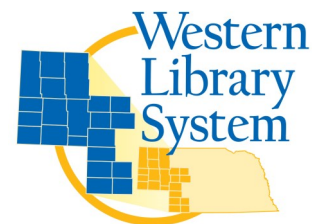


THE WESTERN SUN



May-June, 2023

Supporting libraries serving our communities

SUNdries ~ Libraries Around the World

Libraries on Hooves

The March-April issue of the Western Sun focused on Libraries on Wheels, this issue focuses on libraries on hooves. We will explore libraries on hooves in the past and today.

In the United States, a notable librarian on hooves was Mabel Wilkinson who in 1916 journeyed through Northern Wyoming on her horse "Joker" to establish travelling libraries. While the libraries themselves were established in post offices, bars and other convenient locations until permanent buildings were found, Ms. Wilkinson still provided this job description of a Wyoming Librarian as someone who "must be able to get along with Western people, ride and drive as well as pack a horse, follow a trail, shoot straight, run an automobile, and be able rough it whenever necessary."

She captured this experience at the American Library Association Bulletin 10 Asbury Conference Proceeding, 1968 pages 162-168.

She described the value of the library to the Wyoming ranchers and farmers and townspeople as "our collection, though small, is exceptionally well circulated, and best of all, we are gaining the good will and confidence of all residents...even to the professional grouches!"

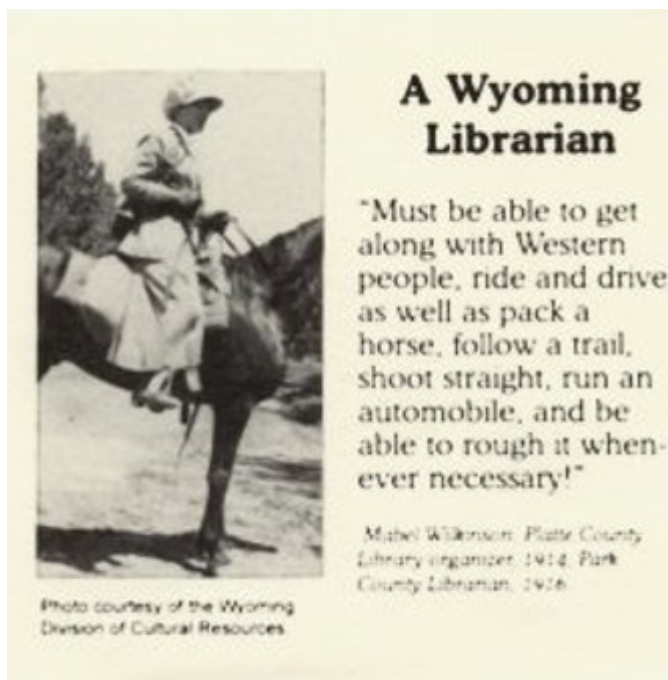
On the other side of the United States, May Stafford started a pack horse library. This project only lasted a year, yet planted seeds for future libraries on hooves.

Pack Horse Library Program—Works Progress Administration, 1935 and 1943

The Pack Horse Library Program is well documented in non-fiction and fiction books such as *Book Women of Troublesome Creek* (the Western Library System has a bookkit to loan (page 26) the *Giver of Stars* and *Books by Horseback, A Librarians Brave Journey to Deliver Books to Children*. In 2022, PBS produced a compelling documentary.~ *The Packhorse Librarians of Appalachia*.

The library program produced jobs and literacy to impoverished Eastern Kentucky. People across the country responded to the call for books. The following words printed in the Mountain Eagle praised the Letcher County library by saying. "The library belongs to our community and to our county and is here to serve us. It is our duty to visit the library and help in every way that we can, that we may kept it as an active factor in our community. "

Continued on page 3



Mark Your Calendar

June 22-27: [ALA Annual Conference, Chicago](#)

August 1: Western Library System's Annual Meeting, Bayard (page 29)

August 6-12: Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS) Book Bike Week

August 31-September 1: Joint Youth Services Retreat for Nebraska Librarians serving Youth. Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Systems. Camp Carol Joy Holling. Ashland, NE (page 24)



September:
[Library Card Sign-Up Month](#)

September 8: [International Literacy Day](#)

September 20-23:
[Association of Rural and Small Libraries](#). (ARSL) Unite and Ignite, Wichita, KS (page 23)

October: [TeenTober](#)—ALA

October 19-21: [American Association of School Libraries Conference](#), "Learning Together Standing Together", Tampa Bay, Florida, page 24.

§tatute Savvy

Open Meetings

Public Library Boards and Public School Boards are subject to the Open Meeting Statutes. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act guarantees that every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies. The information below details **Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414** (2014, Cum. Supp. 2022).

D. PUBLIC MEETINGS; NOTICE AND AGENDA REQUIRED. Section 84-1411 sets out several requirements for the notice which must be given for a public meeting and for the agenda which must be prepared: (1) the public body must give **reasonable advance publicized notice** of the time and place of each meeting; (2) the notice must be transmitted to all members of the body and to the public; (3) the notice must contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice, or a statement that such an agenda, which must be kept continually current, is readily available for inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours.

1. **Notice.** 2020 Neb. Laws LB 148, § 3 placed restrictions on certain public bodies with respect to publication of meeting notices. Under § 84-1411(1)(b)(i)-(iii), governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees must publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's web site. Governing bodies of cities of the second class or villages and their advisory committees must either publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on the newspaper's web site, or by posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in the city or village. The posting locations shall remain the same for each meeting. For all other public bodies, notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body. Governing bodies of political subdivisions and their advisory committees may, in addition to the requirements set out above, provide notice of their meetings by any other appropriate method designated by the public body. Section 84-1411(1)(c). Section 84-1411(1)(d) requires each public body to record the method(s) and date(s) of such notice in its minutes. Public bodies holding meetings by virtual conferencing, as provided in § 84-1411(2), must follow the meeting notification requirements in § 84-1411(2)(b)(i).

2. **Agenda.** Under § 84-1411(1)(e), an agenda maintained at the office of a public body for public inspection must be kept continually current and may not be altered later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the public meeting (or 48 hours before commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board if that meeting is noticed outside the corporate limits of the municipality). A public body may modify an agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

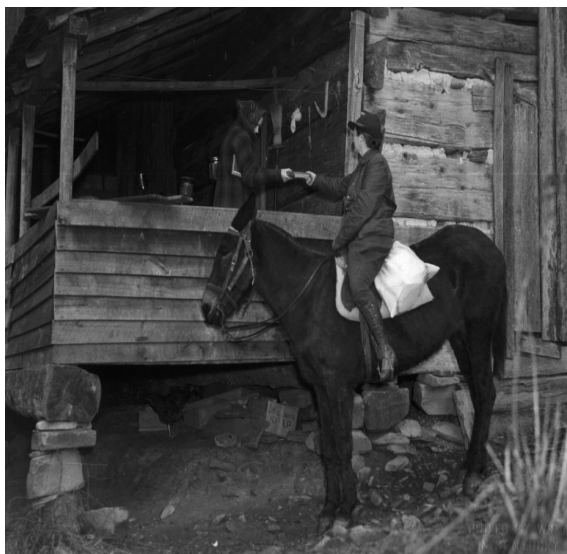
Resources:

Nebraska Attorney General—Mike Hilgers website
<https://ago.nebraska.gov/open-meetings>

Scott Childers, Executive Director, Southeast Regional Library presented an Ncompass Live titled, "Open Meetings Law: Review and Update" on June 22, 2022.

<https://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventshow.asp?ProgID=22074>

The quotes by Mabel Wilkinson and the Mountain Ledger respectively. “our collection, though small, is exceptionally well circulated, and best of all, we are gaining the good will and confidence of all residents...even to the professional grouches!” and “The library belongs to our community and to our county and is here to serve us. It is our duty to visit the library and help in every way that we can, that we may kept it as an active factor in our community. “ is the same foundational premise public libraries use today when preparing their Community Needs Response Plans for accreditation. We understand the communities, demographics, economics, needs and hopes for the future to determine our libraries mission and goals.



