



Straight *talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

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Kathy Ellerton - System Administrator/Editor



Vacations & Strategic Planning

As I am preparing for my upcoming summer vacation, I am struck by how my packing for a vacation is similar to strategic planning for libraries. When planning our westward trek, I know where we are starting from and where we would like to go. I type up an itinerary—what will be seen, how to travel, when each activity will occur. At the end of the vacation, we can look back and answer the question, “Where did we go?” because a clear destination was specified. Further, if the destination is not reached, we can look back and determine where we diverged from the original itinerary. While this analogy may be an oversimplification, the key elements of planning are present: to determine the library’s destination in the future, to decide what the library will do to get there, and to assess how well the library progressed toward that view of the future.

To many librarians and trustees, strategic planning remains an intensive, exhaustive, sometimes mysterious process, something foreign to the library’s day-to-day activity. In fact, virtually every library plans at some level. Preparing each year’s budget involves some level of planning and forecasting. Presenting that budget to the council is one way of expressing where the library expects to go, what the library expects to accomplish, over the next year. The activities involved with budget-setting can be directed into a larger planning process. A wider field of vision creates a deeper understanding of the community and the library, and that deeper understanding supports the efforts of board members, staff, and other library advocates as they seek to improve the quality of library service in the community.

Planning for libraries is a process of perceiving the future of both the community and the library and setting a direction for the library towards that future vision. Planning helps the staff and board understand the situation of their community, set priorities, and establish methods for achieving those priorities. The planning document provides a record of the decisions made during that process. The document also becomes a guide for decision making and action by staff and the board.

Planning requires an ongoing, critical look at the current status of library service compared to what it should be in the future. It is a cyclical process of assessment, forecasting, goal-setting, implementation, and evaluation, leading back into a new phase of assessment, and so on. It is also a pragmatic activity that can be undertaken in a thorough fashion or in a more simplified, compressed manner, if the resources that are available to support the planning effort are limited. There are many approaches a library can take to planning, many strategies a library can apply. The important thing is to



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Planning Workshop - Insert

make a plan.

Typically, any planning model asks four simple questions. The Public Library Association's planning models offer variations on these key questions:

- Where are we?
- Where do we want to go?
- How do we get there?
- Are we getting there?

The Nebraska Library Commission and the Regional Library Systems are currently sponsoring a number of strategic planning workshops across the state. These workshops are using 'The New Planning for Results: A Streamline Approach' by Sandra Nelson as the planning model. This planning model is based on three assumptions:

- *Excellence must be planned locally.
- *Excellence is possible for both large & small libraries.
- *Excellence is a moving target.

Plan for your library's journey to the future at Northeast's planning workshop, "Sailing Into The Future" on August 18 at the Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College in Norfolk. For registration information, see the loose flyer or check the website at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/northeast/nesys.html>.

As for my summer vacation, we will reach our destination and enjoy the trip. Libraries, too, can plan for the future and obtain better library service to the community.

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The Reviewer's Chair

Remember, Grandma?

By Laura Langston

Margaret's grandma lives with the family now because she can't always remember. Grandma still read to Margaret, but doesn't always remember the words. Grandma still sings and talks to the bird, but sometimes she gets mixed up and Margaret helps her remember. A simplistic story about Alzheimer and the effects it has on a person and the people that care for them. The delightful illustrations will encourage much discussion. This book written for Kindergarten and up is a must purchase for public and school libraries.
 ~~Pat Thompson, WSC

The Beast

By Walter Dean Myers

Teen known as Spoon confronts "the beast" first hand when his girlfriend Gabi gets involved with drugs while he is away at prep school. Spoon has grown up in the underprivileged inner city where alcohol and drugs lead to lost lives and violence. His abilities have kept him above the fray and allowed him to escape reality. Gabi and him finally manage to face the evil together. This book is recommended for both public

and school libraries for older teens.

This is a great story and is well written and realistic as are most of the books by Myers. The language is sometimes coarse, but unfortunately also realistic.

