



Republican Valley Library System

# VALLEYTALK

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republican

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## RVLS Administrator Now on Board!

Hello from the RVLS office! I am Sherry Houston, the new RVLS Administrator. I have been working with Susan Franklin in the RVLS office for a few weeks, but will formally become the Administrator on June 1<sup>st</sup>. I have been the Library/Media Specialist for Sutton Public Schools for many years, but decided to change the direction of my career this year. I am just

delighted to have this job and I can't wait to work with all of you and to get to know the RVLS members.



I have been involved with libraries almost all my life. I started as a library aide in St. Paul, NE when I was in high school. At that time, St. Paul had a small public library and the board treasurer was also the mortician, so I would have to go to the mortuary to collect my checks. It was always a traumatic experience if the mortuary was "in use" as they did not have an outer lobby. During college, I worked at the library at Nebraska

Wesleyan as a student assistant. I also spent a summer at the library at UNL. I think I was lost in the stacks most of the time. Af-

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1) *RVLS Administrator Now on Board!*

ter a move to Rapid City, South Dakota, I worked for the college library at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. I was a cataloging assistant and I spent my time typing and filing and typing and filing and typing and filing. Stints at Clay Center Public Schools, Marquette Public Schools and Sutton cover the rest of my library experience.

My husband Barry and I live near Harvard, NE. We have three daughters. Amy will soon be living in Bellevue, NE where she will be the guidance counselor for Bellevue Public Schools. She and her husband Steve Molnar have two children, Alex and Chloe. Sarah lives in Arvada, CO. She is a deaf educator for Adams 12 District. She and her husband Craig Wiberg have a daughter, Fiona. Our youngest daughter, Meghan, is getting married June 4<sup>th</sup> to Tim Malik in Omaha. Meghan works for Lutheran Family Services in Omaha.

Besides three grandchildren, the other passions of my life are reading and weaving. Weaving is one of those hobbies that is always a work in progress. I just finished reading *Angry Housewives Eating BonBons* by Landvik and *Secret Life of Bees* by Kidd. Both books are on my recommended list.

Please contact me at [rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com) or Susan at [rvlsasst@tcgcs.com](mailto:rvlsasst@tcgcs.com) or call the System office at 800-569-4961 to speak to either of us. I hope to meet many of you this summer and fall!




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The schedule for 05-06 fiscal year RVLS Board Meetings will be publicized in the August 2005 **VALLEYTALK.**



# RVLS NEWS

**Clay Center Public Library** held a Grand Reopening of the Children's Library on May 27.

The Children's section had recently been renovated, including the addition of fantastic murals painted by local artist Bill Hess and the transformation of the fire escape into a medieval castle.

In addition to Hess, the labors and talents of many community members including Todd Bowman, the Clay Center High School Shop Class, Cliff Gal-

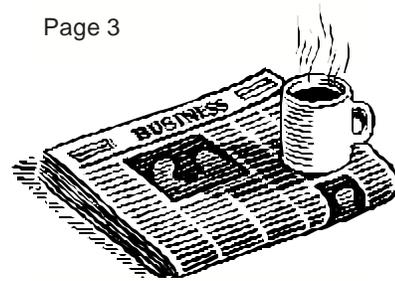


lant, John Green, Laura Cundiff were proudly on display. New carpet was given by Jacobi's in Hastings. Royalty showed up for the Reopening—Prince Terry and Princess Becky welcomed

visitors as they arrived to the event. A time fit for kings and queens was had by all!

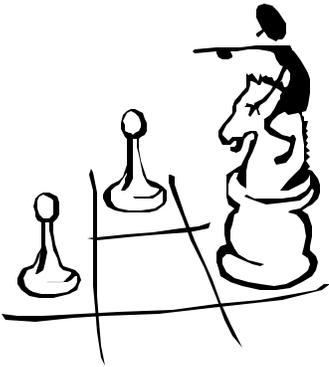
Please pass along "reports" of your summer reading programs to <[rvlsasst@tcgcs.com](mailto:rvlsasst@tcgcs.com)>.

We'd love to hear what you're doing and *how* you're doing and what the kids did!



Send us news of your latest programs, projects, and accomplishments at [rvlsasst@tcgcs.com](mailto:rvlsasst@tcgcs.com) or call 800-569-4961.





