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North Dakota State Library

FLICKERTALE

Volume 41 Number 9 December 2011

Seasons greetings and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2012!

- From the staff at the North Dakota State Library -

Gift Ideas from NDSL Staff

'Tis the season of decision making and gift giving. We all know how hard it can be to select that perfect gift for each person on the shopping list. Surely not every gift can be as clever and useful as a pair of USB heated gloves, available at www.perpetualkid.com/usb-heated-gloves.aspx!

Hopefully, the following list of books recommended by the staff at the North Dakota State Library will make finding that perfect gift a little bit easier.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline - Kristen Northrup

The Character of Meriwether Lewis in the Wilderness by Clay S. Jenkinson - Sue Bicknell

Unbroken : A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption by Laura Hillenbrand - Adam Emter

The Coalwood Way by Homer Hickham - Stacey Goldade

The Thief by Megan Whalen Turner - Sarah Matusz

Anathem by Neal Stephenson - Eric Stroshane

Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon - Steve Axtman

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies by Seth Grahame-Smith - Matt Hovland

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett - Stephanie Kom

Worth Dying For by Lee Child - Hulen E. Bivins

How to Cook Everything by Mark Bittman - Elizabeth Jacobs

Merry Christmas, Festus and Mercury by Sven Nordqvist - Sue Hammer-Schneider

Stuff : Compulsive Hoarding and the Meaning of Things by Randy Frost - Cathy Clayton

Goodnight Opus by Berkeley Breathed - Shari Mosser

Dark Elf Trilogy by R. A. Salvatore - Matthew Lengenfelder

Petey by Ben Mikaelsen - Cindy Olson

2009-2011 Biennial Report Released

The 2009-2011 North Dakota State Library Biennial Report has been published and is now available at www.library.nd.gov/publications/biennialreport.pdf. This document contains photo highlights, detailed activity reports, and other pertinent information about North Dakota State Library services during the 2009-2011 biennium.

Public Library Statistics : Why They Matter

As 2011 comes to a close, you may be anxiously awaiting that inevitable annual report from the State Library. The State Library has worked hard to take comments received from librarians into consideration when developing the report form this year. As always, NDSL staff are available to work with you as you complete your report. The deadline for submitting your report to the State Library is March 16, 2012.

Here are a few things to be aware of as you compile data and complete the report.

- The State Library has developed a Field Services Department, whose staff is available to work one-on-one with libraries.
- Definitions, which can be found when clicking on question numbers within the report, are now more detailed and have been standardized nationally.
- Some questions have been eliminated from the report; therefore, you will be asked for additional data on other questions.
- We have provided a mechanism for library directors to collect accurate counts of specific data elements.
- Estimated counts are best done during the third week of October and April, to get accurate estimates for the year.
- The State Library continues to pre-fill fields in the report with data that does not generally change from year to year. If this data needs to be changed, please send an email with the correct information to mballiet@nd.gov.

Please remember that accurate statistics provide a comprehensive analysis of North Dakota's public libraries and the services they provide. The State Library will continually strive to confirm that all data submitted by libraries is as accurate as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns about public library statistics or data-collection methods, please contact Michele at 800-472-2104 or mballiet@nd.gov.

CALENDAR

December 26
State Library Closed for Christmas

January 2
State Library Closed for New Year

January 16
State Library Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20-24
ALA Midwinter Meeting - Dallas, Texas

February 20
State Library Closed for Presidents Day

Quotable

"The sessions have been a great help to my child in completing homework and understanding the procedures for completing his math. We are very glad this service is available for our child!"

- Parent of Tutor ND user

North Dakota State Library staff were recently recognized for their years of service to the North Dakota State Library and the citizens of North Dakota. Years of service for these awards ranged from three years to ten years.

North Dakota State Library : On the Road

December 14
Teacher Training - Lisbon

January 10
eReader Training - Bismarck Public Library

January 16
Teacher Training - Williston

Having Problems Connecting to Tutor ND?