~~Janet Davis, Atkinson

Junior in the City

by Samantha Berger and Lisa Eve Huberman

This is a "choose your own adventure book" of sorts about a pig that loses his glasses and sees a strange city. It is recommended for kids ages preschool to early elementary and would be appropriate for any library or collection. This book features "spinwheels" on each page where the reader has a choice about the next phase of the story. There are a number of choices on each pages so this book could be read differently many times over. This book really helps kids to see how changing details makes a difference and gives them a taste of what it is like to be an author.

~~Heather Reid, parent, Omaha, Nebraska

"That's Not Fair"

By Stephanie Roche

Fia and Fabi are like most brothers and sisters, they fight about everything, even cookies. They won't share, so Mother Fox eats the cookies herself. Fia and Fabi show their mother how other children

fight, until they meet up with the mice children, who show that having to share with someone is better than being alone. The author does her own illustrations, which are very good. I recommend this book for children up to second grade. This is a great book for anyone who is a brother or sister.
 ~~Marilyn Liedorff, WSC

While You Were Out

By J. Irvin Kuns

This story involves Penelope Grant and her struggle to accept her best friend, Tim's death. She starts 5th grade and feels lonely and lost. To make things worse her "handyman" father starts his new job as a janitor at her school. This is a wonderful story of coming of age, acceptance of other's feelings and learning some surprises along the way. Surprises like the fact that her father doesn't know how to behave around school, which turns out to be not so bad. Penelope also learns that all the while she was caught up in her own grief she forgot about Russell the other person who cared about Tim. Russell teaches Penelope a very valuable lesson.

This is recommend for grades 4-8 in public, school and home libraries. It is very relatable for any child that has lost a friend at a young age. The author did an excellent job portraying the thoughts of a 10 year old child. This book is highly recommended.

~~Kendra Pena, Schuyler, NE



My School's a Zoo

By Stu Smith

Have you ever seen a bookworm? No? Read this entertaining story and you will – plus a lot more animals and bugs.

That's because this school is a zoo! Fun! Do you think you could learn to read if you sat next to an elephant or a monkey?

You will like this story a lot!

With a reading level for ages 4 to 8, I recommend this book to both school and public libraries. ~~Joan Chilvers, Pierce, Nebraska

The Little Giant

By Sergio Ruzzier

This book does a nice job of bringing out the feelings of a loner, the person who just doesn't fit in with his group. We meet Angelino, a small giant and Osvaldo, a large dwarf, who become friends after experiencing a lot of bad times with their own groups. Together they stop a war between their two communities. It is a nice story.

The pictures and writing are detailed. It would be hard for a smaller grade student to read all the words, but it would make a nice story hour book.

With a reading level for Kindergarten through 3rd grade, I recommend this book for both school and public libraries. ~~Carol Tramp, Wynot Public School

Raven's Point

By Melinda Metz

Evil has shown its face on Raven's Point. People have begun doing strange and violent things all over the small island. Jane Romano, Tavia Burrows, and Seth McFadden find that they are somehow involved and search to discover the history behind the violence.

The three teens have different that connect them to the past and to each other. They know that they have the power to overcome the evil that is growing stronger, but they are unsure how to go about it. Can they save their small island from being destroyed by the evil?

Melinda Metz's story line is similar to that of Steven King, only easier to read. If you are looking for a Sci Fi book for your young adult collection, this will make an excellent addition. ~~Diane Limoges, Eastern Township Library



Movie License Renewal

The Nebraska Library

Commission announced the renewal of the umbrella statewide license with Movie Licensing USA. This means that public libraries will not have to pay for the performance license through Movie Licensing USA. This new license will take effect on October 1st for a year.

If libraries would like to have an additional license through MPLC out of California they can still do so. There might be a few of the smaller studios that are not covered by Movie Licensing USA that MPLC covers. For more information, contact MPLC at www.mplc.com.

Baby Talk

The Literacy Trust in the UK has developed several one-page "Talk To Your Baby" tip sheets on how parents and caregivers can help children develop good speaking and listening skills. Each is bilingual and available in ten languages including: Chinese, Arabic, Urdu, French, Tamil and other languages. Copies can be downloaded at: www.literacytrust.org.uk/talktoyourbaby/quicktips.html.





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Mailing Address:
Northeast Library System
3038 33rd Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601.

