

The

# BOOKMARK

A publication of the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

## WINE & DINE FOR LIBRARIES

You're invited to join us for the *2023 Wine & Dine for Libraries* on **Thursday, April 27, Country Club of Lincoln, 6 to 8:30 p.m.**, with the silent auction closing at 8 p.m. It will be a casual evening that includes a delicious buffet dinner, silent auction, and fun! Our guests will have the opportunity to bid on silent auction items that include something for everyone: volleyball tickets, art, football tickets, many one-of-a-kind items that you can't live without, wine baskets, and new this year, a Wine Pull! Electronic bidding will be available to all ticket buyers — both at the event and from your recliner, if you aren't able to attend. It's an easy way to track your bids to ensure that you are always aware of your items. Help will be available for all who may never have had previously participated or for those of us who need a refresher course. It's really fun and EASY!!

All proceeds will benefit the electronic options offered through our Lincoln City Libraries. The pandemic has taught us that our Libraries are even more important than we knew. Electronics — whether to download a book or discover new programs provided online with your library card — kept us reading, entertained, and engaged. Our Libraries need our help so that they can continue to expand options, including purchasing additional electronic books, acquire new programs, and provide staff training. Computers and online learning are now part of our reading and life-long learning. Exciting times ahead for all of us!

For tickets visit the Foundation's website: **foundationforlcl.org**. For more information, please email **foundationforlcl@gmail.com** or call Gail McNair **402-441-0164** or **402-429-5849**. Bring your friends, family, and neighbors!! Join the FUN!!

Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries Presents...

## Wine & Dine for Libraries

You're invited to a special evening complete with a dinner buffet, cash bar, and silent auction!

**Thursday, April, 27, 2023**

**6:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

Silent Auction ends at 8:00 PM

\$125/Person

**Purchase tickets at  
[www.foundationforlcl.org](http://www.foundationforlcl.org)**

**Country Club of Lincoln**

3200 S 24th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68502



All proceeds benefit the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries.  
Questions? Call 402.441.0164 or email [foundationforlcl@gmail.com](mailto:foundationforlcl@gmail.com)

**Give to Lincoln Day is May 24, 2023!** Donations received will support Children's Services provided through your favorite Lincoln City Library and other Library programs designed by the donor. Mark your calendars! Join the fun as all of Lincoln supports our Libraries AND so many other community-wide programs.

give  
To Lincoln Day

# FRIENDS

of Lincoln City Libraries



## LCL SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2023

Lincoln City Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge has been a tradition for Lincoln's children for over 75 years. By popular demand, special events and incentives for teens and adults were added to the already popular program. Last year over 5,000 adults, 1800 teens, and 9500 children read for fun, information, and entertainment during June and July.

Parents and grandparents who participate in the Summer Reading Challenge provide a powerful message to young people about the importance of reading, especially summer reading, which helps kids improve reading fluency and keeps them from experiencing a loss in academic skills during the school break.

Community sponsors, including the Lincoln Saltdogs, the Lincoln Children's Zoo, Lincoln Public Pools, Runza, Amigos, and Yogurtini, to name just a few, sweeten the deal for everyone by providing free food and fun for readers. Participants can also enter drawings for \$100 gift packages to area businesses.

Check the library website [lincolnllibraries.org](http://lincolnllibraries.org) for more information and a schedule of events at library branches.

**Registration begins on Friday, May 26.**

## YEAR-ROUND BOOK SALE

Inquiring minds want to know, will there be a 2023 book sale? We are so grateful for the continuing interest in the book sale and are discussing and considering all options and opportunities! We want to make sure that everyone is aware that books are for sale throughout the year, at book sale prices, on the Book Nooks at six branch libraries — Anderson, Bethany, Bennett Martin, Eiseley, Gere, and Walt. There is something for everyone!! All genres! All ages!! Thank you in advance for donating your books to us!! If they don't fit into the libraries' collections, we can find new homes for your treasures on the book nooks!

We are always looking for new volunteers to help sort books throughout the year. If you're interested in helping, please email [foundationforlcl@gmail.com](mailto:foundationforlcl@gmail.com) or call 402-441-0164. Please join me in thanking our volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure that the Nooks are stocked, books are sorted, and everyone has access to books and reading! It wouldn't happen without this dedicated group of volunteers!



