



NLC *Interchange*

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Newsletter
of the
Nebraska
Library
Commission
Talking Book
& Braille
Service

Nebraskans to Read *The Home Place*

One Book One Nebraska 2010 invites citizens across the state to read *The Home Place* (RC 300), by Wright Morris, a Nebraska City native. First published in 1948, this book, written in first person, describes the one-day visit of Clyde Muncy to “the home place” at Lone Tree, Nebraska. This story of a New York family’s brief stay at a Nebraska farm has been acclaimed for its human interest and humor, stemming from the quiet collision of ways of life in opposite directions.

The Nebraska Center for the Book board selected *The Home Place* for Nebraska’s statewide read to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Wright Morris, regarded as

one of America’s most gifted novelists and photographers. Nebraska libraries are joining the Lone Tree Literary Society and other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events to encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book.

2010 One Book One Nebraska is hosted by the Lone Tree Society and sponsored by a coalition of organizations including the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Library Commission, and University of Nebraska Press at <http://www.onebooknebraska.org>. ■

Magazines for Family Living

With milder temperatures and more daylight, this is the time of year when the family begins to spend more time outdoors, getting ready for spring. Here is an

assortment of free cassette magazines about family activities. *Humpty Dumpty’s*, produced by the Florida Regional Library, is a magazine full of stories, poems,



Magazines for Family Living

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puzzles, and more to engage children age 4 to 6. The magazine's philosophy is to help kids have fun through creative ways to exercise, eat right, and play safely.

Your Dog, published monthly by Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, is a resource for those who care about their canine family members. Articles cover health, training, and behavior issues, plus reviews of dog-friendly products. Recorded by the Massachusetts Regional Library.

America's family magazine since 1882, *Grit* celebrates rural America by focusing on a positive approach to life. Recorded bimonthly in our own studios, *Grit* features articles that promote encouragement, pluck, dedication, and determination.

The Saturday Evening Post, produced six times a year, is a general-interest magazine containing humor,

fiction, and health-related and other non-fiction articles. Throughout its history, it has chronicled the events and cultural shifts that have shaped America. It is recorded by the Braille and Talking Book Division of the Arizona State Library.

Martha Stewart Living, published twelve times per year, offers creative solutions, delicious recipes, and helpful hints to make your life more comfortable, organized, and fun. It is produced by the Florida Regional Library.

Sports 'N Spokes covers competitive wheelchair sports and recreation and sports for individuals with visual impairment. It is produced six times a year by the Arizona Regional Library.

To sign up for any of these free cassette magazines, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Readers Advisor. ■

Great Decisions 2010

Published annually by the Foreign Policy Association, the *Great Decisions 2010 Briefing Book* (NSC 3328) features thought-provoking analysis of eight issues of special concern to U.S. policymakers. The 2010 edition covers Special envoys, Kenya and R2P, Global crime, U.S.-China

security relations, Global financial crisis, Russia and its neighbors, Persian Gulf, and Peace building and conflict resolution. The recorded edition was produced by the Arizona Regional Library. To borrow a copy on cassette, please contact your Readers Advisor. ■

Questions and Answers

Question: When will a new digital player be available for me?

Answer: We have been receiving regular allocations of digital players from Library of Congress and are now ready to hear from borrowers in good standing not already on our waiting list for the new equipment. A borrower in good standing means having no more than one Library of Congress cassette player in their possession at a time and not demonstrating a pattern of lost or

damaged library materials. Let your Readers Advisor know you are ready for a digital player.

The number of books on digital cartridge is still limited, so you will need to keep your cassette player for many recorded books and all recorded magazines. When you begin receiving books on cartridge, please remember to return them to us promptly. ■

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Great Books to Celebrate Spring

Of our four seasons, spring is undoubtedly the most welcome. Here are some wonderful books about that miraculous time of year when nature is reborn.

