



## Communities Need Their Libraries!

*by Tammi Thiem*

It is exciting that many libraries are opening up again for their patrons. Librarians have worked super hard over the years to make their libraries warm, inviting, welcoming places for their community members. This made it extremely difficult for librarians to make the necessary transitions to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. It is out of character for librarians to not have their doors open to everyone who needs to use their services. It is not in the nature of librarians to stop planning the next engaging event. Librarians had to make some huge adjustments that were completely out of alignment with their normal purposes and goals.

The next chapter for librarians will likely be to reestablish their libraries as warm, inviting, welcoming places. They will have their work cut out for them to break the new habits of their patrons that may no longer include their local library. Some librarians may use this transitional period as an opportunity to incorporate new policies for their libraries to break some of the old library users' habits before they have a chance to start up again. It will be exciting to see how this all unfolds. Librarians are creative individuals, so I have no doubt that they will succeed in, again, making their libraries the hubs of their communities.

For now, Zoom will continue to be the platform for our TRaiLS Communication Meetings, and they will remain weekly events. I am hoping that fall may be an opportune time to restart our in-person meetings, but nothing is planned in pen at this time. The in-person meetings will use the acronym "SKILLS" to represent "Sharing Knowledge, Ideas, Learning, and Library Solutions." I am considering having four meetings on Mondays during the months of August, November, February, and May throughout the system. Zoom meetings will still be a great means for us to stay connected, as it is not always possible for librarians to get away for in-person events. Perhaps the virtual option will dwindle to only monthly meetings, or maybe weekly will still work the best. We will gauge that when the time comes.

As we venture forth to more open experiences, please keep in mind that the Three Rivers Library System offers various Continuing Education Scholarship opportunities for attending conferences and educational events. TRaiLS also offers scholarships to pay the fees for Humanity Nebraska speakers. These applications are easy to fill out and submit, and they are meant to be used by librarians in the TRaiLS system. If you have any questions about them, please contact Chelsea or me.

As always, if there is anything I can do to help, please feel free to contact me. My email address is [tammi.thiem.trls@gmail.com](mailto:tammi.thiem.trls@gmail.com). My phone number is 402-910-7005. I would love to hear from you!

## At the TRaiLS Office

### Connect with Us!

Your friendly neighborhood TRaiLS is on social media, so drop us a line!

Our **Facebook group** is always bustling with information and questions to our librarians. We're here to support our regional librarians in any way that we can and being able to connect to our libraries is wonderful. Join us for our Wondering Wednesday question where everyone can give opinions or answer common (and not so common!) questions. We always crosspost our upcoming workshop information, in case you miss an email.

Our **YouTube Channel** has been particularly active during the pandemic. We've been recording our virtual workshops and SKILLS meetings so our librarians can watch at their leisure and still be up to date. If you can't find a specific video, it might be unlisted, so email Tammi ([tammi.thiem.trls@gmail.com](mailto:tammi.thiem.trls@gmail.com)) for the link.

Three Rivers Library System  
Presents:



**END THE STIGMA**



*with Conner Oberhauser*

26 May 2021 at 1:00 pm

**May is Mental Health Awareness Month!**

1 CE Available  
Register at:  
<http://bit.ly/MentalHealthwithTRLS>

Join us virtually to learn Conner's story of hope and healing as he works to End the Stigma surrounding mental illness.



Three Rivers Library System Presents:



## GOLDEN SOWER OPEN HOUSE READATHON

This in-person and socially distanced event is all about helping the Golden Sower Committee choose picture books to nominate for the next Golden Sower Awards. Spend the day reading and voting for which books should be included in the 2022-2023 Nominees list.

Lunch will be on your own, but we will provide snacks and a fun reading day.

11 June 2021  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Norfolk Public Library  
308 Prospect Avenue  
Norfolk, NE 68701

Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/ReadGoldenSower>



### Libib Catalog

We've added new **STEAM Kits** just in time for Summer Reading Programs! Give the 25 kits a look and see if there's anything you'll want to incorporate in your summer programming.

