NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

National Library Week (NLW) is just around the corner. This year NLW will be celebrated April 9th-15th. This is a great time to thank your staff and advocate for your library.

This year’s theme is a part of the American Library Association (ALA) Libraries Transform Campaign. “The Libraries Transform Campaign is designed to increase public awareness of the value, impact and services provided by libraries and library professionals. The campaign will ensure there is one clear, energetic voice for our profession, showcasing the transformative nature of today’s libraries and elevating the critical role libraries play in the digital age.”

If you choose to use NLW to advocate for your library, ALA has some resources available for use. Libraries can sign-up to participate in the Libraries Transform Campaign. These include some great resources and would be ideal for a library looking to extend the Libraries Transform Campaign longer than just during NLW. They also have a number of resources available to promote NLW. Go to http://bit.ly/TKu0IK to find all NLW resources provided by ALA.

Celebrations during National Library Week include:

- Tuesday, April 11: National Library Workers Day, a day to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.
- Wednesday, April 12: National Bookmobile Day, a day to recognize the contributions of our nation’s bookmobiles and the dedicated professionals who make quality bookmobile outreach possible in their communities.

National Library Week is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support.

- American Library Association

State Librarian Mary Soucie shares that her all-time favorite NLW activity was to cut out hearts and have patrons finish the sentence “I love my library because” on them. Hearts were posted in the library. The staff was so moved by some of the hearts that they saved them.

NLW is an ideal opportunity for libraries of all types to shout from the rooftops about all they are doing to serve their community. It is also a great time to thank your community for their support of the library. Invite community members into the library to celebrate your accomplishments with you.

Please share your NLW celebrations with the NDSL by emailing pictures or stories to Kristin Byram at kbyram@nd.gov.
The State Library, in partnership with the Library Coordinating Council and the North Dakota Library Association, recently held the second annual “Local Legislative Day”. We had several legislators that joined us as well as State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler, Governor Burgum and members of the library community. It was a wonderful opportunity to share information about our North Dakota libraries, their successes and their challenges. Our Local Library Legislative Day is patterned after the National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) held each year in Washington DC and sponsored by the American Library Association.

This year, NLLD is on May 1-2. Monday, May 1st is “briefing day”. There will be a series of presentations to discuss the issues identified by ALA as well as tips and training on advocacy. The day usually includes a presentation from a legislator or former legislator, staff from a legislator’s office that discuss how to get the most of your visit to a legislator’s office and then various ALA staff.

At the end of the briefing day, each state holds their “delegates meeting”. For the last three years, I’ve been the only delegate from ND so this meeting is very brief. I have had two ND natives that are now located in DC join me for my visits the last two years. One is a librarian at the Washington DC Martin Luther King Memorial Library, which is their central location, and the other is a library student. The student, Jessica, was graduating last year and wasn’t certain if she’d be able to join me this year.

Library Legislative Day, whether national or local, is all about advocacy, a common theme of my monthly Flickertale column. Advocacy is so important for so many reasons and it really is easy to do. You probably advocate for your library all the time and don’t even realize it. In its simplest form, advocacy is sharing your library’s story, sharing the impact that your library has had on a single patron or the community as a whole. Another simple form of advocacy is contacting your legislators, via phone or email, to ask them to support a library issue. We recently asked for letters of support to attach to our budget testimony and were pleased to receive over 25 letters. We received over 30 letters earlier in the session to attach to our budget testimony to the House appropriations committee. Next session, we would love to have that number be over 50 for both Chambers.

I would love to have some North Dakotans join me in DC for NLLD. ALA recently shared that librarians can raise money for professional development via DonorsChoose, a fundraising website that specializes in helping school teachers and librarians raise money for their classrooms and libraries. ALA has put together the following information on how to request travel to professional development, including NLLD. Any librarian can do that by going to http://donorschoose.org/teachers and creating an account and project from there. DonorsChoose has put together a FAQ on how to request funding which can be found at http://bit.ly/2nxl417 If you’ll be joining me in DC, be sure to let me know so we can share visit times with you once they are scheduled.

If you can’t travel to Washington DC, you can participate in Virtual Library Legislative Day (VLLD) which will take place the week of May 1-5. Visit http://bit.ly/2mksG7W to register, and for more information on VLLD.
North Dakota students of all ages can get test preparation help from TutorND. The Test Prep Resources are available in the 24/7 Skills Center through the TutorND website. This resource features GeoIP recognition, which means there is no login when accessing from any North Dakota location. If you are not in North Dakota, you can still connect to TutorND by contacting your hometown library or the State Library for access credentials.

