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Nebraska**LIBRARIES**

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The Journal of the Nebraska Library Association



Nebraska LIBRARIES

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Cover Photo Credit: *The La Vista Public Library/Sarpy Center facility serves students, library users and community members thanks to a collaboration between the City of La Vista and Metropolitan Community College. Photo courtesy of the City of La Vista.*

CONTENTS

Contents:

Editor's Message	<u>3</u>
Feature: Student Spotlights <i>Willa Bitney-Garay interviews three library science students</i>	<u>4</u>
2016 NLA/NSLA Conference Schedule and Registration Available	<u>8</u>
La Vista Public Library/Sarpy Center: Serving students and the community <i>Rose Barcal</i>	<u>9</u>
Arbor Day 2016—Morton-James on Main: Transforming Nebraska City's Library (For a Day) <i>Tom Boeche & Denise Davis</i>	<u>11</u>
TSRT – Technical Services Round Table Technical Services Competencies and Library Science Education <i>Emily Dust Nimsakont</i>	<u>15</u>
The Knee Bone's Connected to the ... Educational Games from the National Library of Medicine <i>Christian Minter</i>	<u>16</u>
Announcements	<u>18</u>
Editorial Policy	<u>19</u>
Submission Policy	<u>20</u>

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As we head into fall, school is on many people's minds. Some of us have children in grade school, or older children in college, and some of us are students ourselves. The academic schedule seems to affect our state of mind even when we are no longer students. As the weather cools, my focus seems to improve and I long for a good book and cup of tea. I hope you enjoy the season and you expand your horizons this academic year, whether or not you participate in a formal education program. Libraries throughout the state hold many resources to aid in our individual life-long learning quests.

Today, there are many options for students in our area who wish to pursue any level of library science education. Central Community College offers online library science classes that provide a good introduction to the discipline. Students at the University of Nebraska Omaha can pursue a bachelor's degree in the subject. The University of Missouri and Emporia State University offer master's degrees accredited by the American Library Association. Thanks to a collaboration between UNO and Mizzou, master's courses can be attended in Omaha.

In this issue we feature three students at three different stages of library science education. Dana Still pursues her bachelor's. Rachel Kenny has just finished her master's and Kristine Woods is working on a doctoral degree.

Fulfilling classwork in addition to work and family obligations is never easy and my thoughts are with these students as they work toward their goals. One wants to be a role-model to her eight-year-old son, another wanted to achieve a personal goal she set for

herself at a young age. All three of these students show a great respect for, and enjoyment in, their specialties — whether that is making information accessible in an unbiased, standardized format, (Kenny) or kindling a child's love of learning (Still).

To round out the issue, we have a submission from Rose Barcal, the director of the La Vista Public Library, which highlights how a collaboration between Metropolitan Community College and the City of La Vista has worked out to mutual benefit for both entities and helped provide improved library services for La Vista citizens.

Tom Boeche and Denise Davis of the Morton-James Public Library in Nebraska City share a success story of innovative library programming. They set up a temporary library on Main Street in conjunction with the city's Arbor Day festivities, resulting in a high number of participants and a greater awareness of library services.

I hope you enjoy this issue. *Nebraska Libraries* welcomes submissions from NLA members, library professionals, and anyone who is an advocate for library services. Next issue's theme is "the future." The submission deadline is Oct. 1. Please review our submission policy at the end of the issue.



Regards,

Willa Bitney-Garay
Editor, *Nebraska Libraries*



Student Spotlight: Rachel Kenny

How long have you been an NLA member?

I became a member of NLA back in 2012, around the time when I declared library science as my undergraduate major. I traded in my membership for the Oregon Library Association when I moved to the state last October.

When and how did you first become interested in libraries?

I honestly first became interested in school – obsessed with it, really. I was a quiet student who always had her nose in some textbook. Libraries were merely a peripheral thing. I went to the library often, I read books often, but I never considered it a career until I went to college. I went to college with the intention of becoming an English teacher – focusing my studies on British Literature. As a secondary education major, you have to pick two endorsements. English was a given; library science was the only other one that made sense. I soon realized that I was far more passionate about my library classes than my teaching classes. So, I changed majors. Things quickly snowballed from there. I wanted anything and everything to do with libraries. I fell head-over-heels in love, and that is no exaggeration.

What is your experience working in libraries?

My first library job was as a student worker in the interlibrary loan department at the UNO Criss Library. I worked as a paraprofessional at Clarkson College Library, Baird Holm law firm, and Council Bluffs Public Library. I did an internship at both the Omaha Public Library and the Union Pacific Railroad Museum. My undergraduate practicum took place at the Omaha Public Library, and I completed my graduate practicum at Willamette University. I've worked in academic, public,

and special libraries – and a museum and an archive. The majority of my focus has been in cataloging and digitization, but I have basically done it all – reference, programming, circulation, interlibrary loan, collection maintenance, website development, and policy/standards development. After a couple of years of successfully juggling anywhere from three to five jobs at once, I decided it was time to find a full-time library gig. Last October, I moved to Salem, Oregon, and accepted a full-time position at the Oregon State Library as their digitization specialist. I spend half my time digitizing government documents and the other half cataloging materials. I also do some work in material preservation.

What degree are you pursuing, through what college or university?

I graduated back in May from the University of Missouri with a Master of Arts in Information Science and Learning Technologies with an Emphasis in Library Science – a long way of stating that I have a master's degree in library science. I am anxiously awaiting my degree in the mail.

Why did you decide to pursue this degree and what direction have your studies taken?

After graduating with my bachelor's degree in library science, I knew I needed to go for my master's to get as far as I wanted to go in this profession. Plus, I love going to school, so I had no problem serving more time. By the time I entered grad school, I had really blanketed the Omaha and Council Bluffs job market. I knew then what I was really passionate about in this field. Most of my graduate studies leaned toward cataloging, metadata application, website design, and all things groaned about by the majority of my classmates.