The majority of individuals accessing TutorND have no problems connecting with a tutor using their library's ODIN remote access number or using their ODIN library card number. However, a few issues have arisen for users attempting to access TutorND.

The first issue may occur after clicking the blue "Connect Now" button at www.tutorND.com. A window often pops up entitled "Create a FREE Tutor.com Account." Do not enter your ODIN login on this page; simply close the window or click "No Thanks" if you do not want to register for a personal Tutor.com account. You do not need a personal account to connect with an expert tutor. Users do, however, need an account to save sessions for future playback or to remember tutors for future sessions.

Another issue of concern is the "Sign In" at the top of the Tutor.com page. This is for signing in to your personal Tutor.com account, if you registered for one. Please do not enter your ODIN login here. When you see the "Sorry We're Closed" sign or the Learning Centers and the 24/7 Skills Center Resource Library, you are already logged in to Tutor ND.

Lastly, if you are accessing TutorND with a mobile device, you must register for a free Tutor.com account. As long as you log on to TutorND through your browser and create a free Tutor.com account as a verified user, you can then use your mobile device to access a tutor by signing in to your personal Tutor.com account.

At the end of every tutor session there is an optional survey. Please enter your positive or negative comments regarding the session. Tutor.com evaluates these comments when making improvements to the live tutor experience. Thus far, the post-session student comments have been overwhelmingly positive.

If you have any questions or experience problems accessing TutorND, please contact Steve Axtman at 701-328-3495 or saxtman@nd.gov.

A Holiday Shopper's Guide to e-Readers

Nook, Kindle, Sony, Kobo, iPad - what's a reader to choose? For those interested in purchasing an e-reader for themselves or as a gift this holiday season, it can be tough to decide which e-reader to choose. With the recent addition of new devices like the Nook Tablet, Kindle Fire, Kindle Touch, and Sony Wi-Fi to an already crowded field of devices on the market, it has become increasingly important to do your homework before you start your holiday shopping, and to consider a few key factors before deciding on an e-reader.

Screen type: E-readers are available with either an eInk screen, or a color LCD screen. The eInk screens on devices like the Kindle and the Nook Simple Touch are designed to mimic the look of real paper. They deliver images in multi-level grayscale (so no color graphics). There is little or no glare on the screen, so eInk devices are great for reading outside in bright sunlight, but since these screens are not backlit, they do require an external lighting source for reading in low light, just like a regular print book. The LCD screens on devices like the Nook Color, Nook Tablet, and Kindle Fire provide full-color display, so they are great for reading picture books, magazines, or anything else featuring a lot of color graphics. These screens do have backlighting, so if you do a lot of reading in low light and want to forego the external lighting, this is the screen type for you. Though great for low light reading, these screens aren't exactly sunlight-friendly, as they are high-glare and difficult to utilize in bright outdoor light. Most of the eInk devices on the market right now feature 6-inch screens, while the color-screen devices primarily have 7-inch screens. The iPad screen measures 9.7 inches.

Functionality: Consider what you want to be able to do with your new e-reader. Do you want a device primarily for reading, or do you want something that's more multifunctional and can be utilized for audio, video, games, apps, and surfing the web? The eInk devices like the Kindle, Nook Simple Touch, Sony Reader Wi-Fi, and Kobo E-Reader Touch are great for those who want a device that's primarily used for reading. They do have some limited web browsing capabilities, and some of them support audio files, but in all, their primary purpose is for reading text. If you're interested in having enhanced multi-media functions like streaming video, web surfing, audio, games, and more, all rolled into one with your e-reader, tablet devices like the Nook Tablet, Kindle Fire, and iPad fit the bill.

Connectivity: Most e-readers connect to the web via Wi-Fi. Through the Wi-Fi connection, you can search the e-book store associated with your reader, purchase e-books, and download them directly to your device. If you don't have access to a Wi-Fi connection, e-readers can be connected to a computer via a USB cable. A few of the Amazon Kindle devices also offer a 3G option (for an additional cost), so users have access to the Amazon store to purchase and download e-books to your device when they're away from a Wi-Fi connection.

