parades, the shamrock, leprechauns, and corned beef. Also includes links to information about Irish travel destinations and literary Ireland. From the History Chan-

nel.

<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/stpatricksday/>

Swing Into Spring Cleaning

This site provides quick and easy spring cleaning ideas, including homemade cleaning recipes, professional tips, chore checklist, and more. Also includes a 14-week spring cleaning plan adapted from the book "Cleaning Grand Plan." From Organized-Home.com. URL: <http://organizedhome.com/content-5.html>

What Coal Miners Do

Brief, illustrated descriptions of types of coal mines and mining techniques. Covers room and pillar mining, longwall mining, and surface mining. From the United Mine Workers of America labor union. URL: <http://www.umwa.org/mining/colminrs.shtml>

U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)

This U.S. government website contains background information about mine safety and health concerns, news, pages for special initiatives (such as asbestos and hearing loss), data on mining accidents and fatalities, reports on specific mine accidents, mine rescue resources, health and safety alerts, and other information on coal, metal, and nonmetal mining. Also includes information for children. URL: <http://www.msha.gov>

Reverse Mortgages

Clear, unbiased information about reverse mortgages. Explains the role of life expectancy, provides documents analyzing lender performance, includes lists of counselors, and offers Q & A's. "This site is provided by the National Center for Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (NCHC), a nonprofit organization with no ties to the reverse mortgage lending industry." URL: <http://www.reverse.org>

Styrofoam Brand Products: Crafts

Dozens of projects using Styrofoam balls, sheets, and other foam products. Includes home decorations, centerpieces and wreaths, projects for specific holidays and special occasions, "cuddly critters," classroom projects, and more. Provides general tips for using Styrofoam, the brand name for extruded polystyrene foam products. From Dow Chemical Company, the manufacturer of Styrofoam. URL: <http://craft.dow.com>

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

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Kearney NE 68847-2911

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The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man. Nothing else that he builds ever lasts: monuments fall; nations perish; civilizations grow old and die out; new races build others. But in the world of books are volumes that have seen this happen again and again and yet live on. Still young, still as fresh as the day they were written, still telling men's hearts, of the hearts of men centuries dead.

--Clarence Day

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