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Fundraising Tips

At the annual spring meeting of NLA, Tom Jorgensen, of Jorgensen Consulting, offered these useful guidelines:

- * You are going to do more for the donor than the donor is doing for you.
- * Don't make assumptions about anyone's potential to give to a cause.
- * Our attitude should be to invite investment, not beg for help.
- * To those who say, "We pay taxes to support the library," the response is: "Tax dollars pay for the bare minimum. Those who want more need to give more."
- * Donated money is the by-product of good service.
- * You must have a quality program and effective promotion in order to attract donations.
- * There are many possible sources of donated funds: cash and pledges, real estate, insurance, stocks, bonds, personal property and endowments.
- * 80% of donations come from 20% of the population.
- * When endowments are made, the original gift is never spent. It requires a legal document to establish an endowment fund.
- * If an endowment fund is to be used in an emergency, it is a contingency fund, not an endowment fund.

Banned Books Week September 24 - October 5, 2005

Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, the annual event reminds Americans not to take this precious freedom for granted.

Banned Books Week (BBW) celebrates the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one's opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular *and* stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints to all who wish to read them. After all, intellectual freedom can exist only where these two essential conditions are met.

To see this year's designs for Banned Books Week, go to: <http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bbwkit/bbwkit.htm>.



Creativity Explodes!!

"If at first the idea is not absurd, then there is no hope for it." ~~Albert Einstein

The most innovative libraries don't stop with one inspiration - they positively pop with new ideas. Creativity isn't just a matter of waiting for the muse to strike. Here's how to turn your library into a nonstop idea factory.

*Creative Center of the Universe - <http://www.geocrete.com>

This site offers material designed to stimulate creative thinking, including exercises, quotations, articles, and links to other sites.

*Creativity Web: Resources for Creativity and Innovation
<http://members.optusnet.com.au/~charles57/Creative/index2.html>

This site has many different sections on creativity including creativity basics, kick-starting the creative process, ways to record ideas, techniques, quotations, how to do mind mapping, and information on the brain and different types of intelligence.

*Directed Creativity - <http://www.directedcreativity.com>

This is a site based on the theory of "directed creativity" as developed by Paul Plsek. The site provides models and tools for understanding the creative process and the resources could be used to develop a system-wide process.

*Innovation Network - <http://www.thinksmart.com>

This organization focuses on helping organizations develop a core competency of innovation. Click on the Innovation Wizard for links to several tools, articles, etc.

*Innovation Tools - <http://www.innovationtools.com>

This site is designed for the busy director as a place to get some quick ideas. It includes information about idea generating software and up-to-date news related to innovation.

Creative Tools, Games & Generators

Creative Whack! (<http://www.creativethink.com/creativewhack2.html>)

Free The Genie (http://www.ideachampions.com/free_the_genie/index.shtml)

Go Create! Toolbox (<http://www.geocities.com/tools/>)

Idea Lottery (http://www.ideachampions.com/idea_lottery.shtml)

Idea Spring (<http://www.brandstorm.biz/index.htm>)

The Idea Evaluator (<http://www.jpb.com/creative/evaluator.php>)

(This article taken from Fort Collins Public Library's Business Sense, Volume 8, Number 6, June 2005)



Neligh Public Library celebrated 100 years of library service on Saturday, July 2nd.

'Pieces of the Good Life', the 2005 Third Annual Quilt Show will be held at the **Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library** on August 5-7. Yvonne Hollenbeck, South Dakota poet will speak on August 6th at 2pm and Lea McKenna will present a Pieceful Pastime Trunk Show on August 7 at 3pm.

J. Gordon Schrempp signed copies of his book "Lickety-Split" at the **Hartington Public Library** on June 11. Mr. Schrempp grew up in northeastern Nebraska and graduated from Wynot High

School in 1949. The book's jacket cover is illustrated by local artist, Jolene Steffen.

The Battle Creek Elementary School awarded the **Battle Creek Public Library** a certificate of appreciation. It was given in appreciation for staff visits to the school to read stories and promote new books to every grade.

Allie Hanson is the new children's librarian at **Osceola Public Library**. She is excited about this year's summer reading program. Also, the library has a new underground sprinkler system installed for watering the lawn on those scorching July days.

The film, "My Antonia," was recently shown at the **Columbus Public Library** as part of the One Book, One State: Nebraska Reading My Antonia project.