What motivates you?

We exist in a world in which there is an unfathomable amount of information, and that amount is increasing at an exponential rate. Most of us obtain information through Google, social media, news feeds, etc. It is all drip-fed through countless filters and our personal digital footprint to a point where one could argue that our apps and devices, although they are trying to be helpful by tailoring our information to our needs, are feeding us only biased results. And, don't get me started on the media! I really got into metadata and cataloging because of the sheer power you have in controlling the way information is organized and the way it exists on the web. Libraries have always been on the forefront of ensuring that information is presented in an unbiased, standardized, and open way. I really respect that more than anything. Being able to say that my job is to put government information online, to make government information more accessible and transparent, and to have a hand in providing access to resources necessary for an informed and engaged citizenry is beyond empowering.

Where are you conducting your practicum and why did you choose that location?

I conducted my practicum this past spring at the Willamette University Mark O. Hatfield library in Salem, Oregon. I wanted to do my practicum in an archive, and the Hatfield library houses the university archive. Plus, the university is just on the other side of the capitol building from the State Library so that made it convenient. During my three month stint there, I was involved in some pretty cool projects. I performed some XML markup on newly digitized scrapbook pages from Norma Paulus, a local lawyer and politician who attended Willamette, to enable the oversized pages

to unfold on screen as if one were looking at the physical object. I also did a lot of transcription work with the oral histories in the Pacific Northwest Artists Archive. Artists have the most inspiring, interesting, and heartbreaking stories to share, and I really enjoyed listening to them intently. I performed a lot of regular library work like staffing the reference desk and attending meetings. A side project in which I was involved was to research the history of Willamette University in preparation for a Trivial Pursuit-inspired video game that the Science Librarian was looking to develop with help from a game design student.

Have your studies helped you in your job? How so?

My studies have helped me in my job tremendously. Throughout my undergraduate and graduate coursework, I often thought that the majority of classes I took were really basic and generalized. Once you get into a professional career, you realize that those "basic" classes have provided you with a substantial foundation of knowledge. That foundation has enabled me to go above and beyond in every aspect of my career – from developing metadata standards to arguing a library's right to exist to stakeholders. Never underestimate that power. I don't think I will ever stop saying, "Yes, I can do that. I did it in a class once."

What are your career goals?

My ultimate career goal is to play a part in changing the way information is presented to the general populace. My ultimate goal is for that information to inspire someone to make an impact on the world. My dream job title would be metadata goddess, but let's be real and say that I would just like to be a cataloging librarian.



Student Spotlight: Dana Still

How long have you been an NLA member?

I joined NLA approximately six years ago. I have thoroughly enjoyed connecting with other members and also joined the Paraprofessional section of NLA.

When and how did you first become interested in libraries?

I was hired to drive the Adams County bookmobile in 2008, and that is when the bug first bit me. I love working with all ages and seeing a child's eyes light up when you hand them their first library card.

What is your experience working in libraries?

I started working part time driving Adams County Bookmobile when a full-time position opened up working as a library assistant inside Hastings Public Library. Some of my duties include and are not limited to, bookmobile substitute driver, Interlibrary loan, Itty Bitty storytime, adult programming, and now working on Home Delivery for those who are unable to get to the library.

What degree are you pursuing, through what college or university?

I started working on my associate's degree through Central Community College and once I had completed that, I decided to keep going and I am now working on my Bachelor's Degree through UNO. I will have my emphasis in Library Science with a Minor in Gerontology. I decided to combine my two loves: books and senior citizens. The two complement each other.

Why did you decide to pursue this degree and what direction have your studies taken?

When I started working in the library I knew that this is what I wanted to do for a career. I had finally found my niche,

I was working with the public and books. I then spoke with my director Amy Hafer, and she encouraged me to pursue my associate's degree. It took me four long years attending school part-time, but, In December of 2013 I graduated from Central Community College-Hastings. My mother, son, sister and my director were there to cheer me on. By the spring of 2014 I had applied to University of Nebraska Omaha and was accepted and I am currently a first-year senior working towards a bachelor's degree in library science with a minor in gerontology.

What motivates you?

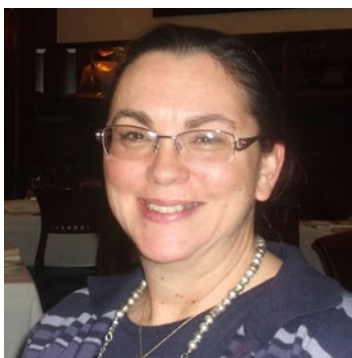
My son is my biggest motivation. Jameson will be eight in July and I want to be a positive role model for him. I want him to know that education is important at any age. I would also say that seeing a child's face light up when you read them a story or help them find the book that they are searching for, that is another big motivator for me.

Have your studies helped you in your job? How so?

They have helped me tremendously! I have learned about new emerging technologies, how to better help our senior patrons, and how to have storytimes that engage young minds. They have also helped me to become more proactive with my work. I am constantly thinking of ways that we can help our patrons and each other to make our library well-rounded and a place that our community comes to seek help.

What are your career goals?

Right now I would say my career goals would be to continue to work at the Hastings Public Library and to help in any way I can to move our library forward both in philosophy and growth.



Student Spotlight: Kristine Woods

How long have you been an NLA member?

I have been a Nebraska Library Association member for over three years. I joined as a student on September 24, 2012 in order to attend the 2012 MPLA/NLA/NEMA Annual Conference held in LaVista, Nebraska from October 17th-19th. It was a wonderful conference, and it coincided with the beginning of my program at Emporia State University. I am a member of the Technical Services and Information Technology and Access Round Tables and the Paraprofessional and Public Library & Trustee Sections. I am the outgoing spring meeting chair for the Paras.

