



Flickertale

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Beanstack For Your Summer Reading Program

The North Dakota State Library is making Beanstack available for all public libraries in the state who would like to participate. For those of you who may not be aware of Beanstack, it is an online platform for libraries to use in their summer reading programs. Kids, teens, and adults will be able to use it to register online for your summer reading program and keep track of how many books or minutes they've read through the platform, along with any challenges they have completed.

If your library is interested in participating or if you have any questions, please contact Shari Mosser at ssandwick@nd.gov or 701-328-4622.

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our newsletters!

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Library Card!

COVID-19 Response Grant Announcement

The North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council announce the COVID-19 Response Grant. The grant will be open June 1-30, 2020, and all publicly funded libraries are eligible to apply. The goal of the grant is to assist North Dakota libraries in response to the coronavirus pandemic, to help libraries prepare to open to the public, and to adapt services for reducing the impact of COVID-19.

Allowable expenditures include protective, cleaning and safety supplies, and equipment. See the grant announcement for examples of allowable expenses. Questions about allowable expenses can be submitted to your Library Development Specialist or Deputy State Librarian Cindy Clairmont-Schmidt.

Grant awards will be made by July 31. All funds must be expended by March 31, 2021. Expenses between April 1, 2020, and the grant award in direct response to COVID-19 may be included in the grant. Grant funds may not be used in conjunction with another source of funds to cover these expenses.

The completed application must be submitted electronically through [Counting Opinions](#). Click [here](#) for more information and to read through the [Grant Guidelines](#).

News and Thoughts...

from Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected so much of our lives this year, including the Census 2020 collection. We all know how important the census is to our state. For each person that doesn't fill out the census, the state loses about \$1,900 per year for each of the 10 years. The census completion rate is just over 61% nationally as well as statewide.

Due to COVID-19, the self-response phase is now through October 31, 2020. The in-person follow up has been rescheduled to August 11-October 31. This means that enumerators will visit the households in person that haven't responded to the census questionnaire.

This leaves libraries with an ideal opportunity to continue to promote the census, which many of our North Dakota libraries have been doing all along. As you work on re-opening your buildings, if possible, provide an opportunity for people to fill out the census on library computers. Continue to share social media posts about the census. The North Dakota Complete Census Committee has created updated marketing pieces. Contact Marketing Specialist, BreAnne Meier, at ndslpa@nd.gov for images.

We're excited to announce a new way for you to promote the census to your community. We are inviting each library in the state to create a video about the census and why it's important to your specific community. NDSL will provide a sample script that you can personalize. We will also edit your video for you. We will send you the edited version for use on your social media. We'll also share it on our social media and with the Complete Count Committee to use. If you'd like to participate or have any questions, please send an email to BreAnne at ndslpa@nd.gov.

We know that you are all working hard on so many things, and we'd like to thank you in advance for all that you've done to promote the census so far and all you'll do to continue to promote the census. I have been so impressed with the North Dakota library community always, but especially these last few months. We are all in this together. I am so excited to see the amazing videos that you'll put together.

North Dakota Letters About Literature Contest Winners

The North Dakota Center for the Book and the North Dakota State Library would like to congratulate the winners of this year's Letters About Literature contest. Students in grades 4 through 12 were invited to enter this annual contest by reading a book, poem, or play that inspired them or changed their view of the world. The students then wrote letters to the authors (living or dead) to share how these works affected their lives.

There were 99 submissions from North Dakota students. Winners in each of the three levels (grades 4-6, grades 7-8, and grades 9-12) received \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$50 for third place and a certificate of achievement.

Congratulations to the finalists for the state of North Dakota:

The Level I (grades 4-6) winner, Bailey Baumbach from New Rockford, wrote a letter to Lois Lowry about "The Giver."

The Level II (grades 7-8) first place winner, Maya Wood from Minot, wrote a letter to the authors of the poem "Somewhere in America." Second place winner, Nicole Couture from Minot, wrote a letter to Sharon Creech about "Walk Two Moons." Third place winner, Nora Severance from Hunter, wrote to JK Rowling.