Device weight: This may not be an issue that immediately comes to mind when shopping for an e-reader, but devices do vary in weight from one type to the next. If you're looking for something that's easy to carry with you when you're traveling or on the go, the eInk devices like the Kindle, Nook Simple Touch, Sony Reader Wi-Fi, and Kobo E-Reader Touch weigh generally under a half-pound, and are handy to carry around in a purse or briefcase. Other readers like the Nook Color, Nook Tablet, and Kindle Fire all weigh in at just shy of a pound, and the iPad at just over a pound. While still smaller and easier to carry than most hardcover books, the higher weight of these devices makes them slightly less convenient to carry and hold for long periods than the eInk readers.

If you'd like to learn more about the e-readers and tablet devices available this holiday season, there are several sources of information and expert reviews. Visit www.engadget.com/reviews for reviews of e-readers and tablets. You may also visit http://reviews.cnet.com/e-book-readers for reviews of e-readers and http://reviews.cnet.com/tablets for reviews of tablets. Finally, the December 2011 issue of *Consumer Reports* features ratings for both e-readers and tablets. Happy shopping, and happy reading!

The Watts Free Public Library in Leonard, North Dakota celebrated their 100th anniversary this year. These Leonard citizens attended the library-sponsored open house during the Leonard Fall Festival in September.

Please submit North Dakota library news to Adam Emter at ndslpa@nd.gov.

A Reminder : Summer Reading Workshops

Don't forget to sign up for a summer reading workshop! Attendees will have an opportunity to connect with other librarians, share ideas for summer reading, and have fun learning program ideas related to the 2012 themes.

Click on your preferred location/date below to register!

February 13 - Bismarck Public Library

February 15 - Dickinson Public Library

February 16 - Minot Public Library

February 21 - Grand Forks Public Library

February 22 - Leach Public Library (Wahpeton)

February 23 - James River Valley Library (Jamestown)

ND Disaster Loan Program

The Bank of North Dakota recently announced that flood-ravaged homeowners can start applying for disaster loans. The loans are part of a disaster-relief package approved during the recent special session of the legislature. The Bank of North Dakota will administer the $50 million program that offers $30,000, 20-year loans at 1 percent interest to homeowners who were affected by the 2011 floods.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission has approved guidelines for the Rebuilder's Loan program. Homeowners in the counties of Barnes, Benson, Burleigh, McHenry, Morton, Ramsey, Renville, Richland and Ward are eligible to apply. North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem says officials expect more than 1,500 families to apply through local banks and credit unions. The application deadline is September 30, 2012.

For more information, please visit www.banknd.nd.gov or call the Rebuilder's Loan hotline at 701-328-5636.

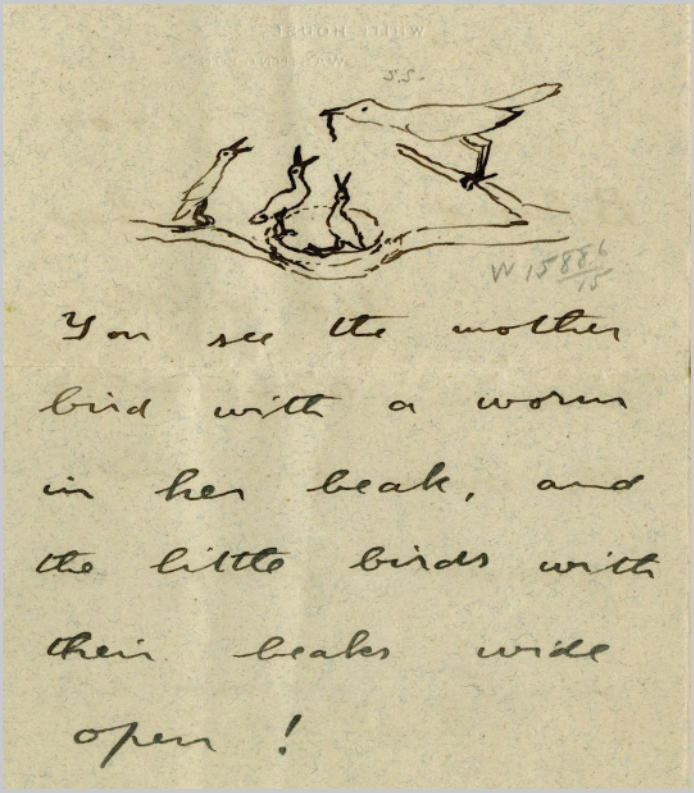
Theodore Roosevelt Center Launches Digital Collection

The Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University marked the official opening of the Theodore Roosevelt Digital Collection by launching its new website on Monday, November 14.

"The new web site will be a great source for original historical documents," said Sharon Kilzer, project manager of the Theodore Roosevelt Center. "We are pleased and proud to be able to provide a window into Theodore Roosevelt's world, for scholars and schoolchildren alike."

The Theodore Roosevelt Digital Collection is the product of a collaboration by Dickinson State University with the Library of Congress, Harvard College Library and the National Park Service to bring together all of Theodore Roosevelt's documents into one place. The collection opened with over 5,000 items from 10 different collections, including letters to and from Roosevelt, photographs, cartoons, newspaper articles and diary entries. The Theodore Roosevelt Center plans to add new documents weekly and many new collections throughout the coming year.

For complete access to the Theodore Roosevelt Digital Collection, visit www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org.



Page from a letter from Theodore Roosevelt to Quentin Roosevelt. Item is from the Theodore Roosevelt Collection at Harvard College Library and included in the Theodore Roosevelt Center Digital Library.

Americans with Disabilities Act : What it Means for Libraries

As most library administrators know, libraries must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). March 15, 2012, is the effective date for new standards governing the construction and alteration of local government facilities and commercial facilities. If your library has a current project underway or one planned, then your architect and your local government attorney should make sure that the library project will conform with all applicable sections of the ADA law, regulations, and standards. More information can be found at the following links:

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended: www.ada.gov/pubs/ada.htm

Revised ADA Regulations Implementing Title II and Title III: www.ada.gov/regs2010/ADAregs2010.htm

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design: www.ada.gov/2010ADAstandards_index.htm

ADA Update: A Primer for Small Business (the standards for public entities are similar to those for commercial establishments, so this may be helpful for libraries): http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/smallbusiness/smallbusprimer2010.htm

2011 Roald Dahl Funny Prizes

The Roald Dahl Funny Prize is a British award that celebrates the best in funny literature for children. This year the two winners were *Cats Ahoy!* by Peter Bently in the 0-6 age category, and *The Brilliant World of Tom Gates* by Liz Pichon in the 7–14 age category.

UK Information Book Awards 2011

The winners of the first UK School Library Association Information Book Awards were recently announced. The awards celebrate informational books, the importance of nonfiction materials for children and young adults, and the high standard of resources available. The overall winners were Adrian Dingle's *How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients* and Kristen McDermott and Ari Berk's *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare*.

Improve Your iPhone Photo Quality

With the 99-cent Big Lens app on your iPhone or iPad 2, you can create more artful photos. The app includes a customizable soft-focus feature, color filters, lenses, and other features that enable you to create better photographs. For more information or to download the app, visit http://bit.ly/sSjA5Z.

Calculate Your Library's Value to the Community

If you want to use your library's statistical data to illustrate your library's monetary value within your community, check out the Library Use Value Calculator available at www.swissarmylibrarian.net/librarycalculator. This tool can also be used to convey your library's value to funding authorities and community leaders.

Libri Foundation Announces Grant

The Libri Foundation, a nationwide non-profit organization which donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States, is now accepting applications for its 2012 Books for Children grant.

Three North Dakota public libraries received Libri Foundation grants in 2011 and dozens have received Books for Children grants since the program began in 1990.

For additional information or to submit a grant application, please visit www.librifoundation.org/apps.html.

