

# MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

DECEMBER 08/JANUARY 09

## **Your System Board:**

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## **A Day in the Life**

My name is Dianne, and I am a Library Science graduate student. As my coursework nears its end, I've discovered a conspiracy between universities and library agencies: FREE LABOR! These smart people have collaborated to make a requirement that graduate students must spend many hours experiencing the 'real world' of libraries, maybe to make sure they really want to work in this field. And we all know that actually doing something can be quite different from studying about it. For me, my practicum time was split between two places – the Grand Island Public Library and the Meridian Library System. I think I got the best of both; learning about public library practices and what's changed since I've worked in a public library and experiencing the sometimes chaotic life of a Systems Librarian. The most satisfying part of my practicum has been meeting and working with so many interesting people. Libraries have quite a wide variety of people and personalities, as we all know. Where else can you find a profession that collaborates so well and supports each other? I have always loved reading, so I can sometimes forget about the 'people' aspect of a library. I have been reminded this semester that the people working in a library are just as vital to a progressive library as the wide selection of 'products' available. I've learned that doing things the same way, time after time, may be easier, but not always smarter. I've learned that technology has changed the realm of librarianship, and it's not done yet. I've learned that weeding can be fun when done properly (and regularly). And I have a new appreciation of what a library really is; as a very knowledgeable librarian (ahem . . . Sharon) is fond of saying, "We are not a museum." So maybe those university folks know what they're doing, giving us graduate students some hands on experience, working with some great librarians. My thanks to the staff at the Grand Island Library for their time and patience, and to Sharon for letting me experience a day (or two) in the life of a Systems Librarian. My new motto for librarians is "Expect Anything!"



## **From Awareness to Funding: A study of library support in America**

Quantitative information about library funding from this report shows:

1. Most people claim they would support the library at the ballot box—fewer are firmly committed to it.
2. There is a lot that people don't know about their public library.
3. Library support is only marginally related to visitation. Advocating for library support to library users focuses effort and energy on the wrong target group.
4. Perceptions of the librarian are highly related to support. 'Passionate librarians' who are involved in the community make a difference.
5. The library occupies a very clear position in people's minds as a provider of practical answers and information. This is a very crowded space, and to remain relevant in today's information landscape, repositioning will be required.
6. Belief that the library is a transformational force in people's lives is directly related to their level of funding support.
7. Increasing support for libraries may not necessarily mean a trade-off of financial support for other public services.
8. Elected officials are supportive of the library—but not fully committed to increasing funding. Engaging Probable Supporters and Super Supporters to help elevate library funding needs is required.

To read the full report, go to: <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/reports/funding/>



## **Let's Be Safe Out There**

Social-networking sites are increasing faster than prices at the pump. MySpace, LinkedIn, and Facebook provide a place for people to make and chat with new friends. To stay safe:

- Use a pseudonym.
  - Create additional email accounts. Many let you forward emails to your regular account so canceling an account is no big loss.
  - Never use the same login/password on more than one site.
  - Don't be afraid to say no or stop contact with someone you meet online.
  - If you're meeting an online friend for the first time or conducting a transaction generated online, do so in a public place.
- For additional tips, check out the Family Resources page on [www.symantec.com/norton](http://www.symantec.com/norton).

From Geico magazine, Fall 2008. Page 17.



**Cutting Machines** are open for the months of April, May and June 2009. Contact the System Office if you would like to have them for one of these months!



The winner of the Regional Library System Diamond Earring raffle was Nancy Escamilla from Scottsbluff. Congratulations, Nancy!

## Copyright Law – Part 6

This article is the sixth of a six-part series on copyright for educators and public librarians.

### Part VI – Public Domain [by Phyllis Brunken]

The topic of Public Domain can be a very complicated one. Fortunately, Lolly Gasaway has created a chart that provides a simple guide to public domain. Gasaway's chart has become one of the major references on the topic. As noted below, the chart may be freely duplicated or linked to for nonprofit purposes.

