



# Southeast Signal

News, Events, and Information from Around the System

## **From the Director**

**April 2015**

Welcome to our newly redesigned and renamed newsletter!

With the new logo and the reorganization, we felt it would be a good time to make some changes here as well. That said, you'll see that we still have that same great content sent by different libraries across the area.

Looking back, the Sower logo and newsletter's name of "SoLiS" had been around for some time, at least back to the 1990s. The same goes for the brown paper front and back pages. They served us well, but it was time to update our visual image. I've had a few people who are currently involved in making movies wonder what that film canister was still doing in our logo.

Libraries likewise adapt and change over time. Physical changes of the building or even completely new building projects happen. Music and stories on vinyl records give way to cassettes which in turn give way to CDs and now some areas are experimenting with digital offerings. We've all seen certain types of books and genres ebb and flow. Is anybody still checking out the Foxfire series from your library? Libraries honor the past and patrons have some fond memories of the way things were, but not everything continues on.

So, this is our version of a new coat of paint. Some new services will continue to begin while some unused ones are dropped. I'll still come running to your library if you need me and the newsletter should continue coming to your email inbox on or around the 11th of every month.

If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

Scott Childers, Executive Director  
Southeast Library System

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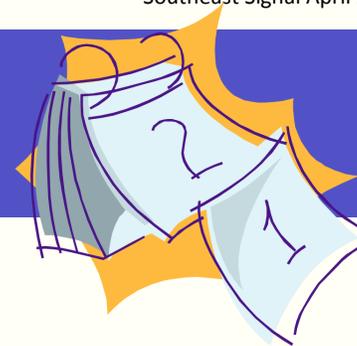
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# Calendar



**April 12th-18th—National Library Week**

**April 13th—Scrabble Day**

**April 17th—CASTL Meeting at Hebron Secret Library**

**April 19th—Bicycle Day**

**April 22nd—Earth Day**

**April 30th—Poem in Your Pocket Day**

**May 2nd—Free Comic Book Day**

**May 7th—Aged to Perfection with the SELS Friends**

**May 15th—SELS Training Extravaganza at Seward Memorial Library (see more on [page 7](#))**

**May 17th—World Baking Day**

**May 20th—Be a Millionaire Day**

**May 25th—Towel Day**

**May 22—CASTL Meeting at Ashland Public Library**

**May 25th—Memorial Day, SELS Office Closed**

**May 31st—Macaroon Day**



## Photo of the Month

A baby encounters the Easter Bunny for the first time while attending Hippity Hop Story Time at Hebron Secret Library. More on [page 6](#).

Photo by Terry Olson.

# CASTL Wrap-Up

## Upcoming CASTL Meetings

April 17  
Hebron

May 22  
Ashland

June 11  
Syracuse

July 15  
Lincoln

August 21  
Pawnee City

The CASTL meeting in March was held at Wahoo Public Library, hosted by Denise Lawver. We began with the round-robin discussion & everyone shared what they've been up to. Some folks were coming up with ideas to celebrate National Library Week, from big community celebrations to having special guests read for storytime. Several libraries have had successful book clubs, Lego clubs, and game night get-togethers recently. With summer reading coming up soon, many libraries are already making plans and coming up with programming ideas. There were some questions about how to handle local authors who are trying to sell their books; it was suggested that the author could send more information in an email, or they can send a sample chapter for review before any purchase is made. There was also a question about what to do with weeded books; sending books to Library Consignment was recommended, as was having a free-will-donation book sale.

After lunch, Lisa Kelly and Mary Geibel gave a presentation on how they manage book kit requests for the Nebraska Library Commission. The key component is their circulation software, Mandarin, which has a booking feature to allow for future book kit reservations. Using this software, they can see when books will be needed months in advance, and how many copies will be needed. Their catalog is composed of all sorts of titles, including many young adult titles, and books about Nebraska and Nebraskans. They recommended getting used copies of books when putting together book kits, so it's not a big deal if a copy gets lost.

