



Republican Valley Library System

VALLEYTALK

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Featured Library:

North Platte Public Library

Twelve years ago, when Cecelia Lawrence and I graduated from Emporia State University with our MLS's clutched in our palms, I would have never imagined we would be meeting at North Platte Public Library, with Cecelia as the director and me doing the interview. Cecelia was the Nebraska Library Commission person bound for academia and I was the school person bound for who knows what....a stint in Europe would have been my thoughts then. But here we were, older and more realistic perhaps. So we met and we talked about North Platte and North Platte Public Library.



North Platte is a railroad town which makes it a community that operates 24/7 as people work all hours of the day and night, and the North Platte Public Library has to respond

to those needs which they have done by updating their website and using technology to create a library available to all users all the time. The library is one block from the railroad, located at the center of three highways and a few miles from the interstate. Library usage is up. The numbers were at an all time high last year showing a 16 to 18 percent increase from the previous year. Technology and young adult services have increased the numbers significantly. Plans are fermenting for a new library or a major remodel. A library foundation was established three years ago and the foundation is holding three or four fund raisers a year. Since a new facility

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Free, Printable Posters for Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales

Raintree Library is offering libraries two free color posters in downloadable PDF format. Go to <<http://www.raintreelibrary.com/resources/posters.asp>>. Raintree also has hundreds of books to support the theme, if you're looking for theme-related materials.

Thanks to Northeast Library System's May 2006 *StraightTalk* for bringing this resource to our attention!



August's newsletter will list the schedule of 2006-2007 RVLS Board Meetings

We encourage attendance! All board meetings begin at 10 a.m.



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Featured Library: North Platte Public Library

would be almost 15 million dollars, it could be several years before anything is done. At present, Cecelia and her staff are trying to increase circulation to increase space in the library, because if the materials are not sitting on the shelf, there is more space for other materials. North Platte Public Library has a budget for 2006 of \$1,000,068.00. With a circulation of 224,000 items last year, the budget was just barely adequate as Cecelia has had to cut the book budget to fund technology increases and staff hours.

Cecelia likes to be proactive in the community by participating in community theater as well as the symphony. She plays the cello in a string quartet and they play at weddings and other community events.

Cecelia really didn't want to talk to me about her civic responsibilities, or the library usage and budgeting, or our old classmates: she wanted to talk to me about her number one concern and her number one challenge. This is the problem that all libraries are facing and the solution



is not clear. It is the problem with the homeless, the transients in America. Libraries have always been the place for the "have-nots" of the world, and libraries want to remain a welcoming place for everyone, but when some person is mentally ill and not being treated

or when they haven't bathed for weeks, it affects staff and patrons. Cecelia said the last two years have been extremely hard for North Platte Public Library staff as they have seen an increase in the homeless population perhaps due to the lack of jobs for non-skilled workers, restructuring of the mental institutions in Nebraska or drug problems. So Cecelia



worries. She worries about exposing children to people who are possibly mentally unstable, she worries about her staff, she worries about merchandising the library and creating a comfortable living space and having it taken over by the transient population, and she worries about treating these unfortunate

persons in our society with dignity and fairness. And she has no answers....and neither do I.



RVLS NEWS

Leila Koetter, McCook City Library, received \$2500.00 from the Nebraska Library Commission for classes to be a media specialist. **Deb Covey, Maywood Public Schools**, received \$1000.00, also from NLC, to take LTA classes. Congratulations to both!

Congratulations to **Palisade Public Library** and **Superior JR/SR High School**, both of which were among the 2,000 libraries (approximately 30 of them in Nebraska!) that received *We the People Bookshelf*

Windmills across Nebraska

Windmills symbolize energy, hope and strength. The Center for Rural Affairs in Nebraska is encouraging organizations in Nebraska to promote windmills as a way to focus on the rural issue in Nebraska and perhaps to increase tourism. They hope to see an art project across the state which features windmills. If you have any future displays, open houses or just want a fun theme, consider windmills. For more information, contact Kathie Starkweather, kathies@cfra.org, 402 687 2103.

Here is what the project is about:

The Windmill Project

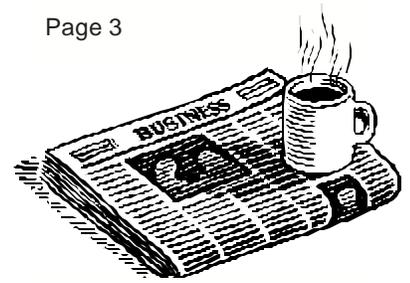
The Center for Rural Affairs is starting on an adventure and is inviting everyone across the state to come along! The Women's Project for Rural America is the vehicle – a targeted effort to engage women in revitalizing rural America. Rural communities are the seedbed of entrepreneurship and innovation, and we want to honor that.