Each type of exam comes with a variety of resources to get an in-depth understanding of the questions that may be asked. The user can choose to take a crash course on the subject of the exam, view videos on exam topics, take practice exams, and review vocabulary. The college entrance exams on TutorND are the SAT, ACT, & PSAT. A few of the other non-college entrance exams include the Advanced Placement (AP), the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), Armed Services Vocation Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), and GED.

In addition to test prep, you will also find that in the 24/7 Skills Center there is a writing drop-off service where, within 24 hours, you will get detailed feedback and suggestions on how to improve your essays. Using this service will complete the test preparation by improving the writing sections on the college entrance exams as well as the AP, GED, & TOEFL exams.

If you have any questions about connecting to TutorND, contact the North Dakota State Library at statelib@nd.gov or 1-800-472-2104.
FEATURED SPEAKER

Gail Johnson and Pam Farr (Face to Face Communications and Training) are primed and prepped to ensure librarians and media specialists are Executing at the Level of Wow! This all-day engaging, inspirational, and hands-on workshop is sighted squarely on improving customer service—no matter who your customers may be.

SECOND DAY

Breakout session on the second day will include: hands-on STEM programming practice, Picture Perfect Science Lessons, information literacy in the age of social network news and alternative facts, insight into free online health resources for school and public libraries, an in-depth overview of all that’s available through TutorND, adult programming ideas, and how to find the hottest YA books.

GRADUATE CREDIT

School library media specialists can get one graduate credit from Valley City State University. Mary Soucie, ND State Librarian, will teach an additional session Monday evening for those who want the credit. VCSU charges $50 for the credit and you have to register for it separately.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Renewal & Development will be held at the Baymont Inn & Suites. A block of rooms has been reserved—call 701-663-7401 and let them know you’re attending the State Library’s conference to get state rate ($81.90 for a single room, $91 for a double). Book Here!

REGISTRATION

Cost to attend is $55 for both days, $35 for a single day. Register online and pay when you attend or send a check to North Dakota State Library, ATTN: Cheryl Pollert, 604 E Boulevard Ave. – Dept 250, Bismarck, ND 58505-0800. REGISTER HERE.

Contact Eric Stroshane at 701-328-4661 or estroshane@nd.gov if you have questions.

Note: Programming subject to change.
SUMMER FOOD SERVICE AT THE LIBRARY

During the school year, many children receive free lunches at school. When school lets out for the summer, that often means kids go hungry. That's where the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) steps in. During the summer, children ages 0-18 can eat lunch at an SFSP site. Public libraries make ideal sites, since they are natural gathering places for children during summer reading programs! As a meal service site, libraries do not prepare the food, they simply offer a place for children to eat.

Libraries host summer reading programs to encourage kids to read over the summer, but being well-nourished is an important component of being ready to learn. Libraries can be involved in helping kids get the nutrition they need to maintain their reading skills over the summer by promoting and sharing the location of meal sites, partnering to provide activities at meal sites, or serving as a meal site in eligible areas (no food preparation required).

In North Dakota, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) administers the Summer Food Service Program. Kaye Knudson, the School Nutrition Program Manager in charge of the SFSP, wants to help you feed kids in your town! If you are willing and eligible to be a meal site, Kaye can connect you with sponsors in your area. If no one in town is yet acting as a sponsor, she will help set up partner meetings with other key organizations in town. If you have an event to kick off your summer reading program, Kaye would also love to attend and share information with your community. She can provide you with information on the sites in your area.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Kaye at kskudson@nd.gov or 701-328-2275.
Did you know your library can use state contracts to purchase goods and services?

Cooperative purchasing is a FREE service and an effective tool you can use to leverage time and cost efficiencies.

**State Contract #110 – STAGEnet Network Equipment**

This contract includes network equipment, video conferencing, audio visual equipment, professional services and miscellaneous equipment. There are nine contractors providing goods and services. Their contact information and a detailed spreadsheet with the percent off list discount is available on the OMB website. Most of the companies provide a minimum percent off list discount on anything they sell, so if the brand or item you are looking for is not on the pricing sheet please contact the vendor directly. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Scherbenske at ankscherben@nd.gov, 701-328-2779 or Brandy Peterson at blpeterson@nd.gov, 701-328-2779.

**State Contract #281 – Software Value Added Reseller**

This contract has three software resellers offering many software titles (such as Adobe, Barracuda, Cisco, Oracle and Microsoft) at a percentage above cost. Libraries will still need to review whether they need a master agreement with the publisher; however, this contract provides the vehicle to make the purchase without additional reseller competition. For more information on this contract, please contact Tricia Opp at topp@nd.gov or 701-328-1721.