Congratulations to **Randolph Public Library** for a tentative \$250,000 commitment from the Lied Foundation Trust for the new library building. The library needs \$168,000 more and they will have enough to start building.

Hruska Memorial Public Library in David City celebrated its ninth birthday on June 30th. Friends of the Library sold Polish hotdogs, chips and a drink to all party goers.



Little Red Riding Hood read to children at the Hartington Public Library during National Library Week.



NEW @ NLS

Please call the system office at 1-800-578-1014 to check out one of the following items:

Raising Funds with Friends Groups by Mark Y. Herring, 2004.

Author offers step-by-step advice on how to form or restructure friends groups in academic or public libraries. He covers establishing and organizing a steering committee, marketing, communicating with your membership, event programming and more.

Bridging the Digital Divide in the Spanish Speaking Community, video, 25 min., 2004.

Produced by the Colorado State Library, this video features several Colorado libraries and their staff discussing their highly successful outreach programs to Spanish speakers.

Complete Copyright: An Everyday Guide for Librarians by Carrie Russell, 2004.

ALA copyright expert, Carrie Russell provides clear, user-friendly guidelines for both common copyright issues and latest trends, including the intricacies of copyright in the digital world.

"Stand Up For Libraries!"

by Thomas J. Hennen Jr., American Libraries, June/July 2005.

The author presents suggestions and tactics for library advocacy at the grassroots level.

"Publicity 101: How To Promote Your Library's Next Event" by Claudia O'Keefe, American Libraries, June/July 2005.

Ms. O'Keefe gives six basic steps for a basic, no-frills media campaign.



Check Your Calendar

July 20 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Lutheran High Northeast in Norfolk at 10 am.

July 21 - **NEBASE Annual Meeting - East** at the Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln. Call 1-800-307-2665 for more information.

July 25-29 - **Nebraska Library Leadership Institute**, St. Benedict Center, Schuyler.

July 30 - **Norfolk Public Library's 11th Annual Literature Festival**. Contact Karen Drevo at 402-844-2100 for more information.

August 10 - **Really Good Library Group** at Hartington Public Library at 10am.

September 1 - **"Exploring the Blackboard Jungle"** a school media specialist workshop at ESU#7 in Columbus. For more information, see page 11.

September 9 - **Nebraska Library Commission Meeting** at Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln.

September 21 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Newman Grove Public Library at 10 am.

September 23-24 - **10th Annual Plum Creek Literacy Festival** at Concordia University, Seward. For additional information email: PlumCreek@cune.edu.

September 28 - **"Bridges Out of Poverty"**, NLA Pre-conference, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln.

September 28 - **"Caring For the Mind"**, NLA Pre-conference, September 28, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln.

September 29-30 - **NLA/NEMA Annual Conference**, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln.





RGLG (Really Good Library Group) Meeting - August 10th

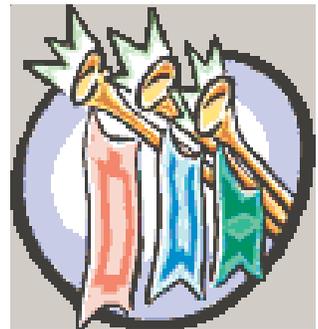
Come join us at the Hartington Public Library at 10am for a lively discussion on the following topics:

- *Lynn Bradman Trustee Survey - a preliminary report
- *Youth Employment Laws
- *Strategic Planning

and much more. Contact the System Office at 1-800-578-1014 and let us know if you plan on attending.

New System Administrator at RVLS

Republican Valley Library System is delighted to announce that Sherry Houston has accepted the position of Republican Valley System Administrator. Sherry started work on June 1 after finishing her year as the Media Specialist at Sutton Public Schools. She was employed by Sutton Public Schools for 21 years as the K-12 Media Specialist. In 1994, Sherry received her Master's in Library Science from Emporia State University, and says "even though I used my training in a variety of ways in the public school setting, I am delighted to work within the Republican Valley Library System where my skills and knowledge will be even more challenged." Sherry and her husband, Barry, have lived in the Harvard area for 30 years and have three grown daughters. Even though her predominant experience is in the public school setting, Sherry has worked in a small public library in St. Paul, Nebraska; college libraries at Nebraska Wesleyan and the School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota; and is even the librarian for her weaving group. Welcome, Sherry!!



