Straight talk

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

Pilger Tornado Update

The library's director, Lori Ruskamp, says that the library is "actually, really fine". The damage to the roof will be covered by the library's insurance policy. The computers are dirty and may not need to be replaced, but if they do, insurance will cover that as well.

The books themselves actually received no water damage whatsoever. A single book fell off a shelf—and that's it. Book donations are not needed and they have already been packed into a pod for storage as the building is repaired.

Lori says that what is really needed is donations for the town itself. The middle school, senior center, bank and the Co-Op (the major employer) were all destroyed. She recommends gas and grocery cards or monetary donations to the city itself if you would like to help since the library is in such good shape compared to the rest of town. Midwest Bank in Norfolk has set up a "Pilger Fund" for donations. Donations can be mailed to Pilger Emergency Fund, c/o Midwest Bank, Norfolk Branch, Box 886, Norfolk, NE 68702

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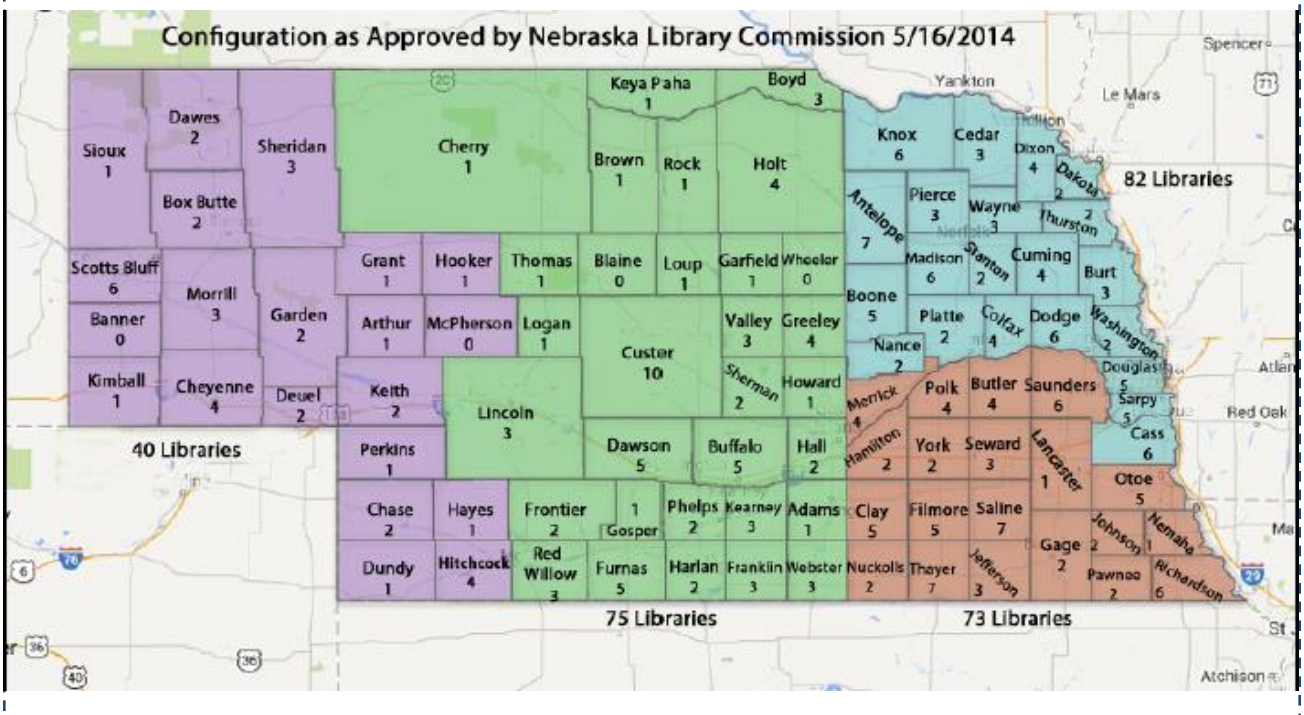
Library Commission Approves Change in Regional Library System Areas

At its meeting on May 16 the Nebraska Library Commission approved a change in Nebraska's regional library system structure based on recommendations from the Nebraska Regional Library Systems Configuration Task Force. As a result, Nebraska's current six regional service areas will be re-organized into four regional areas. The regional changes are expected to be in place no earlier than January 2015.

State and federal budget cuts in past years and flat funding in recent years prompted consideration of reducing the number of Nebraska regional library systems. Failure to secure increased funding for the current state biennium budget led to formation of the task force to develop recommendations for regional organization. The task force met several times before proposing regional options. The regional options were presented for discussion at the Library Commission's March 2014 meeting.

Library Commission staff, regional library system directors, and regional library system boards are working on implementation actions to create the new regional entities. The Regional Library Systems Task Force Configuration report, questions and answers about regional changes, and the new regional map are available via the Library Commission's website: http://nlc.nebraska.gov/systems/



Nebraska Library Leadership Institute
Reunion

July 17, 2014

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Love Library - Room 110

Metered parking is available on the streets south of campus. There is also a parking garage on Q St, between 11th and 12th.