← Front porch delivery, 1940



→ A group of “book women” on horseback in Hindman, Kentucky, 1940

Around the world in 2023, books are brought to people on donkeys, camels, elephants and llamas. Three well-known donkey libraries or Biblioburros travel the country-side of Columbia, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

The story of Luis Soriano and his two loyal donkeys, Alfa and Beto, have been the subject of books, film and documentaries. Senor Soriano, having dealt with hardship in his life and what he perceived a failure as a teacher saw the need to bring reading materials to children without those resources. He, Alfa and Beto, established the Biblioburro in the region of La Gloria Columbia with seventy books. Today, the Biblioburro incorporates dozens of donkey libraries taking reading materials to elementary school students.



Birtukan and her donkey library in Ethiopia

At age 21, librarian Birtukan was determined that children in remotest villages of Ethiopia would have access to the transformative power of books and reading. Inspired by her initiative, Ethiopia now has four donkey libraries, that are funded by the government and agencies such as Save the Children.



Zimbabwe's "modern" donkey library.

Zimbabwe has taken a modern approach to the donkey library thanks to the educational non-profit Rural Libraries and Resources Development Programme (RLRDP) and its founder Dr. Moyo. Four donkeys, are equipped with harnesses to pull a blue mobile lending library. Each donkey and their library is cared for and managed by a trained donkey librarian. These two-wheeled units are divided into lockable compartments, with space for up to three rider-drivers. There are 15 mobile libraries, three with solar powered electrical supply for computers, a printer and phone chargers. Teachers at the schools where these libraries stop use the computers for lesson plans and to catch up on current events.

Dr. Moyo (a name that means "heart") travels tirelessly around the country to oversee the 300+ libraries run by his organization. He is also working on an IT manual for rural libraries, a follow-up to the RLRDP *Manual for Rural Libraries*,. He is hoping to modernize even more with a tractor pulling library.



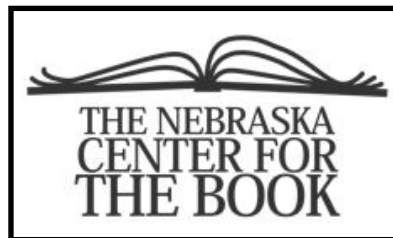
Celebrations and Milestones

Hastings Memorial Library ~ Grant

The Spring, 2023 Nebraska Community Foundation's Connection Magazine reported that the "Perkins County Community Foundation Fund (PCCFF) gave local leaders a chance to help residents feel welcome. A grant to the Hastings Memorial Library in Grant established an English as a Second Language (ESL) course. Rodolfo Aragon, a member of the PCCFF Advisory Committee, co-leads the class with his wife, Vicky. Together, they teach at a pace students can manage alongside work and family responsibilities. They credit the fund for putting the pieces in place to get the class started. "Most people in our community have ideas on how to improve the community in their own way." Aragon said. "Through the fund we can help make those connections so they can make their ideas a reality."

Dana Hill ~ New Library Director ~ Nancy Fawcett Memorial Library ~ Lodgepole

We welcome Dana Hill to the Nancy Fawcett Memorial Library in Lodgepole. The library has already hosted an open house to introduce the gift of 100 children's books from the Brownstone Foundation. The Sidney Sun-Telegraph and Chappell Register printed the following. "The library looks to excite and foster an early interest in and love for books and reading. Books can enrich a child's life, and they want to give this experience and pleasure to young children; These books were chosen with enjoyment, fantasy, and fun in mind." Their open house was held April 1, from 10-Noon.



Nominate Books Now for the 2023 Nebraska Book Awards

The 2023 Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB) and Nebraska Library Commission, will recognize and honor books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or relate to Nebraska.

Books published in 2022, as indicated by the copyright date, are eligible for nomination. They must be professionally published, have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), and be bound. Books may be entered in one or more of the following categories: Nonfiction, Fiction, Children/Young Adult, Cover/Design/Illustration, and Poetry. Winners in each category will be honored at the Fall 2023 Celebration of Nebraska Books and Annual Meeting in Lincoln.

The entry fee is \$40 per book and per category entered. **Deadline for entries is June 30, 2023.** For more information, including entry forms, see <http://www.centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/awards/nebookawards.html> Books may be entered in one of two ways, either complete the [Online Entry Form](#) and submit payment through PayPal, then mail three copies of the book to the below address. Or, mail the [Entry Form](#) [pdf], three copies of the book, and the entry fee via a check made out to:

NCB Book Awards Competition c/o Nebraska Library Commission
The Atrium
1200 N Street, Suite 120
Lincoln, NE 68508-2023

All Together Now

Summer Reading Workshop

Kindness

Friendship

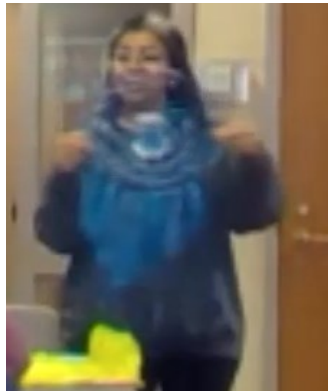
Unity



The rescheduled Summer Reading Workshop in Alliance was informative and great fun. The participants enjoyed Amanda Sweet, via Zoom, Sally Snyder in person and sharing ideas. Cynthia Horn and the Alliance Public Library were gracious accommodating hosts.

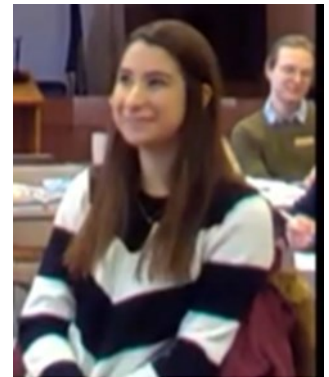
DJI Tello EDU Drone

- Propeller Guards for Safety
- Code with DroneBlocks (block-based code)
- Swift or Python (text-based code options)
- (4) Mission Mats
- Works with regular DJI Tello EDU & DroneBlocks App
- Ages 8+ (Recommended)



Top picture going clockwise;

- ◆ Amanda Sweet, via Zoom showing the Drone Tech Kit available through the mail.
- ◆ Amelia Shada and Logan Allen enjoying a presentation
- ◆ Julie Rasmussen entertaining the group with the Cravath Memorial Library' exciting plans.
- ◆ Sally Snyder in the sunlight with the run down of 2023 Summer Reading books
- ◆ Colleen Garner sharing the Hemingford Public Library all together now garden.
- ◆ Priscilla Plasencio, with the Dream Weaver project for their Friendship and Lilo and Stitch version of the theme.



Pictures from Zoom Screen Shots.

The Summer Reading Committee deserves accolades: Sarah Alfred (chair), Amelia Shada, Cindy Larson, Logan Allen and Sandy Lutz

Grant Opportunities



Three Grant/Scholarship opportunities to help pay to attend the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Wichita, Kansas, September 20-23, 2023, see page____

Association of Rural and Small Libraries

Each year the [ARSL Grants, Awards & Scholarships \(GAS\) Committee](#) accepts applications for four competitive scholarships to facilitate attendance to the ARSL Conference. These scholarships are funded through generous donations to the ARSL Scholarship Fund by our

members and supporters! **Scholarship Application Deadline: May 2, 2023**

[Apply for a Scholarship Today!](#)

[Preview the Application Questions](#)

Nebraska Library Commission

Applications are open and must be submitted electronically by 11:59 Central Time, May 28, 2023.

The purpose of these grants is to assist Nebraska libraries in improving the library services provided to their communities through continuing education and training for their library personnel and supporters. Successful applications will show how attending this conference will support the library's mission. [Full details available here:](#)



Western Library System's Scholarship Fund.

Request up to \$300.00 every two years. Details available on page 28.

