

# Republican Valley Library System



# VALLEYTALK

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the Republican Valley  
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We reserve the right to  
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## RVLS Libraries Do Some Spring Cleaning

Libraries in Republican Valley Library System are updating, changing and just sprucing up their space to be responsive to the needs of their customers. Perhaps it is the really long winter, or just something in the air that has convinced many RVLS librarians it is time for some change in the facilities. In my travels, I kept seeing changes at so many RVLS libraries; I decided it was time for an article detailing some of the new looks.

**Dundy County Library in Benkelman** has installed new sidewalk leading into the building, they have a new, very snazzy computer lab, some new shelving, new carpet and a new exit door. When one does that kind of changing in a library, you can't help but weed and pitch while the change is happening.



Nana Real is the director who is very proud of all the changes.

**Blue Hill Public Library** has new shelving in all the adult section. Shelving, purchased from Cornhusker Industries, around the perimeter of the room adds to the rooms usability and space.



All the books and materials were moved and relocated, leaving space for growth. Judy Grandstaff, the director, is extremely happy with the look and I don't think she will have to weed for years!

**Hayes Center Public Library** opened up a small back room for rare books, historical books, those things that just can't be thrown away. The room has nice shelving and is a very cozy space. Deb Lawson, the director, has added wireless internet making the library the user-centered 'place to be' in Hayes Center.

**Hastings Public Library** made major changes to their Children's room with painting, new carpeting, new children's tables and chairs, and a general rearranging and clean-

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

ing. It is now a really bright and cheery children's area that delights children and adults.

**Oxford Public Library** has a reading nook with the purchase of new chairs and a table including a rocking chair and a new rug. Abi Bauer, the director, said they purchased the furniture with some donations from individuals and memorials. It looked so comfy, I thought about grabbing People Magazine and sitting for awhile...just to keep up on Brittany's trials and tribulations, you understand.

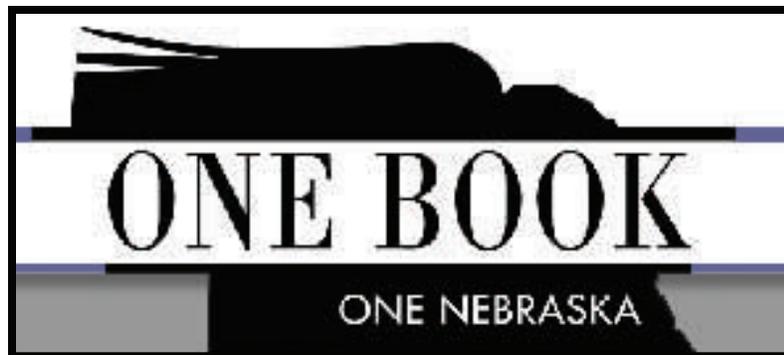
Of course the biggest change in a library in RVLS is at **North Platte Public Library**. What a project and what a result! On Valentine's Day, North Platte had their grand re-opening. Cecelia Lawrence, the director, had a power point showing all they did. It was inspiring. They weeded thousands and thousands of books, replaced all the carpeting doing half before December 1<sup>st</sup> and the second half

after, repainted the whole building, increased the teen section space, relocated the check-out desk and did general sprucing up. The result is phenomenal. If you have a chance to see the new, improved North Platte Public Library, you are in for a treat.

Kay and I have even redone the office. We bought some file cabinets from the next door neighbor who was closing their office and we were going to just do a little changing, but one thing led to another and we put in several hard days labor (including our husbands) to move, clean, change and just generally redo the office. We are really happy with the look, but I still have a messy desk...Oh well!

With all the facility changes in Republican Valley Library System Libraries, users have to notice the excitement of fresh looks and user-centered spaces in their communities. What a great way to Celebrate Spring.