We are kicking off this exciting idea in Nebraska with a state-wide public arts project: The Windmill Project. Windmills have long been a symbol of life. There is a natural connection to them and pioneer women that also ties into the role of modern rural women in revitalization. Public arts would take many different forms from sculptures to quilts, poetry, stories, photographs, paintings. Youth would be invited to participate with their own projects that would be incorporated into the school curriculum in art, science, history and English. The library system throughout Nebraska will be called upon to play a vital, pivotal role in this venture.



grants. The grant, the purpose of which is to “encourage young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history,” is a collaboration between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association. To see a selection of the titles received or for a complete list of libraries that received this grant, go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/currentprograms/wethepeople/wepeople.htm>.

C.B. Preston Memorial Library recently got DSL! The library's new email address is **olibry@frontiernet.net**.



Send us news of your latest programs, projects, and accomplishments at rvlsasst@tcgcs.com or call 800-569-4961.

Pam Soreide, Director of Holdrege Public Library System, is one of the recipients of a Gates grant to attend ALA in New Orleans, June 22-28, 2006. Congrats and have fun in the Big Easy!

Claudette Wielechowski will be the new media specialist at Adams Middle School in North Platte beginning with the 06-07 school year; her email address will be cwielechowski@nppsd.org. **Kathy Brochtrup**, currently the media specialist, is retiring at the end of the year. Best wishes for a relaxing retirement, Kathy, and welcome, Claudette!

Marcia Wortman, Director of Klyte Burt Memorial Library (Curtis), borrowed the **Kava Kit** and had eight patrons read the One

(Continued on page 12)



Golden Sower 2006 Winners

The Golden Sower Award Committee is pleased to announce the 2006 winners!

K-3:

Substitute Teacher Plans by Doug Johnson, illustrated by Tammy Smith

Honor:

Diary of a Worm Souperchicken

4-6:

Escaping the Giant Wave by Peg Kehret

Honor:

The City of Ember Runt

YA:

High Heat by Carl Deuker

Honor:

Full Tilt Hawksong East

(Due to a tie in the voting, there are 3 honor books instead of 2 in the YA division. The tie was NOT for 1st place.)



It's Your Move

RVLS owns a copy of the multilingual DVD **Following the Clues: A Visit to the Doctor and the Library**. This short movie “aimed at young children...shows the steps involved in making a doctor’s appointment, checking in at the receptionist’s desk, and undergoing a physical exam. The movie also shows a child and her family requesting health information at their

local library.”

The DVD also contains marketing ideas, cataloging information, and information on how to order additional copies.

For more information, go to <<http://www.unmc.edu/library/clues/>>. Links to free online versions of the movie are also available at the website. **To borrow RVLS’s DVD, contact the system office.**



Aurora Ministries provides **Audio Bibles free** to the visually impaired and physically handicapped. Requests must be accompanied by certification of impairment. A librarian, healthcare professional, or a recognized organization for the blind and physically handicapped may certify for them. For more information, go to <www.auroraministries.org>.

If you are planning any kind of **movie time** this summer in your library, you can get **free materials** at this site.

www.movlic.com The id number is #193195-1. The Nebraska Library Commission purchases a public performance site license for library usage. Happy viewing!

At <http://www.google.com/librariancenter/librarian_tools.html> you can download a **Google Tips and Tricks poster** to help your patrons search more efficiently.

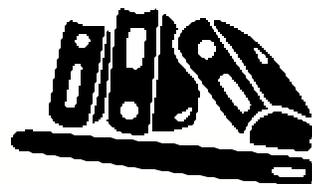


Bulk Loan of Large Print Books

Would you like a nice selection of large print books to loan to your library users? McCook Public Library and Hastings Public Library route large print books to libraries approximately four times a year. A library will receive a maximum of 200 books during the year. Postage is free. The cost to you will be \$50.00. If you are interested, you will need to sign a bulk loan contract available from the Republican Valley Library System office. It is a very nice way to expand your library collection at minimal cost to your library. Please call or e-mail as soon as possible, as payment is due before June 30 if you wish to participate.