When and how did you first become interested in libraries?

I have always loved libraries, particularly public libraries. Some of my fondest early memories take me back to a wonderful library in an impoverished section of North Las Vegas that my older sisters took me to as a child. I believe that this was the genesis for my own love of reading. Libraries promote literacy by being a fun place to take children, provide access to information, and encourage and support lifelong learning.

My ninth grade honors English teacher taught me how to value the love of learning. Although economically my family was not well off, I am rich because I come from a family of readers. I was elected president of Mustang Readers library club my senior year of high school. Somehow, through serendipity things work out. After retiring from the United States Air Force in telephone systems, I took a year off to decide my next step in life. I remembered the adage "if you do what you love, it's not really work."

I connected to my past when I took a part-time position at the Bellevue Public Library. I currently work in technical services. The library has become my dream job.

What is your experience working in libraries?

Prior to my current position, I volunteered at base libraries (Norton and Offutt Air Force Bases) but do not plan to continue as either the base or the library inevitably closes.

What degree are you pursuing, through what college or university?

I am pursuing a PhD through Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management, and am a member of the 2012 SLIM PhD cohort. I am in the dissertation proposal writing stage.

Why did you decide to pursue this degree and what direction have your studies taken?

While reviewing old files, I came across my military education record. My "future academic goal" was a PhD. I completed an associate's in electronic systems technology in 1989, a bachelor's in human resource management in 1996, and a master's in adult and higher education from Oklahoma University in 2001. Since then I had been searching for a PhD program in the Midwest. It seems that the ideal program materialized just when I needed it.

What motivates you?

During my military career, I was heavily involved in technical training. I believe my purpose involves serving others and to act as a bridge from legacy systems to new technology advancements with a unique perspective, tenacity, and attention to detail.

I am particularly drawn to the reference section of any library and stand in awe of the meticulous and persistent search for answers by librarians just a few decades in the past without recourse to our modern tools. I have long held a strong belief in education and lifelong learning. I enjoy helping others find what they are looking for and showing them how to use the library and new technology effectively. My own lifelong learning journey excites me and makes me want to encourage others to pursue learning projects. Our current economy and the shift in the job market and career paths make this an important time for people to continue to educate themselves. Innovative people reinvent themselves in order to pursue their dreams, and the library plays an important role in helping the disadvantaged have opportunities. Libraries have resources that all can use to reach their goals, regardless of their socioeconomic status. Public libraries stay relevant and meet user needs through providing exceptional reference and adult services. Public libraries provide resources for disadvantaged and underserved people, especially the elderly, in bridging the digital divide and accessibility and usability of information through literacy initiatives.

Since coming to work at the Bellevue Public Library nine years ago, I have always striven to become a valuable asset to staff and management alike by applying my varied skills towards the improvement of myself, coworkers, and the organization as a whole. Within the library, I have worked at both the circulation desk and technical services and enjoyed the opportunity to serve.

On what subject are you writing your dissertation?

Organization of bibliographic information. I originally focused on linked library data, but am now focusing on Resource Description and Access as a stepping stone to the Semantic Web. I am planning on a phenomenological study.

Have your studies helped you in your job? How so?

Definitely. I have a much broader understanding of information needs and how to find and connect people to the information they require.

What are your career goals?

To continue to serve in a public library and hopefully teach as an adjunct to stay current. I would also like to assist nonprofits as a consultant, and I hope to make Emporia State University proud with my research and service.

2016 NLA/NSLA Conference Schedule and Registration Available

If you've been wondering what sessions will be at the NLA/NSLA Joint Conference this fall, speculate no more! The conference schedule is up.

There's no way to be on the fence about going any longer with all of the cool, new presentations coming in October. From the latest technology to fresh titles to innovative programs, there is something for everyone.

Click on the link and check out the 'Program at a Glance'.

Don't forget, early bird pricing for conferences ends September 9 so get registered today!

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/page/Neplib2016>

LIBRARIES TRANSFORM™

La Vista Public Library/Sarpy Center: Serving students and the community

Rose Barcal

Introduction

The Sarpy Center and La Vista Public Library is a partnership between Metropolitan Community College and the City of La Vista to combine resources to serve students, city library users, and the community. The Sarpy Center is located in the heart of one of the fastest growing counties in Nebraska.

The Backstory

The library was infested with termites. By “infested” I mean that there were eight-foot-high termite tunnels behind a quilt hanging on the library wall. The damage was done. With the city of La Vista’s need of a new library and the interest of Metropolitan Community College (MCC) to have a center south of Omaha, the time was right for a joint venture. Through a chance encounter at a community meeting, the La Vista mayor and the president of MCC were sharing their current events. Both soon realized the opportunity before them: one building that would house both entities.

Fast forward several years and many meetings to December of 1999 and a new facility. The library is housed on the south side of the building located almost two miles away from the old site near city hall. The old library was 4,000 square feet. The new library facility is 23,316 square feet and built with not one penny of taxpayer dollars. La Vista has KENO. Due to Nebraska Department of Revenue’s Charitable Gaming Regulations, any city shall spend the proceeds of the lottery only for community betterment purposes. What could be better than a library?



Built in 1999, this alluring facility houses The Sarpy Center and La Vista Public Library. Photo courtesy of the City of La Vista.

Present Day

This is a true partnership. The library director and Sarpy dean are two of the six members of the La Vista/Metropolitan Community College Condominium Owners Association, Inc., as MCC owns their part of the building and the city own the other half. There are common areas. The library’s Board of Directors consists of three members representing the city and three from MCC. The board meets quarterly provided a quorum is present.