Sherry Houston



If you would like an audiobook of *Restoring the Burnt Child* by William Kloefkorn, you can receive a free copy from the Nebraska Library Commission for the year of 2008. It will have to be returned to NLC at the end of 2008 (copyright restrictions). They also have a spiral bound copy in large print. These are only available to Public and Academic Libraries. (sorry K-12 schools are not eligible)

To receive an audiobook or large print, e-mail : [jwrampe@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:jwrampe@nlc.state.ne.us)

RVLS has copies of the book, audiobook, and a large print copy so you can borrow it from us if you don't want to order and return the audiobook or don't qualify for the free copy.

To access information about the One Book One Nebraska Reading Project, connect to this link. <http://www.onebookonenebraska.org/> You can link to any of the past years and find discussion questions, author information and other pertinent topics connected to the book.



# RVLS NEWS



**The Village of Brady Public Library** has been open for business since January 2007. Since that time they have checked out over 2000 books and videos to 689 users. This is the first Public Library for Brady, NE. They were funded by a variety of grants and contributions, not the least of which is a calendar done by the Red Hat group in Brady called the Brady Beauties, which raised \$8500. The Village of Brady is very proud of their library and they should be. It is a wonderful new addition to their Village and everyone involved deserves a pat on the back. Extra credit goes to **Dee Ann Birkel** who is the spark which made the Village of Brady Public Library a reality. Congratulations to Brady, NE.

**Marsha Weaver** will be retiring from her job as Media Specialist at Sutton Public Schools in May. Congratulations, Marsha, we hope your future is very bright.

**Phelps County Reads** sponsored by **Holdrege Area Public Library** is celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city of Holdrege by reading *Worst Hard Time*. They were able to borrow copies of the book and audiobooks from Lincoln City Libraries. They will have community activities and speakers. An excellent choice for a read and a fun project for the library and the residents of Phelps County.

**Congratulations to Carol Eshleman**, Young Adult Services Librarian from the **North Platte Public Library**, who was awarded the Celebrate Literacy Award in Kearney at the annual conference of the Nebraska Reading Association. This award is sponsored by the Nebraska State Reading Association to recognize literacy accomplishments. Susan Evans, president of the Sandhills Reading Council, which nominated Eshleman said she just does a lot for the community, for the kids with programs like Teen Cafe, to promote literacy.

The award is given to an individual or group who have made significant literary contributions in a community. Republican Valley Library System is so proud of you, Carol. Great job!

Friends of **Hastings Public Library** are hosting their annual meeting on Tuesday April 8, 2008 at the city auditorium. It is open to the public, attendees need not be members of Friends. The mixer is at 6:15 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. The business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Cyndy Salzmann will present the program at 8 p.m. "*Unclutter Your Heart, Unclutter Your Home.*" Tickets are on sale at the library for either the dinner and program or the program only.

**Hastings College Perkins Library** created an entry for the For Dummies® 2008 Library Display Contest. Wiley, publishers of the For Dummies® series, provided a display kit, which included balloons, die-cut hangers, inflatable cubes, and a drawstring bag. Student assistants and staff added Perkins Library's collection of For Dummies® books, creativity, and cleverness to make the contest theme "For Dummies®



Makes Life Easier" spring to life. The theme is carried out by contrasting the books with the Student Association President John Striebel demonstrating the dummy version of each topic. For example, he is pictured writing on a baby using a Sharpie to illustrate his need for the *Baby Signing for Dummies* book and he is striking the classic Heisman pose for the *Fantasy Football for Dummies* title. The display is called "For Dummies® Makes Life Easier (even if you're not a dummy!)" The first folks to view the



yellow-and-black eye-catching display received logo-ed giveaways: bookmarks, Sweets for Dummies candies, and lanyards. Perkins Library staff is striving for the grand prize, which will gain their library 50 more For Dummies® titles and a pizza party for the display creators!

