



# NeCessary KnowLedge

By Marcy Allen

If you're one of the many librarians who pushes weeding to the back of the to-do list, you are not alone. With so many other tasks to complete, weeding often seems to be the least of your worries. Sooner or later, however, you will find yourself at a point at which your shelves are overcrowded, and you just can't seem to locate a space for those nice, new books you just received. Let's consider some of the following arguments against weeding and go from there:

**"Something is better than nothing."** This is not true! Would you really feel comfortable offering someone a 10-year-old medical book or a 7-year-old computer book? Probably not. We librarians take pride in helping others, not offering them outdated or laughable information.

**"Removing old books is discarding taxpayer money."** Your collection is fluid. What was fresh and appealing at one time changes, just like everything else in our active lives. Your goal is to offer current information that changes with events, interests and trends.

**"Someone will want that book as soon as I toss it."** This happens, but rarely. Most of our customers like to see the newest in publishing. Should you keep that item that checks out once every 10 years to that single customer?

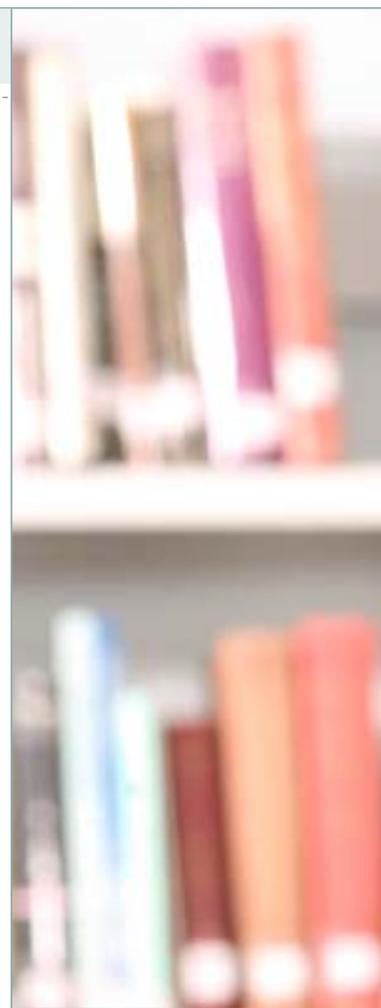
**Why is weeding so important?** Because we want to maintain our library's integrity as a source of valuable information. Because we want to keep things fresh for our users. Because we want people to be able to pull what they want from our shelves easily without struggling with overfill.

## What do we weed?

- Outdated books, like that one that describes disco fashion
- Ugly items, like the book that appears to have been partially submerged
- Trivial books, like that one urging you to create vegetable food decorations resembling butterflies



**Book from Marcy's Shelf of Shame**

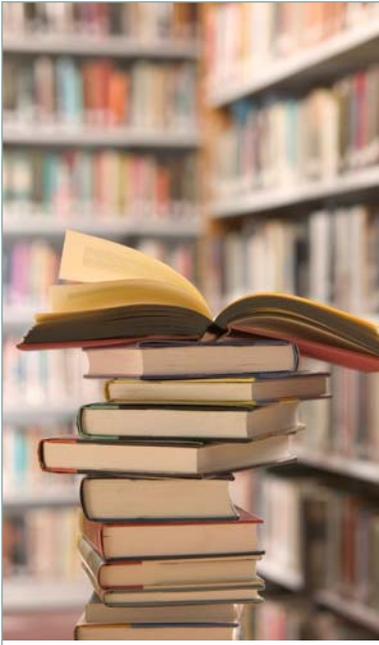


## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cover story continuation .....	2
Fall Workshop.....	2
Novelist Plus .....	3
Connecting Kansas .....	4
Bandwidth Inequality.....	4
Rotating Book Van.....	5
YA Book Review .....	5
Marcy's Book Review .....	6

## DATES TO NOTE

- August 2nd: Annual Meeting
- August 14th: Intro to Excel
- August 30th: Fall Youth Workshop
- September 11: Universal Class in Wilsey
- September 13-15: ARSL
- September 27th: Executive Committee Meeting



## COVER STORY CONTINUED

- Misleading items, like the one with recommended cholesterol guidelines from the 1980s
- Irrelevant books, like the one telling you how to repair your rotary phone

So take a look at your shelves and see if you are in need of some maintenance. If you feel unsure of where to begin, consult the CREW Manual (available from NCKLS) or give Carol a call. Carol, Nikkie and I will be happy to take a little road trip and weed alongside you. You'll be glad you did!

