



# Southeast Signal

*News, Events, and Information from Around the System*

## From the Director



I love it when something I mention in one of these articles leads to another article. In the December issue, I wrote a throwaway line about possibly discussing the differences between steampunk, dieselpunk,

decopunk, and atompunk. I didn't expect anything out of it at the time, but I did get a question about it so let's go into it a bit.

So for those of you who don't know, let's start with a super brief description of steampunk. Steampunk is a subgenre of science fiction that has a great emphasis on its technology with inventions and machinery powered by steam. It usually has a setting that is a variation of the Victorian era, or at least one that greatly resembles it. It is sort of like part of the world got "stuck" while other ideas moved forward. Of course – this is just a broad overview. Just like any genre – there are plenty of variations and combinations of this style of story.

So what about the others I mentioned? They are similar in that they take a historical era and create a world from those cultural and technological standards. Broadening that out, we can see someone creating all sorts of alternate histories, and that's what the others in the list are.

Dieselpunk would be based roughly on the period between the World Wars. Big engines on big machines, a strong interest in flying machines, and often an industrial "grit" is

seen throughout the setting. Decopunk is also based in that period but tends to be based on the art deco movement in art and architecture and jazz age mentality. For many readers – these two could easily be the categorized as the same thing, or at least two sides of the same coin.

And the last in the list we started with is atompunk. Take the "futurism" of post-World War II era and make it "real". Want a great example of atompunk aesthetic? Look at the Jetsons cartoon for the technology, but don't play it for laughs or just for kids.

Seeing this, now you can could do this with anything. I've seen the Flintstones used as an example of "Stonepunk". Author Ken Liu introduces the concept of silkpunk (classical Asian antiquity period with emphasis on wind and animal power) in his recent book *The Grace of Kings*. Retrofuturism is occasionally used as a catch-all phrase for all these types of settings.

So where are they shelved? Science fiction, alternative history, horror – it depends on the source. I've yet to see a "steampunk" section in a library or bookstore yet. I have seen clumps in alternate history sections, but often they are labeled as science fiction.

So there you have it, hopefully a guide to some of the emerging subgenres of science fiction and/or alternate history. Now – let me tell you about Gaslamp Fantasy books....

### In this Issue:

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# Calendar



February 15, [CASTL, Virgil Biegert Public Library, Shickley, "Privacy Issues"](#)

February 19, Presidents' Day, SELS Office Closed

February 22, [SELS 2 in 1 Workshop, 9:45-3:00, Seward Memorial Library, p. 10](#)

February 23, [Big Talk from Small Libraries](#)

February 24, [NSLA School Librarians Day, p. 11](#)

March 2, Theodor Geisel's Birthday (Dr. Seuss), [Read Across America Day](#)

March 4-10, [Teen Tech Week](#)

March 6, [NLA Advocacy Day](#)

March 9, CASTL, Walt Branch Library (Lincoln), "Rescuing Damaged Materials"

March 22, [Pay it Forward: Looking at Succession Planning, Ashland Public Library, 9:45-3:00, p. 12](#)

April 6, NLA Round Table Spring Meeting, Lincoln

April 16, [PLTS, Para, and SCYP Spring Meeting, Seward, p. 13](#)

May 11, SELS Training Extravaganza, Seward (More information coming in early March.)

May 25, Golden Sower Reading Day, Seward

# Photo of the Month



Can you guess which librarian is helping another library with their recent move?

*Answer: Sarah Johnson, Geneva Public Library, assisted the Greenwood Public Library move to their new space recently.*

# CASTL Wrap-Up

## Upcoming CASTL Meetings

February 15

Virgil Biegert Public Library  
Shickley  
“Privacy Issues”

March 9

Walt Branch Library  
Lincoln  
“Rescuing Damaged Materials”

April 13

Webermeier Memorial Library  
Milford  
“Programming Hits”

May 17

Morton-James Public Library  
Nebraska City

June 29

Sutton Memorial Library  
Sutton

The January 19th CASTL meeting was held at Syracuse Public Library on the subject of “Emergency Planning.”

One of the first items discussed was whether, in the case of circumstances that could result in bodily harm, policy should specify the movement of people in the building to a safe place. Most libraries require unattended children to accompany library staff to the safest place in the building, while leaving adults a choice as to whether to go to the designated area or leave the building.