The Level III (grades 9-12) winner, Anessa Leeds from Minot, wrote a letter to Dave Pelzer about "A Child Called 'It.'" Second place winner, Ally Speidel from Wahpeton, wrote to John Green about "The Fault in Our Stars." The third place winner, Madyson Kostenko from Minot, wrote to Randy Pausch about "The Last Lecture."

Winners in each of the three levels (grades 4-6, grades 7-8, and grades 9-12) received \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$50 for third place and a certificate of achievement.

Look for more information about the 2020-2021 Letters About Literature contest later this year on the [State Library's website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Teen Video Challenge

Are you looking for a program to share with your teens? The Teen Video Challenge is an annual video contest that is open to all teens. Teens will create a public services announcement-type video showing their unique interpretation of the 2020 Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) slogan "Imagine Your Story." Videos must be less than 60 seconds and should promote libraries and reading.



Five winners will be chosen and will receive: a \$200 cash prize and \$50 worth of summer reading materials for their library.

More information, contest rules, submission form, and the winning videos from years past can be found [here](#).

Breaking Into Online Storytime

Thinking outside the box is the mantra for many libraries as they work to bring storytime to children this summer. Kathy MacMillan, an MLS librarian and nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter, shared tips for creating outstanding online storytimes. For those of you on-the-fence about going online, continue reading as we bring you tips and tricks to make your online experiences more successful.

MacMillan's first tip was to consider the fundamental differences between online and in-person storytimes. In order to do this, she recommends that you devise a list of qualities, objects, and goals that make up storytime. When thinking of goals, she offers this [resource by Melissa Depper](#).

During in-person storytime, you can see and hear the audience in real time, make adjustments as you go, and control the environment. Once you move online, your mission will stay the same, but you can't always see your audience, give immediate feedback, or adjust your delivery based on the audiences' reactions. You also can't control the environment in which the storytime is received. All of these limitations are apt to make you feel disconnected from your audience, especially if the storytime is not done in real time. What is missing is the connection you develop with your audience when they are in person.

MacMillan suggests that you develop that connection in the online environment so your online storytime is better received. Here are some ideas:

- Record a message letting kids know you miss seeing them in the library
- Share a favorite rhyme or poem
- Introduce your pet
- Share a hobby
- Booktalk your favorite books
- Share a craft
- Give a backyard tour to meet chickens, goats, etc. or show your flowers and garden

Always think of ways you can foster a sense of security and connection. Once that online connection is built, your storytime audience will grow.

As you plan your presentation, remember that 10-20 minutes seems to be the ideal time limit. Consider these steps as you prepare:

Really think about the materials you want to use.

- How will you make instructions clear?
- What interactive elements, if any, will you use?
- How will you show the materials on camera?

How will you promote and make connections to library resources?

- At the very least, display your library's logo in the background
- Promote your library website
- Mention and/or show specific resources where appropriate

Online storytime is not likely to go away anytime soon. As you ponder your comfort level with online storytelling, start viewing other online programs, look over your library's children's collection for high-interest stories with potential for voicings, puppets, or other props. Network with your fellow librarians, and stay-tuned for the next article in July on all the "technical stuff."

SUMMER SUMMIT IS
GOING VIRTUAL!

Join Library Development staff and your
librarian peers for an in-depth morning of
professional development

On The Agenda

New ODIN Databases
Opioid Crisis and Libraries
Literacy at the Library
Racial Injustice
Star and Wheelie Award Announcements

Save
the Date

SUMMER SUMMIT
AUGUST 24
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Coming To A Library Near You: [Beanstack](#)

It's June, and that means public libraries everywhere have begun their summer reading programs. Your public library is probably doing their program a little differently this year, compared with previous years. Many libraries have moved to an online reading log due to concerns over the COVID-19. The State Library is no exception to this and has subscribed to a new database called [Beanstack](#).