## Golden Sower Winners

The Golden Sower winners for 2004-5 are:

### **K-3 Winner - Togo**

#### **Honor books -**

*Clarence the Copy Cat;*

*Dear Mrs. LaRue;*

*Letters from Obedience*

*School*

### **Grades 4-6 Winner -**

*Loser*

#### **Honor books - The**

*Ghost Sitter;*

*The Summer of Riley*

### **Young Adult Winner**

*- Mississippi Trial,*

*1955*

#### **Honor books -**

*Ashes of Roses;*

*Things Not Seen*



## It's Your Move

If you have not yet obtained tickets to the Omaha Royals baseball game (Sat., August 14) as part of the summer reading program

incentive, please contact the System office at 800-569-4961 or [rvtlsasst@tcgcs.com](mailto:rvtlsasst@tcgcs.com).



## Celebrate the Fourth with Statistics in Tow

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, break out of your normal routine, whatever that may be, by using impressive statistics to amaze and entertain your co-celebrators. Whether you are at a Bar-B-Que, watching the fireworks, tubing down a river, or marching in a parade, you'll amaze and astound those around you if you share some statistics and facts from the U.S. Census Bureau's Facts for Features:

### **The Fourth of July Cookout**

#### **150 million**

Number of hot dogs (all varieties) expected to be consumed by Americans on the Fourth. (That's one frankfurter for every two people.) There's about a 1-in-4 chance that the hot dogs made of pork originated in Iowa, as the Hawkeye State had a total inventory of 16.2 million hogs and pigs on March 1, 2005. This represents more than one-fourth of the nation's total. (Data on hot dog consumption courtesy of the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council.)

#### **7.3 billion pounds**

Total production of cattle and calves in Texas in 2004.

Chances are that the beef hot dogs, steaks and burgers on your backyard grill came from the Lone Star State, which accounted for over one-sixth of the nation's total production.

#### **6**

Number of states in which the revenue from chicken broilers was \$1 billion or greater in 2004. There is a good chance that one of these states — Georgia, Arkansas, Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi or Texas — is the source of your barbecued chicken.

#### **Better than 50-50**

The odds that the beans in your side dish of baked beans came from North Dakota, Michigan or **Nebraska**, which produced 58 percent of the nation's dry, edible beans in 2004.

#### **One-half**

Amount of the nation's spuds produced in Idaho or Washington in 2004.

Potato salad and potato chips are also popular food items at July 4th barbecues.

[www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts\\_for\\_features\\_special\\_editions/004772.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/004772.html)



# On the Bookshelf

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



- ◆ "Library Hot Topics: Discussions and Interviews" College of DuPage Teleconference Video (4/29/05).
- ◆ "All These Teens are Coming into My Library; Now What Do I Do?" Videoconference Video, Nebraska Library Commission (5/25/2005).
- ◆ *My Antonia* Video (Wilshire Court Production, Inc., 1994).
- ◆ "Getting Grants in Your Community" by Sally Gardner Reed & Beth Nawalinski (Friends of Libraries U.S.A., 2005).
- ◆ "Making Our Voices Heard: Citizens Speak Out for Libraries" by Sally Gardner Reed & Beth Nawalinski (Friends of Libraries U.S.A., 2004).
- ◆ *101+ Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends\*: Marketing, Fundraising, Friends Development, and More!* By Sally Gardner Reed, Beth Nawalinski & Alexander Peterson (Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2004)
- ◆ **NEW (UNABRIDGED) BOOKS ON TAPE TITLES: (in no particular order!)**

*Lone Eagle* by Danielle Steel

*The Last Girls* by Lee Smith

*A Simply Havana Melody* by Oscar Hijuelos

*Taliban* by Ahmed Rashid

*A Very Private Plot* by William F. Buckley, Jr.

*The Family* by Mario Puzo

*The Ballad of Peckham Rye* by Muriel Spark

*Once Upon a Town* by Bob Greene

*The Bonesetter's Daughter* by Amy Tan

*Meeting of Minds* by Steve Allen

*Thirsting for God: The Spiritual Lessons of Mother Theresa*

*Second Spring: A Love Story* by Andrew M. Greeley

*The Wind Done Gone* by Alice Randall

*The Lessons of Terror* by Caleb Carr

*Hughes: The Private Diaries, Memos and Letters: The Definitive Biography of the First*

*American Billionaire* by Richard Hack

*The Defender # 5: Entrapment* by Jerry Ahern

*Right Man: The Surprise Presidency of George W. Bush* by David Frum

If you would like to borrow these items, please contact the System office at 800-569-4961 or <rvlsasst@tcgcs.com>. If you would like to see list of all available items, go to <www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/professional.html>.