#### WHEN U.S. WORKS PASS INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

by Lolly Gasaway, University of North Carolina

Definition: A public domain work is a creative work that is not protected by copyright and which may be freely used by everyone. The reasons that the work is not protected include: (1) the term of copyright for the work has expired; (2) the author failed to satisfy statutory formalities to perfect the copyright or (3) the work is a work of the U.S. Government.

| DATE OF WORK  | PROTECTED FROM   | TERM   |
|---|--|--|
| Created 1-1-78 or after   | When work is fixed in tangible medium of expression                              | Life + 70 years <sup>1</sup> or if work of corporate authorship, the shorter of 95 years from publication, or 120 years from creation <sup>2</sup> |
| Published before 1923   | In public domain   | None   |
| Published from 1923 - 63  | When published with notice <sup>3</sup>  | 28 years + could be renewed for 47 years, now extended by 20 years for a total renewal of 67 years. If not so renewed, now in public domain        |
| Published from 1964 - 77  | When published with notice   | 28 years for first term; now automatic extension of 67 years for second term   |
| Created before 1-1-78 but not published                         | 1-1-78, the effective date of the 1976 Act which eliminated common law copyright | Life + 70 years or 12-31-2002, whichever is greater  |
| Created before 78-1-1 but published between then and 12-31-2002 | 1-1-78, the effective date of the 1976 Act which eliminated common law copyright | Life + 70 years or 12-31-2047 whichever is greater   |

1 Term of joint works is measured by life of the longest-lived author.

2 Works for hire, anonymous and pseudonymous works also have this term. 17 U.S.C. § 302(c).

3 Under the 1909 Act, works published without notice went into the public domain upon publication. Works published without notice between 1-1-78 and 3-1-89, effective date of the Berne Convention Implementation Act, retained copyright only if efforts to correct the accidental omission of notice was made within five years, such as by placing notice on unsold copies. 17 U.S.C. § 405.) Notes courtesy of Professor Tom Field, Franklin Pierce Law Center and Lolly Gasaway)

LOLLY GASAWAY Last updated 11-04-03

Chart may be freely duplicated or linked to for nonprofit purposes. No permission needed.

Please include web address on all reproductions of chart so recipients know where to find any updates. <http://www.unc.edu/~uncInng/public-d.htm>.

A more detailed chart has been developed by Cornell University and is available on their website. Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the United States, January 1, 2007 - [http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/training/Hirtle\\_Public\\_Domain.htm](http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/training/Hirtle_Public_Domain.htm).

Please send an email to me if you want a complete bibliography of my recommended copyright law resources or have a copyright law question. Phyllis Brunken – [pbrunken@cox.net](mailto:pbrunken@cox.net). I am not an attorney and this article may not be substituted for formal legal advice from an attorney well versed in school law and copyright law.

## Big Read Offers Support for Community Reading Projects

Deadline: February 3, 2009

The Big Read ( <http://www.neabigread.org/> ) is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts ( <http://www.nea.gov/> ) designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. Presented in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services ( <http://www.imls.gov/> ) and in cooperation with Arts Midwest ( <http://www.artsmidwest.org/> ), the initiative brings together partners across the United States to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. The Big Read is accepting applications from nonprofit organizations to conduct month-long, community-wide reads between September 2009 and June 2010. Organizations selected to participate in the Big Read will each receive a grant ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000, financial support to attend an orientation meeting, educational and promotional materials, an Organizer's Guide for developing and managing Big Read activities, inclusion of the organization and activities on the Big Read Web site, and the prestige of participating in a highly visible national initiative. Approximately four hundred organizations of varying sizes across the country will be selected for this cycle. <http://www.neabigread.org/guidelines.php>



New book bag: *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson. For full list of book discussion titles, go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/discussion.html>



Special guests Mickey and Minnie Mouse as well as several skaters from Disney on Ice recently visited the Kearney Public Library story time



As some of you may know, I recently underwent wrist and thumb surgery. For the next several months, I will have a cast and be able to use only one arm. However, I will still be available for the usual visits, weeding projects, etc. My assistant will be driving me (Driving Miss Sharon!) to any out-of-town appointments so don't hesitate to ask for help!