**PLEASE JOIN US IN THANKING OUR  
ANNUAL 2023 SPONSORS WHO ARE  
COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY AND  
TO LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES! THEY  
ARE ALSO GREAT PLACES TO WORK!**



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# NLHA

Nebraska Literary Heritage Association

NLHA provides support for the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors



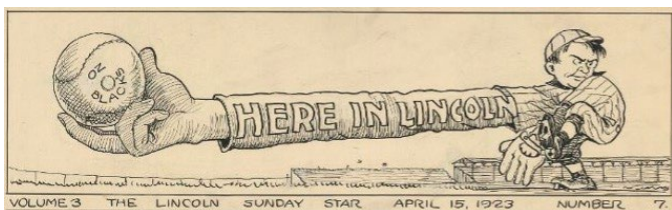
## CURATOR'S CORNER

By Diane Wilson

The past six months has seen an emphasis on collaboration and digitization here in the Heritage Room, with results that will hopefully reach many people and promote interest in the Heritage Room collections.

As recipient of funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) in 2022, the Heritage Room was able to undertake a project to increase access to our unique Weldon Kees collection. The project incorporated two parts, beginning with digitization of the extensive finding aid for the collection. Previously it was available only as a paper document in a large three-ring binder, without a Table of Contents or the ability to search for specific information. Thanks to this grant, the finding aid has been recreated as a searchable PDF document. The second part of the funding allowed for digitization of the correspondence between Weldon Kees and his good friend Norris Getty. These letters span the years from 1937 to 1955 and provide insight into Kees' life, relationships, and work. The next goal is to make these files available for viewing, probably on the library website. This project would not have been possible without the hard work of LCL Assistant Director and grant administrator Traci Glass, and LCL staffer Kim Jorgensen, who did all the hard work of recreating the finding aid and scanning the letters.

A second interesting and fun project has been a collaboration with Richard Graham, Associate Professor and Digital Media Librarian at the University of Nebraska Lincoln, to digitize the Oz Black cartoon collection that is located in the Heritage Room. Black's cartoon feature titled "Here in Lincoln" ran in the *Lincoln Star* newspaper during the 1920s and 30s. Today it provides a fascinating glimpse into current events of the time. The collection is now available to view in the UNL Media Commons at: <https://mediacommons.unl.edu/luna/servlet/s/168pfj>.



Heritage Room features first edition of  
2023 One Book, One Nebraska selection,

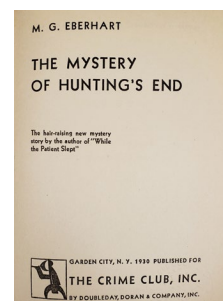
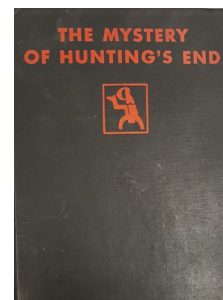
## THE MYSTERY OF HUNTING'S END BY MIGNON G. EBERYHART

The selection committee for the 2023 One Book, One Nebraska enjoyed the concept of a mystery. This is a book that keeps the reader guessing as to who is behind the murders taking place in a lodge outside of Valentine during a blizzard. Why were these murders committed, are any of the guests staying at the lodge safe, and who is the killer? The book is full of colorful characters, including Nurse Sarah Keate and detective Lance O'Leary. The reader is challenged to find clues that will lead to the discovery of who is the guilty party.

The One Book, One Nebraska reading program is entering its nineteenth year. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss one book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. A committee of the Nebraska Center for the Book selected this book from a list of twenty-seven titles nominated by Nebraskans from across the state. The Nebraska Center for the Book board announced the choice for the 2023 One Book, One Nebraska on October 22, at the annual Celebration of Nebraska Books.

Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities are available on the Get Involved page. Updates and activity listings are posted on the One Book, One Nebraska Facebook group.

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



## 36TH ANNUAL NLHA ADULT SPELLING BEE

Spellers representing Lincoln, Omaha, and Nebraska City participated in the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association's 36th Annual Adult Spelling BEE on Thursday, October 13, 2022 at Wilderness Ridge. The voice of Husker volleyball, John Baylor served as emcee and guided the spellers through a lexicon of creative words that challenged even the most experienced spellers as they were cheered on by an enthusiastic audience. The BEE winner was Larry Day, for the seventh time, with the winning word of byzantine.