With emergency policies it is important that a library coordinate with the city or village, because their staff and the first responders need knowledge of where people will be located in emergencies. Inviting law enforcement for a walk through before formulating final policies and procedures can be helpful, as they can provide advice and will then be familiar with your circumstances in the event of an emergency. Either the library, or someone who can call the library, should be on law enforcement’s list of numbers to call in case of lockdown if at all possible.

One should determine in advance what insurance covers and any requirements for coverage to take effect. It is important to have an inventory of items off site. Some policies may require the demonstration of effort to save a part of the collection. In case of damage, take as many photos as possible. Library procedures should prioritize the parts of the collection to be saved, such as local history, note how soon insurance must be contacted, and detail other items as needed (such as the location of a large refrigeration unit for the storage of wet items to slow mold growth).

A number of other helpful lists and procedures were discussed. For example, a solution for a situation that makes a librarian want someone nearby without escalating matters can be as simple as the communication of a code word or phrase (usually via phone), that lets someone within the library or community know that you need support.

# Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

To see the list of 2018 classes, [click here](#). Here’s what’s coming up next:

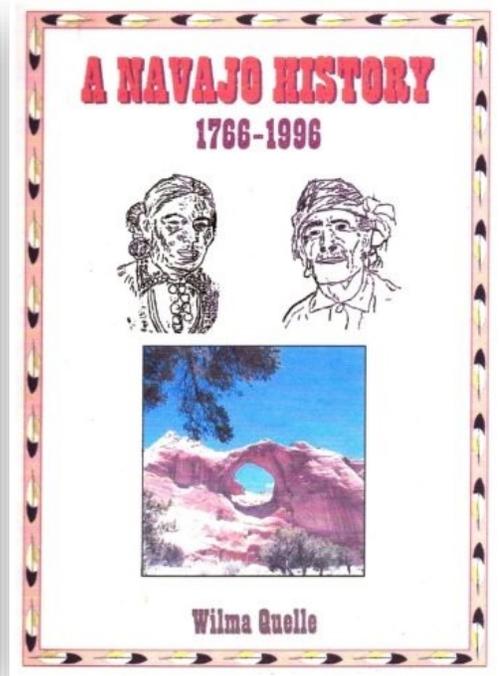
<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration</u>
March 5—March 16	Library Governance	February 5—February 23
March 19—March 30	Library Technology	February 19—March 9
April 2—April 27	Organization of Materials	March 5—March 23

# News Around the System

## Fairbury Public Library Hosts Local Author

*By Debbie Aden, photo by author's granddaughter Jenean Zunk*

On January 24 the library hosted an author signing by local author Wilma Quelle for her book "A Navajo History 1776-1996." Wilma taught elementary grades and special education on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona for many years. Publishing her book and having a book signing have been long time dreams of hers.



## Blind Dating at Central City Public Library

*By Sara Lee, photo by library board member Amy Buhlke*

In Central City, you can stop by the library throughout the month of February and pick up a blind date! Each wrapped book has a "Rate Your Date" slip. With each slip a library user returns, they can enter a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate for a dinner for two to Prairie Creek Vineyards and Winery.

Library staff selected a variety of books, wrapped them up in plain brown paper (no peeking), so people don't know the "identity" of their blind dates until they get home.

In the picture, Judy and Ella Buhlke gave their blind date with a book a thumbs up!



# News Around the System

## A Changing Tree at Fairmont Public Library

*By Wanda Marget*

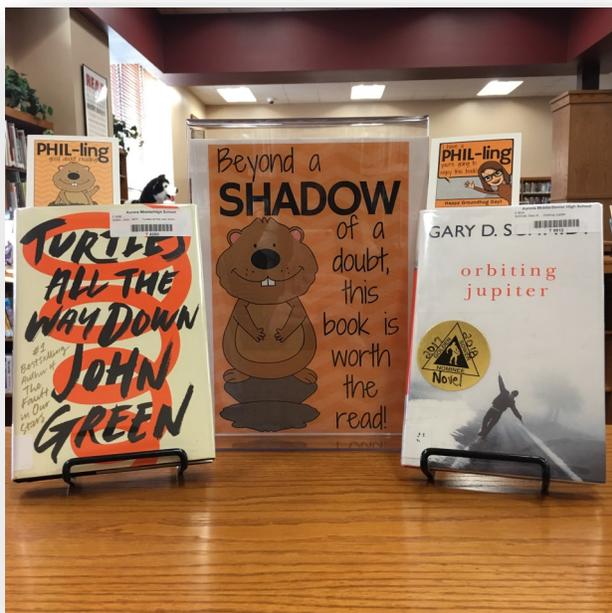
Fairmont Public Library put up a book tree for the holiday season. That tree has now morphed into a snowman!