**Please note that the May 22nd meeting has been moved to Ashland Public Library.**

## What is CASTL?

CASTL is a monthly meeting where public library directors can get together and learn from one another. Each meeting has a round-robin discussion where everyone can share what's going on at their library, followed by a training discussion or presentation. There is CE credit available for all attendees! See the schedule on the left for where we'll be meeting next!

## Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

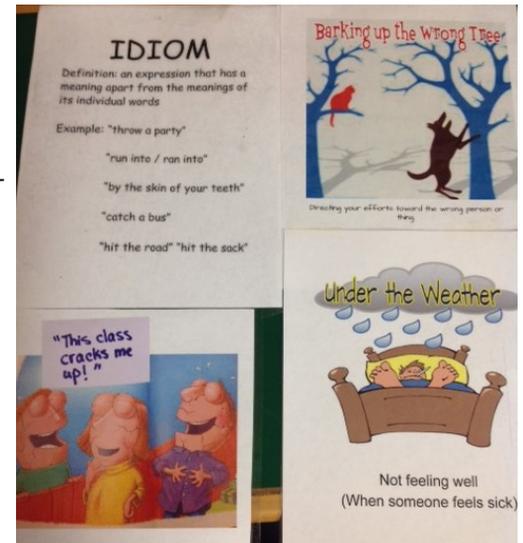
Registration will be open soon for the next set of basic skills courses, offered through the Nebraska Library Commission. To see the full calendar & register for classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration Open</u>
April 27—May 22	Organization of Materials	March 20—April 17
June 1—June 12	Library Finance	April 23—May 22
June 15—June 26	Library Technology	May 8—June 5

# News Around the System

## Visual Learning with Idioms

By Heather Kavan Here is an idea for some figurative language posters that we made in East Butler, as the NeSA Reading tests are next week for some of our students. Hopefully, the kids will remember certain terms better when they can visualize an image that goes with the words. This is one example that we put together. (The cracked up page is from one of Tedd Arnold's books called *More Parts*.)



## Nebraska Librarians Take a Break in Portland



A contingent of Nebraska academic librarians take a break for lunch while attending the Association of College & Research Libraries conference in Portland, OR, March 26-28. Pictured are: Robin Bernstein, Bellevue University; Billie Cotterman, Hastings College; Jayne Germer, Doane College; Julie Pinnell, Doane College; and Sara Williams, College of St. Mary.

Photo by Susan Franklin, Hastings College.

## Students Caught Reading at Sheridan Elementary School

By LaVonne Hanlon

Sheridan Elementary School in Lincoln hosted a "Get Caught Reading" program during its recent book fair. Every student in school completed logs for reading at least 20 minutes a day for 20 days. Students were recognized for their efforts by autographing fish cut-outs, which were displayed in the library and school cafeteria. Excited students still proudly point out their fish each time they visit the library -- and the fair was so successful that proceeds were used to purchase the majority of new books this year! Our principal even supported students' reading efforts by having pails of "seaweed spaghetti" dumped on her head during a school assembly.



## Ted Kooser's Gift to Seward

By Megan Boggs

A beautiful new piece of art was recently donated to the library by Ted Kooser. The framed, handcalligraphed copy of his poem *Lobocraspis Griseifusa*, which is about a moth that drinks tears, was presented to him shortly after he was named Poet Laureate of the United States. It was designed by Art Pierce of Nebraska.



## A Fairy Tale Storytime in Beatrice

By Joanne Neemann

Thanks to all who attended our Fairy-tale Storytimes! We added a leaf to the bean stalk every week for the children in attendance. And, we made the bean stalk grow all the way to the castle!



## Crete Students Visit Tabitha

By Laura Renker



Crete Public Library staff, along with students and teachers from CCLC (Crete Community Learning Center), an after school program, visited Tabitha of Crete Nursing Center. Students read books about spring, gardening and flowers; then worked with residents to make spring wreaths. Everybody had a great time!

