

# MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2013

## ***Your System Board:***

Sherry Crow  
Kristi Hagstrom  
Ann Matzke  
Debra Moninger  
Linda Nickel  
Megan Svoboda  
Kathy Thomsen  
Janet Wilke  
Laurie Yocom  
Joan Davis, Emeritus

RIP Barbara Mertz,  
aka Elizabeth Pe-  
ters and Barbara  
Michaels, who died  
last week at the age  
of 85. You will be  
sorely missed!

Meridian Library System  
Suite 7  
816 East 25th Street  
Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192  
Phone: 308-234-2087  
Fax: 308-234-4040

Email:  
sosenga@frontiernet.net  
Website:  
<http://libraries.ne.gov/mls/>

## **Nebraska Library Leadership Institute 2013**



### Vision Statement

As leaders in librarianship,  
we open eyes  
to open minds  
with open hearts  
through open doors - wherever they may be.

We commit ourselves to bravely craft the future of libraries:

We cultivate curiosity from age 1 to 101.  
We champion freedoms to learn, to read, and to share.  
We construct physical and virtual portals to premier sources of information.  
We meet patrons at any place and any stage of life.

**WE'RE IN!**

2013  
NLA/NSLA  
Pre-  
Conference

Wednesday  
October 9, 2013  
1:00—4:00 PM

Younes  
Conference  
Center

416 Talmadge  
Street

Kearney NE  
68845

## *Breaking Down Barriers to Excellent Customer Service: Body Language and Social Barriers*

Presenter: Theresa Dickson

Assistant Director for Planning  
and Operations at the Pioneer  
Library System in Norman, OK

We will look at both sides of the “desk”: who is wanting service and who is delivering what is defined as service. We will also look at the cultures of customer service: ours, theirs, the “times” and investigate non-verbal communication codes including signage, way-finding and body language. The session will include scripting and group work for re-tooling.



REGISTRATION : \$35

You can register online at

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/conf2013>

*Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems*

Take a lesson from Douglas County Libraries:

DCL uses texting and tweets to alert library users of upcoming programs. Here is a sample of a recent text. Perhaps you can do something similar to let your customers know of upcoming events at your library.

**Author After Hours: C.J. Box & BBQ** August 2, 6pm  
Reserve Your Spot

Douglas County Libraries invites you to enjoy mouthwatering BBQ and an evening with *New York Times* bestselling author C.J. Box on August 2. Come early to enjoy a BBQ plate for \$12 from Brad's Pit, who is known for his Texas style slow-cooked brisket and pork. Cash is appreciated; partial proceeds will benefit Douglas County Libraries Foundation. **(If you are interested in attending the BBQ, please indicate in the Notes field of the registration that you plan on purchasing a plate).** C.J. Box will talk about his newest thriller, *The Highway* and a book signing will follow his presentation. Books will be available for sale courtesy of the Tattered Cover Book Store.

Event starts at 6 PM. C.J. Box will speak at 7 PM. Like us on Facebook for a chance to win a copy of CJ Box's *The Highway*. The two winners will be able to cut the line to get their books signed first at our event.



From Wilson Public Library, Cozad Director Laurie Yocom

Wanted to share....summer reading is going FANASTIC at Wilson Public Library. We have two dinosaurs hanging out in the library—the community is amazed. Please feel free to share the link to other libraries who may not have begun their programs yet. You know those little basla wood puzzles that you pop out the pieces and put them together? That's what we bought for about \$5 each—one stegosaurus and one T-Rex. Then Sandy & Ann enlarged the pieces, traced them onto cardboard (a LOT of refrigerator boxes were used), cut them out & painted them. The kids got the fun of putting them together. Now they're on display & held up by quite a bit of fishing line.

We had a local amateur paleontologist talk last week as well as had everyone visit our local nursery and learn about planting stuff.

We're taking a break next week for the fourth—the staff has earned it!, but still having a family swim night under the stars at the local pool. Last year we had 85 kids/family members. Obviously we're expecting more this year as the city installed two new HUGE slides that the kids just love. We are then rounding out July with two more weeks of summer reading for over 160 kids, including our community partnership with the Henri Museum to do another Movie Under the Stars. This year, we're showing Nancy Drew. Blind Date with a Book is a smashing success on both the adult and young adult levels. Our teen advisory board has been watching the young book clubs and have decided that they want their own for this fall.

It's all in pictures on Wilson Public Library's Facebook site. This summer ROCKS! Hope everyone else is having a great summer!

## New Public Library Accreditation Guidelines in Effect

The [Nebraska Guidelines for Public Library Accreditation](#), which the Nebraska Library Commission will begin using in July 2013, were developed by a group of eleven librarians working for more than two years to re-vamp the guidelines. The group was co-chaired by Stan Schulz from York and Joan Birnie from Broken Bow. We have streamlined the Accreditation process to make it as quick and easy as possible. Fifty libraries across Nebraska are due to be reaccredited this year. An additional 40 public libraries that are currently unaccredited, but which submitted their annual statistics last year, are positioned to seek accreditation this year. The Nebraska Library Commission will be working on this process with these 90 libraries first.