Beanstack lets patrons from all over the state create an account by choosing their public library. A patron can create an adult account for themselves and then add accounts for their children as well all under the same username. The challenges come at four different levels for the different types of users. There is the emerging reader challenge, which is ages 0-5; the children challenge, which is ages 6-13; the teen challenge, which is ages 14-17; and the adult challenge, which is ages 18+. You can add as many teen or child accounts as necessary to the parent account, and the parent account can enter the reading information. Not only does Beanstack provide a reading log, but it also comes with non-reading badges that can be earned to complete the challenge. If you'd like to find out more about how to sign up for Beanstack, we have a tutorial available on our [YouTube channel](#) that will walk you through every step.

If you have any questions, please contact us at ndsldata@nd.gov.

STUCK AT HOME?

Now is the perfect time to work on digitizing your family collections. While you're at it, consider helping to build, share, and preserve North Dakota history by donating some digital items to NDSL's Memories collection.

For more information, please visit
<https://library-nd.libguides.com/COVID-19/scanday>

One Book One ND

Brought to you by Humanities North Dakota

The Humanities North Dakota will begin a free 12-month virtual program via Zoom. Join them the last Sunday of each month from 4:00-5:30 PM CDT to hear from authors. Each author will do a reading of their book, an author interview, a presentation, or combination of the three along with a Q & A from the audience.

If you can't attend this program live, an edited recording of the event will be played on Prairie Public Radio.

For more information about One Book One ND and to register, check out [Humanities ND's website](#).

One Book One ND
12 books, 12 months, 1 Community
Register for Our Free Online Series of Author Readings, Presentations, and Interviews

VIRGIL WANDER by Jill Eiger June 28	Chuck T. Klosterman <i>Raised in Captivity</i> by Chuck Klosterman July 26	Where Am I Going? by Kelley Threlkoff August 30	TAX LIVES OF LIZIE BRITCHARD by Lizie Britchard September 27
Becoming Ginger Rogers by Patrice Tanaka October 25	Little Big Bully by Heidi E. Erdlich November 29	Sons of the Wild Jacks by Terry L. Shoptaugh December 13	THE GRASS DANCER by Susan Power January 31
The Horizontal World by Debra Marquart February 28	Dakota Of What's a Heaven For by Brenda K. Marshall March 28	Yellow Bird by Sierra Crane Murdoch April 25	Pacific Dakota by Thomas D. Isam May 30

with moderators Jamie Ridenhour, Rebecca Chalmers, and Bill Thomas

sponsored by
The Paris Family Foundation

HUMANITIES NORTH DAKOTA
visit [HumanitiesND.org](#) to learn more

in partnership with

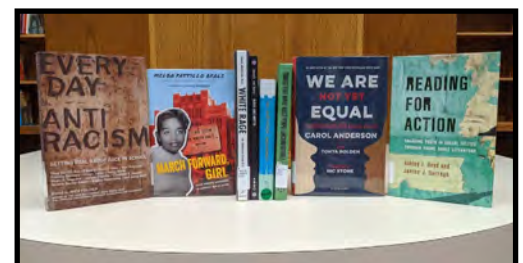
NEW LIBRARIAN RESOURCES AT THE STATE LIBRARY

- 50+ programs for tweens, teens, adults, and families : 12 months of ideas
- Creating family archives : a step-by-step guide to saving your memories for future generations
- 200+ original and adapted story program activities / Rob Reid
- Books under fire : a hit list of banned and challenged children's books
- iPhone for seniors (9th edition, 2020)
- The maker mentality
- Art sparks : draw, paint, make, and get creative with 53 amazing projects!
- Designing outdoor environments for children : landscaping schoolyards, gardens, and playgrounds
- Semantic Web for the working ontologist : effective modeling in RDFS and OWL
- A higher standard : leadership strategies from America's first female four-star general
- Effective data visualization : the right chart for the right data
- This is not propaganda : adventures in the war against reality
- Bibliostyle : how we live at home with books
- It began with a page : how Gyo Fujikawa drew the way (nonfiction picture book)
- Facts vs. opinions vs. robots (nonfiction picture book)

Antiracism LibGuide

Are you looking for book lists, resources, and a list of items available through the State Library that deal with antiracism? The State Library has produced a new [LibGuide](#) that will be updated regularly with this information.