# On the Bookshelf

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**The following items have been recently added to the RVLs Professional Collection:**

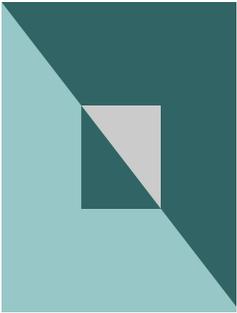
## ***Books on CD***

- College of Dupage video *People Watching With a Purpose-“Meeting Needs Before They Need it”*
- *The Almost Moon* by Alice Sebold
- *Book of the Dead* by Patricia Cornwell
- *Eat, Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- *Run* by Ann Patchett
- *The Senator’s Wife* by Sue Miller
- *Playing for Pizza* by John Grisham
- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne Duprau
- *World Without End* by Ken Follett
- *Sweet Revenge* by Diane Mott Davidson
- *Along Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah
- *A Girl Named Zippy* by haven Kimmel
- *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie* by David Lubar
- *Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson



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**To see a list of all available items for loan, go to :  
<[www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/professional.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/professional.html)>**



**Joint Annual Meeting**  
**Republican Valley Library System and Meridian Library System**  
**June 6, 2008**  
**Hastings Museum, Hastings, NE**

**AGENDA**

- 9:30**      **RVLS** Board Meeting  
(All Welcome to Attend)
- 11:00**      **Meridian** Annual Meeting
- 11:00**      **RVLS** Annual Meeting
- 12:00**      Lunch
- 1:00**        Rod Wagner, Director  
NE Library Commission.
- 1:15**        Teresa Hartman, UNMC
- 2-3:00**     Bill Kloefkorn

During the **RVLS** Annual Meeting, at 11:00 am, System Board Members will be elected and the 2008-2009 Budget will be approved.

**Meridian** will adopt their 2008-2009 budget at their 11:00 am Annual Meeting.

Teresa Hartman, UNMC, will present “Go Local Nebraska & CHIRS” - your library’s source of health information.

William Kloefkorn is Nebraska’s state poet and emeritus professor of English at Nebraska Wesleyan University. He is the author of many volumes of poetry and a memoir, *This Death by Drowning* (Nebraska 2001) as well as One Book One Nebraska 2008 *Restoring the Burnt Child*.

***Sponsored by the NE Humanities Council***

Lunch catered by : Chef Oren Kariri  
Central Community College, Hastings

The Hastings Museum is located at  
1330 North Burlington Avenue  
(N/S Highway 281)  
Hastings, NE

**Registrations due: Friday May 30, 2008**



**Registration Form**  
**RVLS and Meridian Library Systems**  
**2008 Annual Meeting—June 6, 2008**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please send this registration form and **\$15 per person** to:

**Republican Valley Library System**  
**2727 West 2nd Street Suite #233**  
**Hastings, NE 68901**

**3 CE Credits**

## Ellison On the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

April 1, 2008: Superior Public Library—Vicki Perrie

May 1, 2008: Beaver City Public Library—Betty Oliver

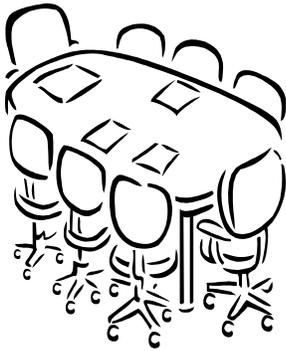
June 1, 2008: Hastings Memorial Library (Grant)—Robin Quinn

July 1, 2008: Fairfield Public Library—Melissa Whitefoot

August 15, 2008: Red Cloud Public School

September 15, 2008: Central Community College—Hastings

Also check out the RVLS' newest Audiobooks (page 6), and Book Kits (pages 12 & 13), as well as equipment that you can borrow for your Library needs.