ALA Great Stories Club Grants for Teens – New theme: “Imagining Tomorrow: Building Inclusive Futures”



Applications are due **May 10, 2023**. For more details and to apply, visit the website:

<https://www.ala.org/tools/programming/greatstories/apply>

Great Stories Club resources are available to everyone, even without a grant. Libraries are encouraged to use reading lists, discussion questions, and other resources from previous Great Stories Club themes. All materials are free. To view them, visit the [Resources page](#).

This GSC theme asks: How can we imagine and dream of our shared futures together, alongside each other, in order to create better tomorrows? The books in this series point toward the ways that we might build shared futures while acknowledging the lessons of our origin stories.

Participating libraries will work with small groups of approximately 10 teens; provide four theme-related books for each participant to keep as their own; and convene opportunities for exploration and discussion of relevant humanities content among peers. Book discussions will be led by an experienced programming librarian, often in cooperation with staff from a partner organization or department, such as teachers and counselors.

Libraries will receive 11 paperback copies of up to four books on the reading list to use in reading and discussion groups; a programming grant of up to \$500; a virtual orientation training workshop for library project directors; and additional resources, training, and support from ALA's Public Programs Office.

Applications will be accepted from all types of libraries (public, school, academic, special, etc.) in the United States and its territories that are located within an organization that reaches underserved, under-resourced, and/or at-risk teens (e.g., alternative high school, juvenile detention facility, tribal library) or working with a partner organization

School librarians are invited to apply for a \$5,000 award recognizing outstanding humanities programming in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Nominations for the [2023 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award](#) will be accepted until May 5, 2023.

Eligibility

U.S. school libraries, public or private, that serve children in any combination of grades K-8 are eligible, provided the library is staffed by a state-certified librarian. Libraries are encouraged to self-nominate.

Nominated programs must have taken place during the current school year (2022-23).

The intent of the award is to recognize humanities programs that expand student horizons beyond “basic education.” A humanities program can be focused in many subject areas, including but not limited to social studies, poetry, drama, art, music, language arts, foreign language and culture. Programs should focus on broadening perspectives and helping students understand the wider world and their place in it. The humanities program should be initiated and coordinated by the school librarian and exemplify the role of library programming in advancing the overall education goals for the school.

Recent Jaffarian Award-winners include:

Junior Ambassadors, a program that brings a global perspective to students through a book club focused on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

[Pilot Mountain \(N.C.\) Elementary School](#) (View a [free webinar](#) with librarian Amy Harpe about her award-winning program, *Everybody Has a Story*)

Named after the late Sara Jaffarian, a school librarian and longtime ALA member, ALA's Jaffarian Award was established in 2006 to recognize and promote excellence in humanities programming in elementary and middle-school libraries



Creative Aging Through the Arts (CAAP) As seen on NCOMPASS LIVE, April 19

Celebrating lifelong learning in the arts with older adults. Grants are now available! CAAP grants cover the entire cost of artist residencies including plan time, supplies, artist travel and lodging and a sponsor stipend. No matching funds are required. First time applying? The Nebraska Arts Commission staff is available to help you get started. Creative Aging Arts Program (CAAP) grants pay for programs with teaching artists trained in best practices of creative programming with older adult participants. During CAAP residencies, artists share their expertise through skill-based, sequential arts lessons in a variety of disciplines. Sessions also foster intentional social engagement among participants, ending with a culminating event to showcase participants' work. Sponsor organizations, including senior centers, local agencies on aging, libraries, and nonprofits that work with seniors may apply. Grant applications have a rolling deadline - apply at least six weeks ahead.

Watch the April 19th [NCompass Live](#) to learn more.



UNION PACIFIC FOUNDATION **Union Pacific Foundation: 2023 Community Ties Giving Program**

The Union Pacific Foundation's 2023 Community Ties Giving Program aims to build safe, prosperous, vibrant, and inclusive communities where Union Pacific Railroad operates, primarily in the midwestern and western United States. Through the Community Ties Giving Program, Local Grants from \$2,500 to \$25,000 provide support to local nonprofit organizations spread widely across Union Pacific's footprint.

A [map and list of eligible communities](#) is available on the Union Pacific website.

Bibliotecha is a company that sells self-service equipment to libraries. The company offers free webinars on a variety of subjects. Here are some funding tips the company offers.

Library Funding: 7 Tips to Get a Grant

Grants are an important part of library fundraising. Do a little digging, and you'll find lots of grant money available for all sorts of library projects. However, countless other organizations are competing for those same dollars. So how do you write a winning grant proposal?

Here are seven tips to make your library's proposal and grant management plans stand out from the crowd. For more grant writing advice.

1) UNDERSTAND THE GOAL OF THE FUNDING ORGANIZATION

The first order of business in any grant opportunity is to understand the motivation and goals of the funder. Every funding organization has an overarching mission, and each grant is designed to achieve a specific objective that supports that mission. Winning grant proposals are those that most clearly demonstrate how the project aligns with the organization's vision and the grant's specific goal.

Learn who the funding organization is and what they do. Read every detail they make available about their grant to be sure it's a good fit before spending valuable time on it. Then, be ready to rationalize how your project dovetails with the mission and vision of both your library and the funder's organization.

2) BE PRECISE

Of course, you'll want to follow the funder's guidelines and thoroughly answer any supplementary questions, but a well-thought-out project (yours) should be fairly easy to match with any parameters as long as the overall opportunity is a good match.

Once you've familiarized yourself with the grant requirements, use precise, dynamic language to describe your project, demonstrating how it aligns with the funder's goals. Your grant proposal should avoid aspirational language like "we will try" or "we hope to" in favor of confident phrases such as "when funded we will"

3) MAKE YOUR PROJECT OBJECTIVES CRYSTAL CLEAR

Your grant proposal should clearly explain who will benefit from your project, why, and for how long. How will your project be valuable to a particular demographic or a community as a whole? Note that your project title should leave no question about what you hope to achieve. Catchy, playful titles only work if the intent of the project is also clear, so don't be afraid to be simple and straightforward if nothing pithy comes to mind.

4) KNOW EXACTLY HOW MUCH YOUR PROJECT WILL COST

Whether you're asking for full or partial coverage through grant funding, you should be able to estimate costs down to the penny. Be sure to include any anticipated costs required to maintain the project after its inception. Share whether you intend to collect additional funding through partnerships with other organizations. Whether your project is a one-off or meant to have longevity, funders want to know that their money is going toward a logically budgeted outcome that is set up to succeed.

5) SHARE PLANS FOR PERSONNEL

Know who you'll need on deck to make the day-to-day execution of your project a reality — be it paid personnel, volunteers, or some combination of these and others. Know what they'll do, how they'll do it, and how much time they'll spend doing it. Your grant proposal should show the grantors that you have precise plans for who will get the project off the ground and keep it running.

6) EXPLAIN HOW YOU WILL DEMONSTRATE THE IMPACT OF YOUR PROJECT

Grant responsibilities don't stop after funding has been awarded. In fact, quite the opposite is true. Your grant proposal should thoroughly explain how you will collect and share quantitative data (numbers/statistics) and qualitative data (stories/human impact) once the project is underway and after it's finished. Good stewardship of any grant funding means reporting to funders at preplanned points along the way to show the project's short- and long-term value and impact on individuals and communities.

7) SHOW YOUR EXCITEMENT ABOUT THE PROJECT!

Funders want to support well-planned projects with leaders who are intent on success. Therefore, be sure to communicate the energy and dedication of your library in your grant proposal. Show the funding organization exactly why they will be proud to have their name associated with your project.