RC 904 *The Last Prairie: a Sandhills Journal*, by Stephen R. Jones

A naturalist presents twenty essays that celebrate the Nebraska Sandhills—one of the most visually stunning American landscapes. Accounts of homesteaders, range wars, and devastating storms stand beside descriptions of dancing prairie chickens and the annual migratory flight of a half-million sandhill cranes.

RC 52027 *April 1865: The Month That Saved America*, by Jay Winik

In April 1865, as the war ends, the Confederate capital—Richmond—lies in ruins, Generals Robert E. Lee and Joe Johnston surrender their armies, and President Abraham Lincoln is assassinated. Remarkably, the author contends, the nation survives. Analyzes the reasons for the unusually successful conclusion to a republic's civil war.

RC 53450 *The Garden Problem Solver*, by the Readers Digest Association, Inc.

A guide to diagnosing and treating garden ailments that occur among flowers, vegetables, herbs, shrubs,

lawns, and trees, including fruit and nut trees. Discusses various problems that affect your garden and what causes them, and offers solutions to aid in eliminating them.

RC 54054 *April Fool Dead: a Death on Demand Mystery*, by Carolyn Hart

In her South Carolina island hometown, bookstore owner Annie Darling distributes fliers advertising an author's book signing. Then someone plays a vicious joke with counterfeit fliers accusing residents of various crimes. Annie ties the bogus fliers into the murders of a teacher and, later, a student.

RC 58307 *Game Time: a Baseball Companion*, by Roger Angell; edited by Steve Kettmann

Sportswriter Steve Kettmann compiles his favorite Roger Angell baseball essays, spanning 1962-2002. The pieces profile players such as Willie Mays, Bob Gibson, Pete Rose, and David Cone, as well as various teams and spring training camps that he's studied. Introduction by Richard Ford.

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Great books to Celebrate Spring

Continued from page 4

RC 60852 *Paths of Desire: the Passions of a Suburban Gardener*, by Dominique Browning

House and Garden editor-in-chief documents the fifteen-year restoration of her suburban New York garden after a violent storm destroyed a retaining wall. Chronicles with good humor the much-needed renovations and offers helpful advice for enthusiasts and novices cultivating land in idiosyncratic neighborhood environments.

RC 65281 *The Blue Rose*, by Anthony Eglin

When Kate and Alex Sheppard explore the overgrown two-acre gardens of their cottage, they find a rosebush with genetically impossible brilliant blue blooms. Mayhem and murder ensue as word of the discovery leaks out and others try to claim the plant. Some violence and some strong language.

RC 65395 *Garden Spells*, by Sarah Addison Allen

North Carolina caterer Claire Waverly uses the family's magical garden to enhance her cooking. Her sister Sydney never wanted the horticultural legacy and left home just like their mother did years ago. Now Sydney has returned with her young daughter after escaping an abusive husband. Some strong language.

RC 65823 *The Spring Cleaning Murders*, by Dorothy Cannell

Ellie Haskell, housewife extraordinaire, seeks a new maid after her beloved Roxie quits. But when Gertrude Large, a member of Roxie's local charwomen's association, is murdered, Ellie turns to sleuthing. Aided by her husband and various cleaning products, Ellie tackles Gertrude's former clients to tidy up—and snoop around—their homes. ■

New Cassette Books from Our Studios

Fiction

Spell It Murder

RC 1116

by Ivy Ruckman

read by Karen Boyer

1 cassette

After Andrea and her bunkmate Katy feel bullied by the other campers at

Camp Shagbark, they make a late-night escape by stealing a rowboat to row the six miles downriver toward home.

When they overhear two men in a powerboat speak of dumping bodies, the two girls think they have witnessed a murder. A miscellaneous tip to police makes everyone believe the girls have been murdered. For grades 5 to 8.

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New Cassette Books from Our Studios

Continued from page 5

Non Fiction

Lawrence Bixby: Preserver of the Old Spade Ranch

RC 1080

by Ruth VanAckeren and Robert M. Howard

read by Carlene Miller

1 cassette

Established in the Nebraska Sandhills by Bartlett Richards in 1888, The Spade Ranch played a key role in the state's early livestock history. At its height, the ranch grew to 500,000 acres. Following the founder's death in 1911, a young neighbor and summer employee, Lawrence Bixby, worked tirelessly to preserve and maintain The Spade's holdings. Beginning in 1924, Bixby began acquiring ownership of Spade land. He lived to see the ranch entered into the National Register of Historic Places.