## 2008-2009 RVLS Board Meetings

**Friday, June 6, 2008—Board & Annual Meeting**  
Hastings Museum, 1330 N. Burlington Ave., Hastings, NE

**Friday, September 12, 2008—Hastings Middle School**

**Friday, November 7, 2008—North Platte Public Library**

**Friday, January 9, 2009—Superior Public Library**

**Friday, March 6, 2009—Butler Memorial Library, Cambridge**

*All meetings begin at 10 am.*

*Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!*

President -Judy Grandstaff

Vice-President -Patty Hall

Secretary -Suzann Christensen

Members: Tony Anderson

Pat Bonge Laura Cundiff

Sonja Burpo Norma Dannatt

Nancy Cantin Terri Johnson

Vicki Casper Vicki Perrie.



# It's Your Move

Don't forget to have your students vote for the Golden Sower books before April 15. To vote on-line or print off your ballots go to <http://goldensower.org/nugget/voting/vote.htm> Rules for voting are also at this site. Golden Sower is such a great project. Be sure to have your kids participate.

In honor of Beverly Cleary's birthday, celebrate the National Drop Everything and Read Day on April 12. visit [www.dropeverythingandread.com](http://www.dropeverythingandread.com) for reading lists, downloadable activities, a video interview with Beverly Cleary, and other D.E.A.R. resources. Or to get a D.E.A.R. kit, sign up at [dear@harpercollins.com](mailto:dear@harpercollins.com)

## Folkmanis Puppet Order

RVLS will be placing a Folkmanis puppet order the end of April.

To request a current Folkmanis catalog, call 510-658-7677 or check the Folkmanis website at [www.folkmanis.com](http://www.folkmanis.com).

You may submit orders to RVLS until April 30th, 2008.

Please order as soon as possible.



## Picturing America

Applications are now being accepted for Picturing America (SM), a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association. Applications may be submitted online at <http://picturingamerica.ala.org> through April 15, 2008.

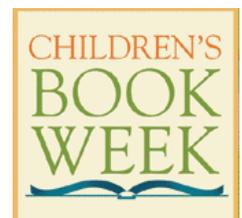
In order to enhance the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture, **Picturing America** brings some of the nation's greatest works of art into school classrooms and public libraries. Successful applicants will receive a set of forty high-quality reproductions of American masterpieces, a teachers resource book and additional educational resources available at <http://picturingamerica.neh.gov/>. Public, private, parochial, and charter schools and home school consortia (K-12), as well as public library systems and school districts, are invited to apply. Awards will be announced in May 2008 and distributed in September 2008 for display during the 2008-2009 school year and beyond.

For more information about Picturing America, including a list of the artwork featured, grant guidelines, and the online application, visit <http://picturingamerica.neh.gov/>.

Just in time for "spring training," **Perkins Library** at Hastings College is proud to announce its "Check Out Your Library Staff" display that includes their own version of baseball trading cards, cleverly disguised as bookmarks.

Among other fun facts, their bookmarks reveal which librarian is a grandmother of triplets; which student assistant is capable of walking with her feet backwards and fitting her fist in her mouth; and which student assistant would eat your lunch at Canasta and Yahtzee. Perkins Library has been "springing" into action in other ways, as well: Perkins Library staff is now available to its patrons via IM (Instant Messenger); is entering a For Dummies display contest; and is holding a YouTube video contest in celebration of National Library Week 2008. Go to <http://www.youtube.com/user/HCPerkinsLibrary> to view the announcement video and details. Entries will be posted by April 10, so bookmark the site and view them all!

**Children's Book Week** is now held in May. This year it is May 12-18, 2008. there are many activities



to accompany the week. Go on-line and find bookmarks to download and print and other materials. <http://bookweekonline.com/index1.html>. To receive a free poster: <http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbweek/poster.html>





# We are Looking for RVLS Board Members

Would you like to be a member of the Republican Valley Library System Board, or do you know someone in your community who has interest in libraries and would like to be a member of the RVLS Board? We meet 5 times a year for approximately 2 hours at different sites around RVLS. A term is three years, and you could serve for two terms. We pay mileage for your travels, and we always have coffee and rolls. If you or someone you know, who lives within RVLS would like to be on our ballot, please submit your nominations by May 1, 2008 to:

Board President, Judy Grandstaff at Blue Hill Public Library, P O Box 278, Blue Hill, NE 68930, Phone 402.756.2701 — e-mail: [bhpublibr@gtmc.net](mailto:bhpublibr@gtmc.net) or

RVLS Administrator, Sherry Houston at the System Office, 2727 W. 2nd Street, Suite 233, Hastings, NE 68901, Phone 402.462.1975 — e-mail [rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com)

The elections will be held at the annual meeting scheduled for June 6, 2008.

