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North Dakota State Library
FLICKERTALE

Volume 42 Number 6 June 2012

Bismarck and Mandan Libraries Kick Off Summer Reading

Face painting was a popular activity during the 2012 Bismarck/Mandan Summer Reading Kickoff.

On June 1st, the North Dakota state capitol grounds was crawling with young children - all brought together in the interest of reading! "Dream Big, READ!" was the theme at the North Dakota Heritage Center and the North Dakota State Library as the Bismarck and Mandan public libraries kicked off their summer reading programs. These and many other organizations offered a full day of activities and fun for approximately 3,500 children in the Bismarck/Mandan and surrounding communities.

Cash Wise Foods provided low-cost sack lunches for attendees. The outdoor stage featured a wonderful story time with First Lady Betsy Dalrymple, a puppet show, and two shows by the Groove Club, a children's entertainment group from Nashville, Tennessee.

North Dakota State Superintendent Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead read stories to children during the kickoff.

Also providing activities throughout the day was the ND Forest Service, St. Alexius Medical Center, Barnes and Noble, ND Parks and Recreation, MedCenter One, Flickertail Woodcarvers, the Bismarck Tribune, the Burleigh County Sheriff's Department, the Bismarck/Mandan Genealogical Society, Knife River Indian Villages, and many more.

Firefighters from the Bismarck Fire Department thrilled the children with hands-on fire fighting lessons.

In the State Library Reading Room, guest readers read their favorite stories to children. State Superintendent Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, Lieutenant Governor Drew Wrigley, Bismarck Mayor John Warford, Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle, Bismarck Public Library Director Kristi Harms, State Librarian Hulen E. Bivins, Linda Austin with the Morton Mandan Public Library, and Miss Sparkles with the Bismarck Public Library were on hand to read stories.

The Flickertail Woodcarvers provided woodcarving demonstrations for children.

Additional photos are posted on the following page. For even more photos of the Bismarck/Mandan kickoff event, please visit the State Library Flickr set at http://bit.ly/M54lIt.

North Dakota Supreme Court Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle

Children of all ages enjoyed the various activities at the kickoff.

North Dakota First Lady Betsy Dalrymple

Temporary "READ" tattoos were a big hit with children at the kickoff.

Bismarck Public Library Director Kristi Harms

Lieutenant Governor Drew Wrigley

Bismarck Mayor John Warford

The Cat in the Hat and other storybook characters made an appearance at the kickoff.

New News and Thoughts...

from State Librarian Hulen E. Bivins

Composed by George Gershwin for the 1935 musical opera *Porgy and Bess*, the aria "Summertime" with lyrics by DuBose Heyward, spoke of the hot summer season in the Southern states where the livin' is easy and the fish are jumpin'. Reality, however, is that when summertime comes in the South, both the humidity and the temperature increase as the activities of the people slow down. To pace one's self in daily activities becomes the paramount concern.

In North Dakota, when the summertime comes, the actions of the people move to a quicker, more intense pace with many additional activities. The activities of the North Dakota State Library this summer, like the citizens it serves, have also accelerated with many projects and many opportunities. So, like the fish spoken of in the song's lyrics, the activities of NDSL are jumpin' at a fast pace.

First, NDSL wishes to thank the librarians of the state who provided suggestions and comments regarding the North Dakota State Library's new five-year plan (2013-2018) for the use of federal dollars. The plan's activities are designed to enable NDSL and the libraries of the state to better serve the needs of the state's citizens. The new five-year plan has been completed and submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington, D.C.

Obviously, NDSL is grateful to many individuals, including the state's First Lady, the Lieutenant Governor, the Chief Justice of the North Dakota Supreme Court, the Superintendent of DPI, and many others, who made the June 1st kickoff of the Bismarck/Mandan Summer Reading Programs for children and youth so successful. Providing activities of educational enrichment and fun - that is what libraries give to their communities!