We've also added a few new titles to our **Book Kit** program. Is your library restarting a book club? For most titles, we've got ten copies of each which is great for a small group. You can toggle tags in the top right corner, so if your book club has a theme feel free to search/sift through all the tags to see what we have available. There are a 116 titles to choose from, so lots of options for your perusal.

And don't forget, we're getting rid of our professional development collection (among other things) so glance at our **Give Away Shelf** and let us know if there's something your library would love to have. If you find something, just email Chelsea and she'll mail it right out to you.

If you haven't used our Libib catalog before, just email Chelsea ([trls.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:trls.assistant@gmail.com)) for information or to place your hold. You can always schedule them out at your convenience.

### **Basic Skills Classes**

#### **Readers' Advisory with Sharon Osenga**

Class Dates: 7 June 2021 - 18 June 2021

Registration Dates: 3 May 2021 - 1 June 2021

#### **Reference with Christa Porter**

Class Dates: 5 July 2021 - 16 July 2021

Registration Dates: 31 May 2021 - 25 June 2021

#### **Library Policy with Sharon Osenga**

Class Dates: 26 July 2021 - 6 August 2021

Registration Dates: 21 June 2021 - 16 July 2021

(\*required class)

### **Fourteen Nebraska Libraries Receive Kreutz Bennett Grants**

Each year the **Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund** accepts proposals for matching grants for public libraries in communities with populations under 3,000.

2021 Grant Recipients:

- Albion Public Library
- Arapahoe Public Library
- Bayard Public Library
- Beaver City Public Library

### **Calendar of Events**

#### **SKILLS Meeting**

Online

12 May 2021

8:00 am - 9:00 am

#### **Nebraska Library**

##### **Commission Meeting**

Downtown Lincoln

14 May 2021

9:30 am - 12:00 pm

#### **NCompass Live: Going Solo in the Library**

Online

19 May 2021

10:00 am - 11:00 am

#### **SKILLS Meeting**

Online

20 May 2021

9:00 am - 10:00 am

#### **Fiber to Your Library**

Online

25 May 2021

9:30 am - 12:00 pm

#### **SKILLS Meeting**

Online

25 May 2021

10:00 am - 11:00 am

#### **Fiber to Your Library**

Online

27 May 2021

12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

- Bridgeport Public library
- Butler Memorial Library (Cambridge)
- Elgin Public Library
- Emerson Public Library
- Hastings Memorial Library (Grant)
- Newman Grove Public Library
- Lied Pierce Public Library
- Plainview Public Library
- Stanton Public Library
- Sterling Public Library

### Understanding MARC21

Online

7 June 2021

### NCompass Live: Mental Maintenance

Online

9 June 2021

10:00 am - 11:00 am

### Norfolk Literature Festival

Norfolk Public Library

31 July 2021

8:15am - 4:00 pm

### Youth Services Retreat

Online

2 September 2021

### NLA Conference

Online & in Omaha

12-14 October 2021

### ARSL Conference

Reno/Sparks, NV

20-23 October 2021

## Library News

### Lied Winside Public Library's Easter Egg Hunt

Submitted by: Lara Lanphear



On March 27th, The Lied Winside Public Library hosted our annual Easter Egg Hunt. It was a cold morning, but the kids had a blast hunting for eggs!

We also had several companies in town who partnered with us, and the kids received some awesome prizes if they found the golden eggs.

We also had a drawing and one boy and one girl won a bike! It felt good to get back to a little bit of "normalcy," and to watch the kids having so much fun.





## Lied Pierce Public Library's 21 Annual Chocolate Lovers Day

Submitted by: Dawnn Tucker

We had our 21st Annual Chocolate Lover's Day on Valentine's Day. The Friend's of the Library provided a wide variety of "homemade" chocolate goodies. The proceeds help with library programming.

A mother/daughter utilized the vinyl cutter and heat press to make some fun shirts.



## Congratulation Station!

### ARSL 2021-2022 Outstanding in Their Field

Beginning in August of 2021, this group of 30 library professionals from around the country will engage in residential, online, and conference experiences spanning 18 months to deepen their understanding of and commitment to professional values while they gain practical managerial skills.