You can find more information about all the State Contracts on the OMB website at [http://bit.ly/2io8kXG](http://bit.ly/2io8kXG). If you have any questions, please contact the State Procurement Office at 701-328-2740 or infospo@nd.gov.

Let’s do more with less!

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**NEW LIBRARIAN RESOURCES AT THE STATE LIBRARY**

- Small libraries, big impact: how to better serve your community in the digital age
- The “how to” grants manual: successful grantseeking techniques for obtaining public and private grants (8th ed.)
- One hundred great French books: from the Middle Ages to the present
- Big science for little people: 52 activities to help you & your child discover the wonders of science
- 500 essential graphic novels: the ultimate guide
- Libraries of Minnesota
- A field guide to lies: critical thinking in the information age
- Screenwise: helping kids thrive (and survive) in their digital world
- Cyberbullying and the wild, wild web: what everyone needs to know
- On the burning of books
- Richard Wright and the library card (picture book about the childhood of the renowned African American author)
- Madeline Finn and the library dog (picture book about library read-to-a-dog programs)
Ever wish you could offer more cultural events in your school or library but have been dismayed by the cost? Worry no more. The Lincoln Center Education branch is offering the Lincoln Center Local Screenings program for free to libraries and schools. The program gives the library the opportunity to stream events put on by the Lincoln Center at no cost to the subscriber. Through this program patrons will have the opportunity to watch the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, popular ballet performances, and even plays done on Broadway. If interested in this program register for free at http://screenings.lincolncenter.org. Once registered they will provide you with technical support, programming support, and much more. Make sure to check it out today!
These webinars are free, live, and interactive. You will connect to audio using a headset or speakers. If you do not have a microphone, you can use chat to ask questions.

Oversize, overwhelmed? Caring for Maps and Architectural Drawings in Your Collection (Connecting to Collections)

**Thursday, March 16, 2017, 1:00-2:30 PM CT**

What can you do with large maps, posters, architectural drawings, and other items that often are rolled up and pushed to the back of storage or placed on high shelves in hopes they might disappear or go away? How can you make these materials available to your patrons without worry? This webinar will address organizational, storage, handling and reformatting challenges for the safe access and preservation of these often fragile, oversize materials.

Create a Culture of Acceptance and Kindness in a Challenging World: It all Starts in Your Early Childhood Program (Early Childhood Investigations)

**Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 1:00-2:30 PM CT**

In a time where there seems to be many negative messages in the media and beyond, we in early childhood programs experience the effects on young children. This webinar will share a variety of ideas and strategies to use in your programs that embrace a culture of acceptance and kindness.

What’s New in Children’s Literature – 2017 (Infopeople)

**Thursday, March 23, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM CT**

Join esteemed children’s librarian and author Penny Peck in her yearly review of what’s new in children’s literature. Discover new books published in late 2016 and Spring 2017 that will be popular with children ages 0-12, including books that reflect the diversity of the children we serve! Also, find out about books that fit the 2017 summer reading theme of building and popular makers’ spaces.

The Inclusive Library – Providing Excellent Customer Service to Library Patrons with Disabilities (Texas State Library and Archives)

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM CT**

As part of our Inclusive Library series, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission proudly welcomes the Texas Governor’s Committee on People with Disabilities for this essential webinar on providing excellent customer service to library patrons with disabilities.

**DISCLAIMER:** The ND State Library highlights third-party webinars as a way to alert the library community to training opportunities. By doing so, we are not endorsing the content, nor promoting any specific product.
SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

NASA @ My Library Grant

Seventy-five public libraries will be selected to become NASA@ My Library Partners. These libraries will receive NASA STEM Facilitation Kits designed for use in hands-on STEM programming; a tablet computer pre-loaded with how-to videos, apps, educational games and other materials relevant to the Facilitation Kits; an invitation to a two-day orientation workshop in Denver; programming and travel stipends; and more. Libraries in rural and/or geographically isolated areas and those serving underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2miOByD

LOIS LENSKI COVEY BOOKMOBILE GRANT PROGRAM

The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation awards grants to organizations that operate a lending bookmobile for purchasing books published for young people preschool through grade 8. The grants are provided to organizations that serve economically or socially at-risk children, have limited book budgets, and demonstrate real need. Grants range from $500 to $3000 and are specifically for book purchases and cannot be used for administrative or operational uses.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2linzrx

ENGLISH LITERACY FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

Vernon Library Supplies will be giving away their 2017 operating profits to libraries and other non-profit organizations with programs designed to help new immigrants achieve English literacy and proficiency. Grants of up to $5,000 will be given out on December 1 for programs in 2018.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2mj21uc