## February Groundhog Displays

*By Emily Fiala*

This year the Aurora Media Center celebrated Groundhog's Day. Emmy wanted to decorate with something other than pink and hearts this February!



# News Around the System

## Guessing Contests at Wahoo Public Library

*By Denise Lawver*



What started out with a free wagon-load of pumpkins at Halloween for the library has turned into a monthly event.

Each month we feature a new drawing with a holiday inspired theme—October was guess the weight of the pumpkin, November was a wicker cornucopia full of whole nuts and Rolo candies, December a glass tree full of Christmas candies, January a glass snowman with more chocolates, and February with even more chocolate, of course.

This has been a fun way to engage with our patrons, encourage library visits & enjoy watching how those with a doctorate in physics get bested by a 3rd grader!! Each month the entries have increased and patrons are asking what it the next month going to feature.

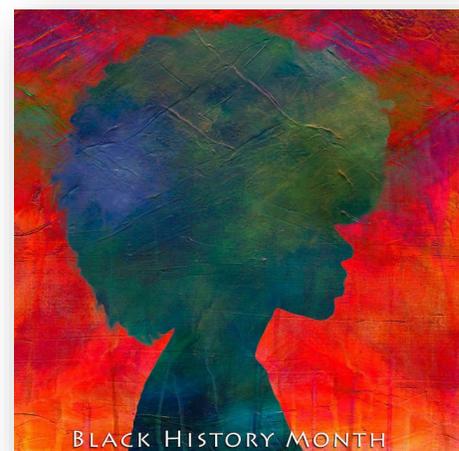
We use money from our décor sales to fund the candy, and the containers have all been items that were donated for our holiday décor sales. The staff have had a great time coming up with creative displays and it will be interesting to see what they do for August!

## Finding Diverse Resources

*By Sandra Wallick*

Following is a list of websites where you can find resources about diverse books and activities:

1. [www.pragmaticmom.com/2010/10/top-10-best-native-american-picture-books-from-debbie-reese-the-pre-eminent-scholar](http://www.pragmaticmom.com/2010/10/top-10-best-native-american-picture-books-from-debbie-reese-the-pre-eminent-scholar)
2. <https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/multicultural.asp>
3. [www.coloursofus.com](http://www.coloursofus.com)
4. <http://weneeddiversebooks.org>
5. <http://diversekidsbooks.org>
6. [www.mamajenn.com/brownlikemebooks/](http://www.mamajenn.com/brownlikemebooks/)



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Artwork: [Some rights reserved](#)

# News Around the System

## Capital Campaign Kick-off Announced in Crete

*By Joy Stevenson*

The Crete Public Library recently announced the kick-off for their capital campaign in support of the new library/community room. The Friends of the Crete Public Library have generously donated \$250,000 towards the building project. The Children’s Program Room and the Teen Room will be named after the Friends. The Friends also donated the library-themed sculpture that is part of the NEBRASKA by HEART Project.

The Capital Campaign is reaching out to all members of the Crete community in asking for their support of the new library/community room.

The Friends of the Crete Public Library have also received \$25,000 in Nebraska state tax credits (CDAA program) that are being used as an added incentive to donate. In addition to receiving 501(c)3 federal tax benefits, donations of over \$10,000 will receive a 20% Nebraska state tax credit. Individuals and business organizations are eligible for this tax credit.

Naming rights are also offered in exchange for donations. Smaller donors will also have the opportunity to support this building project. Ceramic book spines with the donor’s name or bequest are available in three different sizes.



## Round Two

*By Emmy Fiala*

Here’s round 2 of my displays in the Media Center this month. I can’t let the 2018 Winter Olympics go by unrecognized!