# WORKSHOPS

## The Nebraska Regional Library Systems Present



### **Fifty Plus: Getting Ready to Hand Over the Reins:**

The aging of the US population has implications for libraries, both at the service desk and behind. This workshop works on getting you ready to serve the public and preparing public libraries to prosper when large numbers of Baby Boomer librarians exit and join with this new demographic. It will include information on emerging trends and how those affect libraries, and how libraries can respond successfully to a growing segment of our customer population, as well as prepare for the impact of a profession with a significant percentage of retirements and the need for recruiting to fill those vacancies.

**Supervising Friends and Former Peers:** This workshop explores the challenges of accepting growing responsibilities and what that means for the new supervisor. Examines the reasons for seeking out promotions and added responsibilities, both the pluses and the added stresses of supervisory duties, whether or not it includes friends and former peers.

**Presenter:** Theresa Dickson is the Associate Director of the Pioneer Library System in Norman Oklahoma and a well-known State, Regional and National presenter.

*This workshop is sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.*



# Registration

Schedule:

9:30 a.m. to noon—Fifty Plus

Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.—Supervising Friends and Former Peers

Please check the session(s) you wish to attend. If you are attending both sessions please check both.

Fifty Plus

Supervising Friends and Former Peers

Cost: \$10 for one session, \$15 for both sessions. Each session will qualify for 2.5 CE credits or 5 CE credits for both

This workshop will be presented at these locations on the following dates:

Please indicate which date and site you will be attending.

February 2 at Wahoo Public Library, Wahoo, NE

February 3 at Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College in Norfolk, NE

February 4 at Beatrice Public Library in Beatrice NE

February 5 at Lexington Public Library in Lexington NE

February 6 at Harms Advanced Technology Center in Scottsbluff, NE

Please send registration by January 26, 2008, to Nebraska Regional Library Systems, C/O Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144.

**Please make checks payable to Nebraska Regional Library Systems.**

.....  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*In case of inclement weather please contact your system office to find out if the workshop is being held.*

# Technology Workshop

January 16, 2009  
10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
UNK, Calvin T Ryan Library

Sponsored by Meridian Library System and Republican Valley Library System.

Presented by Scott Childers  
Assistant Systems Librarian, UNL

Morning Session: 10:00 to 11:30

What is a computer?

This session will introduce the basic hardware concepts that all computers use. Discussions about the history of computing, how the different parts of the computer talk to each other, and what the parts of the computer mean to the user will highlight this section.



Lunch on your own

Afternoon Session: 1:00 to 2:30

How a computer thinks and remembers

This session will talk about how the computer goes about doing its tasks. This will introduce the many different levels of computer languages and why they exist. How the computer stores information will also be addressed.

Cost \$10 for one session, \$15 for both sessions. CE Credits: 1.5 for each session.



Registration:

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sessions: \_\_\_\_\_ Morning \_\_\_\_\_ Afternoon \_\_\_\_\_ Both

Mail check and registration to:

Meridian Library System  
1015 Central Ave. Suite B  
Kearney, NE 68847  
Phone: 1-800-657-2192  
308-234-2087

Email: [meridian@frontiernet.net](mailto:meridian@frontiernet.net)

You can also register online at the System Website!  
[www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/index.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/index.html)

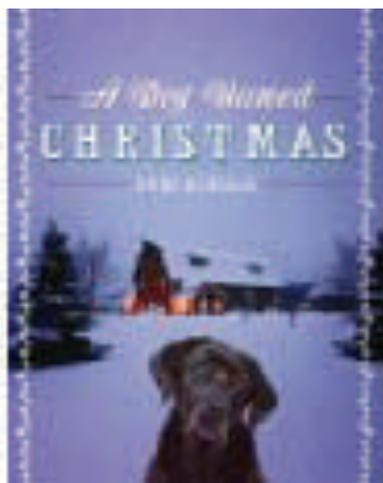
In case of inclement weather, event may be postponed. If in doubt, please call your System Office before traveling.