On the Bookshelf



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

- ◆ *Disaster Planning: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians with Planning Templates on CD-ROM* by Deborah D. Halsted, Richard P. Jasper, and Felicia M. Little (2005).
- ◆ *Following the Clues: A Visit to the Doctor and the Library* DVD Narrated in English, Spanish, and Sudanese-Nuer by McGoogan Library of Medicine and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.
- ◆ "Google Print: Its Impact on Scholarship and Libraries" College of DuPage Teleconference Videotape (4/28/2006)
- ◆ "Serving Immigrant Populations: A Library Prototype for Diversity" College of DuPage Teleconference Videotape (4/7/2006)

Books on CD

- ◆ *Are Men Necessary? When Sexes Collide* by Maureen Dowd
- ◆ *Bait and Switch* by Barbara Ehrenreich
- ◆ *Blue Shoes and Happiness* by Alexander McCall Smith
- ◆ *Dark Tort* by Diane Mott Davidson
- ◆ *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
- ◆ *The House* by Danielle Steel
- ◆ *The Lighthouse* by P.D. James
- ◆ *Romeo & Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- ◆ *The Tenth Circle* by Jodi Picoult
- ◆ *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion

Magazine

Computers in Libraries

"Complete coverage of library information technology. Focusing on the practical application of technology in community, school, academic, and special libraries, *CIL* includes discussions of the impact of emerging computer technologies on library systems and services, and on the library community itself."

If you would like to borrow these items or be placed on the magazine's routing list, please contact the System office at 800-569-4961 or <rplsasst@tcgcs.com>. If you would like to see list of all available items (including magazines routed), go to <www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican/professional.html>.





Future happenings

August 25th Computer/Digital Camera Workshop, Hastings College. John Seyforth will answer your questions about computer problems and give you other computer information. In the afternoon, there will be a hands-on digital camera workshop. This is sponsored by RVLS and Meridian Library System. See page 11 for flyer.

September 21st Media Specialists' Day at ESU 9 in Hastings.

September 22nd Media Specialists' Day at ESU 11 in Holdrege

These will be open to anyone in the library world, but will be aimed specifically at those who work in schools. Registration forms will be in the next newsletter.

September 25th ESU 15 in McCook. This is the Fall In-service for the ESU 15 schools.

Oct. 25-27 NLA/NEMA Quest Center, Omaha. Plan to attend this convention as the keynote speakers are outstanding. RVLS will be offering scholarships. See the next newsletter for the application.



RVLS Calendar

July 2006

10—Nebraska Library Leadership Reunion, 9am-2pm, Seward Public Library.

17, 18—Digitization Workshops, <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskamemories/digitizationworkshops.html>

29—Norfolk Public Library's 12th Annual Literature Festival

August 2006

1—Deadline for CE & Training Grants (NLC)

25—PC Problems & Digital Clicks, 9:30am-3:30pm, Wilson Center, Hastings College.

September 2006

5—Recipients of CE & Training Grants will be announced

14-16—Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival, <http://www.cune.edu/2005a.asp?durki=2040&site=2&return=15>

21—Media Specialists' Day, ESU 9, Hastings.

22—Media Specialists' Day, ESU 11, Holdrege.

22-23—North Platte Literary Festival

25—Fall Inservice ESU 15 at McCook Public School

October 2006

6-8—Nebraska Center for the Book Festival at Nebraska Wesleyan University

25-27—NLA/NEMA Convention, Omaha Qwest Center.

November 2006

13-20—Children's Book Week, <http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/>

July 2007

9-13—4th Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, Schuyler, NE.



Boston Pops!

By Carol Eshleman, YA Librarian, North Platte Public Library

PLA was held in Boston and everything was "popping" except the Boston Pops who were on hiatus during the time that we were there! Darn!! What a bevy of activity! Tours of Boston were arranged for PLA participants so we were never at a loss for "something" to do. One of the impressive events was a reception at the Boston Public Library. We were treated and entertained royally. At every entrance to the Library, we were greeted by fife and drum players dressed in colonial period costumes. Wonderful food, harmony of tuxedoed serenaders from the balcony of the reading room, a marvelous entertainer (a young Johnny Carson-type performing card tricks), live mimes portraying historic statues, and even a Salsa band was part of the fun. And of course, the beautiful architecture and artwork is in itself awesome to behold! The BPL is a must-see if you make a trip to Boston.

Norm was waiting for me at Cheers! I hadn't seen him for 10 years, but he was waiting for me! I knew he would welcome my return!

At the conference, there were many sessions for Young Adult Librarians so I returned to my library with many new ideas for implementation.

I particularly enjoyed the session hosted by Terry Trueman, Printz Honor Author. Some of his books are **Stuck in Neutral**, **Inside Out**, and **Cruise Control**. I have used some of his short stories from **Tripping Over the Lunch Lady**, and **Sports Shorts, An Anthology of Short Stories** with my Lunch Bunch groups so I can personally attest to his wide-spread appeal with teens.