If you would like to make recommendations, please send an e-mail to ndslpa@nd.gov.



THE READING NOOK

By Jessica Robinson

Reading nonfiction always makes me feel good - like I'm cheating my way to being a better human by enjoying something that makes me learn things. This month, we'll all get a chance at learning something new with some of 2020's best nonfiction titles.

Presidential biographies aren't usually my thing, but Alexis Coe's *You Never Forget Your First* is a rollicking biography of George Washington, the man who could have been America's first king. Coe focuses on Washington's non-presidential sides, from his wild youth to the peaceful farming life he wanted more than the presidency.

History books are filled with accounts of brilliant men, from Leonardo da Vinci to Albert Einstein. However, brilliant women get short shrift when it comes to looking back on revolutionary human innovation. Janice Kaplan attempts to address this discrepancy with *The Genius of Women*, focusing on the female geniuses who have changed the world.

There is something fascinating about cults, in the way that people can become ensnared in something that seems so unappealing from the outside, but is clearly answering some need in its followers. In *Broken Faith*, Mitch Weiss and Holbrook Mohr explore the Word of Faith Fellowship, led by the charismatic Jane Whaley, and a family that escaped after two decades.

Sierra Crane Murdoch's *Yellow Bird* has been getting national attention, which is pretty exciting since the book takes place in North Dakota. Murdoch tells the story of Lissa Yellow Bird, newly released from prison and returning home to a changed Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, only to be drawn into the mysterious disappearance of a young white oil worker.

Planning for problems before they happen is a specific skill that most people never learn

to develop. Dan Heath's *Upstream* aims to rectify this with a close look at organizations that worked on addressing potential issues before they happen, often saving themselves countless time and money in the process. He argues that just a little bit of forethought can make a huge difference, both in work and in life.

Hidden Valley Road by Robert Kolker is the heartbreaking story of the Galvin family, who went from being a model of post-WWII prosperity to one of the world's most important case studies when six of their twelve children were diagnosed with schizophrenia. The Galvin family's experience with the mental healthcare industry is the story of America's history with mental illness, from institutionalization to lobotomies, and finally to scientific research into the illness itself.

I'm definitely a Marie Kondo neophyte, so when I say that the book I'm looking forward to the most this year is her *Joy at Work*, you should probably take my words as seriously as you would take any fanatic. That being said, Kondo's newest book about decluttering your work life in order to clear the way for productivity and mental wellness is sure to have a new resonance as people adjust to the new working world.

Benjamin Hardy's *Personality Isn't Permanent* is a powerful indictment against relying on personality tests as a guide in business and life. Hardy argues that, contrary to popular belief, a person's personality isn't innate and is constantly changing throughout their life. This means that it's possible to shape your personality for the better, through understanding the ways in which our personalities evolve.

The concept of a school year has become muddled this year, but next month is still summer, and that means it's time to look at some of the best and upcoming 2020 titles for teens.

Introduction To The New Public Access Catalog: Login and Password

This month, we'll discuss how to update your contact information and change your login and password in My Account.

After logging in and accessing the My Account feature, locate the Contact Information and Preference.

Name:	TRAYNER, JEFF TWEEDY
Barcode:	*****9285
Username:	[None]
Registered at:	North Dakota State Library
Patron code:	Individual
Expiration date:	8/8/2024
Last activity date:	3/31/2020
▼ Messages	
No messages	
▶ Contact Information and Preferences	
▶ Change Logon	

Contact Information and Preferences

Please verify your contact information.

Address information

Address Type
Alternate

Street one
TRAINING PATRON

Street two
604 EAST BOULEVARD AVE

Street three

City
BISMARCK

State/Province
ND

Postal code
58505

Zip plus four

Country
BURLINGHAM

Country
USA

Contact information

Email address
ndsttrain@nd.gov

Alt. E-mail Address

Phone 1
701-328-3495

Phone 2

Phone 3

To update your contact information, click Contact Information and Preferences

From this screen, you can change or add an e-mail address or a phone number or update your address if you moved. Below the Address Information is Preferences. You can choose to receive your library notices by mail or e-mail. You can add a mobile number and select your carrier to receive library notices by text as well.