More information about the revised accreditation process is available at [Nebraska Guidelines for Public Library Accreditation](#).

All public library directors and boards are invited to use the information from this website to plan for future community activities leading to accreditation. This information details:

- ◆ Timeframe
- ◆ Structure of the guidelines
- ◆ Changes in the guidelines
- ◆ 12 minimum qualifications
- ◆ Requirements, including strategic plan [List of all Nebraska Public Libraries](#) with their accreditation standing and year of expiration

Libraries not due to apply for accreditation this year may look at the accreditation guidelines at [Preview the Accreditation Application here](#). Please note that these guidelines are interactive only for the libraries applying for accreditation this year.

However, if you'd like to get started preparing for accreditation in the future, you can begin by initiating the strategic planning process. An up-to-date strategic plan for your library is required. The accreditation process is based on the goals you set for

your library, in response to your community's needs. If you do not already have a strategic plan or your plan is due to be updated, go to the following link on the Commission's website for a simple strategic planning kit which includes how-to videos, guides, and worksheets: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/LibAccred/#Fill>

For more information contact Richard Miller, [richard.miller@nebraska.gov](mailto:richard.miller@nebraska.gov), 402-471-3175, or 800-307-2665.



### ALA Conference Handouts

#### 20 Programs Under \$20:

Although I did not attend ALA, many of the programs have handouts that are now posted on the Conference webpage. One of these is the 20 Programs Under \$20. The handouts provide information and links on the programs presented and just might give you some great ideas for what will work in your community. Here's the link:

<http://ala13.ala.org/node/10082>

#### Take Ten With Tweens and Teens:

How do you engage young library patrons with little or no budget for programming? This panel of successful programmers from Anne Arundel County Public Library in Maryland will show you how to present 10 fresh, fun programs with heavy appeal to tweens & teens with very little out of pocket expense.

<http://ala13.ala.org/node/10121>

For other handouts, go to [ala13.ala.org](http://ala13.ala.org) and click on Sessions With Handouts. There will be a clickable link if handouts are available.



**Library & Information Services**  
*Online Course Offerings*  
**Fall, 2013**  
**August 19, 2013 – December 13, 2013**

***LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services***

*Marty Magee, Instructor*

This course, the first in the Library and Information Services curriculum provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- Technology
  - Physical environments
  - Library policies
  - Information databases
- 

***LIBR 2250 Leadership & Management in Library & Information Agencies***

*Michael Straatmann, Instructor*

This course includes the theories, concepts and activities integral to leading and managing 21<sup>st</sup> Century libraries and information agencies.

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies & procedures

*Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services or may be taken concurrently*

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***LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification***

*Ruth Carlock, Instructor*

This course will include theories, concepts and activities for cataloging and classifying materials in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. It includes the following topics:

- The bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- The MARC record
- Resource Description and Access Instructions

*Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services*

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***LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum***

*Erica Rose, Instructor*

This capstone course is the last course in the Library & Information Services program. Students will complete 40 hours of service learning in a host library. The course also includes a review of the principle pieces of learning from the LIS program.

*Prerequisites: LIBR 1010, 2100, 2150, 2210, & 2250*

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For information on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Scholarships, see: Nebraska Library Commission website at: <http://nlc1.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/Scholarships.asp>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: **Dee Johnson**  
[djohnson@cccneb.edu](mailto:djohnson@cccneb.edu), 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

## **Excalibur Award for Outstanding Public Librarian**

The Public Library and Trustee Section of the Nebraska Library Association is accepting nominations for the **Excalibur Award for Outstanding Public Librarian**. This award honors the career accomplishments of a public librarian who has demonstrated an outstanding record of service to his/her local library and to the library profession. The following categories suggest areas in which the nominee may have rendered significant service. Preference will be given to those nominees who have achieved excellence in more than one of these areas:

- Development of outstanding service in field(s) of expertise. For example: reference, children's, technical services, administrative, etc.
- Involvement in statewide library service.
- Record of library leadership in local community, regional area or in the Nebraska Library Association.
- Encouragement of community/institutional support for the library.

The nominee must be a member of the Public Library and Trustee Section of the Nebraska Library Association. The original letter of nomination should include the nominee's name, street address, email address, telephone number, the nominees' accomplishments, and any relevant supporting documentation. The letter should also include the name, title, street address, email address and telephone number of the person or group making the nomination. Also required are at least three additional letters which support and endorse the nomination. The award is presented at the business meeting at the PLTS NLA annual convention. Deadline for nominations is September 1, 2013.

Please send nominations and accompanying materials to the PLTS Awards Committee at:

PLTS Awards Committee  
Attn: Lauran Lofgren  
410 Pearl Street  
Wayne, NE 68787

Electronic versions of documents can be sent to [llofgren@cityofwayne.org](mailto:llofgren@cityofwayne.org)

### Cutting Machine Schedule:

August: Sunrise Middle School, Kearney

September: Lexington Public Library

Open from October on...

