



Southeast Signal

News, Events, and Information from Around the System

From the Director



In stark contrast to the recent celebration of Arbor Day, I'll talk a little bit about cutting down trees today.

A woodsman was once asked, "What would you do if you had just five minutes to chop down a tree?" He answered, "I would spend the first two and a half minutes sharpening my axe." – Anonymous

I've often seen a similar quotation being attributed to Abraham Lincoln floating around, spending anywhere from minutes to hours to cut down that darned tree. Whoever actually said it, the sentiment still rings true.

For some it seems counter-intuitive to spend any part of your valuable time preparing to get something done instead of just doing it. For those, I would ask them to imagine trying to cut down a tree with an ax that's as sharp as an old butter knife. Not even a new one, but one of those that the neighbor down the road kept around just to pry things open. Unfortunately there are many times when we jump right into a task without taking a little bit of time to make sure we know what the plan is and that whatever we need to do it is in good condition.

This tree and ax metaphor can be used for more than just actual tools. It can refer to your skills as a library employee or trustee. Keeping your knowledge up on what's out there is the same as keeping your tools ready to be used. Spend some time to get them in shape and you will be rewarded with the work being easier to do and of better quality. And yes, sometimes you have to replace the ax with a chainsaw for larger jobs, or with a smaller handsaw for delicate, more precise work.

Your mental tool box includes so many things, such as the experiences you have had, the skills you have had training for, your intuition, your attitude and so much more. Be proud of all of them, keep them all in good order, and choose the right tool for the job and you will be rewarded when the work becomes easier and results more nuanced.

Speaking of "sharpening your ax," you will notice a lot of educational opportunities in this month's newsletter. Please take a look. If you don't see anything that would help you on your upcoming projects, please let us know.

In this Issue:

Pages 1-From the Director

Page 2—Calendar

Page 3—CASTL Wrap-up

Page 4-6—News Around the System

Page 7-12—Additional News and Flyers

Page 13—System Spotlight

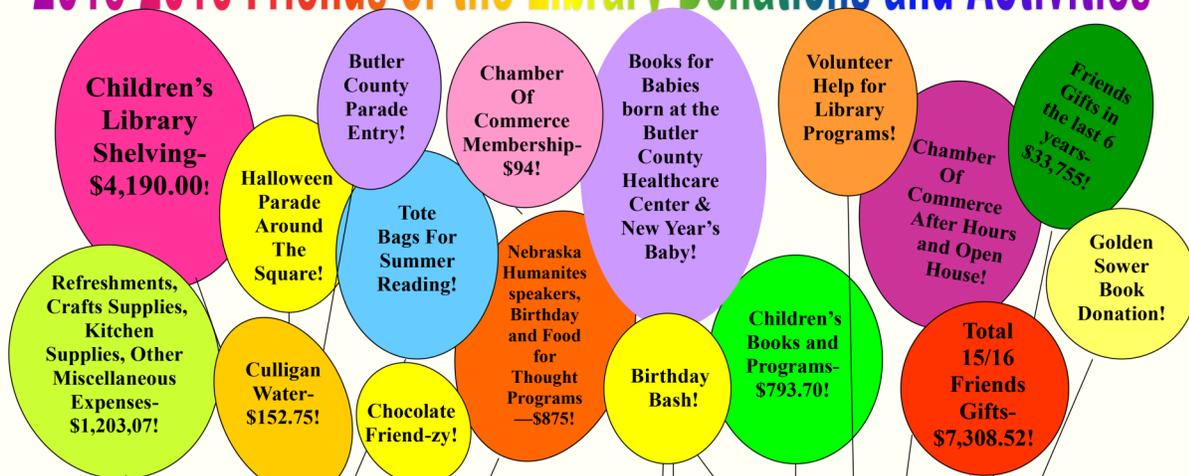
Calendar



- May 9—National Lost Sock Memorial Day
- May 11—National Twilight Zone Day
- May 12—National Limerick Day
- May 12—SELS Friends “Aged to Perfection”
- May 13—SELS Training Extravaganza, Seward Memorial Library,
9:30 am —3 pm
- May 16—National Biographer’s Day
- May 20—National Bike to Work Day
National Endangered Species Day
- May 21—#READATHON2016
National Armed Forces Day
- May 24—National Scavenger Hunt Day
- May 25—National Missing Children Day
- May 26—CASTL Meeting: Hruska Memorial Library, David City, “Favorite Books”
- May 27—Golden Sower Reading Day, Seward Memorial Library, p. 8
- May 30—Memorial Day (SELS OFFICE CLOSED)
- May 31—National Speak in Complete Sentences Day
- June 1—National Say Something Nice Day
- June 4—National Prairie Day
- June 10—School Librarians in the Digital Age, p. 9