An added bonus to the BEE was the presentation of the 33rd annual Heritage Award to Twyla Hansen for her excellence in writing. This award recognizes the accomplishments of the recipient who promotes excellence in writing and literature in Nebraska and for service to the literary community. Ms. Hansen joins an auspicious group that includes Nebraska's own US Poet Laurette Ted Kooser, Roger Welsh, Ron Hull, and many more that can be found on [foundationforlcl.org](https://foundationforlcl.org).



Winner Larry Day with  
emcee John Baylor

**The 2023 Spelling BEE will be held in the fall!** Details will be sent later, but it's not too early to start thinking about participating! We are always looking for spellers to add to the fun!

Proceeds from this unique event support the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors located on the third floor of Bennett Martin Public Library. You're invited to visit the Heritage Room or access the collection of books and memorabilia by Nebraskans and about Nebraska via the internet. **The Heritage Room is open Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m., and Monday through Thursday, 12 to 3 pm.** We look forward to seeing you in the Heritage Room AND the 2023 Adult Spelling BEE!

## THANKS, JOHN!

John V. Kubicek, a Lincoln City Library employee for 39 years, passed away on Dec. 19, 2022, nine months after being diagnosed with cancer. He was known for taking an interest in historical events, providing lists of famous people who were born or died on a specific date, and coordinating candy bowl offerings to match the events. He was also known as "Squirrel Man" at UNL because he distributed bird seed and nuts to the animals he encountered on his daily walks. In a *The Daily Nebraskan* article from June 8, 2015, John was quoted as saying, "Pets need someone to be there for them. I can be that person for the wildlife on campus."

After John died, LCL staff decided a bird feeder would be an appropriate way to honor John's memory and his kindness to animals. We want to give a special thank you to Dave Titterington and his daughter Katie, who own Wild Bird Habitat on 56th & Nebraska Highway for donating the bird feeder after they heard the story! We invite you to visit Bennett Martin to see the feeder and the birds!! I'm sure the staff at Wild Bird Habitat would also welcome a visit! We also thank them for being consistent donors to the FLCL's annual fundraiser, Wine & Dine for Libraries!!



Our Libraries continue to serve Lincoln's citizens thanks to the generosity of many! Thanks for being part of our "village!"

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **May 1-24, 2023** Give to Lincoln Day
- **May 29, 2023** Coffee on the Patio - The Mill
- **Fall 2023** NLHA 37th Annual Adult Spelling BEE & 34rd Annual Heritage Award



# Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

*For our Libraries. For our future.*

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## WELCOME TO LINCOLN!

Lincoln City Libraries recently welcomed **Ryan Wieber** to Lincoln to serve as the new director. He and his wife Molly arrived from their home state of Michigan, where Ryan was the director of the Kalamazoo Public Library system, where he oversaw the central library and four branches. He began his career with a public history degree from Western Michigan University and finished his master's degree in library science from Detroit's Wayne State University.

Mr. Wieber loves his profession and says the best parts of his job are serving the community and continually working hard to ensure that residents recognize the importance and value that public libraries provide toward the success of a community. He loves to see the impact that the public library — with its resources and professionally trained staff — can make on individuals, families, and the community. He also believes that our libraries should be accessible to all. Ryan has a vision for innovative services, beautiful and modern spaces, and ease of access to print and digital collections and modern technology. Lincolnites love their library and he has a passion for making sure more are aware of the strong impact that libraries provide in building community. Library Board President and local businessman, Dan Sloan, said, "Ryan has the skills, experience, and drive needed to grow, strengthen, and innovate our already strong library system. He is a dynamic leader with a proven record of strong management, collaboration, and innovation."

Molly was born and raised in Michigan. She and Ryan have been married for 31 years and have 3 grown children, plus a very special "adopted" son from Afghanistan, who joined their family in 2018. Molly is the managing director of an international student exchange program based in Kalamazoo MI. Her job allows her to travel frequently around the world, which she thoroughly enjoys. Molly loves to spend her free time walking & exploring nature. She also enjoys attending live events of all kinds; theater, concerts, sporting events, etc. And of course, she embraces every opportunity to become buried in a good book. Molly is very excited to settle in to Lincoln and is eager to make new connections and find ways to be involved in the community.