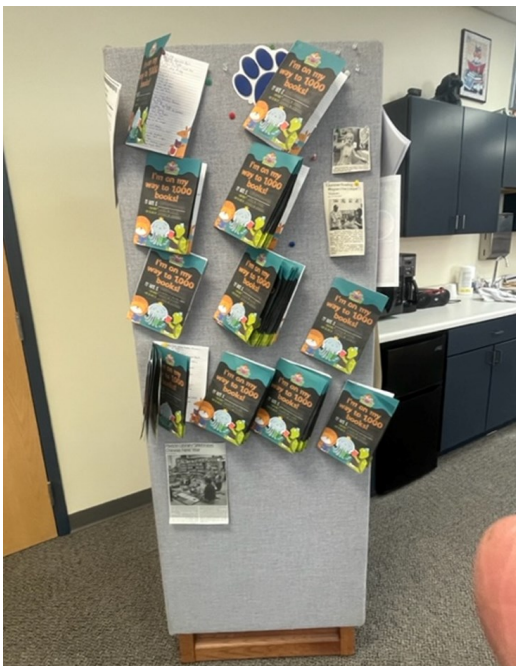
Writing a grant proposal can be intimidating for beginners. For additional help, check out our on-demand webinar, *Planning and Writing a Grant Proposal: The Basics*. In it, Miriam Lytle, Director of Grants at Gail Borden Public Library District, provides practical guidance on crafting effective grant proposals, including common elements like needs statements, narratives, budgets, progress reports, and evaluations. You'll also learn how to assess your project for a grant, what funders are looking for, and tips to improve your grant writing skills.

This webinar is part of the *BiblioInsiders* webinar series, a multi-part series designed for library professionals who want to learn how to create transformative libraries that serve vulnerable patrons.

Around the Sun

Paxton Public Library, Dianne Jay

Dianne Jay reports that the participation in Paxton Public Library's 1000 Books before Kindergarten program is increasing. Her displays encourage current and future participants and their families.



Library Tip: Cigarette Smell from items returning to the library?????

Jennifer Holthus, Library Director of the Grant County Library in Hyannis offers this tip.

Place a few Gain (important to use Gain) dryer sheets between the pages and let it sit for a while.

A quick Internet search provides variations to this theme along with alternative suggestions including:

- Leaving the book, fanned open, under a fume hood for a few weeks to air out.
- Leaving the book outside in fresh air (climate dependent) to air out.
- Interleaving the book with paper towels and then putting it in the freezer.
- Sealing the book in an airtight container along with an odor-absorbing compound (such as unscented clay kitty litter, charcoal briquettes, or a proprietary odor remover) for up to a month.
- Vinegar. Place the book, open, in an airtight container along with a bowl of vinegar. While it removes the smell of smoke, it may have a scent of vinegar.

Included in the online discussions is the question on whether to talk with the patron when it is a recurring issue.



Nebraska Passport Stops in the Western Library System



A Collective Gathering Antiques & Flea Market

Potter



Riverside Discovery Center

Scottsbluff



Double L Country Store and Cafe

Harrisburg



Sam & Louie's NYP home of Boss City Brewing Co.

Sidney



High Plains Homestead

Crawford



Second Chapter Brewing & Lake Mac Shack

Ogallala



Legacy of the Plains Museum

Gering



The Crispy Biscuit Pet Deli

Scottsbluff



Little Bluestem

Grant

Request your 2023 Passport beginning May 1st.

<https://nebraskapassport.com/>



In 2020, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems and the Nebraska Library Commission teamed up to provide access to Reader Zone state-wide. This web-based software lets you create reading logs or calendars that can replace your paper ones. Reader Zone works for any reading program such as Read Across America, 1,000 Books before Kindergarten, Adult programming, Summer Reading, Reader Zone will let your patrons see their progress. Libraries receive useful statistics and progress without having to manually compile them. Tailor your tracking program to fit the intended audience. For example, libraries can create a group for young readers tracking the number of minutes. For teens you may want to include a reading goal plus activities. For adults, you may want to choose the number of books or pages. Here is the [Reader Zone website](#) for more information. To sign up for Reader Zone, Denise Harders at denise.cpls@gmail.com.

Here is a recent announcement from Reader Zone.

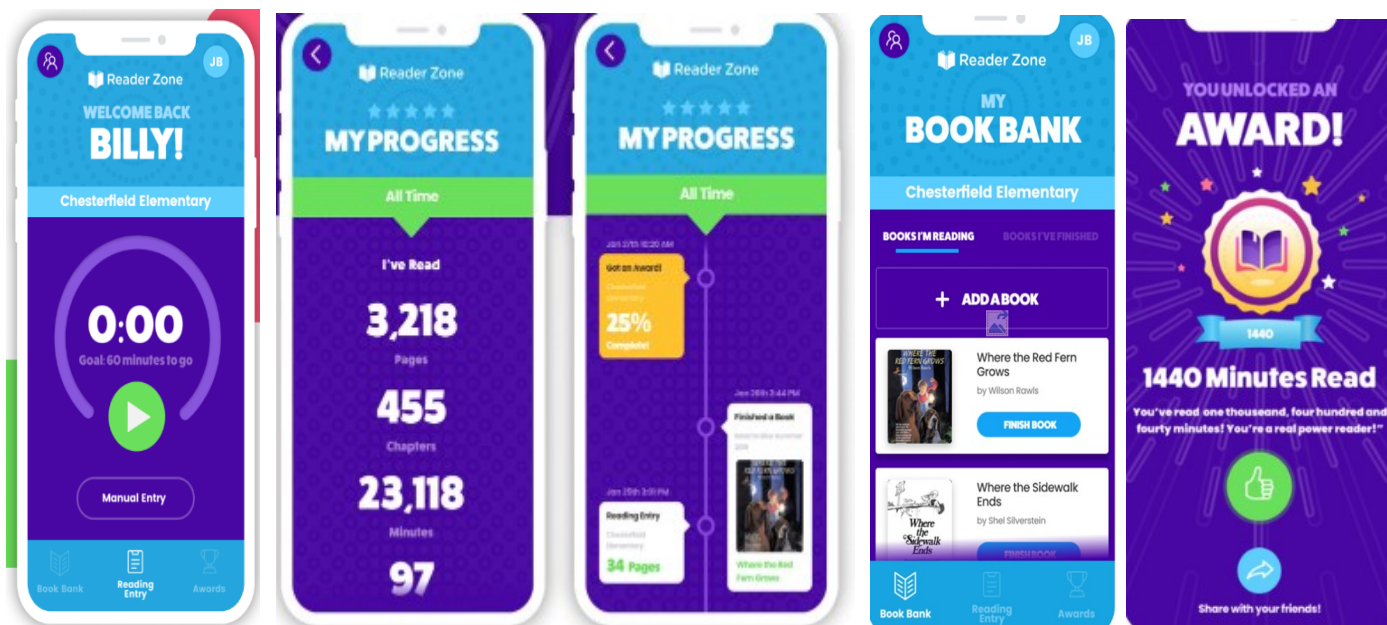
“We’re thrilled to announce that a Spanish language version of the Reader Zone mobile app will be released on or near May 15, 2023.

Offering a Spanish version of Reader Zone will make it easier to include more of your readers in programming at Nebraska Libraries. It's simple. If a participant has Spanish as the default language on their mobile device, the app will automatically appear in Spanish. There will also be a language selector within app settings.

We have other features in the queue now that will help make summer reading 2023 better than ever. They are:

1. Activities Programs Manager: You can more easily blend both reading and non-reading activities in the same program. Very soon, you will be able to create awards at the program level.
2. Custom Questions: You will be able to add any question you want to the sign-up process and define the response to be either a selection from a drop-down menu or a text field.”

From your phone or computer it is easy to: Enter your information, Track your progress, maintain a book bank list



Semper Disco - Always Learning

Upcoming *NCompass* Live

Upcoming *NCompass* Live events: Sessions count for CE credits.