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### Mad Hatter Award Nominations Sought

For the youth services librarian who serves beyond the call of duty, The School, Childrens, and Young People's (SCYP) Section of the Nebraska Library Association has a special award – The Mad Hatter Youth Service Award. The Mad Hatter is given annually to a librarian who has made outstanding contributions to the field of library service to youth. Nominations can be made by librarians, administrators, principals, or members of the Nebraska Library Association. A special registration form, available on the Mad Hatter website <<http://www.nol.org/home/NLA/SCYP/MadHatter.html>> must accompany the nomination. Nominations are due to Kay Paulsen, Lux Middle School, 7800 High St., Lincoln, NE 58606 by August 1, 2005.

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# RVLS Calendar

## June 2005

13—Bricks & Boards Workshop, Seward, NE. See info at

## July 2005

25-29--Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, St. Benedict Center, Schuyler. See flyer insert.

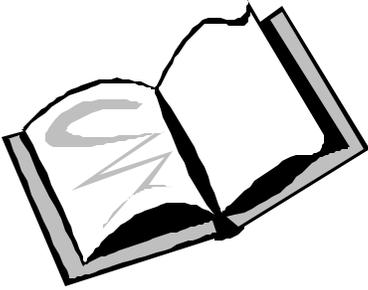
29-30—Nebraska Library Leadership 1 & 2 Refresher/Reunion, St. Benedict Center, Schuyler.

## September 2005—SAVE THE DATES!

28-30—NLA/NEMA Annual Convention, Lincoln,  
<http://www.nla-nema2005.info/>

## October 2005

16-22—Teen Read Week, [www.ala.org/teenstopten](http://www.ala.org/teenstopten)



## Books in My CALM Life

A Book Review by Cathy A. Leininger Mohnike \*

Initially I was drawn in by the cover...a woman walking right into the text of a book. Oh, if only that were possible! In my book-loving life, I've dreamed of that happening. But \$23.95 for a cover I liked. Nope, too much. Then, there it was on the bargain table for \$5.98. It was fate! I snatched it up and so began my affair with Jasper Fforde's, "The Eyre Affair". The premise of the book is inspiring to book-lovers. The year is 1985, but a very different 1985 than we experienced.

In this 1985, books are the most valued items in existence. Book characters and authors are so loved that many people are named after them. In fact so many have the same name that your name is numbered. You might be Emily Bronte312 or Bacon530. If you aren't named after an author or book character you still have an interesting name. Names like Commander Braxton Hicks, or bad guy Jack Schitt or even "badder" guy Acheron Hades. Hades is finding portals into original manuscripts and then changing them. In Fforde's 1985 world if you change the original manuscript every copy of the book changes. Enter our heroine, Thursday Next, who has a connection to Hades and therefore is the one who must save the world from this dastardly villain. Boo! Hiss!

Author Fforde has so many truly original twists and turns in this 1985 world that it makes for fascinating reading. I loved it!

But the best, yes, the very best news I can tell you is that Fforde has three more books in the Thursday Next series; "Lost In a Good Book", "The World of Lost Plots", and "Something Rotten". Right now I'm reading "Lost in a Good Book". Great title since the story line involves Thursday's new husband being eradicated by the chronoguard. Eradication means he never existed. This makes for an interesting conundrum for Thursday since she is pregnant by her husband who never existed. The chronoguard will bring him back **if** she will retrieve someone (I'm not telling you who) that has been imprisoned in a book. Thursday finds out she can be trained in Jurisdiction. Jurisdiction trains a select few to travel in and out of books. Thursday is fortunate to be the trainee of Miss Havisham. Yes, that Miss Havisham.

Oh, anyway, just take my word for it. If you love fun books, you'll love the whole idea behind this foursome. And just think-4 books! You can savor them for a good part of the summer. So get your ice tea, find a porch swing, and get "Lost in a Good Book".

*\* Cathy Mohnike is a Title I Reading teacher at Sutton Public Schools and a member of the Sutton Public Library Board. She said "I have always wanted to write a column about books for a newspaper" so Sherry encouraged her to write a column for the RVLS newsletter. If you are interested in writing occasional book reviews or columns, please contact us at <rvlsadmin@inebraska> or <rvlsasst@tcgcs.com>.*



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The Holdrege library has added a number of cake pans to its collection. You may view the list of cake pans by visiting their online

catalog at [www.holdregelibrary.org](http://www.holdregelibrary.org) and clicking on catalog. In the search field enter cake pan and click on title for the search. This will bring up a complete list of the cake pans that are available. If you wish to have a list sent



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