Part of the agreement includes the Terms of Understanding which addresses the following: who is eligible for library services, materials provided by MCC to be housed at the library including serials and how the print and AV materials will be processed. Check outs are covered including overdue materials with overdue fees and how to handle intra/ interlibrary loans requested by students. Library instruction is covered as well as library programs open to MCC affiliates. A list of contacts for both MCC and the library are listed as well.

To clarify, the library is open to all current MCC students, faculty, and staff. Procedures exist to verify if a person is a current student or not. There is a library computer lab open to patrons and MCC students.

Other advantages to the partnership include grants, programming and events, and having a great neighbor!

Grants

The library has submitted grants and asked the Sarpy Center to be an active partner. This includes writing a letter of support and advertising with their students and faculty concerning the grant events. Because of their participation, the library has received grants they would have otherwise not been awarded. This includes two grants from Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History for an exhibition event of “Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle.” Other grants include but are not limited to Lost Boys of Sudan, the BTOP grant and GED support.

Programming has been reciprocal. When MCC was celebrating their anniversary, the library was also celebrating the same anniversary so cake and punch ensued. MCC has had live music and other performers during their academic breaks and invited the library to take advantage. Likewise, the library has been involved in summer music and movies and invited the center to participate.

A Great Neighbor

MCC and the library have recently worked together on joint projects including a city coloring book and finals week’s events. The Sarpy Dean has acted as a judge during the city’s Salute to Summer Festival and MCC has included their MCC VW bug in the city’s parade lineup. The dean and library director meet throughout the year to keep each other posted on what is going on in their communities and look for other opportunities to enhance the students’ and library users’ lives. One advantage to MCC is the availability of library staff members who can proctor student exams. In the last year alone, 73 tests have been administered.



The Sarpy Center and La Vista Public Library serve Metropolitan Community College students, city library users, and community members. Photo courtesy of the City of La Vista.

Metropolitan Community College’s Sarpy Center and the city of La Vista’s Public Library are better together. Both could exist apart but when joined together, great things have happened and more is yet to come!

Rose Barcal has been the Library Director for the City of La Vista’s Public Library since September of 2001.

Accomplishments have been co-writing and writing grants for various areas of the library; special programming like genealogy; the library collection; and support training. Rose supervises and ensures the budget is utilized to its full capacity. This is accomplished by seeking various vendors who offer discounts or the best services for the library’s magazine subscriptions, book orders, and media.

The library also supports the Metropolitan Community College (MCC) Sarpy Center, so Rose works with the MCC library staff concerning materials and tours for MCC students, faculty and staff.

Before working for the City of La Vista, Rose was the Head of Collection Development for the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s McGoogan Library of Medicine. Previous to UNMC, Rose was Acting Dean of Instructional Design of Development as well as Library Director for Clarkson College.

Rose’s undergraduate degree is in Mathematics and English. Her Master’s degree in Library Science is from Emporia State University.

Arbor Day 2016—Morton-James on Main: Transforming Nebraska City’s Library (For a Day)

Tom Boeche & Denise Davis

Nebraska City, the “Home of Arbor Day,” hosts a citywide festival and parade every April to celebrate Arbor Day and encourage the planting of trees. Founded in 1872 by Nebraska City resident J. Sterling Morton, Arbor Day inspires us to plant and care for the trees that transform our environment. Nebraska City’s Morton-James Public Library (“Morton” is for Joy Morton, eldest son of J. Sterling Morton), was likewise inspired by the American Library Association’s “Libraries Transform” campaign, to transform an empty retail location on the Arbor Day parade route into a one-day pop-up library during Arbor Day weekend. The Nebraska City Tourism

and Commerce Committee branded this year’s festivities with the tree-related slogan, “All Bark. No Bite,” and the Morton-James library staff (who never met a pun they didn’t like), borrowed the NCTC’s slogan and titled their special one-day library event, “Morton-James on Main. All Book. No Bite.” Open on Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 10am to 4pm, our temporary library, (despite the rain that fell throughout the day), was a great success—with a total of 396 visitors.

How did this unique, one-day library event come about? In anticipation of the holiday weekend, the library staff brainstormed ideas about what the library could do as part of the Arbor Day festivities—while also endeavoring to relate our activities to the ALA’s Libraries Transform campaign. It was mentioned that several local civic



A mother and daughter display their craft and enjoy cotton candy provided at the “Morton-James on Main” Arbor Day library.

organizations set up informational tables or booths on the parade route each year to maximize their exposure to the community. Our library staff decided instead of just a simple table on the parade route... we’d use a whole building! We contacted the owner of a temporarily empty retail space on Central Avenue, (prime street-corner real estate with plenty of room and lots of large windows, right in the middle of the parade route), and he graciously loaned us the building for use as a satellite or “pop-up” library.

After we had settled on the idea of the one-day satellite library and determined that it was indeed a feasible project to undertake, we had approximately one month to make plans, clean the building, decorate the space with library and reading-related banners and posters,

line up volunteers, and coordinate with other community organizations. With the aid of a staff member's pick-up truck we moved tables, chairs, books and computers from the library to the temporary location in advance of the holiday weekend. (Arbor Day is a city holiday in Nebraska City, so the library was closed the day before the temporary library was open to the public—we had to plan accordingly and be extra-organized). We were also lucky enough to have professional artist and mural painter Kent Schwartz decorate the store windows with colorful images portraying books, telescopes and Lego® toys...these window murals led to a lot of positive word of mouth leading up to the day of the event.

When we had many of the preparatory and logistics tasks completed, we then began to work on shaping our offerings to conform to the objectives of the Libraries Transform campaign. The ALA believes that libraries are unfortunately often overlooked as agents of change within a community. To help remedy this situation, the Libraries Transform campaign is designed to increase public awareness of the value, impact and services provided by libraries and library professionals, and to underscore the belief that transformation is essential to the communities we serve.