Another particularly good session was entitled "Guys Read". A panel of 5 authors/illustrators related their reading experiences (or lack of) which led to their careers. Lara Phan, John Scieszka, Erik Kraft, Jarrett Krosoczka, and Tony Diterlizzi all cautioned us about stereotyping "typical" readers – especially males. The overall message was "try to understand that authors come from various backgrounds and write because of varied experiences and for a variety of reasons – usually financial! And "readers" come from various backgrounds and read because of, or in spite of, various experiences and for a variety of reasons. Their concern: Guys are in trouble with reading. 60% of college entrants are girls; 40% are boys. 70% of college graduates are girls; 30% are boys. Boys are not going to colleges in great numbers; however, boys are going to prison! And then they read! To encourage boys to read, we need to find out their interests; usually it is non-fiction, gross, gory, ghostly, and graphic novels. No one genre is more important than any other where reading is concerned. The main point is to get boys to read! Libraries are about stories; not about reading certain categories or genres!

PLA at Boston was a great experience for this YA Librarian! I am excited about using many new ideas with teens.

DATABASE ROADSHOW TOURING THIS SUMMER

The ninth annual Database Roadshow has been scheduled for summer 2006. The five-hour Database Roadshow will provide Nebraska librarians and media specialists with an overview of the state-funded databases available through NebraskAccess and will also include a tour of the Librarian's Toolbox, which contains promotional and training material about NebraskAccess. As in past years, the Roadshow will be divided into segments, with each focusing on a particular database. During each segment we will discuss and demonstrate a database, and then the class will have hands-on time to practice what they've learned. Please bring any questions you may have and we will help you work through them during the hands-on time.

Dates/locations are as follows: Auburn, July 25; Bassett, August 1; Columbus, July 27; Elkhorn, August 17; Kearney, June 28; Lincoln, August 25; Scottsbluff, June 20; Wayne, August 2 All sessions will run from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. There will be a one hour lunch break at approximately 11:30. Lunch is on your own. For your comfort, you may wish to bring a sweater, or dress in layers, as we are unable to make any adjustments to the temperature of the computer labs.

There is no cost to attend the Database Roadshow. Continuing Education credits of 5 hours can be earned by attending the Roadshow. For more information and to register go to:
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/roadshow.html>

From Blizzard to Boston

By Terri Johnson, North Platte Public Library, 2006 PLA Scholarship Recipient

Don't you love it when you make the right decision? Shortly before booking my flight to Boston to attend the Public Library Association conference, I decided to fly out one day early so I could get acquainted with the city before the conference action began. While snow continued to blanket our entire state, my Monday morning Omaha flight was only slightly delayed, fresh-baked chocolate chip cookies were served on the plane, and I arrived in Boston early evening. (I had driven the 300 miles to Omaha ahead of the storm on Saturday and my college son graciously yielded his bed to me for two nights.) I know that others from Nebraska weren't so lucky, including my roommate who arrived 30 hours past her scheduled arrival.

Since the weather was chilly and windy, a few of us chose to explore Boston using the Old Town Trolley Tour. This fully narrated tour was less expensive than the tour the conference offered and allowed you to get off and on at different stops to explore on foot, picking up later trolleys to continue on the tour. I strongly recommend following the Freedom trail and visiting the Old State House, where the people of Boston first heard the Declaration of Independence on July 18, 1776. Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey and related gift items were all around Boston in gift shops and store windows and we finished our stroll through Boston walking through the Public Garden with its bronze sculptures of the duck family. It seems only appropriate that the city with the oldest public library would identify itself so strongly with a book.

Wednesday, with optional pre-conferences over, the full PLA conference kicked off. I enjoyed Linda Ellerbee, the keynote speaker, who gave a sometimes humorous, sometimes serious talk on the "5 Ways of Surviving a Changing World." My favorite quotes from her are: "Face a new challenge with a new solution."; "Stop taking the joy out of today by worrying about tomorrow."; "To risk change is to be hopeful. "; and finally, "In this world a good time to laugh is anytime you can."

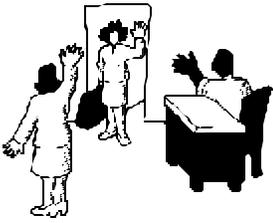
Following this, the exhibit area opened with a reception. What an overwhelming experience for a first-timer like me! Over 800 exhibitors and thousands of attendees filled the exhibition hall. Booths with free books and other items were the busiest. I learned later to be very selective where I stopped if I ever hoped to come close to seeing most of the booths. Hors d'oeuvres of an amazing variety were available for sampling, all well labeled as to what they were-was that because we librarians are very word oriented? I admit, being a "foodie," I appreciated it. I joined a table of other librarians and found that by chance we covered the central states: Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Exchanging information with vendors was made easier by a conference-provided card that was encoded with each attendee's contact information. Unfortunately, not all of the vendors opted to utilize the scanners so having business cards would have eliminated lots of hand writing. So make note of that, future conference attendees! During the rest of the conference, I had to utilize the 45-minute breaks between sessions to visit the exhibition hall.