I AM SUBMITTING THE FOLLOWING NAME IN NOMINATION FOR A POSITION ON THE REPUBLICAN VALLEY LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD (YOU MAY NOMINATE YOURSELF):

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_ (HOME)

LIBRARY AFFILIATION (TRUSTEE, PATRON, LIBRARY EMPLOYEE)

\_\_\_\_\_

CONTRIBUTIONS THAT CAN BE MADE TO THE BOARD BY THIS NOMINEE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PERSON MAKING NOMINATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_ (HOME)

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I HAVE CONTACTED THIS PERSON, AND HE/SHE IS WILLING TO SERVE ON THE RVLS BOARD.

## Customers Benefit From NebrasKard Reciprocal Borrowing

In July 2001, the Library Commission initiated the voluntary NebrasKard reciprocal borrowing arrangement for Nebraska libraries, through which participating public and academic libraries can permit registered borrowers in good standing to borrow materials from other participating libraries across the state. Nebraska libraries have a long history of sharing resources for mutual benefit and to meet the needs and interests of their users. The NebrasKard program is an extension of those cooperative resource-sharing efforts.

NebrasKard is designed to benefit library customers who need the convenience of borrowing materials from libraries outside their home communities. Libraries report that many of these individuals either do not have library service in their own community, or that they work, shop, or attend school outside their home community. In 2007, Nebraska libraries reported 956 cards issued—either small keychain cards or stickers for the customers' home library cards. Circulation ranged from one library reporting yearly circulation of more than 4,500 items to another reporting only six items circulated.

For more information about the NebrasKard program, including the policies and procedures, frequently asked questions, and a list of participating libraries, see the Library Commission home page, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us), and search on NebrasKard. Contact Maria Medrano-Nehls, 402-471-4008 or 800-307-2665; e-mail: [mnehls@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:mnehls@nlc.state.ne.us) to order key chain tags, stickers, and bookmarks.



## Hastings Public Library Volunteer Recognized at Library Legislative Day

**Rogene Aulner** from Hastings, NE was recognized at Library Legislative Day, Feb. 12, 2008 for her volunteer service to a Nebraska Library. Rogene has logged more than **5,000 hours** of work in her **16 years** of volunteering at Hastings Public Library.

Republican Valley Library System salutes Rogene and thanks her for making libraries special in her community.

Attending Library Legislative Day, to celebrate with Rogene were: (Back row L-R) Linda Rea, Director, Hastings Public Library, Pam Bohmfalk, Hastings Public Library, Kenny Aulner, Karen Butler, Willa Felzien and (Front Row L-R) Fi Cogley, Hastings Public Library and Honoree Rogene Aulner.



**NLA Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS) &  
School, Children's and Young People's Section (SCYP)  
2008 Spring Meetings**

The 2008 Spring Meetings are being brought to you by the Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS) & the School, Children's and Young People's Section (SCYP) of the Nebraska Library Association. Our host libraries this year are Sidney Public Library, Grand Island Public Library and Sump Memorial Library in Papillion.

**Please join us May 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Memberclicks:** Learn how to utilize this wonderful tool that the Nebraska Library Association has purchased for our use. Keep in touch with colleagues throughout the state, publicize events at your library and search for other NLA members with similar interests and connections. Scott Childers, NLA webmaster extraordinaire, will teach us this new tool of the trade.