Lend an Ear: Increasing Audiobook Circulation with the Trade-to-Upgrade Program

Books on Tape (B-O-T) announces an exciting program to help librarians maximize audiobook circulation by removing slower moving titles and replacing them with popular titles at 50% off. Bringing fresh, new audiobooks to your collection will satisfy loyal listeners AND attract new listeners to your audiobook collection. This program also benefits the local Friends group - the recipients of the withdrawn tapes. The Trade-to-Upgrade Program began in May and ends August 15, 2005.

The program is straightforward. Librarians identify any slower moving children's audiobooks from any audio publishing house that they would like to select as a "trade" title. Then librarians have the freedom to choose any upgrade "replacement" title from a list of over 600 popular B-O-T titles at half off the published list price. B-O-T also encourages librarians to consider product without replacements warranties and dog-eared titles as strong "trade" candidates.

The "trade" titles should NOT be returned to B-O-T. In keeping with the spirit of the program, the final step would be to donate the "trade" titles to local Friends of the Library organizations. If your library or Friends group wish to donate the "trade" titles, go to: www.folusa.org for information on how to recycle "trade" titles to libraries with little or no audio budgets.

Books on Tape offers this one-time savings as a way to support their library customers and patrons during these difficult economic times. To learn more about the exciting program visit [Books on Tape](#) or contact the B-O-T Customer Service Department at (800) 541-5525.



CARDS is Alive and Well

College Access Resource Distribution Service (C.A.R.D.S.) is the resource sharing service for the Northeast Library System. C.A.R.D.S. has been trying to find ways to fill your resource sharing needs, save you some money and fulfill our mission of providing library resources to regional libraries. We have found a way to satisfy all three components. OCLC has developed a flat fee for their services and through some restructuring; this allows us to offer C.A.R.D.S. service at LOWER costs.

Starting on July, 2005, C.A.R.D.S. will implement a new pricing structure. For any title requested that WSC owns, C.A.R.D.S. will send that item to you FREE of charge. For any title requested that C.A.R.D.S. has to refer via OCLC, the charge will be \$2. Neon referral will be charged \$1. For subject and reference requests, the charge will be \$1. Any request for WSC items that are currently checked out, if you prefer, we will refer the request for \$1 via OCLC. And as in the past any unfilled requests are no charge. All requests will be handled within 24 working hours of receiving your request.

To search WSC catalog go to http://academic.wsc.edu/conn_library/.

The email for C.A.R.D.S. is cards@wsc.edu and the toll free phone number is 800-334-4538.

For the libraries, which have been using C.A.R.D.S., we are sure these new prices will help your budgets. For the other libraries, give us a try and see how fast we can fulfill your needs.

If you have any other concerns or comments, feel free to contact me at maliedo1@wsc.edu or 402 375-7474.

Attention Trustees: Are you TUF enough? Mark these dates on your calendar to attend the NLA fall conference, September 29-30, 2005, at the Marriott/Cornhusker Hotel, in Lincoln.



The Trustee, Users and Friends Section (TUFS) of the Nebraska Library Association is offering some exciting programs of particular interest to board members at the fall conference. They are designed to help you puzzle through some questions that you may have encountered in your service on the library board.

Thursday, September 29 – *You mean we owe sales tax?; 8:30-9:20
How about those services you charge for?

*How to handle raffles; 9:40-10:30

Raffles help you raise \$\$\$\$. Do it right.

*What's your ethics IQ; 1:50-2:40

Explore conflict of interest, open meetings, personnel issues, privacy issues, to mention a few.

Friday, September 30 - *Meet the Nebraska League of Municipalities. 8:00-8:50

How they play a role in your community and why you should care.

*Trustee Luncheon; 12:00-1:30. Meet your TUFS officers and the Trustee Citation Award winner.

*Sally Gardner Reed from FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries USA) will speak about advocacy.

There is a full schedule of sessions on both days, so your time will be well spent. Please plan to attend the conference and see what your fellow board members are doing. For more information regarding this years NLA conference, go to: <http://www.nla-nema2005.info/>.