Nebraska Library Leadership Institute

Schedule

10:00 - 10:30	Registration, networking and refreshments
10:30 - 12:00	Panel Discussion by Nebraska Library Leaders Robin Clark, John Dale, Charlene Maxey-Harris, Dave Mixdorf, Deb Robertson, Jake Rundle, Dorothy Willis
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 1:45	Discussion groups - The Future of the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (Help shape the institutes of the future)
1:45 - 2:00	Break
2:00 - 3:00	Share Time: What you've learned about leadership in libraries

Name _____ Library _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Cost: $13.00

Lunch choice (catered by Panera)

____ Greek salad with chicken (with French baguette and cookie)

____ Sierra turkey sandwich (with chips, pickle spear, and cookie)

____ Mediterranean Veggie sandwich (with chips, pickle spear, and cookie)

To register, contact Brian Maass at Eastern Library System by July 11. 402 330-7884 or bmaass@windstream.net

Nebraska Library Commission Awards 21st Century Skills Scholarships

Thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded 21st Century Librarian scholarships to eight Nebraska students in undergraduate Library Science programs. Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner commented, "The 21st Century Librarian scholarships are helping to ensure that Nebraska libraries have educated and skilled staff to serve the thousands of Nebraskans who rely on libraries for a variety of needs each and every day. We congratulate these students for their efforts to improve their knowledge and skills and wish them the very best toward their educational and career goals."

Spring 2014 Scholarship Recipients

Dorlissa Beyer, Hastings
Kassandra Bielenberg, Omaha
Nancy Black, Uehling
Gabrielle DeGagne, Omaha
Rachelle McPhullips, Columbus
Mary Jo Pittman, Omaha
Martha Savely, Lodgepole
Dorothy Schultz, Wood River

For more information about Nebraska's Cultivating Rural Librarians' 21st Century Skills program, see http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov. For a list of all current scholarship recipients, see http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov/Scholarshipsrecipients.asp.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

As Nebraska's state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services-"bringing together people and information."

Library Happenings

Kids at the Madison Public Library made some slime during their Summer Reading Program

Miss Nebraska visited the Wayne Public Library.

Cedar Rapids Public Library celebrated its 100th anniversary with a visit from local author Margaret Lukas.

Hartington Family Receives Good Neighbor Award

Original published in the May 30 Columbus Telegram

The Good Neighbor awards recognize individuals from Nebraska who have performed neighborly acts and deeds unselfishly without personal gain. The award is sponsored by the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben and the Omaha World Herald. This is it's 70th year.

For more than 20 years, Carol Vogel and her five children of Clarkson have been instrumental in organizing the Summer Story Hour program at the Howells Public Library. Carol attends many meetings to get ready for Story Hour each year and leads a team of volunteers, which always includes her own children, as provide four weeks of reading and fun activities for preschool through third grade children. Not only have her children grown up helping her with Story Hour, her daughters, Rachel and Rita also started a summer art camp, Aartvark, for elementary school children more than five years ago. The Vogel Family unselfishly donates their time and talents to provide summer learning opportunities and activities every year, and they do it purely for the love of education.

Upcoming Events

June 16-22: Chautauqua festival, Werner Park/Lifelong Learning Center, Norfolk

June 20—July 2: Office closed

July 4: Office closed

July 17: Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Reunion, Love Library, Lincoln

If you have a book review, piece of news, or photo that you would like to share with your fellow Northeast Nebraska libraries, email it to Sarah at the NELS office.

nelsdirector@gmail.com

For book reviews, please include a general recommendation for an appropriate age

Northeast Library System Board Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

The Northeast Library System Board met online Wednesday, May 14, 2014, at GoToMeeting. The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by Dee Johnson, and roll call showed board members Beth Foulks, Dee Johnson, Judy Hilkemann, Tami Anderson, Sara Lee, Dawnn Tucker, and Audrey Loosvelt present. Also present were Director Sarah Warneke and Richard Miller from The Nebraska Library Commission.

The March minutes were approved. (M) – Loosvelt, (2) - Foulks.

Correspondence was reviewed from Genoa Public Library (a thank you) and an Cedar Rapids Public Library invitation celebrating 100 years.

The financial report packet was reviewed. More information will be available when the new budget information is released. The report was approved by roll call.

Reports and handouts from the Nebraska Library Commission were presented by Richard Miller. He shared about various awards for book, upcoming NCompass meetings and various other areas of interest.

Director Sarah Warneke shared a written Director's Report and talked of highlights from that report.

The Budget Committee will need to meet soon to prepare a budget for the next fiscal year. The updated Strategic Plan will be sent out to board members.

A Pat on the Back was requested for several board members at Neligh Library and Battlecreek Library as well as Mary Anne Schwarten at Emerson library.

The July board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16 at 11:30 at Leigh Public Library.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00. (M)- Anderson (2) Foulks.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Foulks, Secretary

Northeast Library System

3038 33rd Avenue, Suite 13

Columbus, NE 68601

Phone: 800-578-1014

Phone/Fax: 402-564-1586

Email: Sarah Warneke nelsdirector@gmail.com

Shelia Cermak nelibrarysystem@gmail.com

Website: http://libraries.ne.gov/nels

The Northeast Library System serves the counties of Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota, Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.

"A book, too, can be a star, a living fire to lighten the darkness, leading out into the expanding universe."

~ Madeleine L'Engle

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Please contact

Sarah Warneke

or Shelia Cermak

at the Northeast Library

System Office

with any questions

or concerns.

Sarah Warneke, editor

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Our NELS Board Members

Judy Hagan, *President*, Atkinson Public Library

Dee Johnson, *Vice President*

Beth Foulks, *Secretary*, Ponca Public School

Audrey Loosvelt, Madison Public School

Dawnn Tucker, Lied Pierce Public Library

Judy Hilkemann, Norfolk Public Library

Mary Austin, Little Priest Tribal College

Mary Anne Schwarten, Emerson Public Library

Sara Lee, Central City Public Library

Tami Anderson, Hartington Public Library

Tim Sebade, Emerson Public Library