Out of 180 applicants, our very own Jenny White from **Schuyler Public Library** was the only Nebraska librarian to be accepted into this year's cohort. So next time you see her, be sure to

say, *Congratulations!*

If you want to read more about this leadership program, [check out the ARSL website](#).

### **Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries**

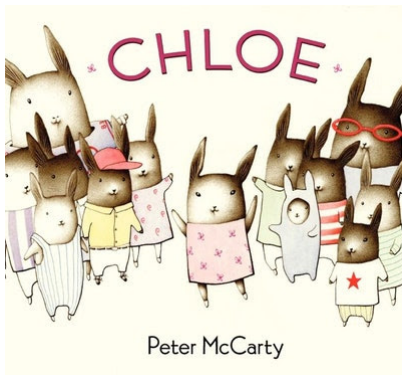
American Library Association (ALA) announced 517 libraries to receive grants through [Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries](#). With so many Nebraska Libraries receiving this grant, be sure to reach out and say, *Congratulations!*

13 Nebraska Libraries received this grant:

- Butler Memorial Library
- Hastings Memorial Library
- Kilgore Memorial Library
- Louisville Public Library
- Madison Public Library
- Morton-James Public Library
- Norfolk Public Library
- Ravenna Public Library
- St. Edward Public Library
- South Sioux City Public Library
- Valentine Public Library
- Verdigre Public Library

To see the [full list of all states](#), check out the [ALA website](#).

### **Review Corner**



Chloe

**by Peter McCarty**

Recommended for preschool - 2nd grade.

*Submitted by: Carol Tramp*

Chloe is a rabbit in a big family. She has ten older brothers and sisters, and ten younger brothers and sisters. She feels that even a new TV is great, but the family should have entertainment that is family driven. Cute watercolor pictures and large print.

*Love writing book reviews? Feel free to pass them along to us to share with the rest of the*

regional system. Email Chelsea at [trls.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:trls.assistant@gmail.com) submit them or any other article you'd like to share. We're always accepting submissions to our TRaiLS Newsletter!



**Library and Information Services  
Online Course Offerings**

<http://www.cccneb.edu/library/>

**Enrollment for Summer & Fall opens April 13, 2021**

Summer 2021: May 24, 2021 – July 29, 2021

Fall 2021: August 16, 2021 – December 10, 2021

**Summer 2021**

**LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services**

*Marty Magee, Instructor*

- Effective use of print and digital resources, databases, and websites
- Professional competencies including legal and ethical responsibilities
- Reference interview process

**Fall 2021**

**LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services**

*Marty Magee, Instructor*

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

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

**LIBR 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies**

*Michael Straatmann, Instructor*

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

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies and procedures

**LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum**

*Patty Birch, Instructor*

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

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

<b>Library and Information Services Online Course Offerings</b>		
<b>Summer 2021</b>	<b>Fall 2021</b>	<b>Spring 2022</b>
LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services	LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services	LIBR 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies
	LIBR 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies	LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification
	LIBR 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum	

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson [djohnson@cccneb.edu](mailto:djohnson@cccneb.edu), 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

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



## PUBLIC LIBRARIES SERVED NEBRASKA COMMUNITIES DURING THE PANDEMIC:

**82%** offered services when closed due to COVID.

**41%** presented live, virtual programs during COVID.

**33%** added or increased electronic materials.

**38%** offered recordings of programs during COVID.

**12%** offered library cards online BEFORE COVID.

**84%** provided outside Wi-Fi BEFORE COVID.

**38%** offer library cards online DURING COVID.

**79%** offered outside Wi-Fi DURING COVID.

**79%** offered reference services during COVID closure.

**25%** increased Wi-Fi access during COVID.

**83%** offered outside or curbside services.

**5%** experienced staff re-assignment to other depts.

\*91% of Public Libraries responded to the annual Public Library Data Survey.

## Joint Virtual Youth Services Retreat

September 2, 1-5

**Save the Date!**

Join us for presentations on Native American culture and literature, BiblioHop storytimes, the “best” children’s and teen books, and self-care. We will also host author Sarah Prineas and have time for networking.