***NCompass Live* is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am, Mountain Time.** For more information, to register for *NCompass Live*, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>

Public Libraries & Wikipedia: Creative Collaborations	May 3
The 2023 Public Library Accreditation Process	May 10
Read the Rainbow: Serving the LGBTQ Community in Your Library	May 17
La Biblioteca Es Para Ti—Building Community Relationships in a Different Language	May 24
Pretty Sweet Tech: Bots for the Community	May 31
In Search of the Obscure – Using Library & Online Sources to Find Resources that are Out of the Ordinary	June 7
Transforming Library Staff Learning Through Technology Skills Assessment	June 14
Pretty Sweet Tech	June 28

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

One of the requirements for [Public Librarian Certification](#) is training in the basic skills of librarianship. This requirement may be fulfilled by completion of formal education in an institution of higher learning or completion of approved continuing education or certification courses, including the Nebraska Library Basic Skills Training Courses.

Why participate in the Public Librarian Certification program?

- Improves library service throughout the state
- Motivates librarians to acquire, maintain, and develop skills through basic and continuing education
- Provides guidelines for public library boards to use in selecting and retaining personnel

Recognizes public librarians who update their knowledge and skills on a continuing basis to provide better library service for the community

Basic Skills training is presented as a series of online asynchronous courses through *NCampus*. Basic Skills participants are required to complete at least thirteen modules - six requisite modules and seven electives. These must be completed during the provisional (first) three-year certification period.


For each course successfully completed, participants will earn 2 CE credits. These count toward the 45 CE credits that all participants must earn during each three-year recertification period.

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2023 Schedule

*

Class Dates	Class	Instructor
5/8 - 5/19	Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*	Cindy Osborne
6/5 - 6/16	Readers' Advisory	Tammi Thiem
7/3 - 7/14	Reference	Christa Porter
7/24 - 8/4	Library Policy	Holli Duggan
8/14 - 8/25	Collection Management*	Denise Harders
8/28 - 9/8	Programming & Outreach	Christa Porter
9/18 - 9/29	Community & Library*	Sam Shaw
10/16 - 10/27	Management/Supervision	Cindy Osborne
11/6 - 11/17	Leadership	Tammi Thiem
11/27 - 12/8	Library Services to Children & Teens	Sally Snyder

*= Required Class



Nebraska Library Commission

Library Commission News & Announcements

Featured Resource from the
Nebraska Library Commission

Friday Reads: I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys
 Romania, 1989. Cristian Florescu (17) and his family are barely surviving the regime of Nicolae Ceaușescu. There are spies everywhere, and due to a small mistake, now Cristian is forced to spy on his neighbors and the family his mother cleans house for, an American who works for the American Embassy. ...
Posted by Sally Snyder on 4/21/2023 8:50 AM [More](#)

#BookFaceFriday "The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise" by Dan Gemeinhart
 Get ready to hit the road with this week's #BookFaceFriday! Looking for the next great read for your middle grade book club? The Nebraska Library Commission's has book club kits in multiple genres for a wide range of reading levels, including historical fiction, mysteries, adventure stories and more! How about this realistic fiction title, "The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise" by Dan Gemeinhart ...
Posted by Aimee Owen on 4/21/2023 8:08 AM [More](#)

Throwback Thursday: A to Z Dress Shop
 It's time for another #ThrowbackThursday from Nebraska Memories! This week, we have a 4" x 5" acetate negative of the interior of A to Z Dress Shop, located in David City. This image is part of the [Boston Studio Project](#)...
Posted by Kayla Henzel on 4/20/2023 8:15 AM [More](#)

On the [homepage](#) of the Nebraska Library Commission you will discover regular updates.

Here are a few favorites:

- ◆ Throwback Thursdays - Kayla Henzel selects historical photographs from Nebraska Memories!
- ◆ Friday Reads: Book reviews from NLC Staff
- ◆ #BookFaceFriday: Book reviews from NLC Staff highlighting Book Club Kits available for checkout.
- ◆ Book Club Spotlights from Mackenzie Morrow

Library and Information Services

Fall 2023 Online Course Offerings

Aug. 21, 2023 – Dec. 15, 2023

Enrollment for Fall Semester 2023 opens

Monday, April 10, 2023

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course, the recommended first in the Library and Information Services curriculum, provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- Library history and organizations
- Foundation Principles/Code of Ethics
- Information databases and Internet usage

LIBR 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies

Michael Straatmann, Instructor

This course includes the theories, concepts and activities integral to leading and managing 21st Century libraries and information agencies.

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies and procedures

LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum

Patty Birch, Instructor

This capstone course is the last course in the Library and Information Services program. Students will complete 40 hours of service learning in a host library. The course also includes a review of the principal pieces of learning from the LIS program.

- Prerequisites: LIBR 1010, 2100, 2150, 2210, & 2250

<i>Fall 2023</i>	<i>Spring 2024</i>
Libr 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services	Libr 2100 Reference Resources and Services
Libr 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies	Libr 2210 Develop and Organize Collections
Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum	

New changes...

Beginning Fall 2023, the LIBR 2210 Cataloging & Classification course has been merged with the LIBR 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries & Information Agencies class. The new combined class is LIBR 2210 Develop and Organize Collections to be offered in Spring 2024.

And the Library & Information Services Certificate has been reduced from 18 credit hours to a 15-credit hour program.



For more information on the Library and Information Services program, see:

<https://www.ccnneb.edu/lis/>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration contact:

Dee Johnson djohnson@ccnneb.edu

402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

Central Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

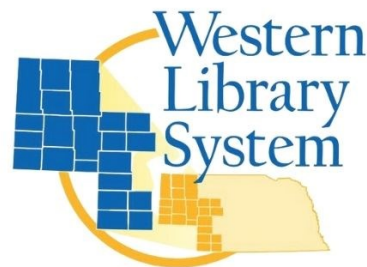
This class will be offered again in 2023 and twice in 2024.. Time and place announced later.

Please register [here](#):

The Zoom link will be sent to the registrants and the recording link to all Public Library Directors.

ABC's of a Community Needs Response Plan

Accreditation
Basic Tools
Community Well-Being



This class will assist libraries required to update or develop a community needs response plan for accreditation.

MAY 4, 2023
2 pm - 3:30 pm MST

1.5 Continuing Education Credits



IN-PERSON, VIRTUAL, RECORDED
RIVERSIDE BUSINESS PLAZA
SCOTTSBLUFF

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Collections and Conversations

Tuesday, June 6: 10:30-11:30 (Mountain Time)

1 Continuing Education Credit

How do we talk with our patrons and residents about controversial books, materials and programs?

We will cover:

- Guiding Documents (Freedom to Read and Watch, Code of Ethics, etc)
- Creating Solid Policies
- Conducting Conversations instead of Confrontations



Zoom or in person

**Riverside Business Plaza
615 S. Beltline Hwy. West
Scottsbluff**

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission

Participate in this interactive session in person or on Zoom using [this link](#). No registration is required.

School Librarians In The Digital Age

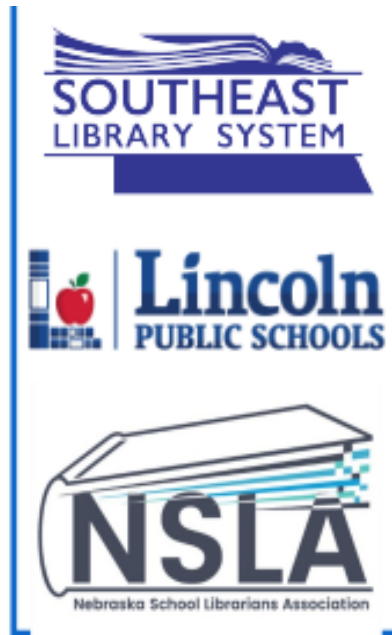


Image courtesy of the AI system DALL-E2

Topics:

9:00 am: **ChatGPT: Exploring Potential & Pitfalls of AI in Education** with Tammy Lind and Adam Kurth

10:00 am: **Promote Your Library by Maintaining a Meaningful Library Website and Engaging through Social Media** with Joy Harvey and Emily Jacobs

11:00 am: **A Digital Studio in Your School Library: Creating Studio Space where Students can Practice Collaboration, Communication, and Creativity** with Sara Friest

June 7

9 am – 12 pm

Via Zoom

[Register Here](#) by June 5th.