Image of the Month

2015-2016 Friends of the Library Donations and Activities



We get by with a little help from our Friends!



Kay Schmid has found a way to bring much more attention to the Friends of the Library Annual Report! (Hruska Memorial Library, David City.)

CASTL Wrap-Up

Upcoming CASTL Meetings

May 26

Hruska Memorial Library
David City
“Favorite Books”

June 30

Morton-James Public Library,
Nebraska City
“Escape Room”

July 21

Geneva Public Library
“Weeding” with Denise Harders

August 18

Stromsburg Public Library
“SRP: Lessons Learned”

September 23

Auburn Memorial Library
“Meeting Parents Needs without Locking Kids Out”

October 28

Dvoracek Memorial Library
Wilber

The April CASTL meeting at the Gere branch of Lincoln City Libraries began with a presentation by Cindy Drake. Called “Collecting Local History,” the presentation gave background on the Nebraska State Historical Society, as well as highlighting the choices which can be made by public libraries when collecting local history.

Cindy made it a point to answer questions raised by several librarians via email as a part of her presentation. She noted that a library does not normally need many duplicate items (the state historical society’s own limit is three). Local historical societies, schools, and other organizations might be places that would be interested in some of the material donated to or acquired in the past by public libraries. She said that if all other attempts to find a home for an item fail, then it is fully acceptable to approach the state historical society. In the case of rare publications, archival copies should be made or they should be given to the state historical

society. Local public libraries will also have to make a choice as to whether preservation fits with their mission, or whether making materials available for research purposes fits a library’s goals better. There was some discussion of microfilming and scanning. Cindy also noted that www.findagrave.com is a wonderful resource, but it is only as good as the volunteers.

After lunch, discussion turned to those who use high bandwidth when a library has limited WiFi capabilities. It was mentioned that CloudTrax can not only give usage statistics, it can enable a librarian to bar a user from WiFi if they will not stop using an inordinate amount of bandwidth (relative to the total available bandwidth). Self-defense was discussed, as well as the fact that minutes must be posted or available for inspection within 10 days of a library board meeting.

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>
June 6 —June 17	Reference	April 29—May 27
July 18 —July 29	Collection Management	June 10 —July 8
August 22 —September 2	Library Policy	July 15 —August 12
September 12 - September 23	Programming & Outreach	August 5—September 2

News Around the System

Thinking Money Exhibits

Congratulations go to Morton—James Public Library (Nebraska City) and Lincoln City Libraries, which have been selected to host the *Thinking Money* exhibit.

Thinking Money is a museum-quality traveling exhibition that will be hosted by 50 public libraries between 2016 and 2018. Through an adventure-themed storyline, interactive iPad content and other fun, hands-on activities, the exhibition explores the following themes:

- ◆ Wants vs. needs
- ◆ Earning and paying interest
- ◆ Preparing for rainy/sunny day
- ◆ Imagining your future self
- ◆ Avoiding financial fraud

The exhibit is sponsored by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation and the American Library Association.