The conference offered 4 time blocks for programs on Thursday and Friday and 2 on Saturday morning. My return flight connections didn't work for me to attend the Saturday sessions so I made the most of the two other days. Programs were divided into 7 different tracks and I stayed primarily in "Serving Adults" since our library had other people going to some of the other tracks.

My first session, "10 Steps to a Culturally Responsive Library" laid out a clear plan to help a library sustain the changes made to serve our increasingly diverse communities. As we went through the steps, I felt the same process could apply to any change made within our institution. The presenter emphasized diversity training for all staff, community involvement, holding everyone accountable, and long term commitment. Most importantly, library management must "Walk the Talk." A starting step in being culturally responsive can be as simple as a welcome sign in another language. The main thing is developing relationships, using your heart as well as your head.

My second session turned out to be my favorite. Staff from the Williamsburg Regional Library presented "Looking for a Good Book?: Developing an Online Reading Suggestion Service. After several humorous skits showing why the traditional reader advisory interview is often unsuccessful or underused, they introduced their form-based reading suggestion service. This comprehensive form is available online or in paper form for patrons and has proved very

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Adios, Auf Wiedersehen, Arrivederci, Au Revoir, Cheerio, Sayonara, Goodbye and GOOD LUCK!

Pam Scott, Continuing Education Coordinator of the Nebraska Library Commission, has announced that she will be leaving her position June 8th to move to Wyoming. "I've been thinking about this possibility for some time, and now seemed like the time in my life to do this," she notes. Pam has been with the Commission since November 8, 1999, working first with the Talking Book and Braille Service and Library Development part time, then moving into her current position full time in April 2001. Pam previously served as System Administrator for the Panhandle Library System headquartered in Scottsbluff. "We will miss the multitude of talents that Pam employs in her work with programs of the Commission," her supervisor Richard Miller noted. "All of us at the Commission, and the many librarians and board members she has helped during her time here, wish Pam well as she moves west, and we look forward to hearing from her in her future endeavors."

Note: Because of the number and scope of projects and programs which Pam is involved in, she will be working a limited number of hours with the Commission during the transition period. Pam's current activities include, among others: follow up to the Rural Library Sustainability workshops; work on the Gates Foundation Staying Connected grants; revision of the trustee manual; development of an on-line trustee course with the University of North Texas; the various library education scholarships; LTA courses; and Basic Skills courses.



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From Blizzard to Boston*

successful. They emphasized that turn-around time from form completion to reading suggestions can be two to three weeks initially. You can learn more about this service on their website, www.wrl.org, and handouts from their presentation are currently available on ww.pla.org. Neil Hollands, one of the presenters, graciously e-mailed me their skit script and other information so I hope to share this at some future workshop. Having enjoyed this subject area, I geared my remaining sessions to Reader Advisory and sessions with authors of various genres, finishing with a session on writing newspaper columns. My most challenging session was "Reading Maps: Charting Itineraries Through Books." Nancy Pearl was one of the presenters that encouraged creating reading maps, starting with a topic or a specific book, and then expanding to other books or media by looking at key appeal elements such as character and setting. About this time, I was feeling very overwhelmed and wishing I was in the other RA session in the same time slot, offering fun skits on what to do and not to do in a RA interview! Oh well, while web-based readers' maps may not appear on our website because their creation could be very time consuming, they could be a good tool for planning displays or book talks.

I wouldn't do justice to the PLA conference if I didn't mention the Boston Public Library. On Thursday evening, I joined others for an Art and Architecture Tour of the library. The library volunteer giving the "one-hour" tour was so interesting that we scarcely noticed two hours passing. The present Copley Square location has been home to the Library since 1895, when architect Charles Follen McKim completed his "palace for the people." When told that \$900,000 was allotted for the construction of the building, he replied, "It will take what it will take." We weren't told what the final cost actually was, but the artist, which McKim was determined to have for the murals by the main staircase, was offered \$50,000, a sum almost unheard of at that time. Much of the artwork was completed after the building was opened. John Singer Sargent's murals were executed between 1895 and 1916. The library eventually outgrew this building and so a more utilitarian addition was completed in 1972. The addition now houses the circulating collection while the McKim building holds the reference collection. On Friday evening, all PLA attendees were treated to a reception at the library, complete with food and entertainment in all sections of the building and strolling wait staff offering hors d'oeuvres. You could indulge in whipped sweet potatoes served in long stemmed glasses-at first for me. It was the perfect ending for a marvelous week at PLA.