Resources for Librarians and their Communities

BROADBAND RESOURCES ~

The Federal Communications Commission defines broadband as:

The term broadband commonly refers to high-speed Internet access that is always on and faster than the traditional dial-up access. Broadband includes several high-speed transmission technologies such as: Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), Cable Modem, Fiber, Wireless, Satellite, Broadband over Powerlines (BPL). The current minimum broadband speeds from 25 megabytes per hour Mbps. Congress and the FCC are looking at raising the speed to 100 Mbps. This is the recommended minimal speed needed to process information on the Internet effectively and efficiently.

The State of Nebraska is establishing a [Broadband Office](#). Governor Pillen said the following in the announcement of the new office. "Affordable, accessible, dependable, and high-speed broadband is both a quality-of-life necessity and a key to doing business in the 21st century. We need to have internet speeds as fast and reliable in rural communities as we have in downtown Omaha. Our kids are our future, and broadband is essential to keeping our kids and having them flourish in our state. As we expand and improve broadband access, we will be growing future investment and prosperity in Nebraska. The Nebraska Library Commission offers excellent resources for libraries on their [website](#)."



The Nebraska Public Service Commission, the Nebraska Broadband Office and the Office of the Chief Information Officer/Nebraska Information Technology Commission are cosponsoring community listening session on how to best upgrade broadband access and digital opportunities in Nebraska.

According to the press release:

The sessions are meant "to engage a diverse cross-section of Nebraskans to inform the development of comprehensive plans to best address digital equity needs throughout the state and broadband deployment for unserved and underserved Nebraskans."

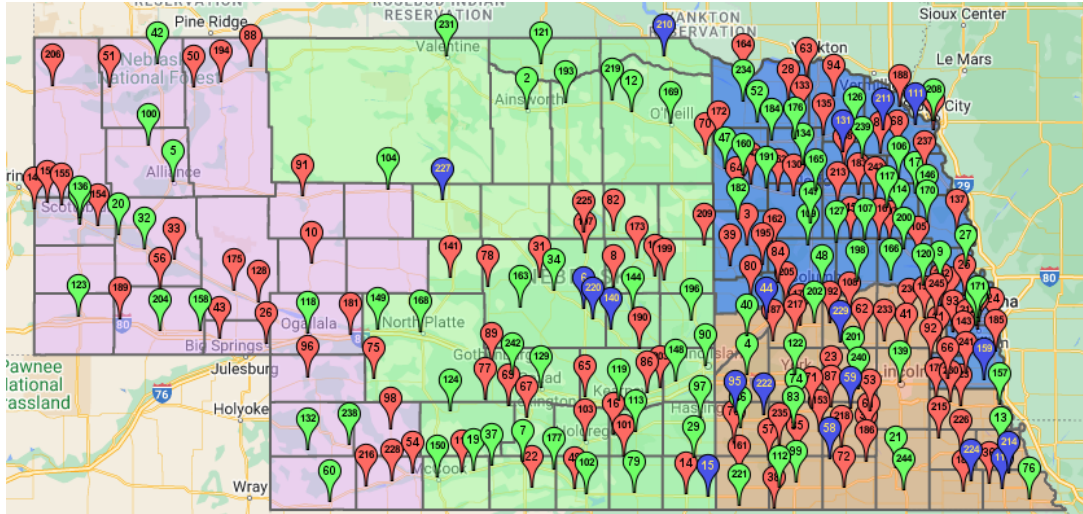
Detailed information on the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and the Digital Equity Planning Initiative will be provided, along with the current state of broadband adoption and affordability in Nebraska.

Sessions will be held:

- May 8, 5 pm Cheyenne County Community Center
627 Toledo St
Sidney
- May 9, Noon Guadalupe Center
1200 E. Ninth
Scottsbluff
- May 9, 5 pm Student Center ~ Scottsbluff Room
Chadron State College
1000 Main St.
Chadron
- May 11, 5 pm Knight Museum & Sandhills Center
908 Yellowstone Ave.
Alliance

More sessions are planned to ensure all areas of Nebraska are covered. Sessions in the south and east portions of the Western Library System will be announced on the wlslistserv when the dates and places are available.

How will the State of Nebraska help libraries receive high speed internet services?



This map shows libraries with high speed internet (green) those without (red) and libraries that did not provide data (blue) Map created by Nebraska Library Commission.

The State needs input and feedback from all libraries to assist them with funding allocations and ensuring high speed internet for every Nebraskan.” Rod Wagner, Director of the Nebraska Library Commission offered this in a recent press release”.

“In our commitment to deployment of fiber optic internet to all Nebraska libraries, we applaud the work of the Public Service Commission (PSC) and Governor Pillen’s leadership on these issues,” said Nebraska Library Commissioner Director Rod Wagner. **“We encourage all Nebraska libraries to provide comments to the PSC during this open comment period”**

For libraries without high speed internet, please let the commission know what is holding your library or city/village back from getting fiber into your libraries—Details such as:

- Monthly Costs
- Tech Support
- Initial Build-Out Costs
- E-rate Requirements
- Other reasons relevant to your community

Fellow libraries with fiber connections may want to comment on:

- How your library better serves your community with high speed success stories
- What worked with the process of obtaining these connections.
- What could have worked better

Resources and links:

To participate by providing comments read the questions in the [NUSF-117 P.O.1](#) docket.

File your comments by sending to: psc.nusf-filings@nebraska.gov by Friday, May 25 at 5 pm Central Time and 4:00 pm Mountain Time)

Here is a link discussing the E-Rate Special Construction Funds

[E-Rate Special Construction Funds](#)

May is



To observe and promote Mental Health Month, the Western Library System is offering an **incentive** to academic, school and public libraries to support May Mental Health Awareness Month. Prepare a book display or plan other activities and send a short article and picture for publication in the Western Sun. **The WLS will provide funding up to \$30.00 for mental health books or materials for your library or school. You will either select the item and the System will pay or the System will reimburse you.**

Purchase green light bulbs for the exterior of your library or home or use safe green lighting covering. Lime green is the symbolic color for the commemoration.

ESU 13, Panhandle Partnership, Western Community Health Resources, Chadron Public Library, local mental health professionals and Chadron State College and others partner each year to promote Mental Health Awareness Month. Activities include promotional information raising and lighting of C-Hill in lime green,

Check the Mental Health Awareness [Facebook page](#) for more information.



Avon Free Public Library's Display, Avon, Connecticut

THE PANHANDLE OF NEBRASKA RAISING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
#daretobementalhealthaware #greenribbon

HOW YOU CAN RAISE AWARENESS FROM HOME!

- WEAR GREEN SATURDAY, MAY 9 FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY**
- CREATE CHALK ART MESSAGES PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS!!**
- HAVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH AND HELP STOP THE STIGMA!**

RAISE AWARENESS & SHOW SUPPORT BY UPLOADING PICTURES TO FACEBOOK AND TAGGING @MHAWARENESSNEPANHANDLE

Don't Have A Facebook? We'll Add It For You!
Please Email Your Photos!
jessica.lecher@panhandlepartnership.com



Chimney Rock National Monument honors the month with green lighting.

For more ideas, check the 2023. [Mental Health Awareness Toolkit](#)



The AASL National Conference is the only national conference devoted solely to the needs of school librarians

The America Association of School Librarians invites you to the “Learning Together ~ Standing Together National Conference in Tampa Bay.

Information with active links to register and submit idea lab and poster proposals is available on the [AASL Conference page](#). The Registration link also provides a template for writing convincing requests to administrators to attend.

The AASL Board of Directors wrote an [inspiring letter](#) encouraging School Librarians to be “Learning Together ~ Standing Together.