## Harvard's Spring Displays

By Sharon Steenbarger



Many of our patrons are liking the various displays above the bookshelves. Here are 2 pictures of the birdhouses that went up today. It is a very eclectic group and adds interest to our library.

## Hopping into Storytime at Hebron

By Terry Olson

Approximately 35 children were in attendance for our Hippy Hop Story Time program on Saturday, March 28. Some days librarians can have lots of fun. It isn't often that we have the opportunity to don the suit of an Easter Bunny. Our guest reader for the program was Joyce Kroll.



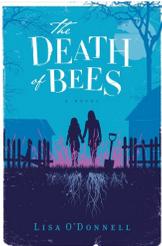
## Harvard Receives Memorial Gift

By Sharon  
Steenbarger

In the mail today was a total of \$920.00 which came in as a memorial gift for Mary Lou Ewing, a long time resident, teacher, & chairman of the library board here in Harvard. Many thanks to her children who set up this account. Their mother was an avid reader and shared that love with her children. When young, they spent many happy hours in our library.



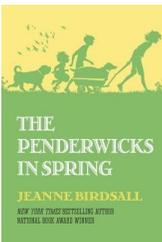
## SELS Book Reviews!



### ***The Death of Bees* by Lisa O'Donnell**

Submitted by Debbie Aden, Waverly Community Library

"Today is Christmas Eve. Today is my birthday. Today I am fifteen. Today I buried my parents in the backyard. Neither of them were beloved." When 15-year-old Marnie Doyle finds her father's body on the sofa of their seedy Glasgow home and her mother hanging in the garden shed, she and her younger sister, Nelly, decide to bury them both in the back garden. Now they only have each other. Soon, Lennie, the old man next door, realizes that his young neighbors are alone and need his help. But Lenny's got a story of his own. Told in alternating voices of the three main characters, this coming of age story brings together unlikely characters who travel a journey of self discovery and learn what is really important in life.



### ***The Penderwicks in Spring* by Jeanne Birdsall**

Submitted by Monica Tidyman, Stromsburg Public Library

I love the Penderwicks and this one did not disappoint. I gave it 5 stars on Goodreads. This book is more Batty's story as she struggles with the loss of her beloved dog, Hound, discovers a new talent she can't wait to share and looks forward to their friend, and honorary Penderwick, Jeffrey's visit. It is during Jeffrey's visit that Batty discovers a devastating secret. The secret torments her so badly she attempts to run away twice and slowly dissolves into such a depressive state she barely leaves her bed.

The book opens five years from the ending of the last book. At first this pained me, I missed five years of their lives?! But I soon became enchanted with Lydia, the newest Penderwick and it was so good to "hear" how they are all doing. The Penderwicks are perfect for young readers in 4th or 5th grade, but also timeless for a reader of any age.

# From the SELS Office

## Library Madness—The Results Are In!

The results are in for the 2015 Library Madness tournament. It was anybody's game, the competition was strong and everyone was on their A-game. Now that it's all said and done, this year's champion is...Palmer Public School! Congratulations!

The full bracket is on the next page, in case you missed any of the games over the last four weeks.



## SELS Shelves Update, + *The Homesman* Book Kit Available



This spring, much like the One Book, One Nebraska titles, we will have one book for all of SELS! It's called SELS Shelves, and this year's title is *The Homesman* by Glendon Swarthout. It's the story of pioneer women and their experiences on the plains, as well as their journeys back home to the east. A book kit is available at the SELS office for anyone who would like to check it out (10 copies—paperback).

There will be a book discussion at the SELS Training Extravaganza, for anyone who would like to join in. More details to come in your email & in the next newsletter!

## SELS Training Extravaganza

May 15, 2015 • Seward Memorial Library • Seward, NE

### Featuring Programs On:

- » 3D-Printing Demonstrations
- » Succession & Emergency Planning
- » Fresh Programming Ideas
- » And more...

