

# LEAdvocate

Issue # 3 – September 19, 2007

*Working Together:  
A Great  
Public School  
for Every  
Child.*

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## It's Coming...

Pumpkins and jack-o-lanterns, trick-or-treat, students on sugar highs (oh, no!), and most importantly, **THE 11<sup>th</sup> Annual HARVEST OF BOOKS!!**

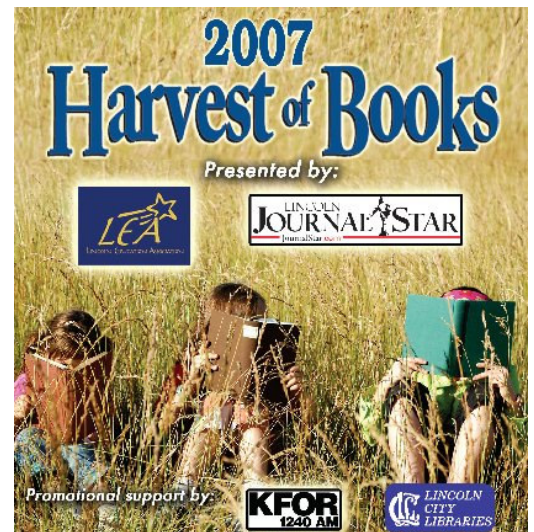
One of LEA's most successful out-reach programs in the Lincoln community is about to start again. Please get the word and dates out to friends, neighbors, and family about the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest of Books and how it places in the hands of Lincoln's first and second grade students a brand new book of their own to take home. The program not only promotes the love of reading, but gives some students something they have never had the "luxury" of having—brand new books of their own at home to own and enjoy over and over. Many older students have never forgotten their first Harvest of Books donation as a first and second grade student and have joined the ranks of eager volunteers donating to and helping with the program. How special is that!

During the weeks of **October 5 – 21**, help share your love of reading with a child by donating to the Eleventh Annual Harvest of Books drive.

Since its inception in 1997, the Harvest of Books, Inc. has distributed over 100,000 books to first and second graders in the public, private and parochial schools of Lincoln. This year, the Harvest goal is to distribute 13,000 books to students the week of November 19.

If you and others would like to participate, you can purchase books at **25% off** the retail price at the following participating bookstores:

- ◆ B. Dalton Bookseller, Westfield Shopping Town - Gateway Mall
- ◆ Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 5150 "O" Street or 2910 Pine Lake Road – Suite A1
- ◆ Gloria Deo, Alamo Center Suite – 15, 5601 S 56<sup>th</sup>



- ◆ Lee Booksellers, 5500 S 56th Street
- ◆ Lemstone Christian Stores, 2801 Pine Lake, Ste J
- ◆ Nebraska Bookstore, 1300 “Q” Street
- ◆ University Bookstore, Lower Level-Nebraska Union-City Campus
- ◆ Usborne Books via Alicia Chrastil at 499-8147
- ◆ Usborne Books via Miriam LeBlanc at 489-8800, [www.MiriamBooks.com](http://www.MiriamBooks.com)
- ◆ Usborne Books via Becky McGarvie at 477-0249
- ◆ Usborne Books via Amy Rempe at 486-1031
- ◆ Usborne Books via Megan Tupper at 476-0394

If you and others cannot get to a store to make purchases or would simply prefer to let LEA volunteers do the shopping, donations by check may be sent to: Harvest of Books, c/o LEA, 4920 Normal Blvd., Lincoln NE 68506. Individuals often use the Harvest of Books as a way of donating memorials to departed friends and loved ones throughout the year, too.

*Please help the LEA and the Harvest of Books continue to be a cherished tradition!*

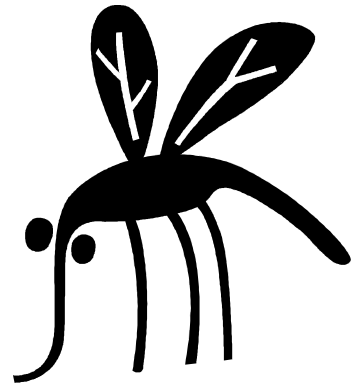
## Urban Myths # 3



Did you know that you can protect yourself from mosquito bites by: rubbing Bounce Fabric Softener Sheets on you, by not eating bananas in the summertime, by taking a Vitamin B-1 tablet April thru October, or by planting marigolds in your yard?



Did you know that you should never take flowers into a person's sickroom—it depletes the room of needed oxygen!



*Sorry, these both are urban myths.* For reliable mosquito protection, especially during this time of the year, stick to products that contain Deet, scientifically proven to ward off the pests [To date, Nebraska has seen three deaths due to West Nile Virus—a virus carried by mosquitoes.] Probably because of their association with sickness, cut flowers have been the subject of numerous legends and myths. The oxygen myth is one of the most oft repeated ones. Although flowers do consume oxygen during the night, during the day they release ten times more oxygen than they consumed during the night and enrich the oxygen supply of one's room.

*Here is another “urban myth” of which you should be aware:*

When using Option B (eleven days, “at the teacher’s discretion”) Leave, you still need to inform your principal or a secretary in the office as to why you are being gone. *Not.* “At the teacher’s discretion” is the same as “No questions asked” and it means exactly that. Members do **not** need to report why they are using their leave *with the exception of missing staff development/PLC time.* In order not to be docked monetarily for this kind of contractual, mandatory inservice, members need to specifically report that the time they will be gone for the PLC or inservice meets the contract guidelines which allow employees to use only “sick leave as described in Section 8-1 A.1.; emergency leave described in Section 8-1 A.2.; adoption leave; civic leave; jury duty leave; bereavement leave; assault and/or battery leave; or professional leave” even if they are on Option B Leave.

Absence procedures for teachers are available on the LPS web at:

[http://www.lps.org/hr/handbooks/tchr\\_absence/opt\\_b.html#anchor\\_02](http://www.lps.org/hr/handbooks/tchr_absence/opt_b.html#anchor_02)

## LEA Welcomes More New Members!

In the last issue of the LEAdvocate, LEA listed and welcomed new hires, individuals renewing their membership after having been on leave, and experienced teachers who have recently joined LEA. LEA is pleased and proud to be able to announce that since our last issue the following individuals have also joined their professional association, taking that important step to be an involved and active voice for their profession and the students and community that they serve:



Roger Adams.....	Roper Elementary School
Diane Ditmars .....	Lincoln Southwest High School
Allyn Fujan .....	Brownell Elementary School
Stephanie Lawson .....	Mickle and Pound Middle School
Melissa Mordy .....	Lincoln Southwest High School
Tiffany Roemmich .....	Meadow Lane Elementary School
Ann Schmer.....	Holmes Elementary School
Gayle Wiedman.....	Randolph Elementary School
Carla Witty .....	Zeman Elementary School