Watch this motivating [YouTube](#).-



ARSL Conference 2023 ~ Wichita, Kansas ~ September 2023

On the ARSL website the conference is described as: “the conference for rural and small libraries. Our conference planners and presenters understand the constraints of shoestring budgets, small spaces, and limited staffing within small and rural libraries, as well as the unique opportunities for innovation and collaboration. Our conference is packed full of information you can take right back to your library—no scaling down required. “

The ARSL Conference is a wonderful opportunity to meet with like-minded library staff who understand what it is like to operate in a small and/or rural library. Learn new advancements, collaborate with people across the nation and enjoy a time for personal and professional growth and fun.

Contact the WLS office if you are interested in connecting with the Eastern Nebraska libraries to ride together. There may be several options.





**Joint Youth Services Retreat
August 31- September 1,
2023**

**Camp Carol Joy Holling
Ashland**



The 29th Annual Joint Services Retreat sponsored by the four State of Nebraska Regional Library Systems is scheduled before Labor Day weekend.

School and public librarians are encouraged to experience the rich benefits of learning, sharing and camaraderie in the bucolic setting of Camp Carol Joy Holling.

Past retreats have presented sessions with: author talks; “best of” children's, tweens and teen books; gaming; technology kits; storytimes; storytelling and more.

Details will be forthcoming.

Contact the Western Library System office if you are interested in carpooling!

Featured Resource from the Nebraska Library Commission

Library Commission News & Announcements

Friday Reads: I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys

Romania, 1989. Cristian Florescu (17) and his family are barely surviving the regime of Nicolae Ceausescu. There are spies everywhere, and due to a small mistake, now Cristian is forced to spy on his neighbors and the family his mother cleans house for, an American who works for the American Embassy. ...

Posted by Sally Snyder on 4/21/2023 8:50 AM

[More](#)

#BookFaceFriday "The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise" by Dan Gemeinhart

Get ready to hit the road with this week's #BookFaceFriday! Looking for the next great read for your middle grade book club? The Nebraska Library Commission's has book club kits in multiple genres for a wide range of reading levels, including historical fiction, mysteries, adventure stories and more! How about this realistic fiction title, "The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise" by Dan Gemeinhart ...

Posted by Aimee Owen on 4/21/2023 8:08 AM

[More](#)

Throwback Thursday: A to Z Dress Shop

It's time for another #ThrowbackThursday from Nebraska Memories! This week, we have a 4" x 5" acetate negative of the interior of A to Z Dress Shop, located in David City. This image is part of the [Boston Studio Project](#)...

Posted by Kayla Henzel on 4/20/2023 8:15 AM

[More](#)

Book Club Spotlight - The Loren Eiseley Reader

It's finally the best week of the year- National Library Week!...

Posted by Mackenzie Marrow on 4/25/2023 10:30 AM

[More](#)

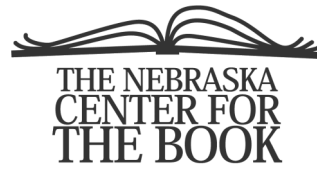
On the [homepage](#) of the Nebraska Library Commission you will discover regular updates. Here are a few favorites:

- ◆ Throwback Thursdays - Kayla Henzel selects historical photographs from Nebraska Memories!
- ◆ Friday Reads: Book reviews from NLC Staff
- ◆ #BookFaceFriday: Book reviews from NLC Staff highlighting Book Club Kits available for checkout.
- ◆ Book Club Spotlight by Mackenzie Marrow





and the



One Book One Nebraska ~ 2023

The Mystery of Hunting's End by Mignon G. Eberhart

People across Nebraska are encouraged to read the work of a Nebraskan — and then talk about it with their friends and neighbors. *The Mystery of Hunting's End* (Bison Books, 1998) by Mignon Eberhart is the 2023 One Book One Nebraska selection.

In a recent featured story for the Flatwater Free Press, Carson Vaughan wrote a delightful story on Mignon Eberhart titled. ["New Mystery: Remembering Nebraska's forgotten 'whodunit queen' "](#)

The Nebraska Center for the Book offers this information on the book.

"The Mystery of Hunting's End is a 1930s chiller, inspired and set in the Sand Hills of Nebraska, where Mignon G. Eberhart lived as a newlywed. Smack in the middle of the rolling desolation is Hunting's End, a weekend lodge owned by the rich Kingery family. To that place socialite Matil Kingery invites a strange collection of guests — the same people who were at the lodge when her father died of "heart failure" exactly five years ago. She intends to find out which one of them murdered him. The selection committee for the 2023 One Book One Nebraska enjoyed the concept of a mystery. This is a book that keeps the reader guessing as to who is behind the murders taking place in a lodge outside of Valentine during a blizzard. Why were these murders committed, are any of the guests staying at the lodge safe, and who is the killer? The book is full of colorful characters, including Nurse Sarah Keate and detective Lance O'Leary. The reader is challenged to find clues that will lead to the discovery of who is the guilty party. Mignon G. Eberhart was born and raised in Lincoln, NE. She had a long and celebrated career, writing a total of 59 novels, earning her the Grand Master Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America. She died at the age of ninety-seven in 1996.

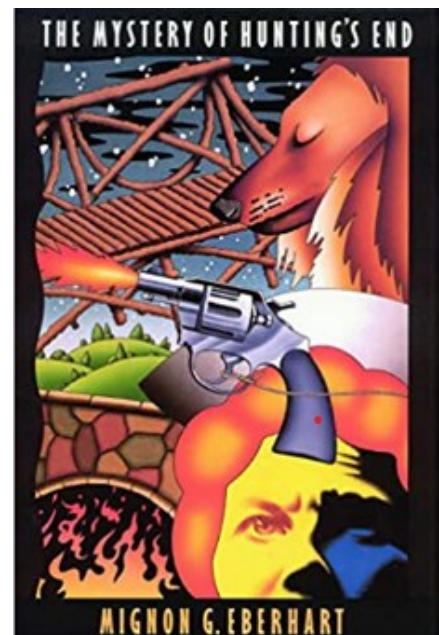
Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities are available at <http://onebook.nebraska.gov>.

Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/OneBookOneNebraska/>

2023 will mark the nineteenth year of the One Book One Nebraska reading program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss one book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. The Nebraska Center for the Book invites recommendations for One Book One Nebraska book selection year-round at:

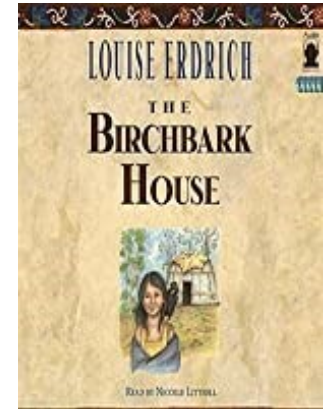
<http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/obon-nomination.asp>.



One Book For Nebraska Kids and Teens ~ 2023

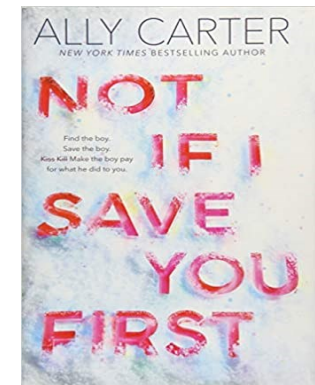
Kids: *The Birchbark House* by Louise Erdrich

Links	Activities
Author Information	Alphabet Soup
Discussion Prompts from Scholastics	Snowball Fight
Book Club Kit	Indigenous Tribes of Nebraska
Sounds of The Birchbark House	Mini Book Review Sheet



Teens: *Not If I Save You First* by Ally Carter

Links	Activities
Book Website	Mad Libs
Author Information	Headbands Game
Discussion Guide from The Little By Little Home	Snowball Fight
Book Club Kit	Mini Book Review Sheet
	How to Make an Axe Throwing Game from I Like To Make Stuff



Book Club Kits

The Western Library System circulates the following bookkits.

The number of copies varies with each kit. The selections in **bold** are One Book One Nebraska bookkits.

Send your requests to borrow and for additional bookkit selections to the Western Library System Office.

