



# North Dakota State Library *FLICKERTALE*

Volume 40 Number 3

May/June 2010

## DATES

June 2

*Summer Reading Kickoff Day*

June 14-15

*Classes for Credit - Bismarck*

June 16-17

*Classes for Credit - Minot*

June 16-17

*ND Library Coordinating Council  
Bismarck*

June 24-29

*ALA National Conference  
Washington D.C.*

## Digital Talking Book Players and Books Debut in North Dakota

The digital age for North Dakota State Library Talking Books has begun, with a transition from four-track analog players to new digital players. The new digital player has many new features including drastically improved audio quality and audio-prompted buttons, meaning that when a button is pressed, the user hears an audio confirmation. Other features include a sleep button and longer battery life, with the ability to recharge in approximately 2 hours. The digital player is half the size and weight of the analog player. One of the most exciting features is increased cartridge capacity, which means that the large majority of books will fit on a single cartridge. This eliminates the need to change, flip, or rewind cassettes, and creates a more user-friendly experience for Talking Book patrons.

National Library Service (NLS) required that veterans receive first priority in the distribution of the digital players. The second priority group was patrons who are over 100 years old. Having satisfied those priorities, the remaining patrons in good standing are receiving new digital players in the order in which they were added to the waiting list. Currently 256 digital players have been distributed and 4,725 digital talking books are available from the State Library Talking Book collection. In addition to the books available at the State Library, Talking Book staff and patrons can use the Internet to download digital books that aren't readily available at the North Dakota State Library.



The new digital players represent a major transition and advancement in technology for the North Dakota State Library Talking Book program and NLS. Susan Hammer-Schneider, head of the State Library Disability Services Department says, "This is the biggest change that has taken place in the last 35 years of the program. We're very excited about the opportunity to provide increased quality and ease of use to our patrons."

For more information about digital talking books or the Talking Book program, please contact the State Library Disability Services Department at 800-843-9948 or [tbooks@nd.gov](mailto:tbooks@nd.gov).

## Reference Corner

A common scenario at the public library: a patron saw an interesting book featured on television recently but cannot quite remember the title or author. They are also fuzzy on which program it was or the date. *Publisher's Weekly* can help your staff find the book in question and look like superheroes more quickly, more frequently, and for free. The *PW Daily* email newsletter includes an 'Authors on the Air' segment – a quick listing of the authors appearing on that day's talk shows and news programs and the work they'll be discussing. You can also use the information for new book displays with an "As Seen On..." theme. The Monday-Friday newsletter also includes publishing news and links to popular *PW* blogs. You do not need to have a print *PW* subscription in order to receive the electronic newsletters. Check out <http://bit.ly/cMyxNF> for subscription details.

## Library Coordinating Council Update

*Submitted by Ann Pederson - Chair, North Dakota Library Coordinating Council*

With the approaching expiration of *Library Vision 2010*, the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council laid plans to gather information from the statewide community regarding updating the goals and direction of the long range vision for libraries in North Dakota. Though the entire process from Think Tank discussions to the public hearing on the proposed *Library Vision 2014* may seem long and arduous, it is a rewarding process. The gathering of input was itself an education laced with confusion and spiced with strong opinion. Council members are left to balance the interests of the libraries they represent and the needs of the North Dakota citizenry.

*Library Vision 2014* was approved by the Coordinating Council at the March meeting and is available on the State Library website at [www.library.nd.gov/publications/libraryvision2014.pdf](http://www.library.nd.gov/publications/libraryvision2014.pdf). The document is a re-crafting of the visions of the past with a focus on the future. A vision and mission statement has been drawn from the body of work and an emphasis has been placed on six goals. There has been an attempt to reduce duplication and simplify the structure of the document. *Library Vision 2014* will be printed this summer and available for discussion with legislators this fall as this community of libraries seek the financial support needed to achieve the goals set forth in the document.