In the spirit of transformation and community involvement, our one-day library provided space for a variety of community organizations to help them spread the word about the programs and services they offer. In addition to providing brochures and information regarding the Arbor Day festivities, we hosted tables and display space for the Nebraska City Museum Association, Southeast Community College and the Nebraska City Youth Collective. Additionally, a representative from the Memorial Building Restoration Project accompanied



A budding astronomer inspects one of the two new telescopes available for check-out at the Morton-James Public Library

a video that played throughout the day to explain the project. (The Memorial Building, located very near the library, has recently been placed on the National Register of Historic Places). While we provided space and exposure for other entities, the library in turn was supported in this creative initiative by a variety of local businesses and organizations—Bob Moser of U-Save Pharmacy donated his building for our use (and loaned us a key weeks in advance so we could have flexible access to the site), Spiral Communications set up a temporary Wi-Fi connection for our computers, the local Walmart loaned us a flat screen television we used to run a promotional slideshow throughout the day, True Value Hardware Store provided a discounted rate on the rental of a cotton candy machine, and the Nebraska City Jaycees volunteered a popcorn popper and all the associated popcorn supplies for free. All these collaborative efforts demonstrate how close cooperation between the library and local community organizations can benefit everyone involved.

In addition to promoting community involvement at our temporary location, we also emphasized some of the library's strengths by hosting a wide selection of fun, educational and informative programs. Many people took advantage of the library's ever-popular book sale,

with dozens of satisfied readers happily toting away bags of books to add to their home libraries. A display table was manned by volunteers from the local astronomy club, featuring our two new library telescopes available for checkout. We had laptop computers up and running to show off our catalog as well as the wide variety of databases available at the library, and we also had a selection of our newest DVD releases available for checkout. Our lay-out was enhanced by the previous configuration of the space as a pharmacy—the elevated

prescription counter was an excellent location for the large TV screen and telescopes, and the still-in-place greeting card shelves were the perfect size to display our DVDs for checkout. The location was a mere two blocks away from our library, and we were prepared to make quick trips back to the library for patrons if necessary.

Library book carts decorated with our “All Book. No Bite,” theme were used to display a selection of Arbor Day-related books from our collection, and a drawing was held for a boxed collection of the Artemis Fowl series of books. A designated kid’s area was set up with Lego® toys—funded by the ‘Youth Grants for Excellence Program’ from the Nebraska Library Commission --and Hot Wheels race cars—this area, complete with a colorful rug to set it apart, proved to be VERY popular with kids as well as their parents. An arts and crafts table allowed kids (along with several artistically-inclined adults) to color and decorate bookmarks and miniature trees. The trees began with barren branches which transformed into “bookish” leaves—color copies of book covers from our collection that featured Arbor Day,



Morton-James Public Library staff attract attention to the “Morton-James on Main” Arbor Day library, a former pharmacy. Pictured left to right: Co-author Tom Boeche, Sue Bennett, co-author Denise Davis, Brenda Cunningham, Lisa Guthals and Director Rasmus Thøgersen. Not pictured: Louan Beard

trees, etc. Along with handing out tons of free popcorn and cotton candy, we saw and chatted with many of our regular patrons who dropped by our one-day satellite location. We also hosted many visitors who were new to the library—some were local residents while many were visiting from out of town. This was an excellent chance to promote our services, and we also took advantage of this unique opportunity to issue some new library cards for local residents.

Our “All Book. No Bite,” library-for-a-day was a great experience for everyone involved. In addition to carrying out our regular roles as library staff, we also served as community/holiday ambassadors. We enjoyed enhanced visibility for the library, together with a multi-faceted demonstration of our commitment to the community. Had we remained open for business as usual at our regular location that day, we would have experienced a small fraction of the interaction and traffic we enjoyed on the parade route. Preparation, planning and outreach activities were the keys to a successful venture. We

provided plenty of advance notice of our one-day change—signage in the library, updating our website and voicemail to alert patrons (and to invite them to visit us on Main Street), radio spots, newspaper articles and an official listing and advertisement in the Arbor Day brochure—plus the afore-mentioned colorful decals on the storefront, which really caught folks’ attention and helped to build anticipation. The total cost to the library for advertising, supplies and equipment rental was less than \$500 dollars. We all enjoyed the experience, and it was unanimous we would welcome the opportunity to do it again.

Some things we might approach differently, based on our initial endeavor? Not too many, really!

1. Bring reserve items along (the quantity is manageable).
2. Database station – in the midst of a holiday/parade atmosphere, most folks aren’t in a mindset to sit down for a database tutorial, as quick as it may be—too many distractions compete for one’s attention!
3. Try-out an informal, quick poll of attendees to gather more data about the public’s reception of the initiative.

Although it was a lot of hard work, we had a wonderful time integrating our library offerings with the Arbor Day holiday weekend. Additionally, it was rewarding to see how much the public enjoyed seeing the library in a new vein and venue, albeit temporarily. We placed sign-in/ comment sheets around the temporary library—and all feedback was positive. One of our regular patrons wrote, “Thanks for all your hard work. What a great idea!!”

To quote Arbor Day founder J. Sterling Morton, “Arbor Day is not like other holidays. Each of those repose on the past, while Arbor Day proposes for the future.” That sentiment ties in perfectly with the ideals of the Libraries Transform campaign. We should not allow ourselves to be held back or constrained by the traditional roles which

libraries have played in years past. Instead, let us plan for the future, innovate, create, promote, and help libraries become true engines of change and transformation in our communities.

Tom Boeche, a native of Nebraska City, received his BA in History from Peru State College, his MA in History from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and is currently working to complete the Nebraska Librarian Certification Program. He works as a library clerk at the Morton-James Public Library in Nebraska City.