Announced within the last week has been the opportunity of CE grant funds that will help enable up to two North Dakota librarians to attend the fall 2012 meeting of the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL). Susie Sharp, Director of the New Rockford Public Library, and an attendee at last year's ARSL meeting, will help select those receiving travel funds from NDSL. Also, please remember the previously-announced opportunity for a library to be awarded a WorldCat grant. This grant is made available by the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council. Questions about either grant opportunity may be directed to the attention of the Administration office of the North Dakota State Library.

Among the upcoming activities at NDSL will be a workshop in mid-July regarding information materials maintained in a digital format. This workshop will center upon the steps that need to be taken in the completion of a successful digital project: the selection of items for inclusion; image quality standards as related to nationally recognized standards; the management of the workflow of a project; copyright and use rights issues; options for cataloging; and, preservation/storage issues. Bill Walker, Imaging Field Services Officer for Amigos Library Services in Dallas, will be the workshop's presenter.

Another activity of interest will be NDSL's "Summer Breeze" workshop set for August 7 and 8 in Bismarck. Highlighted discussions will center upon the varied policies that libraries need to have "in place" so the integrity of the library's collections can be maintained and the safety of library personnel may be assured. Also, the topic of how an employer should correctly hire new employees with an emphasis on the questions the employer needs to ask and those that are legally taboo will be discussed. Finally, the "Summer Breeze" workshop will conclude with a "how to" session regarding the documentation needed for a library to establish a legal foundation to receive and expend donations, especially donations from entities that require the donation recipient to have the IRS 501(c) (3) status.

Indeed the fish are jumpin' and there are a lot - a whole lot - of things going on. You need to be involved!

WESTERN COUNCIL OF STATE LIBRARIES MEETS

Iowa State Librarian Mary Wegner hosted the spring meeting of the Western Council of State Libraries in Des Moines on May 15 and 16. Sixteen state librarians from states west of the Mississippi participated in a day of continuing education followed by a business meeting and sharing of best practices. The purpose of the Western Council of State Libraries is to provide a forum for interstate collaboration, as well as continuing education opportunities for state library staff members.

Front row L-R :
Daphne DeLeon, Nevada; Susan McVey, Oklahoma; Linda Thibodeau, Alaska; and Lesley Boughton, Wyoming

Middle row L-R :
Carolyn Ashcraft, Arkansas; Jo Budler, Kansas, Mary Kay Dahlgren, Oregon; Rand Simmons, Washington; Margaret Conroy, Missouri; and Ann Joslin, Idaho.

Back row L-R :
Hulen Bivins, North Dakota; Mary Wegner, Iowa; Rod Wagner, Nebraska; Gene Hainer, Colorado; Janet Fisher, Arizona; and Dan Siebersma, South Dakota.

Project Compass National Convening

Elizabeth Jacobs, Sarah Matusz, and Eric Stroshane recently enjoyed an opportunity to attend the convening of Project Compass in Arlington, Virginia. If you aren't familiar with it, Project Compass was a two year project undertaken by OCLC WebJunction and the State Library of North Carolina, supported by grant funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The goal of Project Compass is to support public libraries' efforts to meet the growing needs of communities impacted by the economic downturn and aid in workforce recovery. It might seem odd for North Dakota to participate, given that we are currently enjoying the nation's lowest unemployment rate, but all public libraries should act to enrich their community's workforce by empowering their patrons and enhancing their skills. To this end, Project Compass focused on four pathways to economic recovery: digital literacy development, personal financial skills training, job seeker support, and support for small businesses and entrepreneurs. Your Field Services representatives look forward to sharing what they learned with you - and you can get a head start by exploring the resources available on at http://bit.ly/M7tqnb.

Did You Know?

- During the 2011-2012 school year, North Dakota students engaged in over 5,000 one-on-one tutoring sessions using Tutor ND.
- Online tutors are available 24/7 for members of the US Military and their families.
- Tutor ND can be accessed using iOS and Android mobile devices.

This year's Mountain Plains Library Association's Leadership Institute was May 6-11 at YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. Three North Dakota librarians attended the Leadership Institute: Tina Grenier (North Dakota State College of Science), Amber Emery (Fargo Public Library), and Carrie Scarr (West Fargo Public Library).