## FALL WORKSHOP

### COME TO THE FALL YOUTH WORKSHOP

This year's fall youth workshop is all about storytime. We are going to discuss everything you need to host a successful storytime program.

In addition to the great informational sessions, we will have our storytime kits out for you to explore, and you can get hands on with some of the Kansas Reads to Preschoolers activities for this year.

Even if your program is already amazing, we can all learn something new. There will be a lot of great information and this age group is just so much FUN!

**FALL YOUTH WORKSHOP**

August 30th 2018  
**Storytimes - Add Some Pizzazz to Your Programs!**

**Special Guest Speaker**  
**Sue McCleaf Nespeca**

Sue McCleaf Nespeca is an Early Literacy & Children's Literature Specialist who has presented over 500 workshops around the US on topics related to early literacy and children's literature. She has published several books and articles and is co-author of the national Very Ready Reading Program. Presently she is on the Board of Directors for the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and is a trainer for Supercharge Storytimes.

**Prizes!**

Registration starts at 9:00am  
Workshop 9:30-3:30  
Manhattan Public Library Auditorium

**Other sessions being presented include:**

- Baby Lapsit Storytime
- Preschool storytime presented by MPL
- Storytime Kit Petting Zoo with Kansas Reads to Preschoolers activities

REGISTER AT [KNOW.NCKL.INFO/](http://KNOW.NCKL.INFO/)

# NOVELIST PLUS

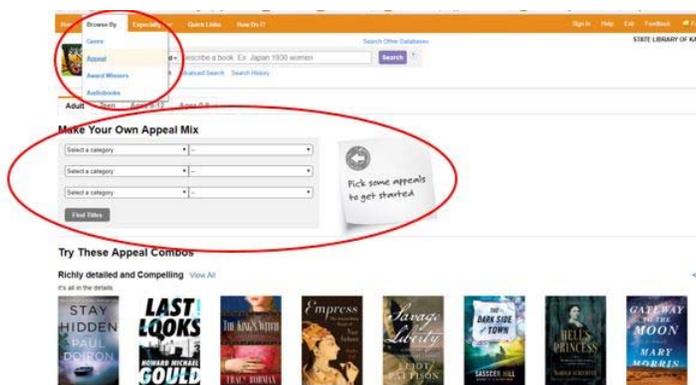
By LaDonna Clark

Do you have patrons asking for heartwarming or inspiring books? Are they looking for something suspenseful? Is the parent of a young child asking for short stories for bed-time that are not too lively? Another parent might be looking for Lexile™ or Accelerated Reader™ level resources. Do tweens come in looking for a book over 200 pages for a class assignment? If you have received one of these questions, or a similar request, look no further than Novelist Plus.

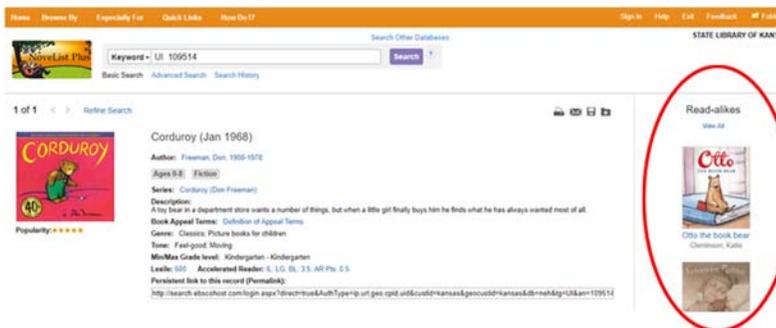
Novelist Plus is a resource from the State Library of Kansas, which has many features to help find the next read for patrons based on their need or interest at the time.

One feature in Novelist Plus is Appeal factors. Appeal factors help identify what a patron enjoys about a title.

To see choices of appeal, click on **Browse By**, then select **Appeal**.



Another feature of Novelist Plus is "Read-alikes." Every title has a "Read-alikes" section which recommends similar titles for you.



Novelist Plus helps kids and adults find what they need and are interested in. To learn more on Novelist Plus, register to attend the next workshop on September 20th at Dorothy Bramalge Library by visiting <http://know.nckl.info/>.