**ROI – Return on Investment:** What is your library worth to your community? Do you know how to calculate the dollars and cents (and sense!) value of your library? Spread the word to your customers, board members, elected officials and grant providers about the incredible investment your library offers the community. John Felton and Kit Keller from the Nebraska Library Commission will show you how.

**Tweens & Teens – What Makes them Tick:** And it's not ALL due to hormones! Join Jodene Glaesemann and Julee Hector from Lincoln City Libraries along with some of your local experts on an exploration of this particular set of library users. Tweens and Teens are the future of libraries. You'll find a way to love 'em (or at least understand them) and offer them what they need during this session.

**Please make copies as necessary and send your registration to:**

Richard Miller  
Nebraska Library Commission  
The Atrium  
1200 N St., Suite 120  
Lincoln NE 68508-2023

**Questions?- contact Richard Miller at [rmiller@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:rmiller@nlc.state.ne.us) or (800) 307-2665.**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 30, 2008 \***

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ LIBRARY \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the day that you will be coming:

- \_\_\_ **Tues. May 6** Sidney Public Library 1112 12th Avenue, Sidney, NE
- \_\_\_ **Thurs. May 8** Grand Island Public Library 211 North Washington Street, Grand Island, NE
- \_\_\_ **Fri. May 9** Sump Memorial Library, 222 North Jefferson, Papillion, NE

**Registration Fee:** \$15 payable to NLA Public Library and Trustee Section Morning snack and lunch provided with your registration.

**\*Paid in Full registrations received by April 15 will be eligible to win a Car-Vac! What a great way to do some Spring Cleaning to you car!!**

## Book Kits Available

**RVLS has the following Book Sets available for check-out.**

- *City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau (20 paperbacks and one unabridged audiobook)

Recommended for grades 5-7. Ember, a 241-year-old, ruined domed city surrounded by a dark unknown, was built to ensure that humans would continue to exist on Earth, and the instructions for getting out have been lost and forgotten. On Assignment Day, 12-year-olds leave school and receive their lifetime job assignments. Lina Mayfleet becomes a messenger, and her friend Doon Harrow ends up in the Pipe works beneath the city, where the failing electric generator has been ineffectually patched together. Both Lina and Doon are convinced that their survival means finding a way out of the city, and after Lina discovers pieces of the instructions, she and Doon work together to interpret the fragmented document. Life in this postholocaust city is well limned--the frequent blackouts, the food shortage, the public panic, the search for answers, and the actions of the powerful, who are taking selfish advantage of the situation. Readers will relate to Lina and Doon's resourcefulness and courage in the face of ominous odds

**Awards too numerous to list.**

- *Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson (20 paperbacks and one unabridged audiobook)



In this engaging historical novel set in 1918, 16-year-old orphan Hattie Brooks leaves Iowa and travels to a Montana homestead inherited from her uncle. In the beautiful but harsh setting, she has less than a year to fence and cultivate the land in order to keep it.

Neighbors who welcome Hattie help heal the hurt she has suffered from years of feeling unwanted. Chapters open with short articles that Hattie writes for an Iowa newspaper or her lively letters to a friend and possible beau who is in the military in France. The authentic first-person narrative, full of hope and anxiety, effectively portrays Hattie's struggles as a

young woman with limited options, a homesteader facing terrible odds, and a loyal citizen confused about the war and the local anti-German bias that endangers her new friends. Larson, whose great-grandmother homesteaded alone in Montana, read dozens of homesteaders' journals and based scenes in the book on real events. Writing in figurative language that draws on nature and domestic detail to infuse her story with the sounds, smells, and sights of the prairie, she creates a richly textured novel full of memorable characters.