During the course of the week, attendees learned about leadership, communication, managing differences, risk-taking, power and influence, leading change, commitment, group and teams, project management, and personal planning. President-Elect of the American Library Association, Maureen Sullivan, facilitated the Institute.

Carrie Scarr reports, "What makes the Institute unique is the group sessions and learning partners in which we had the opportunity to discuss issues that are going on in our current jobs and get feedback on project and career planning." Tina Grenier wrote, "I feel honored to have attended and strongly encourage future leaders to take advantage of this, not only for personal enrichment, but for gaining life-long mentors and friends."

For additional information about MPLA, please visit www.mpla.us.

Save the Date!
2012 Summer Breeze Colloquium

All North Dakota librarians and library board members are invited to attend the second-annual Summer Breeze Colloquium workshops, planned for August 7-8, 2012 at the Comfort Inn, Bismarck. Workshops will be presented from 10:00am - 5:00pm on Tuesday and from 8:30am - 3:30pm on Wednesday.

The State Library will provide a stipend of up to $200 for directors of school or public libraries who need financial assistance to attend this workshop. The stipend may be used to pay for mileage, lodging, meals (consistent with state guidelines), the registration fee, and wages for temp employees to cover library shifts while you're away.

Please make plans to attend and stay tuned for additional details.

North Dakota Library Tidbits

- The Fargo Public Library, in partnership with the West Fargo Public Library and Lake Agassiz Regional Library, are launching an inaugural One Book One Community project in October 2012. The entire community is encouraged to read *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, and participate in related events held throughout the month.
- The following employees have been recognized for their years of service at Bismarck Public Library: 5 years: Debb Lorenz, Sarah Matthews, Ann Mayher, Gwyn Ridenhour; 10 years: Stephanie Arbach, Mary Miller; 20 years: June Preszler; 25 year: LaVilla Opp; 35 years: Jennifer Jones; 40 years: Mary Jane Schmaltz.
- The Underwood Public Library hosted a very successful summer reading kickoff. This was the first time the library hosted a kickoff. The highlight of the event was a sleepless sleepover at the library. Children in grades K-6 came to the library in their pajamas for fun and food on Friday, May 4th from 4-7PM. Over forty percent of the local elementary school attended! Children had a chance to "Dream Big" by decorating pillowcases, participating in a dance party and, of course, eating pizza and drinking lots of pop! There was also a team competition for building the tallest free-standing Lego tower. The winning team built a tower to 50 inches!
- West Fargo Public Library had over 400 parents and children attend their summer reading program kickoff. Over 200 people have registered for the program thus far, with that number expected to increase.
- The voters of Eddy County voted overwhelmingly to form a joint city/county library with an 86% "yes" vote within city limits and an 80% "yes" vote in the rest of the county.

West Fargo children enjoying the summer reading kickoff party.

West Fargo Public Library staff sign up children for the summer reading program.

Sandy's Donuts, a West Fargo business, created a delicious cake.

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

NDLCC CHANGES

In August, at the next meeting of the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council, two new members will join the group to offer their thoughts, considerations, and expertise in efforts to make the state's library community even greater than it presently is. The new members will be Ted Smith, Director of the North Dakota Law Library, and Beth Reitan, Director of the Bottineau Public Library. They were recently appointed by Governor Dalrymple who also reappointed Judy Ringgenberg to a second council term. Leaving the Council with accolades for a job well done were Ann Pederson and Beth Postema, who have both served as a past Chairperson of the Council. When the Council meets again, the Chair for the forthcoming year will be Wilbur Stolt, Director of Libraries for the University of North Dakota.

Front Row L-R : Beth Postema, Aubrey Madler, Ann Pederson.
Second Row L-R : Diane Olson, Judy Ringgenberg, Ilene Larson
Third Row L-R : Jerry Kaup, Heidi Danielson, Wilbur Stolt
Back Row L-R : Hulen Bivins, Ray Siver

Library Staff Changes in ND

OUTGOING

Suzann Jangula - Harry L. Petrie Library (Linton)

INCOMING

Carla Frison - Harry L. Petrie Library (Linton)

CALENDAR

June 21-26
ALA Annual Conference - Anaheim, CA

August 7-8
NDSL Summer Breeze Workshops
Bismarck

Susan Hammer-Schneider attended the annual National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped conference in Newport, Rhode Island in May. During the conference the North Dakota State Library was recognized "with appreciation for support of the national observance of the 80th anniversary of the braille and talking-book program."