In addition to the normal Books for Children grant, the foundation offers special non-matching grants for libraries serving rural communities affected by flooding and other natural disasters. For information about this specific grant, visit www.librifoundation.org/relief.html.

Salem Press Launches the Library Grants Center

Salem Press has launched the Library Grants Center, a free web tool to help librarians navigate the world of library grants. Assistance for libraries is provided in the form of funding sources and discovery that the options for libraries extend far beyond national and state opportunities. Hundreds of grants are available to libraries of all types from local foundations, family trusts, small and large corporations, professional organizations, and the publishing community. For more information, please visit http://salempress.com/Store/grants/grants.htm.

The Best Kindle Fire Apps

A recent *PC Magazine* article noted that Amazon's new Kindle Fire ($199) is one of the most affordable tablets on the market. The 16 apps that *PC Magazine* recommends downloading first are available right in the Amazon app store, so you can download them simply and quickly. For the complete list, please visit http://bit.ly/seuYLJ.

2011 National Book Award Winners

The National Book Foundation recently announced the winners of the 2011 National Book Awards, bestowing the fiction award on Jesmyn Ward, author of *Salvage the Bones*, which chronicles 12 days in the life of a poor African-American family attempting to weather Hurricane Katrina in coastal Mississippi. The non-fiction award went to Stephen Greenblatt for his book *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*, about a 15th-century book lover who almost single-handedly spawned the Renaissance's rediscovery of classicism. Thanhha Lai was named the winner of the Young People's Literature category for her verse novel *Inside Out & Back Again*, while Nikky Finney won the poetry category for his work *Head Off & Split*.

GPO Releases Mobile Application

The U.S. Government Printing Office has released its first mobile app, which provides the public with quick, easy access to information about Members of Congress. Based on the Guide to the House and Senate Members and information in the Congressional Pictorial Directory, the app allows users to browse for Members of Congress by last name, state, chamber, or party. For more information, visit www.gpo.gov/mobile.

Internet Archive's Open Library : Another eBook Lending Option

A recent national survey shows that 40 percent of the nation's public libraries, mainly small, rural public libraries, have not yet begun to offer downloadable ebooks. Many of the libraries that do not offer ebooks cite cost as a major factor for not purchasing downloadable content. Specifically, many cite high subscription costs for a limited number of checkout opportunities. For such libraries, the new Open Library program may be an alternative consideration.

The Open Library lending program is essentially an electronic consortium in which participating libraries send their books to the Internet Archive to be digitized. The items then become part of a shared catalog, which patrons from participating libraries can use to borrow items. The program began in March 2011 with approximately 150 participating libraries, and has grown to include over 1,000 libraries in eight countries. All of these libraries share a collection of about 100,000 titles. As part of the program, only one patron can check out a given work at a time (for two weeks with a limit of five titles checked out), and a user must be authenticated as a patron of a participating library. The user may read the books via an Internet browser or transfer them to a variety of devices for mobile use.

After a book title has been digitized, it will be returned to the owning library or held by Internet Archive in their off-site storage facility. Because a majority of the titles will be covered by copyright laws, Internet Archive suggests that libraries remove the physical book from their lending shelves once the digitized version is available, saying it could help buttress a fair use argument. The result is that the title becomes unavailable for a physical checkout while it becomes available for digital download as an ebook. The entire collection of the Open Library is made available to all participating library patrons.

Internet Archive will digitize the first 10 books that a library sends at no charge. If a library is interested in having additional works digitized, pricing would need to be negotiated. The appeal of this program, even for libraries already offering ebooks, many through a service that focuses on new and popular titles and public domain works, is an increased availability of items from 1923 to 2000 that are out-of-print but remain in-copyright. This program allows libraries the chance to digitize everything in their collection, including books of local interest and books written by local authors.

For more information, please visit www.openlibrary.org or contact a member of the North Dakota State Library Field Services staff.