# One Book One Nebraska Selection

## Nebraska Presence: An Anthology of Poetry

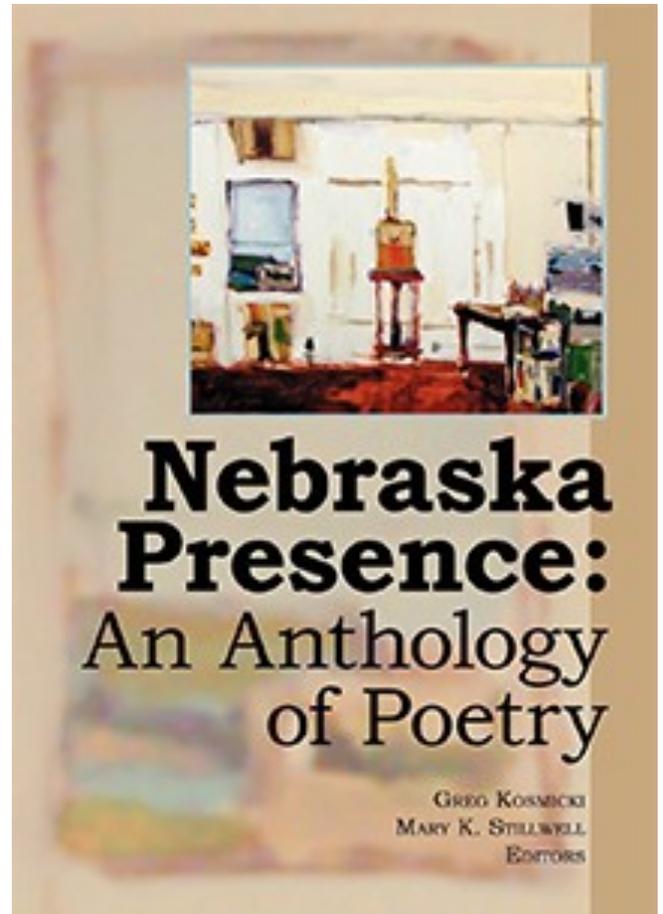
**Edited by Greg Kosmicki and Mary K. Stillwell. Omaha, Nebraska: The Backwaters Press. 2007.**

*Now available as a book kit from Southeast Library System.*

The [One Book One Nebraska](#) reading program is entering its thirteenth year. 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. A committee of the Nebraska Center for the Book selected this book from a list of twenty-seven titles nominated by Nebraskans from across the state. The Nebraska Center for the Book board announced the choice for the 2018 One Book One Nebraska at the Celebration of Nebraska Books on October 21, 2017 in Lincoln.

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 on the [Get Involved](#) page. Updates and activity listings are posted on the [One Book One Nebraska Facebook group](#).

One Book One Nebraska is sponsored by [Nebraska Center for the Book](#), [Humanities Nebraska](#), [The Backwaters Press](#), and [Nebraska Library Commission](#). The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission and brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word.





## Southeast Library System Front Porch Award Application

The Front Porch Award is presented to a library (academic, institutional, public or school) that displays ingenuity in creating an atmosphere that welcomes patrons to their facility. This award and \$100 will be presented during National Library Week, April 8-14, 2018. Non-accredited libraries are welcome to apply.

### Enclose the following with your nomination:

Name of Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual Submitting the Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- In 250 words or less, state why your library deserves this award.
- Information about activities/programs you have developed for your library.
- Two letters of recommendation from any library supporter.
- Any other information that shows your library deserves this award.

Nominations must be submitted to:

Southeast Library System

5730 R. St. Ste. C-1

Lincoln, NE 68505

[selsne@gmail.com](mailto:selsne@gmail.com)

**Application deadline is March 16, 2018**

# 2 in 1 Workshop

## Reader's Advisory, 10-12

*How do you best go about recommending books to library patrons? Becky will go over the Reader's Advisory interview, talk about advance preparation, and cover "elements of appeal."*

*Activities and scenarios will be part of this interactive workshop, including a discussion of resources that are free and easily available to help with the process of Reader's Advisory.*

**Free Lunch for those attending both workshops, 12-1**

## Weeding, 1-3

*Do you find it hard to make time for weeding? Becky will make it clear just how important weeding is, and the workshop will include a skit and some great discussion questions to keep you from nodding off in the afternoon.*

**FREE!**  
4 CE  
possible!



**Registration Deadline: February 14!**

**Seward Memorial Library, February 22**

**Presenter: Becky Heil (Iowa State Library)**

On the registration form you can choose both workshops, or you can select one of the two. Going to both means you also get free lunch!