Mother/Daughter Princess Tea at Auburn Public Library

By Heather Koenecke



On Saturday, April 30th, 44 Queens and Princesses attended the 2nd annual Mother/Daughter Princess Tea at the Auburn Library. The Fairy Godmother conducted princess training, princess wands

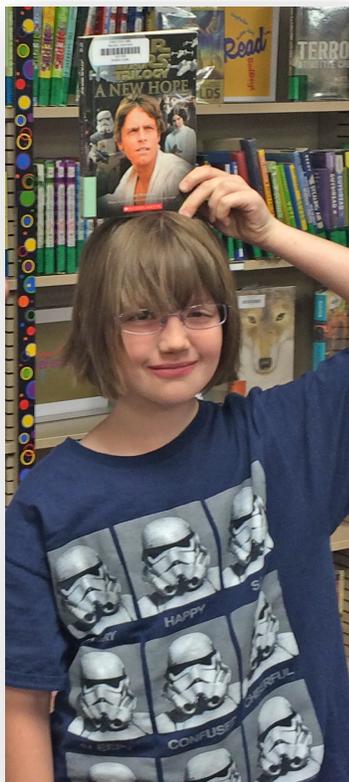
were decorated, princesses attempted to put the lips on the frog and to carry their frogs on lily pads. A state-ly parade around the library ended at the majestic banquet. The tea concluded with a royal story time.

News Around the System

Golden Sower Party and May the Fourth

By Beth Dolnicek

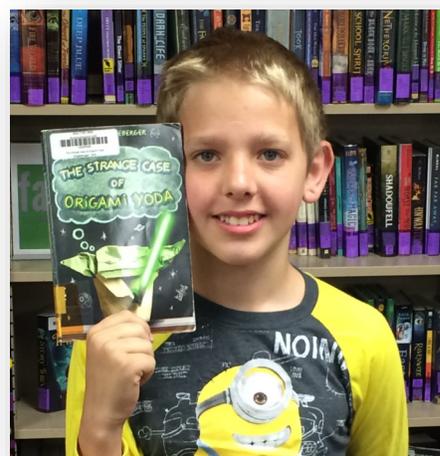
Bruning-Davenport USD students attended the annual Golden Sower Party on May 2nd. Students had to read and AR test on all ten picture books (grades 2-4) or four chapter books (grades 5-8) in order to receive an



invitation. Their librarian served them breakfast and they were the first

to find out who the winners were! The cookie had to wait until after lunch, though!

"May the Fourth" be with you! Bruning-Davenport USD students also had the opportunity to take part in Star Wars day! Students were invited to wear their Star Wars gear to celebrate. Snacks were served, t-shirts and posters were given away, and shelfies were taken with favorite Star Wars books. Here are just a couple of the shelfies...



Hruska Memorial Library Hosts Presentation on Container Gardening

By Kay Schmid

Recently, residents of David City enjoyed the presentation "**Growing Vegetables in Containers**" with Marilyn Schmit. 80 people were in attendance. A question and answer session followed the presentation. This was



also the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting, with information on the activities of the Friends provided.

Volunteers were recognized. The refreshments were provided by Quality Catering and the Friends.

News Around the System

Stephanie Grace Whitson Visits Geneva Public Library

By Sarah Johnson

Stephanie Grace Whitson presented a longer variation of her “Calico Trails” program at the Geneva Public Library on May 3. The Gilded Bee Quilt Guild helped sponsor Whitson’s visit, so she interwove stories and personal anecdotes with two suitcases full of quilts she showed the audience. Sixty people were in attendance, hailing from 13 different communities. Attendees were given the chance to purchase books, including her newest title a week before its release date! Thank you to all the libraries and quilt shops who helped advertise her program.

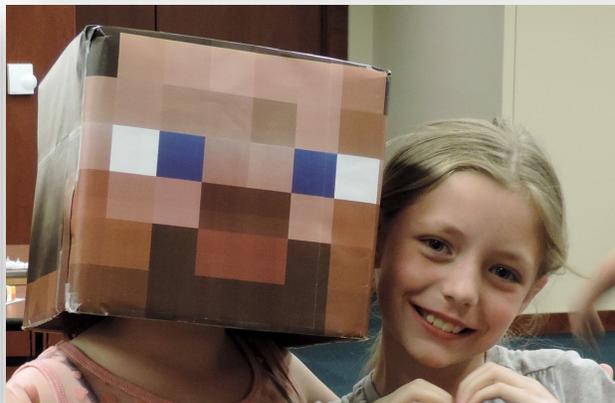


Fantastic Responses to Programs at Seward Memorial Library

By Charlotte Baldinger

Seward Memorial Library expanded their walls to include the street and city parking lot for the National Library Week finale party on Saturday, April 16. Hundreds of people came to enjoy live music, a cookie walk, games, huge inflatables, face painting, animal balloons, bike helmet fitting and giveaway, large equipment to “drive”, police car and community bus tours and, of course, food.