Registration is \$25 (includes lunch) • 4 hrs. CE available

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- Payment Included
- Pay at the Door
- Will Send Payment Later

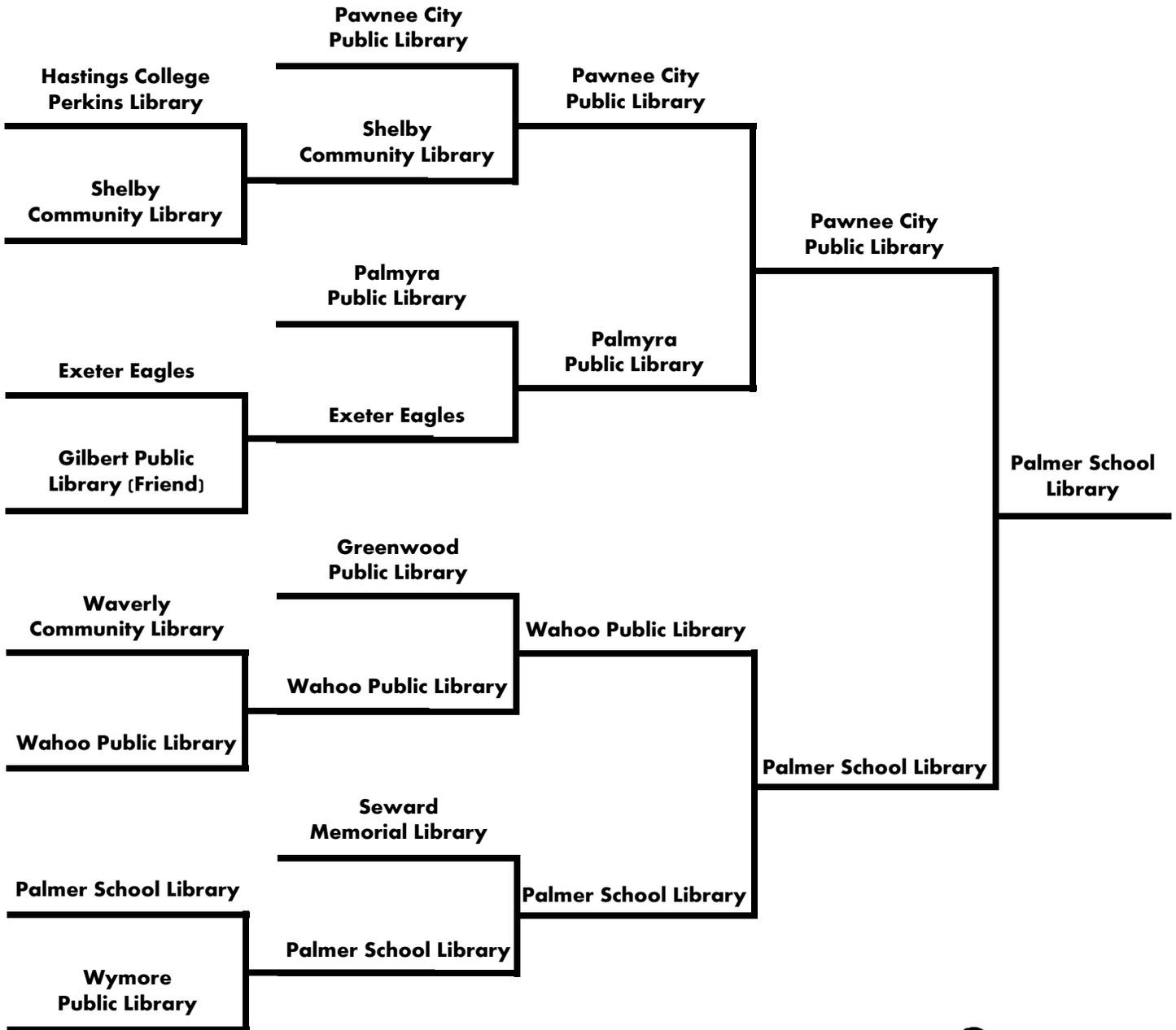
Send registrations by mail / email / fax:

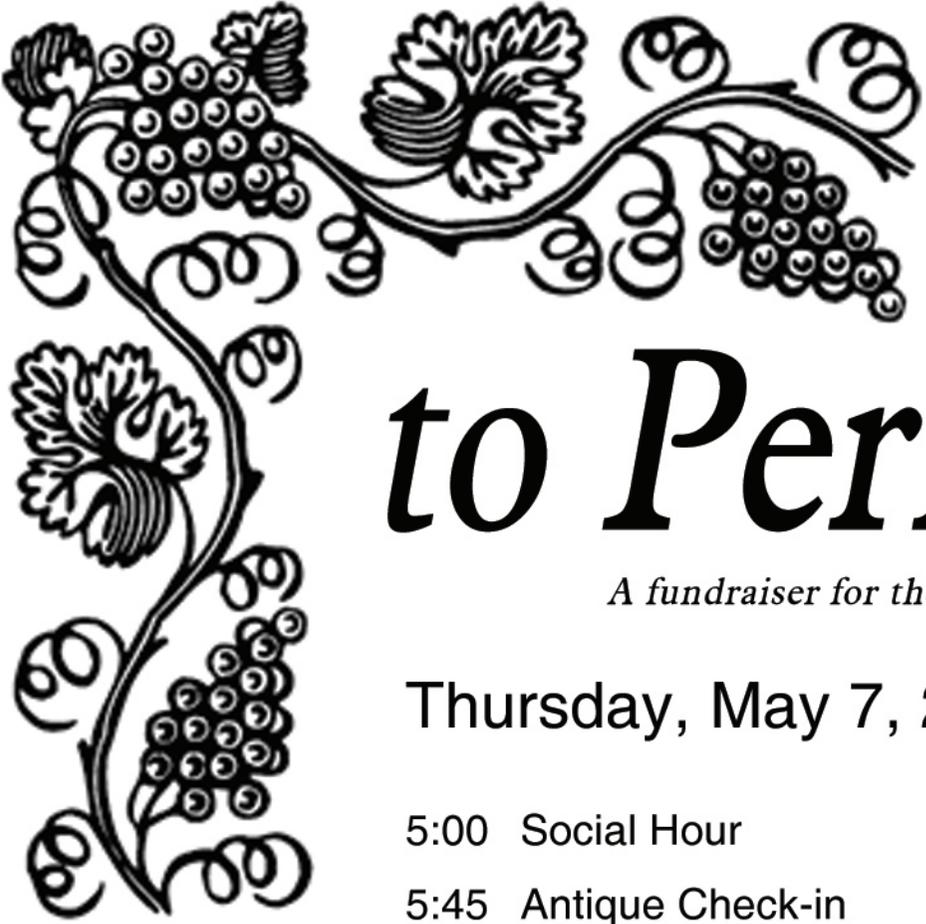
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Lincoln, NE 68505

Email: [selsne@gmail.com](mailto:selsne@gmail.com) Fax: 844-270-7004

# LIBRARY MADNESS 2015

FINAL





# Aged to Perfection

*A fundraiser for the Southeast Library System Friends*

Thursday, May 7, 2015 at Junto Winery

*For directions and more information about Junto Winery, please visit [www.juntowine.com](http://www.juntowine.com)*

- 5:00 Social Hour
- 5:45 Antique Check-in
- 6:00 Dinner (party trays; as well as fruit, veggies and dessert)
- 6:30 Informational/Appraisal Program by Tom Bassett



A mini-auction of donated "treasures" and other events will follow the program. Please consider donating items for this auction even if you are unable to attend. There will be a prize awarded for the highest selling donated item. You need not be present to win.

Your \$20 registration fee includes food and the appraisal of two antiques if you are a current SELS Friends member. If you are not currently a member, the fee includes dinner and one antique appraisal. Wine tasting and purchasing either by the glass or the bottle is an option during the event. Other beverages are also for sale.