Educational Service Unit #7 and Northeast Library System

present

"Exploring the Blackboard Jungle"

A School Media Specialist Workshop

Featured Speaker: Dorothy Willis, University of Nebraska-Omaha Library will provide tips and tricks to navigate through plagiarism and fair use within the copyright jungle. Dorothy will speak in the morning and be followed in the afternoon by the following breakout sessions:

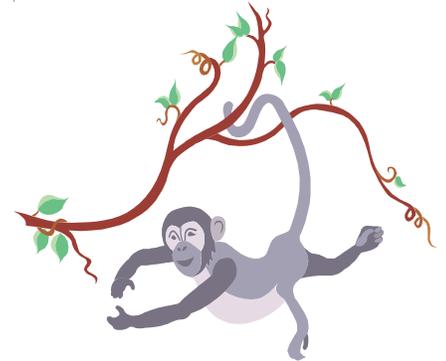
Mapping a Course in the Jungle (Library)

Sally Snyder of the Nebraska Library Commission will WOW you with her ideas of promoting the

media/library for the "rainy season". You will be able to go to school the next day with ideas in hand to begin your fall promotions.

Swinging from Paulson to Junie B. Jones

Graphic novels, manga, anime, it's a jungle out there for what teenagers like to read. Kathy Ellerton, NLS Administrator, will provide insights on what's popular and ways to engage teenagers into reading, top reads for teens and how to prepare a book talk in five minutes.



Basic Tools for the Forest

Nebraska Access Toolbox

Provided by Nebraska Library Commission, Nebraska Access contains research-based, searchable, databases. Shannon Behrhorst, will demonstrate the toolbox to utilize the service more effectively. Participants will have an opportunity to explore Nebraska Access.

Crazy Monkeys (Vendors)

Duane Munson will be on hand to show you what's new in the world of library books.

Schedule of Events

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-12:00 Keynote Speaker

12:00-1:00 Lunch on your own

1:00-1:30 Breakout Session 1

1:30-2:00 Breakout Session 2

2:00-2:30 Breakout Session 3

2:30-3:00 Breakout Session 4

Breakout sessions will be assigned at registration. The vendor area will be available for one of the afternoon sessions.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please register online through the ESU 7 web site: <http://www.esu7.org> by August 25, 2005.

Lunch will be on your own.

For more information or updates go

to the ESU 7 website <http://www.esu7.org>

or contact Kathy Ellerton at 1-800-578-1014 or Beth Kabes at 402-564-5753.

10th Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival

This year's festival features Janet Stevens, Susan Crummel, Pam Munoz Ryan, Elisa Carbone, W. Nikola Lisa, and Stephen Swinburne is scheduled for September 22-24, 2005, at Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska.

The three-day event is designed to foster interaction between nationally-acclaimed authors/illustrators and the children and adults of Nebraska. Thursday, September 22nd, is designated as Children's Day for the Seward schools. Friday the 23rd is Children's Day for commuting children. Children attend free of charge but pre-registration is required. Saturday the 24th has been set aside as Adults' Day and will feature an author luncheon by Janet Stevens and her sister Susan Crummel, access to the other major presenters, and more than 13 literacy-related sectionals led by professors and dedicated practitioners, including Lois Stover, NCTE speaker.



The sectionals will be of interest for teachers of grades K-12, administrators, care-givers, and the general public. A complete listing of sectional topics and leaders is included in the official registration brochure, available on the web in June.

The 2005 festival features major presenters who appeal to teachers of Pre-K-secondary, as well as the general public. Janet Stevens, author and illustrator of *Tops and Bottoms*, will return to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the festival. Janet's sister, Susan Crummel, will feature books such as *Big Dog* and *The Dish Ran Away with the Spoon*. Pam Munoz Ryan portrays strong characters with values in books such as *Esperanza Rising* and *Riding Freedom*. Adventurer Elisa Carbone, author of *Storm Warriors*, will captivate audiences with her books for young adults. Storytelling, puppetry, and music will be central to W. Nikola-Lisa's performance. Nikola-Lisa is known for *Bein' With You this Way*. The audience will be entertained with the dynamic presentation abilities of Stephen Swinburne, noted informational text writer.