### SnapShotND!

#### *One Day in the Life of North Dakota Libraries*

What would North Dakota be like if there were no libraries? What valuable services do North Dakota libraries provide on a daily basis that is simply unrecognized or unappreciated? Those were a few questions that the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA) pondered as it began to organize *SnapShotND - One Day in the Life of North Dakota Libraries*. The goal of the project is to provide a compelling vision of the role of North Dakota libraries. Every North Dakota library was asked to pick a day in April to serve as its "snapshot" day - highlighting the services that it provides to the community on a typical day. Using statistics and photos, NDLA is hoping to capture the impact that North Dakota libraries have on their communities on a typical day.

The NDLA website at [www.ndla.info/snapshot/](http://www.ndla.info/snapshot/) will feature the statistics and photos gathered in April.

## Ready or Not, It's Time for Summer Reading!

Libraries throughout North Dakota are gearing up for 2010 summer reading programs. This year's themes are Make a Splash - Read! (children), Make Waves at Your Library (teens), and Water Your Mind - Read (adults). North Dakotans of all ages will have the opportunity to participate in programs, parties, crafts, book discussions, and, most importantly, reading at their library this summer. Governor



Hoeven has proclaimed Wednesday, June 2, 2010 "Summer Reading Kickoff Day @ Your Library". Many libraries throughout the state will be hosting a kickoff event on or close to June 2nd. For questions about summer reading programs in North Dakota, please contact Adam Emter, the Public Awareness Coordinator and North Dakota representative to the Collaborative Summer Library Program at 800-472-2104 or [ndslpa@nd.gov](mailto:ndslpa@nd.gov).



## Spring Workshops

Sponsored By ND STATE LIBRARY

The 2010 State Library Spring Workshops were a huge success. A mix of relevant topics, excellent discussions, and networking opportunities (and an absence of major flooding issues) all

contributed to the effectiveness of the workshops. In addition to the workshops, panel presentations, and roundtable discussions, a host of technology workshops were available for those interested in learning more about Online Library Resources.

Featured presenter Sally Gardner Reed, Executive Director of the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations

hosted an all-day workshop that focused on creating and energizing library Friends groups.

See you next year at the 2011 State Library Spring Workshops!



## Summer Classes Offered for Graduate Credit

The North Dakota State Library training staff is offering classes in two locations for one graduate credit this summer. Classes will be in Bismarck at the Bismarck State College in the library computer lab on June 14-15 and at Minot State University, Old Main building in Room 316 on June 16-17. The Advanced Online Research class will explore basic and advanced searching methods for the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) catalog and Online Library Resources. This class is designed for public librarians, teachers, and school library media specialists who have a basic familiarity with the online resources.

Credit for Advanced Online Research is available for teachers from Minot State University, University of North Dakota, and North Dakota State University. Credit is available for Library Media Specialists from Valley City State University.

Online registration links for the Minot State University, University of North Dakota, Valley City State University and North Dakota State University continuing education programs are available from the North Dakota State Library Training Department page, [www.library.nd.gov.training.html](http://www.library.nd.gov.training.html). The fee for the workshop is \$10.00. If you are taking the courses for credit, an additional \$50.00 fee will apply. You may pay the workshop fee and the credit fee on the first day of class (you will need to write separate checks for the credit fee and for the workshop fee). Recertification credit for Library Media Specialists must be taken from Valley City State University.

For more information, please contact Steve Axtman or Al Peterson at 800-472-2104.



**@ Your Library**  
*Underwood Public Library*

It's becoming harder to escape. It can be found at home, at work, on an airplane, at the coffeshop, or any number of other "hotspots". It's wireless Internet access, and thanks to diligent work by librarian Harmony Higbie and assistance from local businesses, it's now a service at the Underwood Public Library.

Although usage started slowly, after some local promotion including flyers, a newspaper article, and mentions on the local cable access channel, users became more prevalent. Higbie predicts that hunters, temporary workers, and others who don't have a permanent residence in Underwood will be regular users of the wireless Internet. The library decided to keep the connection "open", meaning users aren't required to log in using a password. A wireless printer is also available for wireless Internet users.

"The Mclean-Mercer Regional Library board was very helpful during the whole process," Higbie said. "They even paid for the router and installation," she added. Currently the library pays \$15 per month for Internet service, but there's a possibility it could be lowered using federal E-Rate funds.



*An Underwood student uses the wireless Internet access at the Underwood Public Library to find help with her homework*

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