Pictured L-R are : Jane Caulton, Head of Publications and Media Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; and Susan Hammer-Schneider, Head of North Dakota Talking Books

Harvey Public Library Awarded Grant

The Harvey Public Library has been awarded a grant from the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council to join WorldCat. With this project, the titles the Harvey Public Library owns will be visible in WorldCat, as well as in the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) online catalog. Currently, the library doesn't have the capability to put their catalog of approximately 20,000 items on the Internet. By receiving this grant, and choosing to join the ODIN consortium, their patrons will be able to see what the library owns from anywhere with an Internet connection.

The Harvey Public Library director, Marlene Ripplinger, is excited about the grant and comments, "We have new people coming to our community and they can't always come to the library. There's a need to be able to search our library on the web, but we could never have done this without the grant money."

With staffing changes at the Harvey Public Library, she is also looking forward to outsourcing the time-intensive cataloging, as she currently only has time to do basic cataloging. "It's nice to know it will be taken care of," Ripplinger said. The initial cataloging project will receive assistance from the staff of the Statewide Catalog Development Department at the State Library, as part of the grant.

Ripplinger and her staff will be busy making photocopies of the title pages of all their materials to submit to the North Dakota State Library. While the project is just beginning and may take 12-18 months to complete, Ripplinger is looking forward to re-familiarizing herself with the collection. Items no longer needed will be removed from the library and what remains will be a quality collection that people will use and be able to access from any Internet connection.

Please note : If your library is interested in a cataloging grant, there is a grant round currently underway. Details may be found at www.library.nd.gov/librarian.html. If you have questions about how a similar project could benefit your library, please contact Stacey Goldade at 800-472-2104 or sgoldade@nd.gov.

ND Government Documents Receive National Recognition

The ALA/GODORT judges' decisions that named notable government document publications for the past year have been released. Nominated documents reflect an interest in issues, happenings, and opportunities of personal enrichment. Receiving recognition were three North Dakota works. The works were:

1. *Crossing the Water: An Oral History of the Four Bears Bridge*, published by the ND Department of Transportation
2. *North Dakota Trail Guide*, published by the ND Parks and Recreation Department
3. *Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains*, by Timothy J. Kloberdanz and Troyd A. Geist, published by the ND Council on the Arts.

Adam Emter, Public Awareness Coordinator at the State Library, traveled to Minot to recognize the winner of the 2012 Teen Summer Reading Video Contest. Tessia Samuelson accepted the certificate and $275 prize. As the sponsoring library, Minot Public Library received a certificate and $150 prize.

Pictured L-R are : Paulette Nelson, Children's Librarian; Adam Emter, NDSL Public Awareness Coordinator; Tessia Samuelson, Teen Video Contest Winner; Jerry Kaup, Minot Public Library Director; and Krista Tiller, Teen Librarian

North Dakota Sights and Scenes - *World's Largest Buffalo*

It's 26 feet tall, 46 feet long, weighs 60 tons, and is a special concoction of steel beams, wire mesh, stucco, and cement. The world's largest buffalo was the brainchild of Jamestown businessman Harold Newman, who worked with Jamestown College art instructor Elmer Peterson to build the brawny bison. In October of 1959 Presidential Candidate Nelson Rockefeller officially dedicated the monument, but it would be five decades until the world's largest buffalo would receive a name. "Dakota Thunder" was the name chosen from a 2010 contest that generated more than 3,500 entries. In 2007 original designer Elmer Peterson oversaw a renovation of the monument, which included repainting the buffalo and enlarging its horns.

Dakota Thunder makes his home in Jamestown, North Dakota, which has aptly nicknamed itself "The Buffalo City." Jamestown is also home to the National Buffalo Museum (http://bit.ly/KFkDqz).