Register at <http://bit.ly/TwoInOne> for this free workshop!

*This program is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.*

# NEBRASKA SCHOOL LIBRARIANS DAY



**LOCATION: OMAHA  
ROSKENS HALL AT UNO  
IDEAS ROOM  
TIME: 8:30-12:30  
12:30-2:30 NETWORKING**

**LOCATION: KEARNEY  
KEARNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
NIOBRARA ROOM  
TIME: 9:00-1:00  
1:00-2:30 NETWORKING**

**LOCATION: NORFOLK  
BARNSTOMERS  
MILE HIGH ROOM  
TIME: 8:30-12:30  
12:30-2:30 NETWORKING**

**LOCATION: SCOTTSBLUFF  
HARMS CENTER  
ROOM E-188  
TIME: 8:30-12:30  
12:30-2:30 NETWORKING**

Registration: FREE for NSLA Members  
\$15 for non-NSLA Members  
(pay an additional \$15 to become a member!)  
Students: \$15 registration fee & become a member)

Attendees will receive a color  
copy of the AASL Standards  
Framework for Learners  
& Morning Snacks

[Click Here To Register!](#)



# MARCH 22

## PAY IT FORWARD: LOOKING AT SUCCESSION PLANNING

### What this FREE workshop is about....

Like any other organization, libraries need to plan for staffing transitions. Pay It Forward suggests practical approaches that help pave the way for new personnel. Attendees will discuss succession planning questions like: What are the library's annual routines? What guidance do we have on budget prep...policy review...job evaluations...and where are those documents found? What vendors does the library use for print purchases? For digital subscriptions? Is there an instruction manual for the ILS system...for the public computers? Answering these questions helps light the path for incoming staff.

Staffing changes can be expected or surprising—workshop participants are sure to have “new hire” stories to share. Plus, library boards should work on their own brand of succession planning—Pay It Forward talks about that, too!

*This program is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.*

Presenter: Bonnie  
McKewon

Learn how to help  
ensure successful  
transitions

Protect your library  
from the  
unexpected  
(including sudden  
departure of a staff  
member)

Worth 4 CE

9:45 am – 3 pm

**ASHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

1324 Silver St  
Ashland, NE 68003-1816

**Register at**

<http://bit.ly/Pay4ward1>



# Spring Meetings

Sponsored by Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS); School, Children’s and Young People’s Section (SCYP); Paraprofessional Section; and the Regional Library Systems

**4 Locations!**  
 April 16 - Seward Memorial Library  
 April 17 - Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library  
 April 24 - Lexington Public Library  
 April 25 - Alliance Public Library

**Registration is \$40 per person (includes lunch)**

9:00–9:30	Registration & Refreshments
9:30–10:00	Updates from PLTS, NLA, NLC, & the Regional Library Systems
10:00–12:00	David Drozd
12:00–1:00	Catered Lunch
1:00–3:00	Dr. Sheryl Feinstein

## Nebraska’s Changing Demographics and Their Impact on Your Community and Your Library

David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska Omaha

Have you noticed any changes in your community? If your local area is following the statewide trends, the population is likely aging and becoming more diverse. Rural areas are continuing to experience net out-migration, especially at college ages, but some return in their late 20s and 30s. These and other demographic factors will be discussed so that your community characteristics and current and future library clientele is well known. We’ll cover how to obtain a profile of commonly used statistics from the Census Bureau’s website, how Nebraska communities are unique, and what demographic changes are likely in the years ahead. Everyone will find something interesting in this session that will benefit your planning and community outreach.



## Librarians Serving Youth: Supporting Brain Development

Sheryl Feinstein, Dean of the College of Education, University of Nebraska Kearney

Ever changing, growing, and eager to learn – the perfect description for youth and librarians. Libraries offer a wide range of literature and programs for children during the pre-school, elementary and adolescent ages. In the process of creating new and innovative paths to learning there is no group more eager for information and support than librarians. This interactive presentation will focus on the transforming brain of our babies, children, and teens in relation to libraries. The fascinating changes that are combusting, generating, and igniting in our youths’ brains shed light on how to best understand, support, and mentor them.