I offer many thanks to the Library Commission for providing my scholarship.



Nebraska Library Commission

Interlibrary Loan Frequently Asked Questions

In 2001 the Nebraska Library Commission began working with many of you to provide interlibrary loan services to your customers. As we near the end of our fifth year, I've collected a number of questions we are asked with some regularity that might be good to share with the Systems. If you have any concerns about our Interlibrary Loan Services, please don't hesitate to ask us – we're happy to help. You can reach us by:

Voice: 800/307-2665

Email: ready@nlc.state.ne.us

Fax: 402/471-6244

ILL request form: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/ill/>

1. Is it possible to request VHS, DVD, and Books on Tape through ILL?

Yes. There are many libraries that generously lend these materials. On occasion, there are very few possible lenders with policies that prohibit lending.

2. May we request multiple copies of a book for a book club?

Yes. However, we will not be able to place requests for bestsellers, books that have been out for less than one year, or other popular titles i.e. the Oprah book club. It's best to ask for the number of books you might think you'll need from the start so that all your books will arrive at about the same time. Generally book club libraries request 3-7 copies of a title.

3. How long does an ILL take to arrive to my library?

One-two weeks generally. If the book is provided from a library in-state, it will arrive more quickly and if it comes from out of state, it may take a little more time. Try to encourage your patrons to ask for items two weeks before they'll need them.

4. Is there such a thing as an ASAP ILL?

No. Once a request is in the OCLC system, it's up to the five lending libraries to respond to your request. There isn't anything we are able to do that speeds things along.

5. Why do we have to let you know when we receive and return items?

ILL has its own circulation system to track where items are. Libraries who lend their items need to know when materials have reached their destination and when they have been returned. The process of updating all of these records is part of our daily ILL circulation. Keeping up with ILL records helps make everything run more smoothly for all the libraries involved in getting materials to you.

6. What books are too new to request?

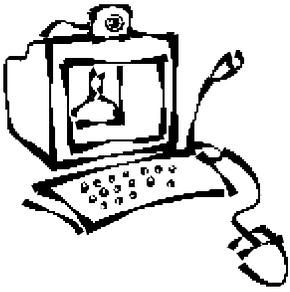
Any book, fiction or non-fiction that's less than 12 months from its release date. If you're uncertain about a book's publication date, you can check amazon.com or Books in Print. Many libraries restrict lending their newer materials through Interlibrary Loan.

7. Why won't you accept my request to borrow the Da Vinci Code?

Because it's still on the bestseller list and the movie release in May 2006 will increase the popularity

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PC Problems & Digital Clicks



Morning Session: John Seyfarth, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion, will talk about computer problems and updates. Bring questions about installations/software!

Friday, August 25, 2006

9:30am-3:30pm

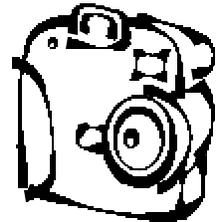
Wilson Center, Hastings College, Hastings, NE

Cost: \$15 (lunch included)

CE: 5.5 hours

**Co-sponsored by Meridian and
Republican Valley Library Systems**

Afternoon Session: John will address digital camera techniques. Bring your digital camera!



PC Problems and Digital Clicks Workshop Registration Form

Name: _____

Library: _____

Please send this registration form + \$15 fee by August 18, 2006 to:

Republican Valley Library System, 2727 West 2nd St. # 233

Hastings, NE 68901

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RVLS News

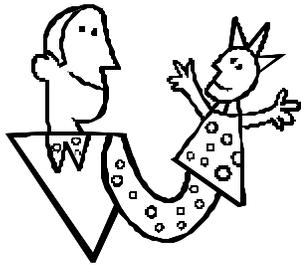
Book, One State selection. Inspired by the experience, plans are now in progress to read Anne Tyler's *Breathing Lessons*, a Pulitzer prize winner.

Leslie Frazier from **Blue Hill Public Schools** will be the new media specialist at **Hastings Elementary Schools**. **LaVila VanBoening** will take her retirement. Congrats!

Carol Pohlenz is retiring this year from **Franklin Public Schools**. Happy retirement!

Mary Steele is retiring from **South Central Nebraska Unified School District**. Her replacement is **Linda Baxter**, who was formerly the media specialist in Sandy Creek, but has been teaching second grade; she will go back to being the media specialist.