The James River Valley Library System consists of two locations - The Alfred Dickey Library and the Stutsman County Library, both in Jamestown. Stop for a visit when you're in Jametown or visit online at www.adpl.org.

Raugust Library is located on the Jamestown College campus. You may also visit online at www.jc.edu/library.

Upcoming MPLA Conference

The joint Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) and Nebraska Library Association (NLA) conference will be October 17-19 in LaVista (a suburb of Omaha), Nebraska. The conference will provide opportunities to attend workshop sessions, visit with new and returning exhibitors, and meet and reconnect with old and new colleagues alike.

Dr. Tom Osborne will be serving as the keynote speaker. Dr. Osborne is the former head football coach of the University of Nebraska as well as a former member of Congress, serving six years in the US House of Representatives. Dr. Osborne is currently the Athletic Director at the University of Nebraska. Along with his wife Nancy, Dr. Osborne is also the founder of the TeamMates Mentoring Program, which provides support and encouragement to school-aged youth.

For additional information or for registration details, please visit http://bit.ly/KtojlA.

Grant Opportunity

The North Dakota State Library is extremely pleased to offer a continuing education grant opportunity for two librarians to attend the upcoming September conference of the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL). Susie Sharp, Director of the New Rockford Public Library, an attendee at last year's conference, has agreed to be a resource person to help answer questions regarding the quality of the conference and the benefits gained from attendance.

For additional information and a grant application, please visit http://bit.ly/LUkCAM. More information about the September conference can be obtained via the ARSL website at http://arsl.info.

San Diego County Library Named "Library of the Year"

Gale and Library Journal magazine recently announced that San Diego County Library is the 2012 Library of the Year. Each year this prestigious recognition goes to a public library that most profoundly demonstrates service to community, creativity, leadership and innovation in developing community programs, particularly programs that can be emulated by others. In addition to a cash award of $10,000, the San Diego County Library (SDCL) will be featured as the cover story for the June 15 issue of *Library Journal* and at LibraryJournal.com.

The SDCL has been serving the community for almost a century, and it currently serves a population of over one million. Like most California libraries, the SDCL has faced dire budget cuts - 30% over the last three years. However, through unique programming and strategic budget allocation, SDCL has managed to triple its materials circulation and quadruple program attendance over the past six years. At the same time, SDCL has implemented an ambitious capital improvement program, retained all staff, and greatly increased volunteer numbers.

"SDCL has always been and always will be about the people. The people we serve give us our purpose – they inspire our dedicated staff to provide the best services possible," said José Aponte, director, San Diego County Library. "There is no greater way to honor our community, our staff, and our library. We're delighted to receive this recognition from Gale and Library Journal." To learn more about the San Diego County Library's programs, please visit www.sdcl.org.

The 2012 Library of the Year Award will be presented formally at a gala reception at the American Library Association Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA on June 24, 2012.

Two ALA/MLS Grants Awarded to North Dakota Librarians

The North Dakota State Library recently awarded two Master of Library Science grants for 2012/2013. The awards, totaling $8,500 each, will assist two librarians in North Dakota to pursue ALA/MLS degrees. Receiving the grants are Matthew Hovland, a reference librarian at the North Dakota State Library, and Misti Werle, a school librarian in the Bismarck Public School system.

North Dakota librarians who would like to apply for a grant may visit www.library.nd.gov/librarian.html for additional grant information. Up to two grants will be awarded annually to a North Dakota public or K-12 public school librarian pursuing an ALA/MLS degree. Each grant recipient must agree to work for a minimum of two years in a public library or a K-12 public school library after they receive their ALA/MLS degree.

"Civil War 150" Grants Available

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, in partnership with The Library of America, is now accepting applications from libraries for grants to develop public programming around the free traveling exhibition "Civil War 150". The exhibition is part of a major three-year project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Fifty sites selected by competitive application to host the exhibition will each be awarded a grant of $1,000 to plan accompanying public programming. The exhibition is available for three-week periods from October 2012 to March 2015. Hosting sites will also receive supporting interpretive and contextual materials, including the "Civil War 150" readers and access to a website with robust digital resources. Public, academic, and special libraries are invited to submit applications for the public programming grants and exhibition.