NORTH CENTRAL  
KANSAS LIBRAR-  
IES SYSTEM

629 Poyntz Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: 785-776-4741  
Fax: 785-776-1545  
Toll Free: 800-432-2796  
E-mail: [cbarta@nckls.org](mailto:cbarta@nckls.org)

[WWW.NCKLS.ORG](http://WWW.NCKLS.ORG)

## How to run the speed test:

Find "FCC Speed Test" in your app store



A valid speed test must meet these requirements:



Run the test between 6 a.m. and midnight



Turn off WiFi



Make sure you are outside and away from a building or vehicle

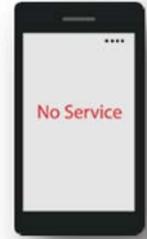


Enable GPS or Location Services

Directions for both iPhone and Android smartphones are at: <https://www.kfb.org/Get-Involved/Connecting-Kansas>

## CONNECTING KANSAS

The FCC is providing \$4.53 billion to primarily support rural areas where there is a lack of LTE cell service. This support will be spread out over the next 10 years. Anyone who has been in rural Kansas, and has seen the state of cell phone coverage, can see this as a great thing! However, the current coverage maps show widespread coverage across Kansas.



The Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) is challenging the legitimacy of the coverage maps, in an attempt to show we too have a need for reliable cell coverage, and in turn, support from the FCC. The KFB needs the help of all Kansans to prove the real lack of cell phone coverage in our state.

What can you do to help prove the gaps in coverage? You can provide speed tests via the FCC Speed Test App on your phone. You can make your patrons aware of this as well.

For more information on the speed test visit: [www.kfb.org/ConnectingKansas](http://www.kfb.org/ConnectingKansas)

## BANDWIDTH INEQUALITIES

By Duane Mayer

Over the past several years, NCKLS has been advising our libraries to get the most bandwidth that your ISP can offer, that fits in your library's budget. Bandwidth refers to the *maximum* speeds available on a particular connection. Speeds are typically measured in Megabits per second (Mbps). For comparison, downloading a 110MB (Megabyte) file could take  $\approx 10$  minutes on a 1Mbps connection,  $\approx 1.5$  minutes on a 10Mbps connection, and  $\approx 0.9$  seconds on a 100Mbps (Gigabit) connection. These numbers typically assume the best conditions and a single user.

Unfortunately, the biggest obstacle to getting better bandwidth is the amount the ISP could offer. If your library (we have 8 of them) has the misfortune to only have an option of ATT, Century Link, Fairpoint, or a wireless connection, this limitation may still hold true. These libraries have connections from 5Mb to 18Mb with little or no options for more. They also are paying a premium

price for lesser service. Connections of 5Mb to 10Mb are costing these libraries around \$100 (prior to e-rate) per month.

Libraries who are being served by local companies (Twin Valley, Blue Valley, Tri County, Wamego Telco, Eaglecom, SA Telco, and Moundridge Telco) have many more options. Most of these have fiber optic cable installed to their library and could get Gigabit service if they choose. We currently have 26 libraries paying for service with these companies. On average, they pay \$75 (prior to e-rate) monthly for 50Mb connections.

We have an additional 11 libraries who do not pay for Internet. These connections are being provided either by the city or a small complementary connection through their ISP. Three of these are 50Mb connections, but most are less than 10Mb.

Your legislators need to know these disparities still exist. It is not likely changes will be made unless the larger companies are forced to do so.

## KIM'S TECH CORNER

### Speak up!

Some libraries have reported problems with their audio, specifically: the speaker icon is missing from the taskbar. This is most likely due to an older version of Deep Freeze running on the computer, and we can usually remote in and have it updated in just a few minutes. So, don't be afraid to speak up and let us know that your software updates aren't as up-to-date as they ought to be.



## ROTATING BOOK VAN NEWS

By Denise Coon

For those of you who are new to NCKLS, and just as a reminder for those who are not, you can change what you receive with your rotating book delivery at any time. You just cannot exceed 350 total books. Please either email or call me with any changes you would like to make. If you need a copy of what I'm currently selecting to pack for your library, I'd be happy to email that information to you.

I will soon be delivering holiday books for you to choose from. The delivery for Halloween books will begin around August 16<sup>th</sup>. Holiday books for both Thanksgiving and Christmas will begin shortly after that.

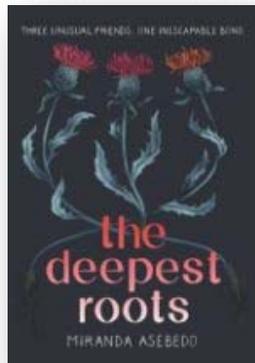
## YA NOVEL SET IN RURAL KANSAS

By Nikkie Sierra

I recently received an advanced reader copy of a YA book from local Kansan, Miranda Asebedo. *The Deepest Roots* has already received positive and starred reviews from many of the major reviewers.