For complete information and the official registration brochure, go to www.cune.edu and click on Plum Creek. Registrations should be printed off and mailed via regular mail. The light green brochure will be mailed to all schools in August. For information regarding one hour of graduate credit, CEUs, or a staff registration contact Mrs. Vikki Gremel, assistant festival director, at Plumcreek@cune.edu.

The Nebraska State Reading Association and the Eastern Nebraska Reading Council have generously contributed to the literacy festival. The festival is appreciative of the continued support for this exciting literacy event!



Winnebago Labels Available

Wakefield Community Schools has a package of Winnebago System Laser & Inkjet Labels for sale. The PermaPlus Permanent Adhesive labels are approximately 1 1/2" by 1". Asking price is \$8.00. For more information, contact the system office at 1-800-578-1014.



Listen to This! Audio Books For Kids!

Summer is a great time to discover audio books! Families can share these stories while traveling in the car or listen together on warm evenings at home. Remember that children understand language at a much higher level than they can decode, so even though the audio books recommended here are suggested for children six and up, younger children can enjoy hearing these books dramatized.

26 Fairmount Avenue by Tomie dePaola

Age Level: 6-9

The first in a series of autobiographical chapter books about Tomie dePaola's early years, this story focuses on his family's move from their apartment in Meriden, Connecticut, to the now famous address, 26 Fairmount Avenue. Children will enjoy hearing the author share details about his early life.

Double Fudge by Judy Blume

Age Level: 6-9

In this book featuring Peter and his little brother, Fudge, the Hatcher family vacations in Washington, D.C., where they visit the Bureau of Engraving and discover long lost relatives, whose visits they have to endure once returning home to New York City.



Little House in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Age Level: 6-9

Meet Laura and her family in this first of the Little House series in their cozy Wisconsin log home. Setting and characters come alive through the vivid detail of family life and living in the 1870s.

Only Passing Through by Anne Rockwell

Age Level: 6-9

This brief biography begins when 9-year-old Isabella is sold at a slave auction in Kingston, New York. It continues as she transforms into the woman best known as Sojourner Truth, an outspoken critic of slavery and proponent of women's rights.

Ramona Quimby, Age 8 by Beverly Cleary

Age Level: 6-9

Ramona is ready for the challenges of a new school – without her older sister. It's a year of change for the Quimby family and if everyone else can adjust, so can Ramona.

The Bunnica Collection: Books 1 to 3 by Deborah and James Howe

Age Level: 6-9

Harold the family dog narrates three stories of life with supernatural suspicions which begins with *Bunnica*, the bunny with fangs. In the *Howliday Inn* while boarding at the Chateau Bow-Wow, Harold and Chester (the Monroe cat) encounter a werewolf, perhaps. Chester and Harold must stop zombie vegetables when the *Celery Stalks at Midnight*.

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

Age Level: 6-9

While staying in the English countryside, four children find a wardrobe which provides entry to the magic land of Narnia. There they meet and help Aslan, the golden lion, overcome the White Witch's evil curse of eternal winter.

The Meanest Doll in the World by Ann M. Martin , Laura Godwin

Age Level: 6-9

Best friends Annabelle and Tiffany, like all dolls, come alive when humans aren't looking. On this adventure, they meet Mimi, a mean and jealous doll whose own nastiness causes her downfall.



Northeast Library System Board Meeting

Minutes of May 18, 2005

The Northeast Library System Board met on Wednesday, May 18, 2005, at the Gardner Public Library, Wakefield. President Marilyn Liedorff called the meeting to order at 10:01.a.m. Guests present were Gene Swanson, Lee Gustafson and Donna Roeber, Wakefield trustees and Nancy Fredrickson, Wakefield library director.

Roll call was taken with all members present except Becker, Zurovski, Johnson and Zwingman.

Alternate approved was Duane Munson for Carol Becker. Motion approved unanimously.

No additions to agenda.

Approval of minutes of the March 16 meeting: (MS: Munson, Cooper); motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence and Communications: none.

Financial Report (Shelia Cermak):

Checking: \$9,858.93

Savings: \$28,704.42

CDs: \$42,364.45; next CD will be acted upon at annual meeting

Motion to accept financial report: (MS: Cooper, Risinger); roll call vote with unanimous approval.