Children at the **Hildreth Public Library** and the **Axtell Public Library** will have a treat on June 23rd. The Puppeteers from Urban Prairie Puppet Company will be in Hildreth at 11:00 a.m. and Axtell at 1:00 p.m. They will present Aesop's Fables and Just So Stories for the children of Hildreth and Axtell. What a fun thing to do this summer! For information on booking "Puppet Show on the Go!" for your own library, contact The Urban Prairie Puppet Company, 5118 S. 129th Street, Omaha, NE 68137; 402.896.6662; <tplace@tconl.com>.



(Continued from page 10)

NLC ILL FAQs

of this title and keep it amongst those hard-to-borrow titles. Any book that has recently been a movie is generally on our do not place list as are all bestsellers (fiction and non-fiction), Oprah books, and other popular titles such as the One Book/One Lincoln selection. Locate Publisher's Weekly Bestseller list here: <http://www.publishersweekly.com/> and click on Bestsellers.

8. Can I ask for renewals on ILL items?

Yes, from most lending libraries. Libraries prefer to be asked for renewals before the due date. If an item has been recalled by the lending library, we will not be able to request more time. When asking for a renewal, please contact the Nebraska Library Commission.

9. Why must I use the ready@nlc.state.ne.us email address for ILL email?

If you send ILL email to an individual email address and that person is sick or on vacation that day, your email will not be tended to in a timely manner. Several staff members take turns answering and responding to the 'ready' email account assuring a quick response to your question.

10. How many people work with Interlibrary Loan at the Nebraska Library Commission?

There are seven of us -- Belinda Fanning, Beth Goble, Bonnie Henzel, Evelyn Kubert, Julie Pinnell, Lisa Kelly, and Susan Knisely.





Disaster Plan

What would happen if your water main breaks and floods the library, or a tornado rips off the roof of the building where your archives are housed? Two workshops were held across Nebraska to address those very issues. Several people from Republican Valley Library System attended the workshops so they will be prepared if a

disaster happens. Some of the highlights were:

- If you have 50 to 100 items damaged, you can probably take care of the damage yourself. If you have more than 500 items, you will definitely need assistance.
- Take a 10 to 15 minute break every hour when dealing with a disaster situation.
- A snow shovel is an excellent item to have in your facility to get rid of damaged items.
- Set priorities about which things are most important (stabilize the environment first).
- Cell phones often do not work during and after a disaster.
- Wrapping books in butcher paper and freezing is a way to salvage wet books.
- Books cost approximately \$8.00 each to restore after a disaster situation.
- With newer items, replacement might be the best solution.
- The optimum temperature is below 70 degrees with 30 to 50 % humidity.

A list of books and materials dealing with preservation and disaster is available from the Nebraska Library Commission at this link: <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/FAQ/preservation.html>>. NLC recently gifted RVLS with a copy of *Disaster Planning: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians with Planning Templates on CD-ROM* (2005); if you'd like to borrow it, please contact the System Office at 800-569-4961 or <rvlsasst@tcgcs.com>.

To create your own disaster plan, go to this URL and you will find a plan you can then print and use to create a disaster plan for your library: <<http://www.amigos.org/preservation/disasterplan.pdf>>. If you cannot find these files, call or e-mail the RVLS office and we will send them to you.



Don't Forget...

to reserve *One False Move* for your book group. Call or e-mail the system office to receive a book kit with 10 copies of *One False Move* and discussion questions as well as a gnome!



Internet Librarian Urges Libraries to “Be Worth It, Necessary”

“Spring Colloquium: An Evening with Joseph Janes, The Internet Librarian,” was held on April 8 at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. The event was the first colloquium sponsored by Eastern Library System, Southeast Library System, Omaha Public Library, Lincoln City Libraries, and the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Janes, Associate Dean for Academics, the Information School of the University of Washington, is the Internet Librarian; his columns appear in *American Libraries*.

“Librarianship Evolves” was the topic of Janes’s presentation, an entertaining yet serious look at where we’re headed, how technology factors in, and what we can do to be technologically proactive rather than active.

The information environment evolves, Janes said, due to a variety of factors including a competitive and volatile marketplace, societal changes (demographics) and technology. According to Janes, the average amount of time a person spends on a Google search is eleven minutes: that’s a perfect opportunity for us to insert ourselves into the search to use our talents and skills, to do what we do best. Janes gave recent examples that may become the next generation in the world of searching: social tagging, filtering and folksonomies (such as del-icio.us and Flickr); question answering systems (Ask.com), and Google Scholar/Book Search. We need to be aware of these things and watch them, because they are going to affect searching and, consequently, how we do our jobs.