The application deadline is July 15, 2012. To apply, please visit www.gilderlehrman.org/civilwar150grant.

Step Up to the Plate @ Your Library

Step Up to the Plate @ Your Library, ALA's annual baseball trivia contest, has made a return for the summer of 2012. This year's program has a greater emphasis on social media to encourage people of all ages to use the resources at their library.

Participants answer a series of trivia questions developed by National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum staff for a chance to win weekly prize packs and a final grand-prize drawing for a trip to Cooperstown, New York, and the World Series Gala in October. Additional information, programming ideas, and promotional materials may be found online at www.atyourlibrary.org/baseball.

2011 Nebula Awards

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America have announced the winners of the 2011 Nebula Awards for the best science fiction and fantasy fiction published in the United States during the previous year. The winner of the Best Novel award was Jo Walton for *Among Others*, while the Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy Book went to Delia Sherman for *The Freedom Maze*. For more information, please visit http://bit.ly/L5Pxg5.

If you or a friend want to be added or deleted as a recipient of this newsletter, please send notice to ndslpa@nd.gov.

Rest assured, your information will never be sold or distributed to third-parties.

Roadmap For A Digital Government

The federal government recently launched a new initiative to open up data that was previously locked up in government documents. The Digital Government Strategy makes open data "the default for government IT systems and embraces the use of web APIs, allowing developers to create new applications and services based on that data," as US Chief Information Officer Steven VanRoekel explains. The White House directive calls for aggregating federal agencies' online resource pages at Data.gov. The full TechCrunch article is available at http://goo.gl/GTHv1.

Did You Know?

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups.

When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. Remember the origin of this phrase the next time you "wet your whistle" this summer!

USDA Offers Rural Assistance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture through their "Community Programs" opportunity makes available funding that provides loans, grants, and loan guarantees for projects to develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas. Eligible projects include hospitals, fire protection, public safety, schools, day care centers, and libraries, as well as many other community-based initiatives. USDA also works to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, and low income rural communities to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas. More information is available at http://1.usa.gov/LzW7Ku. Click on the items listed below the section titled "Community Development Opportunities." Contact the Bismarck USDA office at 701-250-4210.

Social Media and Privacy

Be aware while using social media on your mobile devices, as new technologies are making it easier for organizations to gather personal data from individuals using their networks. This means that if you decide to post an update on Facebook or Twitter, that information, as well as other information, can potentially be monitored by others. Most smart phones and mobile devices automatically connect to open WiFi networks, so users have to be proactive to prevent this type of monitoring. This can be done by switching off or disabling the WiFi adapter on your mobile device. It might be good practice to set this as your default setting. For more information, check out the About.com article concerning WiFi hotspot safety at http://bit.ly/L0b3UL.

Search Tips for Google Masters

Do you consider yourself a Google master? Smart Googling requires finesse, a keen eye, and a few Boolean tricks. Check out the following article from Mashable for tips that will have you Googling like a pro in no time. Visit http://on.mash.to/LmtSx4.

Protect Your Email Privacy

PCMag.com writes, "By now we all know not to post sensitive information on social networking sites. By comparison, email seems like a much safer communication medium, but you can still get into trouble if you lose control of your account. In addition, email messages bounce unprotected from server to server, so private information might be compromised. Here are six tips to protect your email account and your private messages." Visit http://bit.ly/LUArHI for the full PC Mag article.

Eight Websites to Teach Seniors Computer Skills

For senior citizens, learning computers and basic Internet skills is not only for accessing information, it is also the best tool for keeping in touch with family members. Visit http://bit.ly/LmuAdF to learn about eight websites that teach basic Internet and computer skills. The websites are not only for senior citizens, but also for any newcomer to the world of computing.