Denise Davis received her MS in Library and Information Science from Simmons College in Boston. She worked as an academic librarian at Simmons and as an assistant dean for its library program. A service learning trip to Nicaragua with graduate students spurred Denise to join the Peace Corps; she infused her three years of service in Paraguay with library practices and promotion. A life member of the American Library Association, the Nebraska City native is delighted to be back in her hometown, the original Tree City USA. Denise is a reference librarian for the Morton-James Public Library and enjoys using her Spanish skills every day to assist the community’s growing Latino population.



TSRT – Technical Services Round Table

Technical Services Competencies and Library Science Education

Emily Dust Nimsakont

Like positions in other areas of library work, technical services jobs have changed greatly with the application of new technology to the profession. The skills needed to acquire, organize, and provide access to library resources are very different than they were in the days of card catalogs, and they will continue to change as our profession evolves. As a profession, we should be sure that what library science students are learning in school is keeping up with the situations they will face when they begin working in libraries.

There was a time when carefully crafted original cataloging records were necessary for most, if not all, of a library's resources. Copy cataloging and shared bibliographic utilities, such as the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), have rendered these skills much less necessary. In addition, many library resources, such as e-books, audiobooks, and databases of electronic journals, are purchased along with large batches of MARC records for all the individual resources. Knowledge of how to edit these records in batches to add local fields or strip out unnecessary information is becoming more and more valuable for current catalogers. While students interested in cataloging should still receive education about the fundamentals of MARC record creation, knowing how to edit copy cataloged records and manipulate large batches of records will serve them well in their careers.

In addition, the technology involved in cataloging is in the middle of a time of rapid change. Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC), the which has been the computer encoding standard for cataloging since the 1960s, is on its way out, and BIBFRAME is under development as MARC's replacement. This makes it a challenging time to develop cataloging curriculum for library schools, as ideally, graduates should be familiar both with the current standard and with what's coming down the road.

The members of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), the American Library Association's technical services division have their eyes on these trends in cataloging and how they relate to library science education. ALCTS's Competencies and Education for a Career in Cataloging Interest Group (<http://www.ala.org/alcts/mgrps/camms/grps/ats-ccsdgcomp>), which has the charge of exploring "the relationship of cataloging practitioners and employers with library educators," has designated a Cataloging Competencies Task Force to study these issues. The task force is expected to deliver a draft report by December 2016.

While cataloging is one important area of technical services, there are, of course, other functions that keep the "behind-the-scenes" library work running smoothly. Librarians trained in acquisitions and electronic resource management, including things like negotiating licensing agreements with vendors, are necessary in this day and age. Library schools should make sure that their curricula include these topics. It is important to cover the entire workflow of resource management, not just cataloging.

It's an exciting time to be involved with technical services work. There are many changes occurring in the work that technical services librarians do, and it is important to make sure that library education is keeping up with these changes.



Emily Dust Nimsakont is the Head of Cataloging & Resource Management at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln Schmid Law Library. She teaches cataloging courses at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and University of Missouri and is currently serving as chair of TSRT.

The Knee Bone's Connected to the ... Educational Games from the National Library of Medicine

Christian Minter

It is no secret that children love to play games. Games are fun and challenging and if they can incorporate educational concepts all the better! A 2016 report from Project Tomorrow, "From Print to Pixel," examines trends in digital education. The report indicates an increase in the use of gaming, animations, and other digital content in K-12 education. Some of the findings related to gaming include:

- The use of gaming by teachers has doubled – from 23% in 2010 to 48% in 2015.
- 57% of school principals admit that lack of training for teachers is a top barrier to expanding digital learning.
- Teachers in elementary grades are more likely to use game-based learning.
- Over 60% of middle school students play games for self-directed learning outside the classroom.

If you are a school media specialist or children's librarian, you may be looking for health and science games or animations that you can recommend to teachers and students. Well the National Library of Medicine (NLM) does have apps for that (and websites too)! With input from teachers and students, NLM has created several games and interactive sites to teach about chemistry, biology, and environmental health.



Base Chase:

In this game, players help DeeNA jump on fast moving platforms to grab bases of DNA to build DNA strands for different animals. Base Chase can be incorporated into biology curriculum and is geared towards high school students. You can download the app for free from iTunes. A video tutorial is included.



Bohr Thru:

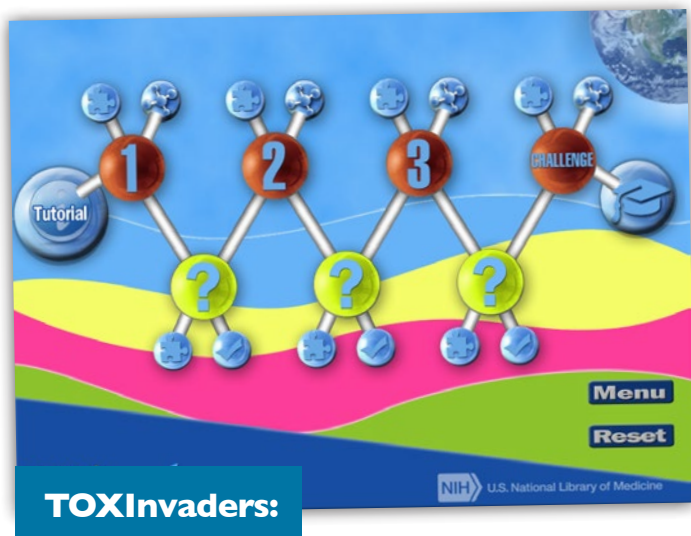
In the style of the popular Candy Crush game, Bohr Thru players can collect protons, neutrons, and electrons to create the first 18 elements of the periodic table. This is a fun way to increase knowledge of chemical elements and structures. Bohr Thru can be included as part of chemistry curriculum and is geared

towards high school students. You can download the app for free from iTunes.