SNAPDRAGON BOOK FOUNDATION

The Snapdragon Book Foundation was started in order to provide funds to improve school libraries for disadvantaged children. Grants will be awarded to public, private, and experimental schools. In a time when many schools are reallocating their funds to technology and audiovisual equipment, this foundation wants to make sure that school libraries are still offering children books to read. Their mission is to provide books for school/educational libraries for disadvantaged students.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2lDwYpK

EZRA JACK KEATS MINI-GRANTS

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation is offering awards of up to $500 for public school and libraries to implement creative and innovative programs that foster creative expression, working together, and interaction with a diverse community. The proposed programs must be supported solely by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2lDlxwP

If you have applied for a grant you found in The Flickertale and received it, please let us know!
North Dakota Library Tidbits

- Mott Public Library had local author Sara Widdel Beaudrie come in to talk to them about her book, "Words of Wisdom from Wise Old Owls of North Dakota"

- Elgin Public Library received a grant from the Junior Library Guild for free junior readers’ nonfiction books

- Carrington City Library received a $500 donation from the Carrington Lions Club. The money will be used for the general operation of the library

- The Cavalier County Library is partnering with the Northern Lights Arts Council to sponsor a community book discussion in Langdon. The community will be reading and discussing the book "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn

- Killdeer School and Public Library hosted Prairie Public Education Services’ Wild Kratts-themed Family Learning Event for some "awesome family fun"

- Mayville Public Library installed brand new, custom-made double doors and new double windows thanks to funding from the Ethel Hoff estate

- Margaret Fraase Public Library (Buffalo) is doing a year-long theme of “pieces to a great year” where, for each book checked out, patrons get to attach a puzzle piece to the bulletin board. The goal is to read 1,000 books by the end of the year

- Park River Imagination Library program received a donation of $231 from First Care Health Center employees with proceeds from the Ugly Christmas Sweater event

- Finley Public Library received $1,000 from the Finley Improvement Association and $500 from the Finley Community Endowment Fund. This money will be used to make some improvements and upgrades to the library, including new bookshelves, a new office chair, a side chair, and 10 stationary chairs for their meeting room

- McKenzie County Public Library teamed up with the McKenzie County Pioneer Museum to provide a night of Hygge (a Scandinavian lifestyle of comfort and relaxation). This evening of enjoyment and relaxations included appetizers, board games, hot beverages, prize drawings, candles, and a cozy atmosphere provided by the many sponsors who were involved

- Dickinson Middle School and Dickinson High School libraries received $7,777 for rotating Makerspaces from the Dickinson Public Schools Foundation

- Ellendale Public Library held a spelling bee

- Mohall Public Library started a crocheting group

- The Devils Lake Library Board has decided to use donated funds to create an Outdoor Reading Garden next to the Lake Region Public Library

- Washburn Public Library received a donation of $540 from a Washburn Study Club fundraiser, which offered pie and coffee for a free will donation

- The Grand Forks Public Library received a donation of $1500 towards the STEM program from the Grand Forks Public Library Friends Group.

- Alfred Dickey Library in Jamestown is holding a book-signing event for author Stephen Nyberg, author and publisher of “The Randy Allan Mystery Series” graphic novel

- Valley City Barnes County Public Library is hosting the Bill of Rights and You pop-up exhibition from the National Archives

- The Friends of the James River Valley Library System are holding an End of Life Choices in Health Care: Hospice and Palliative Care program at the Stutsman County Library

- Laurie Dakken is the new director of the Hebron Public Library
Music in the Library
Submitted by Bobbi Wood

The Northern Valley Youth Orchestra made a visit to the Grand Forks Public Library and they had a special musical storytime! The conductor explained all about the instruments and the sounds they make and read a great story!

Binge Boxes

The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library kicked off their Binge Box event in February. Patrons can check out one box for two weeks. Each box is filled with DVD’s that fit a theme. To promote the new boxes the first 30 people to check out a box received free candy and popcorn.

Minion Madness
Submitted by Janelle Michels

Garrison Public Library had a great turn out for our Minion Madness Day! hosted on February 18th. Over 40 people attended the event. 30 kids played games, read books, made the craft (construction hat), enjoyed cupcakes, watched the movie & more!
After being at Camp Claiborne for only about 8 weeks, the 3rd Battalion of the 164th Infantry was marching down the streets of Alexandria, Louisiana for Army Day on April 7, 1941.

Credit: North Dakota Memories Collection

Check out Digital Horizons at: http://bit.ly/2m0w87v

Please submit library news and Flickertale “subscribe” or “unsubscribe” requests to ndslpa@nd.gov.