Reports:

Commissioner (Gross): not in attendance.

State Advisory Council (Healy): Commission is setting aside some money for tech support but not for troubleshooting; rather it would be a person as advisor for tech plans, etc.

Nebraska Library Commission: not in attendance.

System Administrator (Ellerton): may do a joint workshop with media specialists from ESU #7, perhaps on plagiarism; both would put in \$200. Motion to hold workshop and take money out of professional line item in budget, set it aside in savings to be used in the fall (MS: Lofgren, Klein); roll call vote with unanimous approval. Basic Skills finished until fall; Cermak favorably evaluated and will be taking Access class; 3,200 baseball tickets received from Omaha Royals; will distribute at annual meeting; Fill Our Cup Systems grant received with following hardware purchased: two external hard drives, 1 USB 4 port hub, 1 1GB USB flash drive; System data backed up with one copy kept off site. New librarians in Dakota City, Walthill, Clearwater and Ulysses. Ellerton will be on vacation June 23-July 10; Sherry Houston hired as Republican Valley administrator.

Committee Reports:

Personnel: no report.

Budget: will pass budget in July when final figure from Commission is in; motion to offer Centurion Guard to member libraries with remaining grant funds, logistics to be worked out by System staff (Lofgren, Risinger); roll call vote with unanimous approval.

Continuing Education: new program evaluation sheet presented.

Strategic Planning: no report.

Nominating: Jacobs, Klein, Bachman positions needed to be filled; Klein and Bachman had no opposition; two running for cities of 10,000 and over.

Technology: no report.

Unfinished Business: none.

New Business:

Executive Session: in at 11:09 a.m.; motion to go out of executive session: (MS: Bachman, Healy); unanimous approval; out at 11:25 a.m.; recommended by Board that Ellerton and Cermak get 2% raise and amount can be revisited when budget figures are in; roll call vote with unanimous approval.

Nebraska Leadership Institute: Ellerton asked if wine left from NELS Institute can be donated to Leadership Institute for its wine reception; Board gave consent.

Pat-On-The-Back Awards: Delores Gustafson nominated by Sandy Zurovski for doing genealogy at library and donating microfilm reader to library.

Members presented library activities.

Other business: none.

Claims of the day: (MS: Lofgren, Risinger); motion carried unanimously with roll call vote.

Adjourned at 11:26 a.m.



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Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.**

**"The aim of education is the knowledge not of facts,
but of values." ~ ~ William Ralph Inge**

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Sailing Into The Future: Library Planning For Results!!

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Charting The Course: The Planning Committee's responsibilities, staff & board relationships in the planning process, planning timeline, identifying stakeholders & budget.

Avoiding Rough Waters: Community Data Collection, Identifying community needs, SWOT Analysis, Selecting service responses, Writing Goals & Objectives.

Staying Afloat: Identifying activities, GAP Analysis process, developing an activity/program budget.

Smooth Sailing Ahead: Communicating the library's vision, teaching staff how to reallocate resources to implement selected activities, monitoring progress towards your goal.

Presenters: Kit Keller, Nebraska Library Commission and Kathy Ellerton, Northeast Library System.

Time: 9:30-3:30pm

Place: Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College, Norfolk

C.E. Hours: 5

Cost: **FREE!** A meal will be provided.

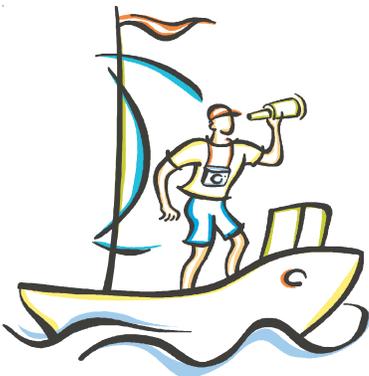
Please mail your registration made out to Northeast Library System, 3038 33rd Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601 by August 12:

Name _____

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E-Mail: _____



"Good plans shape good decisions. That's why good planning helps to make elusive dreams come true."

Lester R. Bittel, *The Nine Master Keys of Management*.

Workshop sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission and the Northeast Library System.