Run4Green:

In this Mario-style game, players can collect coins and complete environmentally friendly tasks while learning about important environmental health issues such as, renewable energy, green products, and greenhouse gas reduction. Run4Green is geared towards students in 5-8 grades. You can download the app for free from iTunes.



Looking to pair these games with other NLM resources?

- GeneEd: A genetics resource for students and teachers in grades 9-12. Includes lesson plans, animations, virtual and hands-on lab experiments, links to articles, and information on genetics careers. <https://geneed.nlm.nih.gov/index.php>
- ChemIDplus: Provides information on over 400,000 chemicals including names, synonyms, and structures. <http://chem.sis.nlm.nih.gov/chemidplus/chemidlite.jsp>
- Environmental Health Student Portal: A resource on environmental health for middle school students and teachers. Includes lesson plans, videos, animations, articles, games, and experiments. The information is focused on air pollution, chemicals, climate change, and water pollution. <http://kidsenvirohealth.nlm.nih.gov>
- ToxTown: Provides information on toxic chemicals in everyday locations, and how the environment impacts human health. This interactive site focuses on six specific environments: city, farm, town, US Border Regions, port, and US Southwest. Includes a resource page for teachers. Available in English and Spanish. For all ages. <https://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/>



References:

Project Tomorrow. (2016). From Print to Pixel: The Role of Videos, Games, Animations and Simulations within K-12 education. Retrieved from <http://www.tomorrow.org/speakup/SUI5AnnualReport.html>



Christian Minter is a Nebraska Outreach/Education Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, MidContinental Region. She is based at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Christian is always happy to share more information about NLM's K-12 health and science resources. You can reach her at christian.minter@unmc.edu.

In this fast-paced game, players use a launcher to destroy toxic chemicals falling from the sky. Capturing “good chemicals” earns protective shield points. To move on the next level, players must take a brief quiz about the featured chemicals. TOXInvaders can be implemented into chemistry or environmental health curriculum, and is geared towards middle school students. You can download the app for free from iTunes. A tutorial is included.

In this interactive learning site, players help Toxie the Cat find chemical hazards hidden throughout the house. Toxie will do a little dance whenever all the hazards are located, and along the way players learn how different substances in the environment affect human and pet health. There are also resource pages for teachers and parents. This site is available in both English and Spanish, and is geared towards ages 7-11 years old. It is freely available online at <https://toxmystery.nlm.nih.gov/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLTS Advocacy Award

Have you thought "This librarian is awesome! More people need to know what they are doing!" Have you wanted to show one of your library board members how much you appreciate them fighting for your library when things got tough? Do you know someone who doesn't get enough recognition for what they are doing to improve their library? Well, now is the time to do something about it!

Nominate that deserving public librarian for the Excalibur Award! Nominate that fabulous library board member for the PLTS Advocacy Award!

Nomination is simple, just write a letter and get three other letters supporting that nomination and send them in. That's it. No form to fill out, no preauthorization, and if you use email - no postage!

For more information, just go to: <http://bit.ly/PLTSAwards>

The deadline for submitting all materials is August 29.

The letters of nomination and any supporting documentation you choose to attach can be sent to:

Scott Childers
Southeast Library System
5730 R St, Suite C1
Lincoln, NE 68508

or electronically to: scott.childers.sels@gmail.com

NLA Awards

It's that time of year again! Two super special awards to nominate and be nominated!!

Mentor of the Year nomination: this is for someone who is a leader in your building, or in another building, that is always there for you to dole out professional advice. They go above and beyond to help out wherever needed. If you would like to nominate someone please send a short typed paragraph to dana.schipporeit@fpsmail.org.

Beginning Professional of the Year: this is for someone who has gone above and beyond as a professional, and it's only their first through fifth year as a professional! Send a short paragraph to dana.schipporeit@fpsmail.org if you wish to nominate someone.

Nominations are due September 30th!

TSRT is now accepting nominations for the Sandra Herzinger Award (Technical Services Advocacy Award)

Why is technical services advocacy needed? Technical services employees often feel like the unsung heroes of the library world, working in back rooms while patrons (and even some colleagues) have little idea of how their contributions affect the library. The Sandra Herzinger Award will be given to a Nebraska library worker who has been an advocate for technical services.

Each nominee for the TSRT Technical Services Advocacy award must:

- Be employed in, or formerly employed in, a technical services position in a Nebraska library (According to the TSRT website, technical services includes: acquisitions, collection development, cataloging and classification, preservation, serials control, interlibrary loan and document delivery.)
- Be an active and involved employee of his/her library, as well as an active and involved member of the Nebraska library community
- Have a proven record of demonstrating the value of technical services, both to colleagues within the library community and to library patrons

Nomination Process:

The letter of nomination should include contact information for the nominee (name, position title, address, email address, and telephone number), the nominee's accomplishments, particularly as they relate to the award criteria given above, and any relevant supporting documentation. The letter should also include the name, position title, address, email address, and telephone number of the person or group making the nomination.

Also required are at least two additional letters which support and endorse the nominations. Such letters may provide further information about the nominee.

Nominations and letters of support must be received by August 31, 2016, and should be sent to the TSRT Chair, Emily Dust Nimsakont, at emily.dust.nimsakont@unl.edu.

EDITORIAL POLICY

(Updated October 2014)

Mission

Nebraska Libraries is the official journal of the Nebraska Library Association. It strives to inform its members and subscribers of NLA's activities and represent the broad scope of issues and news that affect all Nebraska libraries. To encourage the sharing of knowledge and inspiration throughout the state, *Nebraska Libraries* is an inclusive, flexible journal that publishes feature articles, editorials, news, and reports from anyone who cares about and is involved in the library world.