- ◇ **All the Gallant Men: An American Sailor's Firsthand Account of Pearl Harbor**—Donald Stratton
- ◇ [Because of the Rabbit](#)—Cynthia Lord
- ◇ **Bones of Paradise**—Jonis Agee
- ◇ [Book Woman of Troublesome Creek](#)—Kim Michelle Richardson
- ◇ [Canyons](#)—Gary Paulsen
- ◇ **Death Zones and Darling Spies: Seven Years of Vietnam War Reporting**—Beverly Deepe Kever
- ◇ [Dragon Hoops](#)—Gene Luen Yan
- ◇ [Dragon Ops](#)—Mari Mancusi
- ◇ [Lion of Mars](#)—Jennifer L. Holm
- ◇ [The Line Between](#)—Tosca Lee
- ◇ **The Meaning of Names**—Karen Shoemaker
- ◇ **The Mystery of Hunting's End**—Mignon Eberhart
- ◇ [News of the World: A Novel](#)—Paulette Jiles
- ◇ **Oh Pioneers**—Willa Cather
- ◇ **Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II**—James J. Kimble
- ◇ [Rain Dogs](#)—Sean Doolittle
- ◇ [Roll with It](#)—Jamie Sumner
- ◇ [A Single Light](#)—Tosca Lee
- ◇ [Strike Zone](#)—Mike Lupica
- ◇ [Twins](#)—Varian Johnson, Shannon Wright
- ◇ [Where the Crawdads Sing](#)—Delia Owens (with DVD and audiobook)

Golden Sower Nominated Books acquired in April, 2023 for circulation by the Western Library System. Call or e-mail the WLS office if interested.

Chapter Books

Title	Author
A Duet for Home	Karina Yan Glaser
A Place to Hang the Moon	Kate Albus
One Small Hop	Madelyn Rosenbert
Rez Dogs	Joseph Bruhac
Six Feet Below Zero	Ena Jones
Time Villains	Victor Piñeiro
What Comes Next	Rob Buyea
Willodeen	Katherine Applegate, Charles Santoso, (illustrator)

Novels

Alone	Megan E. Freeman
Amari and the Night Brothers	B. B. Aston
Daughter of the Deep	Rick Riordan
Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown	Steve Sheinkin
Paradise on Fire	Jewell Parker Rhodes
The Shape of Thunder	Jasmine Warga
Starfish	Lisa Fipps
Year of the Reaper	Makiia Lucier
Too Bright to See	Kykle Lukoff
Ten Thousand Tries	Amy Makechnie

Picture Books

Across the Desert	Dusti Bowling
Bathe the Cat	Alice B. McGinty, David Robers (illustrator)
Bear is a Bear	Jonathan Stutzman, Dan Santat (illustrator)
Chester van Chime Who Forgot How to Rhyme	Aver Monson, Abby Hanlon (illustrator)
Chez Bob	Bob Shea
Imaginary	Lee Bacon, Katy Wu (illustrator)
Knight Owl	Christopher Denise
Milo Imagines the World	Matt de la Peña, Christian Robinson (illustrator)
Norman Didn't Do It!: (Yes, He Did)	Ryan T. Higgins
Not Yeti	Kelly DiPucchio, Claire Keane (illustrator)
Something's Wrong! A Bear, a Hare, and Some Underwear	Jory John, Erin Kraan (illustrator)
Time for Bed, Old House	Janet Costa Bates, A. G. Ford (illustrator)



Western Library System Board

The Western Library Board (WLS) personifies the mission, vision and values of the WLS Regional System. By setting policy and fiduciary responsibilities, the WLS is an effectively managed 501(c)3.

Mission: The Western Library System (WLS) provides the leadership, training and support necessary to enable our member libraries to be essential and valued resources in their communities.

The election results for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 will be posted on the wlslistserv in early May.

The candidates were:

District B: Ethan Nelson

District E: Beth Falla

Public Library Representative (vote for 2)

Elaine Bleisch (Lied Scottsbluff)

Elaine Lake

Sarah Alfred

School Library Representative: Sharon Schluterbusch

The Board will have their first meeting on July 11 with an official installation of officers at the Annual Meeting on August 1 (page 29)



Western Library System Scholarship Application

- Up to \$300.00 per event for registration, mileage, meals, etc.
- All member libraries are eligible.
- One scholarship per person every two years.
- One scholarship per library every two years.
- Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System The Newsletter as a form of resource

E-mail or mail a request or complete this [Registration Form](#) providing the following information:

- ◇ Name:
- ◇ Library/School/Institution
- ◇ Phone and Email:
- ◇ Describe the activity providing information on why you want to attend this activity and how it will contribute to the library profession or your professional development.

Send all requests to: Western Library System
615 S. Beltline Hwy West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Email: wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

All library workers and boards are welcome to attend **your** Annual Meeting and celebrate your work for our communities. [Register Here](#) or e-mail or call the Western Library System Office and let us know if you are coming. Watch for more details.



TRAILBLAZING NEW FRONTIERS

Annual Meeting

August 1, 2023

9:30 Registration

10:00 Meeting

Bobbi Jo's Branding Iron
537 Main Street in Bayard

- Register by July 24
- Featured Speaker:
Loren Pospicil of the
Chimney Rock
National Historic
Site and Visitors
Center. (1 CE Credit)
- Lunch provided

Optional Activities

- **Dress like a pioneer for a chance to win a prize!**
- ***Books, Books, Books* workshop to follow at 1 p.m. (1 Extra CE Credit)**
- **Enjoy a nature walk around Chimney Rock!**

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Books, Books, Books

You have weeded...now what?

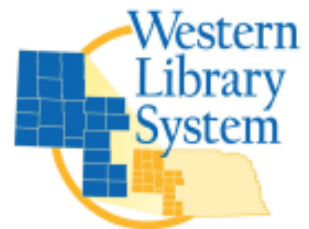
August 1
1 - 2 p.m.
In-person

Following
the Annual
Meeting

CE Credits:
1 hour

**Join Sherry Preston,
Gering Public Library,
and the Hemingford Public
Library, to learn new ways
to recycle and repurpose
weeded books.**

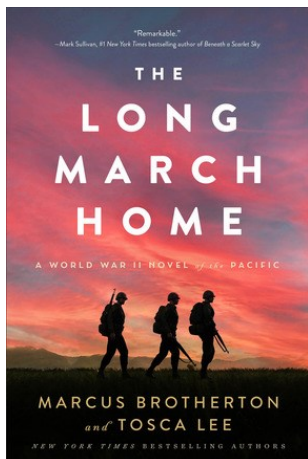
Learn to make
a book bench!



This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Western Library System Resources

The Western Library System acquired *The Long March Home* written by Tosca Lee and Marcus Brotherton. The WLS Author Tour 2022 featured Ms. Lee.



The publishers, Baker Publishing Group, describe this book as “Inspired by true stories, *The Long March Home* is a gripping coming-of-age tale of friendship, sacrifice, and the power of unrelenting hope.

Please contact the office if you would like to borrow the book. If your book group would like to read it, notify the office and a set will be purchased for circulation.



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements.

You make your own repairs. The office offers print and YouTube instructions for this self-service. Call the office for an appointment.



The Eco Autosmart Repair System is a full service machine, not just a buffer. It cleans and repairs your valuable discs. The machine repairs scratched (not cracked) discs. The office will repair your discs for you. Bring your items to the office or mail them to us.

Western Library System Board of Directors

Amber Sweetland, President
Becky Henkel
Beth Falla, Vice President
Cheryl Hamilton
Elaine Lake
Ethan Nelson
Jennifer Holthus
Judy Starke
Rossella Tesch
Sarah Alfred, Secretary
Sharon Schluterbusch

Western Library System
Cindy Osborne, Director
cindy.osborne@nebraska.gov
Cell Phone: 308-637-2060

Logan Allen,
Administrative Assistant
wlsadmin@westernlibrarysystem.com

WLS E-mail
wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

615 S. Beltline Highway West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Phone: 308-632-1350
Toll Free: 888-879-5303

“This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.”