About 100 excited children showed up to join in the Minecraft fun after school on April 25. They rotated around the library and enjoyed special treats, played games, made crafts, and received prizes. Participants left with full hands and big smiles! The staff discovered how popular Minecraft is within the community and enjoyed engaging children in another successful program.



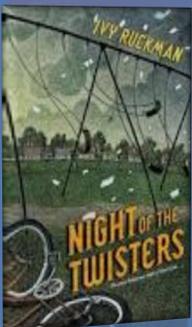
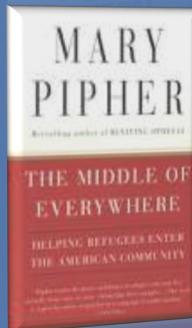
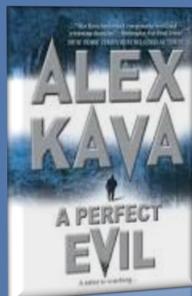
Other News

Find out more about
[#READATHON2016](#).
 It will be held May 21!

ALA
 American
 Library
 Association

#READATHON2016

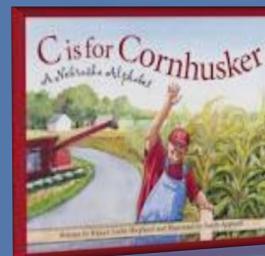
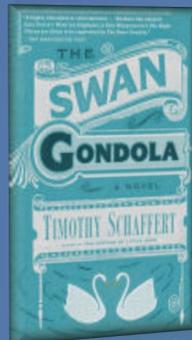
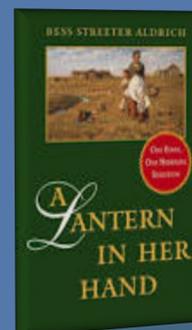
Nebraska 150 Books



brings you The Nebraska 150 Reading Challenge in preparation for the State of Nebraska's 150th anniversary.

Send in [The Nebraska 150 Reading Challenge](#) entry form by mid-February 2017. Drawings for prizes will take place on the State's birthday, March 1, 2017.

Pictured are a few of the 42 books from the reading challenge list. Get working on the challenge now so that you can check off as many books as possible! Find a way to incorporate this activity in your book clubs, summer reading, or other programs!



For more information see the above link and [the website](#).



MAY 27 GOLDEN SOWER READING DAY

Get acquainted with 2017-2018 potential nominees

Come and join us! We will have all the picture books available for you to read during the morning. (How cool is that?) In the afternoon we plan to have book talks on Chapter Books and Golden Sower Novel titles. (After all, we don't know anybody who could read all those titles in one afternoon!)

Schedule:

9:00 am

Kathy Schultz: Announcements about Golden Sower
Reading of Books from Primary List

12:00 pm

Lunch on your own

1:00 pm

**Finish Reading of Primary List; Discussion of Titles
from Chapter Book and Golden Sower Novel Lists**

**READ ALL
POTENTIAL
PICTUREBOOK
NOMINEES IN ONE
LOCATION!**

MAKE AN IMPACT!

**NETWORK WITH
YOUR COLLEAGUES**

**HAVE LUNCH AT ONE
OF SEWARD'S
CAFES**

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

233 South 5th Street
Seward, NE 68434

Register at
<http://bit.ly/ReadingDay>

May 27
9 AM – 3 PM

School Librarians in the Digital Age

June 10, 2016
9:30 am – 3 pm

Computer Lab A
Lincoln Public Schools District Office
5905 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68510

Online Registration:
<http://bit.ly/June10SchoolLibrarians>

Sponsored by:

Southeast
Library System

&

Nebraska
School
Librarians
Association

WORKSHOPS:

10 am – 12 pm
**Using
NebraskAccess
Databases in
Schools**
Susan Knisely

12 pm
Lunch
At nearby eateries

1 pm – 2 pm
**Digital
Citizenship**
Chris Pultz and Chris
Haeffner

2 pm – 3 pm
**This is not
your Grand-
mother's
Library**
Cynthia Stodgill



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

**Saturday, June 18 2016
9-11 am**

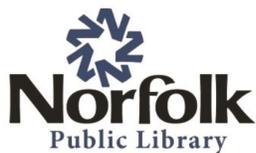
**Southeast Library System Office
(5730 R St, Suite C-1, Lincoln NE)**

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

- In-state tuition
- Rolling admissions
- Most classes online, fits your schedule
- Graduate assistantships, fellowships and awards

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

Phone: 402-290-3969
E-mail: englandle@missouri.edu



Norfolk
Public Library

LITERATURE FESTIVAL

22nd Annual

Saturday, July 30th 2016

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Northeast Community College

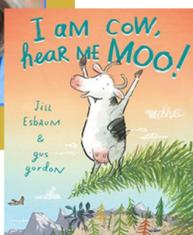
Lifelong Learning Center

801 E Benjamin Ave, Norfolk, NE

Featuring:



Jill Esbaum



2017 Golden Sower Award nominee for *I Am Cow, Hear Me Moo!*



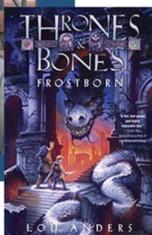
Sally M. Walker



2017 Golden Sower Award nominee for *Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-The-Pooh.*



Lou Anders



2017 Golden Sower Award nominee for *Frostborn.*



Alan Gratz



2015 Golden Sower Award YA Winner for *Prisoner B-3087.*

ALSO: 2016-2017 Golden Sower Previews by Karen Drevo & Marci Retzlaff; Book Display & Discount Sales by Norfolk Public Library Foundation of titles by Jill Esbaum, Sally M. Walker, Lou Anders, and Alan Gratz; Sales of Golden Sower Items; Autograph Session/Book Signing with Jill Esbaum, Sally M. Walker, Lou Anders, and Alan Gratz; Door Prizes; 5 Continuing Education Hours (for all day attendance) from the Nebraska Library Commission for School & Public Librarians; 5 Professional Growth Points (for all day attendance) for Teachers/Staff employed by Norfolk Public Schools.

Advance tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library OR by mail order (see attached registration/order form). For more information, contact Karen Drevo at NPL by phone at 402.844.2108 or email at kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us

A wonderful way to spend a summer day for literature lovers of all ages!

22nd ANNUAL NORFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY LITERATURE FESTIVAL

REGISTRATION/TICKET ORDER FORM

Youth and Adult walk-ins are welcome at full price the day of the Festival but lunch cannot be guaranteed to walk-ins.

Name: _____
(please print)

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Number of tickets you are ordering (ticket price includes lunch—vegetarian and gluten free options will be available):

Youth (18 and under), \$15.00 each: _____ Adult, \$40.00 each: _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Advance tickets are available at Norfolk Public Library OR by mail order. To order tickets by mail, send a completed registration form with full payment (write checks to “Norfolk Library Foundation–Literature Festival”) to:

Literature Festival

Norfolk Public Library
308 W. Prospect Avenue
Norfolk, NE 68701

If you want your tickets sent to you, provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

If no stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided, tickets will be held for you to be picked up the day of the Festival.

For more information, contact Karen Drevo at NPL by phone (402/844-2108) or e-mail kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us

System Spotlight

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, ask questions, and talk about solutions to issues. We also have a training discussion or presentation. CASTL offers you a monthly break from your library and wonderful support



[CC BY-SA 3.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/) WrydLight.com (Cropped and framed)

from your fellow directors. CE credit is available for all attendees! For information on upcoming CASTL meetings check page three of this newsletter and sign up for the CASTL email list by contacting Todd at todd.schlechte.sels@gmail.com

Southeast Library System

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

Staff:

Executive Director—Scott Childers
scott.childers.sels@gmail.com

Assistant Director—Todd Schlechte
todd.schlechte.sels@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant—Maggie Kramer
maggie.kramer.sels@gmail.com

Contact Us:

Local Phone: 402-467-6188
Toll Free Phone: 800-288-6063
Fax: 844-270-7004
selsne@gmail.com

5730 R St. Suite C-1
Lincoln, NE 68505