**Register and pay online at [bit.do/PLTS2018registration](http://bit.do/PLTS2018registration) or fill out the form below.**  
 Please email [PLTSNebraska@gmail.com](mailto:PLTSNebraska@gmail.com) with any questions.

Please mail this registration with your \$40 check, postmarked by April 9, to:  
 Amy Hafer, PLTS Treasurer, Hastings Public Library, PO Box 849, Hastings, NE 68902

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Belonging to (select all that apply):  PLTS  SCYP  PARA  none

Location (select one):  Seward  Tilden  Lexington  Alliance



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA  
STATE MUSEUM

University of Nebraska State Museum (Morrill Hall) Summer Reading Program VFT!

“Library’s Rock!” just got a new building block! The University of Nebraska State Museum of Natural History has created a *virtual field trip* just for your summer reading program!

**“Steady As A Rock?”** Did you know rocks change?? Your library audience will learn fun facts about the science of geology with hands-on activities and lots of movement. By the end of 30-minutes your library full of “geologists” will know how a rock forms, changes, and gets classified. A rock is not just a rock! The program also includes several rock-oriented science experiences you can do in your library before or after the VFT. We also suggest you encourage you to read The Magic School Bus – Inside the Earth as part of this program.

This virtual field trip (VFT) is a live, interactive video conference with your library audience and a UNSM Educator based in Lincoln. To connect to the museum for your VFT all you need is an internet connection, a computer with video conferencing software (we suggest the free app Zoom) and a webcam/microphone. We are happy to help you figure out the simple logistics.

The programs costs \$80.

To register or for more information please contact [elephant@unl.edu](mailto:elephant@unl.edu).



# WHY IS SUMMER READING AT THE LIBRARY IMPORTANT?

1

Children who participated in their public library's summer reading program scored higher on standardized tests than those who did not participate.

2

Children who participate in their public library's summer reading program score higher on assessment tests at the beginning of the school year than those who do not participate.

3

By the end of third grade, children who participated in their public library's summer reading program have better reading scores than those who did not participate.



Source: Susan Roman, Deborah T. Carran, and Carole D. Fiore, "The Dominican Study: Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Reading Gap," Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science, June 2010, accessed February 2, 2018, <http://www.oregon.gov/osl/LD/youthsvcs/srp.certificates/dominicanstudy.pdf>.

<http://www.cslpreads.org>



**collaborative**  
summer library program™

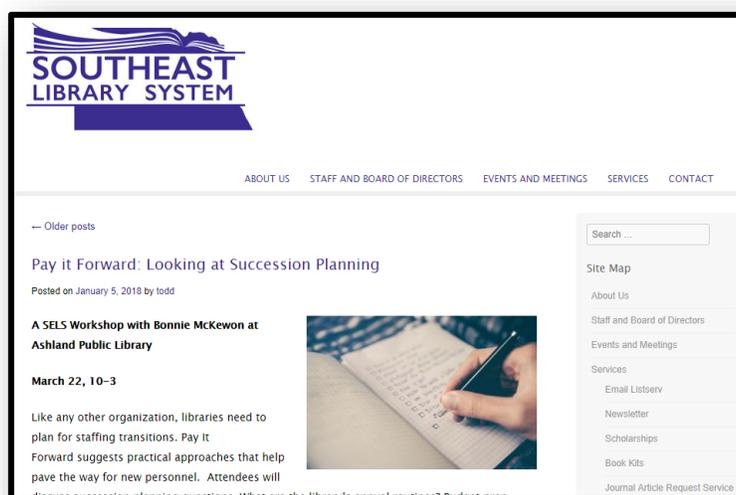
## System Spotlight

# SELS WEBSITE

Looking for some information about Southeast Library System or its services? Google us from your phone, computer, or tablet. Usually the simple search “sels ne” brings us up as the first result.

When you land on our homepage, you will see blogposts about items such as upcoming workshops and new book kits.

You can also access a page that conveniently lists upcoming events and meetings, a page with information about each of our book kits, as well as current and previous newsletters, information about the journal article request service, and the details about SELS scholarships. If you haven't already, check out our website at <http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/>



## Southeast Library System

<http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/>

Butler • Clay • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton • Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster • Merrick • Nemaha • Nuckolls •  
Otoe • Pawnee • Polk • Richardson • Saline • Saunders • Seward • Thayer • York

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