Content

Nebraska Libraries welcomes content from volunteer authors, including feature articles, news briefs, columns and opinion pieces, and photographs and artwork. Content is also provided by overseeing NLA Communications Committee members. The *Nebraska Libraries* Editor and the Communications Committee have the responsibility to publish accurate information regarding NLA and its activities and to provide a balanced spectrum of coverage for all Nebraska libraries and members. Content is accepted or rejected at the discretion of the Editorial Board and is subject to editing for clarity and grammar.

Editor's Responsibilities

The Editor is responsible for each journal issue providing a balanced mixture of relevant and thoughtful articles and features on the interests, responsibilities, problems, and concerns of the varied library professionals throughout the state of Nebraska. The Editor is responsible for determining the strategic direction for the practitioner journal and developing editorial policies and submission standards, actively soliciting manuscripts from various library professionals, conducting manuscript revision and editing, and serving as a primary liaison with authors. By submitting an item to this publication, an Author is implicitly granting the Editor permission to make minor editorial changes, such as correcting grammar, punctuation and spelling, and making layout and formatting changes as needed to speed along the publication process.

Author's Rights

An Author agrees upon the stipulations of the Submission Policy when submitting an article to the Editor. Upon submitting works to the Editor, if revisions are needed the Author will receive a copyedited version of their work and be given a one-week deadline to contest or make any changes. If the Editor does not hear from the Author within that deadline the article, as per the Editor's responsibilities, will be published as the Editor sees fit, or saved for a future issue, in order to speed along the publication process. Authors should explicitly note when a submission is a creative work, such as poem or story, where such changes would negatively impact the Author's intent.

The Author shall, without limitation, have the non-exclusive right to use, reproduce, distribute, and create derivative works, including update, perform, and display publicly, the article in electronic, digital, or print form in connection with the Author's teaching, conference presentations, lectures, other scholarly works, and for all of Author's academic and professional activities.

After a period of six (6) months from the date of publication of the article, the Author shall also have all the non-exclusive rights necessary to make, or to authorize others to make, the final published version of the article available in digital form over the Internet including, but not limited to, a website under the control of the Author or the Author's employer or through other digital repositories.

NLA Communications Committee Purpose

The NLA Communications Committee assists the Editor with the direction, publication, and distribution of *Nebraska Libraries* and ensures that the journal meets the needs of the Nebraska library community. The committee aids the Editor in developing *Nebraska Libraries*' policies and procedures, and its members contribute to the journal as well as solicit content from the broader library community.

Disclaimer

The statements, comments, or opinions expressed by *Nebraska Libraries* contributors are those of their respective authors and do not represent the views the Nebraska Library Association.

SUBMISSION POLICY

(Updated October 2014)

Who Can Submit

Nebraska Libraries publishes articles and creative content from authors actively involved in the library world within the State of Nebraska. If you are unsure whether or not your piece would fit with our publication, please query the editor at nlaeditor@nebraskalibraries.org.

Nebraska Libraries requires that all submissions be original contributions and that full disclosure of possible redundant publication must be made in the letter of submission.

Editor & Author Review

Authors are asked to review their edited submissions within one week of being sent the final Editor-approved draft. If the Editor does not hear back from the Author within that week, the submission will be published as the Editor deems fit in order to not stall publication.

Submission Guidelines

Nebraska Libraries will start publication as a quarterly practitioner's journal. If interest is high, bi-monthly publication could occur in the future. Submissions for quarterly issues are due as follows:

- February Issue = Due January 1
- May Issue = Due April 1
- August Issue = Due July 1
- November Issue = Due October 1

Any submissions received after a due date will be held and considered for the following issue. Submissions accepted but not published in the current issue may be published in a future issue with the author's permission.

Please send all submissions in Word .doc or .rtf forms. Please no PDFs.

The submission of photos to accompany articles is encouraged. Please send all photos saved as high-quality JPEG files. Please send all photos and artwork as separate files not embedded in the Word document.

If your article has sidebars or any special items that need to be formatted a certain way, please clearly state this in the submission.

Nebraska Libraries is a practitioner journal and not a peer-reviewed scholarly journal. Not all articles will require sources and citations; however, if citations are needed in your article, the citation style used by *Nebraska Libraries* is APA.

Please send all articles, ideas, and other queries to the Editor at nlaeditor@nebraskalibraries.org

Items Eligible for Publication

We are looking for the following items or columns but we are open to submissions of all kinds:

- Feature articles about anything library related, including successful programs, collaborations, events, etc., at your library and how they are applicable to other Nebraska libraries
- Opinion pieces about hot topics in the library profession
- Short columns in each issue by members of the sections and round tables that highlight advantages conferred via section or roundtable participation, hot topics in the profession, or opinions
- New briefs—what has happened at your library or within your section/round table? Is there something notable upcoming?
- Member announcements (jobs, births, marriages, retirements, deaths, publications, etc.)
- Guest columns
- Spotlights on new NLA members
- Suggestions for future columns, article ideas, etc.
- Recommendations for the "Digital Watercooler" column (recommended blogs)
- Recommendations for the "Beyond the Stacks" column (interviews with interesting people who work in libraries)
- Recommendations for the "My Own Private Library" column (share your book collection with NLA)
- Recommendations for the "Featured Libraries" column (a spotlight on a specific Nebraska library)
- Creative works—short stories, poems, art, etc.
- Reviews of books, software, online resources, library products, etc.
- White papers (not sought but will be considered for publication)

Recommended Article Lengths

- Feature Articles: 600—1800 words
- Opinion Pieces: 300—600 words
- News Briefs: 50 words or less
- Reviews: 100—200 words

Articles longer than the recommended length may still be considered; however, articles may be truncated in the published issue with a link to the full article on the *Nebraska Libraries* website provided.