The girls in Cottonwood Hollow are all born with a "curse;" each girl has a unique talent such as Finding things, Fixing things, Healing etc. The curse makes them feel like freaks outside their own small, rural Kansas hometown. Each girl has their own struggles and each is forced to keep secrets from one another. When they come across the diary of the woman who placed the "curse" on the town, they start to wonder if these talents are really a curse at all.

This young adult book is touted as magical realism, but it feels much more like realistic fiction with a touch of magic and paranormal. Perhaps this is because Asebedo does such a brilliant job of making the magic believable. The way in which Rome interacts with her talent is organic and



flawlessly helps the reader suspend disbelief.

This is the first book by Miranda Asebedo, and I am sure it is the first of many. This book is full of strong female characters

and complex relationships. The protagonists are well developed and believable. As a recent Kansas transplant, I was able to recognize the struggles the girls face being in a rural Kansas town. I was also equally able to recognize the beauty of the place and its people.

The sisterhood of the women of Cottonwood Hollow goes beyond the protagonists and is a welcome message in this day and age. The writing is masterly and the story is strong. This will be a great book for fans of paranormal, magic, and for those who appreciate strong female characters. Your teens will love seeing themselves in the characters from a rural Kansas town and the adults are sure to love it as well.

Book release date is 9/18/18.



## NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS LIBRARIES SYSTEM

The North Central Kansas Libraries System is a regional System of cooperating libraries whose purpose is to better utilize human and material resources by sharing programs and services.

### North Central Kansas Libraries System

629 Poyntz Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: 785-776-4741  
Fax: 785-776-1545  
Toll Free: 800-432-2796  
E-mail: [cbarta@nckls.org](mailto:cbarta@nckls.org)



## SUMMER'S MYSTERIES

By Marcy Allen

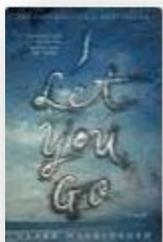
If you love mysteries, as so many of our library customers do, you'll be pleasantly surprised by the great assortment of puzzlers that this summer has already produced. Lots of variety and some startling surprises make the investigations enticing. Here are some titles you and your customers will surely enjoy:

*The Death of Mrs. Westaway* by Ruth Ware introduces us to young Eng-

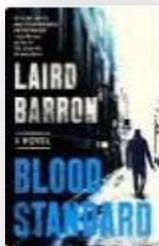


lish girl named Hal who is still stumbling through the grief brought on by her mother's death. Hal soon receives an official letter informing her of an inheritance. It seems that an estate is now hers, and Hal decides to play along with that even though she knows this is a case of a mistaken identity. When she arrives at the estate, unusual events and old concealed secrets are revealed. All that she had been told about her own past is now in question, and someone wants to engineer her demise. This is an atmospheric tale with lots of twists.

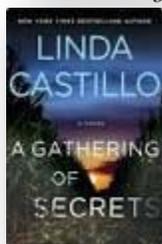
*I Let You Go* by Claire Mackintosh is a contemporary shocker. It opens with a young boy's brutal death during a hit and run accident. Shortly after, a woman named Jenna Gray moves to an isolated cabin on the Welch coast as she tries to forget that accident. But the Bristol police are following all leads in an effort to identify the killer, and their investigation ultimately leads to Jenna's door. This is a story of abuse, culpability and grief played out against a wild seaside coast. An excellent read.



*Blood Standard* by Laird Barron centers on Isaiah Coleridge, a mob enforcer, who battles a mob leader. Now out of a job and in danger of losing his life, Isaiah moves to an upstate New York ranch to become a hired hand. When a young girl disappears, Isaiah can't ignore the problem, so he begins an investigation destined to gain attention from some shady characters. Isaiah, a man who accepts violence as a fact of life, is also compassionate and likable. This is a gritty tale of a man who always backs the underdog.



*Gathering of Secrets* by Linda Castillo is another in the Chief of Police Kate Burkholder series. Kate, who left the Amish faith long ago, enforces the law fairly in an Amish community. This mystery involves a young Amish man who loses his life during a staged barn fire. Kate's investigation reveals a history of sexual abuse and a number of possible suspects in the killing. The case also reminds Kate of some shocking events that took place during her own teen years, so events become very personal. A quality mystery that explores the treatment of both victims and their attackers.



With hot summer days yet to come, there are more quality mysteries yet to be published. Delve into a suspenseful read at your leisure!