Tips for Securing Grants and In-Kind Contributions

Budgets for libraries statewide and nationwide are tight, with many libraries making difficult choices on how to fund desired projects and programs. Sometimes a library needs just a little financial help to fulfill goals. The following are a few ideas and sources for grants that can help libraries better serve their communities.

WHAT ARE SOME SOURCES FOR GRANTS AVAILABLE TO MY LIBRARY?

The Library Grants blog (http://librarygrants.blogspot.com), the Association for Library Service for Children (www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants), and Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/librarians/programs/grants.htm) provide information about many library grants.

A few of the organizations that offer grants for libraries include:

- Target - http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031700
- The Libri Foundation - www.librifoundation.org/apps.html
- Barnes & Noble - www.barnesandnobleinc.com/our_company/sponsorship/Sponsorship_main.html
- W. K. Kellogg Foundation - www.wkkf.org
- We the People Bookshelf - www.neh.gov/wtp/bookshelf

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GRANTS?

The North Dakota State Library has *The Foundation Directory* which concentrates on funding from private foundations for non-profit organizations. Members of the NDSL Field Services staff can aid your search of the Foundation Guide. Your Field Services representative can also assist you with proposal writing and suggestions for fund-raising techniques. There are also several online resources that provide basic grant writing instruction. Visit http://bit.ly/uF2oJd and http://bit.ly/vtUCMX for more info.

HOW CAN LIBRARIES SEEK IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS?

Respectfully approach local businesses for in-kind donations, or ask for discounts. Try for everything from pizzas and gift certificates to free or reduced-price ads in the newspaper or on the radio. Always remember to reach out for aid from community civic groups (Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, etc.) and churches. Ask these groups to donate volunteer time or items that assist your needs. When approaching an organization for contributions, be sure you can provide understandable statistics, effectively describe the need for the item sought, and explain how the library will use contributions received.

Nashville's Limitless Libraries Draws Nationwide Interest

An agreement between the Nashville School District and the Nashville Public Library is drawing new attention. "Limitless Libraries" allows middle and high school students to use their home or school computers to check out items from the public library and have them delivered to their schools. Library officials in New York City, Boston, and St. Paul, Minnesota, have expressed interest in implementing similar initiatives. Limitless Libraries is currently sending more than 7,000 items per month to Nashville schools and circulation has increased as much as 140%.

For more information, read the following article from the November 21st *Tennessean* : http://tnne.ws/u7lNix.

Study Raises Doubts About Effectiveness of Facebook as Outreach Tool for Academic Libraries

A new analysis of user comments on the Facebook page of academic libraries indicates that most students "appear to reject connecting with their libraries on Facebook."

The study, which appears in the current issue of D-Lib Magazine, by Michalis Gerolimos of the Alexander Technological Educational Institute in Thessaloniki, Greece, examined 3,513 posts on the Facebook pages of 20 U.S. academic libraries.

Significantly, Gerolimos found that 91 percent of the posts did not generate any comments, and the few comments that do appear are primarily by library personnel rather than by faculty or students.

The pages also had, on average, fewer than 600 followers. And if users did participate, they did so most frequently (over 82 percent) by pressing the "like" button; however, 60 percent of the posts did not include "likes" at all.

"Developing a Facebook page as a new tool to reach out to a library's current or perspective users, but finding it is supported primarily by its own staff, cannot be considered a complete failure, but it would be no more effective than a library repeatedly circulating a collection of books that appeal more to library personnel than users," Gerolimos wrote. "If becoming 'friends' with the library and user comments are two measurements of the success of the outreach and/or marketing efforts, then we can safely say that, based on this research, Facebook is thus far not an effective outreach/marketing tool for libraries," he wrote.

Gerolimos' research also showed that users were not interested in sharing personal data via library Facebook pages.

"If we consider how easily students 'like' a page, add a group, post personal information, or simply interact with Facebook pages, then we must face the fact that library pages are amongst the least attractive to students," he wrote.

To read the full-text study, please visit www.dlib.org/dlib/november11/gerolimos/11gerolimos.html.

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