Don't forget the book sets that are available from each of the regional library systems. Here is the link to the full list of titles:

<http://libraries.ne.gov/mls/book-sets/regional-library-system-book-sets/>

### PLTS Advocacy Award

The Public Library and Trustee Section of the Nebraska Library Association is accepting nominations for the **PLTS Advocacy Award**. This award recognizes a trustee, user, friend, foundation, or library board that has provided exceptional support for their local library. The award can be given to an individual or a group. Some of the areas that may warrant nomination include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Advocacy in supporting the library in the community or state
- Significant contribution to a specific program or support of the library
- Contribution to the work of the Nebraska Library Association

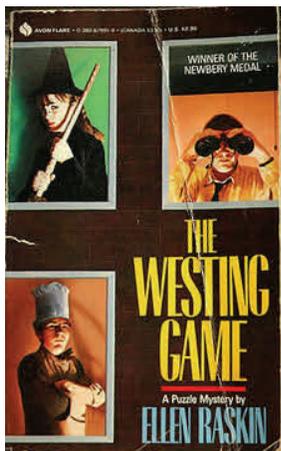
It is preferred that the nominee(s) are residents of Nebraska. The original letter of nomination should include the nominee's name, street address, email address, telephone number, the nominee's accomplishments, and any relevant supporting documentation. The letter should also include the name, title, street address, email address, and telephone number of the person or group making the nomination. Also required are at least three additional letters which support and endorse the nomination. The award is presented at the PLTS business meeting at the NLA annual convention. Deadline for nominations is September 1, 2013.

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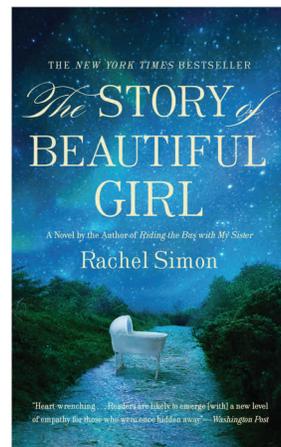
Electronic versions of documents can be sent to [llofgren@cityofwayne.org](mailto:llofgren@cityofwayne.org)

New additions to book discussion sets:



9 copies

7 copies



New Members Round Table is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award and the 2013 Houchen Bindery Mentor of the Year Award.

### **Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award**

The *Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award* is a cash prize sponsored by Houchen Bindery LTD. It is awarded to a beginning librarian or media specialist who has made significant contributions to library and/or media services in the early stages of his/her career. If you know a new professional who has: created innovative programs or services which improved library service in Nebraska, made exceptional use of local, state, or national library resources including special grants, made significant contributions toward the betterment of library and community relations, and been active in professional library organizations on a local, state or national level, then nominate that person for the *Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award*.

### **Houchen Bindery Mentor of the Year Award**

The *Houchen Bindery Mentor of the Year Award* goes to an individual who has aided significantly in the professional development of librarians, media specialists or library staff, and, by example, has influenced their careers. Thanks to the generosity of the Houchen Bindery, the award also comes with a \$150 cash prize as of 2007. If you know someone who has: had extraordinary influence on the professional development of one or more junior staff members, encouraged involvement of staff in professional endeavors, provided strong leadership, and set a good example of professional involvement, then you know someone who deserves the *Mentor of the Year Award*.

[Houchen Bindery Mentor of the Year Award](#)  
[Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award](#)

Nominations must be received by September 1, 2013.

Please download the PDF, fill it out, save it, and

email it along with supporting documentation to:

Lindsey Bray  
NMRT Awards Chair  
Omaha Public Library  
[lnbray13@gmail.com](mailto:lnbray13@gmail.com)  
308-440-1837

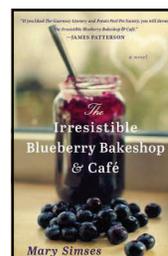


### **BOOK OF THE MONTH**

The Irresistible Blueberry Bakeshop & Café by Mary Simses is a delightful first novel. Ellen Branford, a high powered Manhattan attorney, travels to small town Beacon, Maine to fulfill her dying grandmother's wish that she find a man she once loved and give him a letter. Ellen is engaged to a Kennedy type attorney who is starting his career in politics. However, she begins to rethink her plans to marry him when she is rescued from drowning by carpenter Roy. Ellen becomes a local celebrity known as the Swimmer.

After following a number of leads, Ellen begins to unravel the story of her grandmother—a story that Ellen and her mother have never known. It is the story of how choices change lives. As Ellen says, "I guess that's the lesson in all of this—not to be eighty years old, looking back on your life, wondering if you made the right choice or how your life might have been different if you'd done one thing and not another."

The writing flows smoothly making this an easy read and it should interest fans of Guernsey Literary Society, Debbie Macomber or Nicholas Sparks.





NLLI 2013 Images