Aside from technological issues, Janes lamented that, “The biggest enemy you face every day is indifference.” Libraries are basically ignored, Janes argued, so we need, more than ever before, “to be worth it, necessary, and [to] make a convincing case.” And, we have to give stuff up, like it or not. For example, Google. In most cases, as far as ready reference goes, Google suffices. We need to let Google go; if we insist that ready reference is one of the most important thing we do, we’re, in essence, slitting our own throats.

One concrete action we can take, Janes said, is to play to our strengths and emphasize the things we uniquely do, such as advocate for quality, depth, education, literacy, etc. We need to concentrate on these strengths and figure out how they fit into the emerging information environment. We need to focus on services to youth; the first experiences of young people in libraries guide their future experiences. Janes, who read *Slaughterhouse 5* at the age of ten, commends his librarian for “butting out.” We need to ensure that their experiences are positive. We need to continue to promote reading and literacy, including outreach to new members of our communities. We need to be technologically sophisticated. We need to advocate for intellectual freedom and privacy. And, we need continually to rethink our priorities and assumptions.

Other professions, Janes passionately argued, are less good without us. We make humanity more human by taking the human record, organizing it, and making it available. The result? We are able to learn from what happened before, which allows us to better ourselves, both individually and collectively. “We,” Janes believes, “are central to the information lives of our communities. And when we are central, it’s what allows all of the rest to happen, what allows librarianship to evolve.



Mary Shelley Shares Life at Hastings Public Library Friends' Annual Meeting

By Fe Cogley, Friends Coordinator



*"Mary Shelley" invites her audience to "tea" while she shares details about her life and novel. Her creature, portrayed by Jack Kramer, Professor at Hastings College. Kramer is 7' tall in real life!
[Photo taken by Felicia Cogley]*

Frankenstein's creature was brought to life - once again, this time in a laboratory created by the Friends of Hastings Public Library. For the Friends' annual meeting in April, historic performer Susan Marie Frontczak of Boulder, portrayed Mary Shelley, the author of the classic novel, "Frankenstein."

In a monstrously good mix of fun and information, Frontczak's "Shelley" held her audience spellbound as she recreated her life and the sequence of events that led up to her writing her famous novel.

Shelley became a mother at 17, began writing "Frankenstein" at 18 and was 21 by the time it was published. Widowed at 25, she later became a behind-the-scenes supporter of social reform.

Judged in literary circles as one of the top 100 books of all time, "Frankenstein" first was published anonymously in 1818. It became the inspiration for countless book and film adaptations and sequels, many taking the creature a far cry away from the author's original.

Shelley's creature, never actually named, was given life at the hands of Victor Frankenstein. Sensitive and grappling with feelings of loneliness from being scorned, it was only later that the creature's nature became as monstrous as his appearance. Shelley's eight-foot tall creature, while grotesque in appearance, is "much more to make the reader think, than tremble," explained one of her

publishers. He inspires the reader to consider ethical issues and the consequences of disturbing the order of nature. "Mary Shelley's work raises ethical questions that are, if anything, more pertinent today than they were in her lifetime," Frontczak said.

In a room decorated to resemble Frankenstein's laboratory - with beakers and books, fog, lightning, thunder, screams and a dead body on an operating table suspended by chains from the ceiling - guests were treated to dinner catered by Central Community College Culinary Arts students and finished with a dessert of chocolate "body parts."



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NORFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 12TH ANNUAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

You are invited to attend Norfolk Public Library's 12th Annual Literature Festival on Saturday, July 29, 2006, 9am-4pm. The festival will be held at Northeast Community College, Lifelong Learning Center.

The Festival will feature award-winning authors Keiko Kasza, 2007 Golden Sower Award nominee for *My Lucky Day*; Marty Crisp, 207 Golden Sower Award nominee for *White Star: A Dog on the Titanic*; and Michael O. Tunnell, 2007 Golden Sower Award nominee for *Wishing Moon*. Also, 2006-2007 Golden Sowers will be previewed, books and Golden Sower items will be for sale, and the featured authors will autograph their books.

Admission will be free for current members of the SYCP division of the Nebraska Library Association. Tickets for Youth (18 & under) : \$5/advance & \$7/door. Adult tickets: \$15/advance & \$20/door. Advance tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library OR by mail order (send SASE with check payable to "Norfolk Library Foundation-Literature Festival" to: Literature Festival, Norfolk Public Library, 308 Prospect Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701. Fir more info, contact Karen Drevo at 402.844.2108 or <kdrevo@ci/norfolk.ne.us>.