**Nominated for a Newbery Medal 2007, won Montana Book Award 2006 and ALA Notable Books 2007.**

- *Regifters* by Mike Carey (20 paperbacks)

**Starred Review\*** Well-developed characters, plot, and setting make this graphic novel a standout for both dedicated comics readers and those less eager to explore titles in the format. Korean American teenager Dixie and her best friend, Avril, practice hapkido, a martial art. There is a big hapkido tournament coming up in their South Central Los Angeles neighborhood, but Dixie, who has a fiery disposition, loses her focus when she develops a crush on another teen hapkido artist, Adam. She spends her contest entry fee on



an exorbitant gift for him and then realizes that he has no romantic interest in her. When Dixie attempts to win a free spot in the tournament at a neighborhood (library-centered!) competition, the other contestants, who are rougher street kids, disparage her efforts. Plot twists, which are both credible and nicely paced, include a falling out between Dixie and Avril, an accident that provides Dixie with an entry ticket to the big event, vengeance on Adam, and a new flame for Dixie. The black-and-white art work is bouncy and pops with expressive faces, postures, and martial arts moves. This story works visually and as a sound narrative where action, romance, and introspection combine in an enjoyable and realistically multiethnic whole.

- *Eagle Blue: A Team, a Tribe, and a High School Basketball Season in Arctic Alaska* by Michael D'Orso (20 paperbacks)



Everything in Alaska's bush is tough, from earning a living to surviving the elements. One thing that helps citizens in the isolated, mostly Native American bush communities cope with the long winters is high-school basketball. Fort Yukon High School had 32 students enrolled in 2004, and of those, 14 boys and 7 girls were on the respective basketball teams. The boys program is one of the most successful in the state: the preceding eight seasons, they won regional titles and most recently advanced to the finals before losing. With the OK of school officials and the players, D'Orso imbedded himself with the team for the 2004-05 season. He lived in a small Fort Yukon cabin, attended all the practices and games, and tried to learn as much as possible about the culture of the town in which the players live. The result is a thoroughly fascinating mix of sports and cultural anthropology. The basketball narrative is fascinating as D'Orso examines the team dynamic, a la John Feinstein, but the real beauty of the book emerges in the contextual portrait of life in a small bush town where the traditions of hunting, trapping, and fishing are slowly eroded by the culture of snowmobiles, video games, and television. An inspiring, sometimes disturbing portrait of a culture in crisis.

**Alex Award 2007. Publisher's Weekly Starred Review**

- *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie* by David Lubar (20 paperbacks and one unabridged audiobook)

Gr. 8-11. Scott Hudson chronicles the ups and downs of his eventful freshman year in high school, as he joins the newspaper, works as a stage manager for the spring play, learns a lot from his outstanding English teacher, tries to help a student who attempts suicide, is beaten up because of a girl, and goes to the spring dance. Along the way, he discovers that his mother is pregnant, and he writes a series of insightful letters to his soon-to-be sibling. By the end, Scott has outgrown his freshman insecurities, realizing that he has carved a place for himself in the high-school world. The story delivers too many messages as Scott learns one important lesson after another. Still, most readers will find plenty of amusing, accurate observations about freshman life, from the insecurities of first dates to the dangers of walking the hall between classes.

**Numerous Awards**

\*\* Other book kits we have available are: ***One False Move, Crazy Horse, Restoring the Burnt Child, and Rescue Josh McGuire.***

*The Nebraska Library Systems received a Youth Services grant from the Nebraska Library Commission to purchase more book sets for check-out so watch for new sets on this list. We will be adding at least 10 new titles very soon. If you have any recommendations, e-mail us with the titles. The books have to be for Kids in Grades 4-12 so we can't get adult books this time!*





Serving Counties:

Adams  
Chase  
Clay  
Dundy  
Franklin  
Frontier  
Furnas  
Gosper  
Harlan  
Hayes  
Hitchcock  
Kearney  
Lincoln  
Logan  
McPherson  
Nuckolls  
Perkins  
Phelps  
Red Willow  
Webster

**“With every deed you  
are sowing a seed,  
though the harvest you  
may not see.”**  
Ella Wheeler Wilcox

**Republican Valley Library System  
2727 West 2nd Street St. # 233  
Hastings, NE 68901-4684**

**Non-Profit Organization  
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