When Blacks Were Green

RC 1099

by Karla J. Cooper

read by Kay McKinzie

1 cassette

Black Americans have a tradition, often out of necessity, of reducing, reusing, and recycling. Today those wishing to live "green" can draw from those experiences and reclaim such virtues as

simplicity, creativity, and imagination.

Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy

RC 1109

by Andrea Warren

read by Dennis Lorance

1 cassette

At the end of the Vietnam War, an eight-year-old American orphan named Long is evacuated from Saigon's Holt Center during Operation Babylift. An Ohio family adopts him and changes his name to Matt Steiner. Matt graduates from college and then medical school and becomes an emergency room physician. He later revisits Vietnam and remembers his American heart is half Vietnamese. For grades 5 to 8.

Lights on a Ground of Darkness

RC 1122

by Ted Kooser

read by Cherie Frederick

1 cassette

After the death of his mother, former U.S. poet laureate pens a brief memoir in an effort to keep the world of his childhood preserved. Raised by German immigrants in Guttenberg, IA. Kooser writes affectionately of his grandfather and his Uncle Elvy. Kooser's mother, Vera, taught the future poet "to see the life at play in everything." ■

Golden Oldies From Our Studios

Here are some wonderful books recorded in our studios in past years. To order, check the box next to the RC number and return this page to Talking Book and Braille Service, or contact your Readers Advisor.

RC 1016 *At Home on This Moveable Earth*, by William Kloefkorn
2 cassettes Autobiography

RC 1018 *Omaha Blues: a Memory Loop*, by Joseph Lelyveld
2 cassettes Autobiography

RC 1019 *Weed'em and Reap: a Weed Eater Reader*, by Roger Welsch
2 cassettes Natural history

RC 1020 *The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*, by Timothy Egan

2 cassettes American history

RC 1021 *One Part Angel*, by George Shaffner

2 cassettes Family story

Continued on page 8

Form and Mailing Instructions

Use pages 7 and 8 to mark the books and magazines you wish to order, then put the page into an envelope and mail it to the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book & Braille Service, 1200 N Street, Suite #120, The Atrium, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

Grit

Humpty Dumpty's

**Martha Stewart
Living**

Sports 'N' Spokes

**The Saturday
Evening Post**

Your Dog

RC 300

RC 904

RC 1116

RC 1080

RC 1099

RC 1109

RC 1122

RC 52027

RC 53450

RC 54054

RC 58307

RC 60852

RC 65281

RC 65395

RC 65823

More Golden Oldies From Our Studios

Continued from page 7

❑ **RC 1022 *A Garden in Paris: Book 1***, by Stephanie Grace Whitson
2 cassettes Christian romance

❑ **RC 1023 *A Hillside in Tuscany: Garden in Paris, Book 2***, by Stephanie Grace Whitson
2 cassettes Christian romance

❑ **RC 1024 *The Brother***, by Jack Barron
2 cassettes Christian fiction

❑ **RC 1025 *Summer of Discovery***, by Melody Herr
1 cassette Archeology
For grades 6 to 9.

❑ **RC 1026 *The Floor of the Sky***, by Pamela Carter Joern
2 cassettes Family story
Contains some strong language.

❑ **RC 1027 *Bluetick Revenge***, by Mark Cohen
2 cassettes Suspense
Contains some strong language and violence.

❑ **RC 1028 *The Broidered Garment: The Love Story of Mona Martinsen and John G. Neihardt***, by Hilda Martinsen Neihardt
3 cassettes Biography ■

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Talking Book and Braille Service
Nebraska Library Commission
The Atrium • 1200 N St. • Suite 120
Lincoln NE 68508-2023
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Free Matter
For the Blind or
Handicapped