2012 Tablet Buyer's Guide

James Trew on Engadget writes, "It doesn't matter if you're looking for something big, small, just good enough, or so powerful that it could replace your laptop; here are collected tablet favorites placed in a guide. Visit the online guide at http://engt.co/KnYHFw. You may also check out a review of tablet choices at http://engt.co/KChaee.

Wristwatches Function as Smartphone Companion

In the May 19 *New York Times*, Anne Eisenberg writes, "I've been trying out some of the new watches that display caller IDs, text messages, Twitter and news feeds, and the weather - all beamed from a nearby companion smartphone. The watches are intended for those times when it is inconvenient to pull a smartphone out of a backpack or a pocket to check messages. Instead, you just check your quietly vibrating wristwatch." The full article is available online at http://nyti.ms/Ngu8nj.

Tips To Improve Skype Conferencing

Skype is a wonderful text, audio, and video chat program that allows you to connect with people online. What most people don't realize is that, with the right setup, Skype can become a powerful video conferencing tool. However, as with any tool, there are pitfalls that can be avoided by preparing properly. To learn the basic preparations that should precede any use of Skype and with a special notice of specific tips for video conferences, visit http://bit.ly/KGhNl1.

Fine-Tuning Facebook Pages for Libraries

You set up a Facebook page for your library. Now what? Infopeople is offering a free webinar that will help you identify strategies for effective Facebook posting, be aware of critical differences between a Facebook Profile and a Facebook Page, and become familiar with some of the key analytic metrics available via Facebook Insights.

For more information, visit http://bit.ly/LRnPRF.

Educators Can Help Children and Teens Discover Earth

Discover Earth: Hands-on Activities is a module to support hands-on Earth science explorations in libraries and other places of community learning. Educators are invited to download the activities, related reading games, and facilitator resources - all for free. For more information, please visit http://bit.ly/KBp4me.

The Map of Life - WOW!

A research team involving Yale University and the University of Colorado at Boulder has developed a public demonstration version of its Map of Life, an ambitious web-based endeavor designed to show the distribution of all living plants and animals on the planet. The demonstration version allows anyone with an Internet connection to map the known global distribution of almost 25,000 species of terrestrial vertebrate animals, including mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and North American freshwater fish. Check out the project website at http://bit.ly/KBpf0F.

Readers' Advisory Guide to Horror

Some readers just love things that go bump in the night. ALA Editions' second edition of *The Readers' Advisory Guide to Horror* will help you find the horror books that best fit a particular reader's interests. Author Becky Siegel Spratford includes lists of recommended titles, authors, and sub-genres, all cross-referenced; tips for effectively practicing horror advisory; and an expanded resources section with an overview addressing the current state of horror literature. For more information, see http://bit.ly/LZkZKA. Remember, Halloween is only 137 days away!

A Smooth Transition to RDA - Well, Maybe

While it may not be bedtime reading, you might want to know about the *Practical Cataloguing: AACR2, RDA, and MARC21*, a new title from Neal-Schuman. Herein, authors Anne Welsh and Sue Batley offer a step-by-step guide for mapping new cataloging standards onto existing rules for description. The book thoroughly covers Functional Requirements of Bibliographic Records and FRAD (Functional Requirements of Authority Data), and explores how RDA elements can be incorporated into MARC21. Details are available at http://bit.ly/LQL26y.

Did You Know?

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:
Spades - King David
Hearts - Charlemagne
Clubs - Alexander the Great
Diamonds - Julius Caesar

The only food that doesn't spoil is honey.

111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321

Baby Boom!

There are nine great reasons why coffee consumption has skyrocketed and work output has dipped during the past 18 months at the North Dakota State Library. Since December 2010, nine babies have been born to NDSL staff, with another expected this summer. State Librarian Hulen Bivins can hardly keep track of who's on maternity/paternity leave. He's quick to point out (only half-jokingly), "I guess the North Dakota winters aren't too bad after all."

L-R is : Ryan (Cameron); Adam (Adeline); Krista (Riley); Matt (Benjamin); Elizabeth (Max); Stephanie (Jack); Shari (Roland); Kristen (Raymond); Al (baby boy); and Carmen (Zane)

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