## Book of the Month

*A Dog Named Christmas* by Greg Kincaid

This short novel is perfect for the busy holiday season. The narrator is an older man with grown children; the youngest, Todd, is developmentally challenged and still lives at home helping with the farm. When Todd hears an appeal from the local animal shelter to adopt shelter dogs over Christmas, he begs for a dog. His father has had bad luck with dogs and is reluctant. When the entire family gangs up on him, he relents. Todd spends an entire day at the shelter getting to know each dog before choosing a large black one that he names Christmas. During a pre-Christmas party, he introduces each person to Christmas. His father, seeing a chance for a bit of revenge, challenges everyone to adopt a dog. The results are amazing as all the dogs are adopted for the holidays.

This is a fast, heartwarming read that packs a great message as well. Highly recommended!



## 2008 National Book Award Nominees

### FICTION

Aleksandar Hemon, *The Lazarus Project*  
Rachel Kushner, *Telex from Cuba*  
Peter Matthiessen, *Shadow Country*  
Marilynne Robinson, *Home*  
Salvatore Scibona, *The End*

### NONFICTION

Drew Gilpin Faust, *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*  
Annette Gordon-Reed, *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*  
Jane Mayer, *The Dark Side: The Inside Story of How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals*  
Jim Sheeler, *Final Salute: A Story of Unfinished Lives*  
Joan Wickersham, *The Suicide Index: Putting My Father's Death in Order*

### POETRY

Frank Bidart, *Watching the Spring Festival*  
Mark Doty, *Fire to Fire: New and Collected Poems*  
Reginald Gibbons, *Creatures of a Day*  
Richard Howard, *Without Saying*  
Patricia Smith, *Blood Dazzler*

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE

Laurie Halse Anderson, *Chains*  
Kathi Appelt, *The Underneath*  
Judy Blundell, *What I Saw and How I Lied*  
E. Lockhart, *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*  
Tim Tharp, *The Spectacular Now*

## Web Sites of the Month

### **In Pictures: Computer Tutorials Based on Pictures:**

Collection of free, easy-to follow illustrated tutorials for software and computer subjects such as Microsoft Office, Dreamweaver, Photoshop Elements, HTML and CSS, My SQL, PHP, and Perl. Originally developed as part of a U.S. Department of Education study to help people with learning disabilities to learn computer skills. From Visibooks.

URL: <http://inpics.net>

**NewsHour Extra: Poetry:** This NewsHour with Jim Lehrer special for children provides a collection of material on poetry. Features contemporary poet profiles (with biographies, poems, and video clips), reports on poetry slams and performance poetry, submitted poems by students from around the world, poetry lesson plans, and links to related sites.

URL: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/poetry/>

### **Holiday Survival Guide: Manage Stress and Simplify Your Holiday Season**

Advice on reducing stress during the holiday season, including dealing with difficult relatives, loneliness, shopping, and party planning. An About.com site.

<http://stress.about.com/od/holidaysurvivalguide/>

Holiday\_Survival\_Guide\_Manage\_Stress\_and\_Simplify\_Your\_Holiday\_Season.htm

**Life Photo Archive:** Search millions of photographs from the LIFE photo archive, stretching from the 1930s to today. Most were never published and are now available for the first time through the joint work of LIFE and Google." Searchable by key-

word, or browse by decade (1860s to 1970s) or featured people, places, events, sports, and culture. From Google.

URL: <http://images.google.com/hosted/life>

### **The Gift of Holiday Traditions: Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Christmas**

Lesson plan about December holidays.

"December is a month of holidays, celebrations, gift giving, and ... school vacations. Before taking time off to enjoy the holidays, take the opportunity to discuss with students the way different cultures contribute to what becomes a popular holiday tradition." Includes links to material about and activity ideas for Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Christmas. From EDSITEMENT, a joint project of the National Endowment for the Humanities and other organizations.

URL: [http://edsitement.neh.gov/monthly\\_feature.asp?id=83](http://edsitement.neh.gov/monthly_feature.asp?id=83)

### **Native American Booklist**

"To mark the 13th anniversary of Native American Heritage Month (November), NEA has released a recommended reading list that includes titles ranging from such pre-K classics as 'Mama, Do You Love Me' to Tony Hillerman's Joe Leaphorn Series that has been thrilling young (and older) adults for more than a decade." Includes titles "listed by grade level and include fiction, non-fiction and poetry." From the National Education Association (NEA).

URL: <http://www.nea.org/readacross/resources/nabooklist.html>

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