If you have never been a member of SELS Friends, join now and your membership will extend through June 2016 and your wine tasting at Aged to Perfection 2015 will be free. For more information on joining the SELS Friends, please visit [www.selsfriends.org](http://www.selsfriends.org).



To register, please fill out and return this form by May 4, 2015:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please include \$20 for each person registering and mail to:

Southeast Library System Friends  
233 South 5th Street  
Seward, NE 68434

Admission will be \$15 at the door. (No food included.)

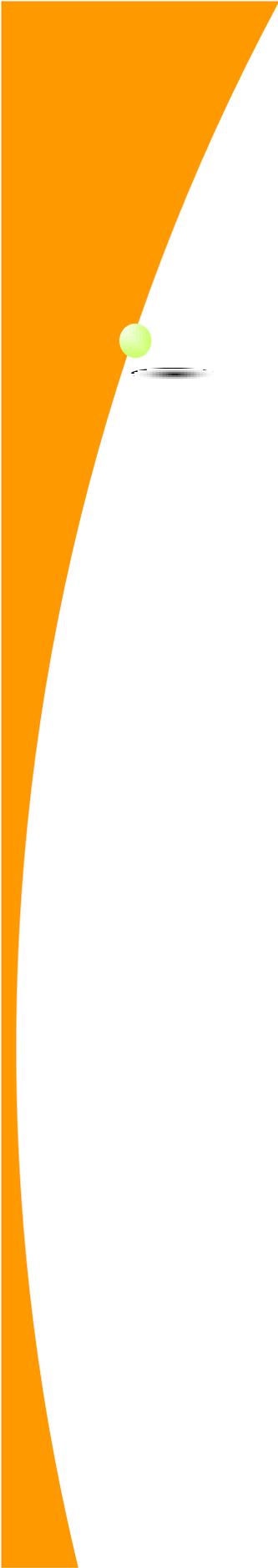
What's your library's plan for National Library Week? Kicking back with a good book and a nice cup of tea? You *wish* you had that kind of time at work? This year, find a little time for yourselves on April 17th and celebrate Southeast Library System's fourth annual...

# READ IN



Contact SELS for more information and ideas on how to celebrate the Read In at your library.

**CHALLENGING LIBRARY STEREOTYPES  
ONE PAGE TURN AT A TIME**



University of Missouri–Columbia  
School of Information Science  
and Learning Technologies  
(SISLT)  
Open House

**Saturday, April 25, 2015  
1-4 pm**

**Southeast Library System Office  
(5730 R St, Suite C-1, Lincoln NE)**

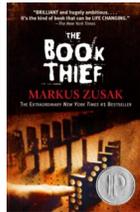
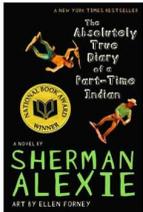
Join us for an open house and learn about the opportunity  
to earn your MLS from Missouri!

- In-state tuition
- Classes meet at UNO and online
- 39-hour program you complete on your schedule

**Laura England-Biggs  
Program Liaison, SISLT**

Phone: 402-290-3969  
E-mail: [engandle@missouri.edu](mailto:engandle@missouri.edu)

## SELS Service Spotlight—Equipment Checkout & Book Kits



At the SELS office, there's plenty of equipment that can be reserved and checked out. There is a Dell Inspiron laptop, iPad 2, projector, portable PA system, and more. There is also a full catalog of Accucut & Ellison dies! If you'd like to check out or reserve any equipment, call or email the SELS office.

There are also quite a few book kits available to check out, with many young adult and classic titles to choose from. Some sample titles:

- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- *O Pioneers!* by Willa Cather

For the full catalog, please see the [SELS book kit page](#), and see the [Services & Equipment](#) page for more resources to check out.

## Happy National Library Week! April 12th—18th

*Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you.*

*-Walt Whitman*

### Southeast Library System

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

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