Preferences:

My preference for receiving library notices

Email Address

Phone number for TXT messages
(None)

Carrier
(Select a carrier)

Maintain reading history

Send e-mail notices in:

Basic, plain text

Full, HTML format

You can also choose to save your reading history. This will keep a list of everything you've checked out for up to two years. This is helpful to see if you have read something already.

You can change your logon from your library card number to something different. You can also change your password. If you forget your password, the North Dakota State Library can assist you with resetting the password.

Change Logon

Change Username

New Username

Verify Username

All usernames must begin with a letter (a-z, A-Z), can contain letters, numbers, and the special characters - _ . @ (Spaces are not allowed, and special characters can not be contiguous.)

Change Password

Old Password

New Password

Verification

Note: All new passwords must be alpha-numeric (A-Z,a-z,0-9).

Save

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at statelib@nd.gov or 701-328-4622.

SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[COVID-19 Response Grant](#)

Deadline: June 30

This grant, announced by the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council, aims to assist North Dakota libraries in response to the coronavirus pandemic, to help libraries prepare to open to the public, and to adapt services for reducing the impact of COVID-19. This includes protective, cleaning, and safety supplies and equipment. All publicly funded libraries are eligible to apply.

For more information, see the Grant Guidelines [here](#).

[Mockingbird Foundation](#)

Deadline: August 1

The Mockingbird Foundation offers grants to nonprofit organizations and schools for projects and programs involving music education to children under 18. Innovative and collaborative approaches to music education is encouraged, and the Mockingbird Foundation has a special interest in funding projects that support disenfranchised groups such as those with low income, in foster care, in a shelter, or located in a hospital. Grants range in size from \$100 to \$10,000, and recipients must have 501(c)(3) status.

For more information and to apply, see their [website](#).

[LLCF Bookmobile Grant](#)

Deadline: September 1

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.

More information and the application can be found on their [website](#).

[Foundation for Rural Service Grant Program](#)

Deadline: September 20

As part of its ongoing commitment to rural communities across the country, the Foundation for Rural Service provides annual grants for communities served by NTCA members. The goal of the program is to support local efforts to build and sustain a high quality of life in rural America. Grants will be concentrated in four major areas: business development, community development, education, and telecommunications. Grants can range from \$250 to \$5,000.

Read their guidelines and apply [here](#).

YouTube Video Of The Month:

[Getting Started with Beanstack: How to Create an Account](#)

Since this month's online resources article was all about our summer reading database, Beanstack, this video will go over how to create an account for a parent and how to add child accounts to that one. With a parent account, the parent can log their own reading, and then they can log in their child's reading and badges as well. Don't miss this one on creating an account. For further information, check out our video on [logging reading](#).



Subscribe to our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/NDStateLibrary>

Course of the Month: [RBdigital On Niche Academy](#)

It is likely that by now you have heard of the e-book, e-audiobook, e-magazine, and e-comic book service that the State Library offers its patrons. RBdigital has so many features that, unless you take time to explore it, there might be things that you have not seen. This course is designed to give an overview of what RBdigital has to offer and how to use it. This course won't cover everything, but by the end, you'll have a pretty good idea of what you can do on the database. Remember that you need an app-based device to run RBdigital, so make sure you have one available when you finish this course.



Remember that you need an app-based device to run RBdigital, so make sure you have one available when you finish this course.

If you have any questions, please e-mail us at nds1train@nd.gov.

Free Webinars Provided By The North Dakota State Library

5 Languages of Workplace Appreciation

Presenter: Gail Santy, Central Kansas Library System

Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:30 PM-2:15 PM (CST)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3bwYmyH>

Creating a work environment where individuals are connecting and honoring differences is critical to the success of any workplace team. This workshop provides valuable research and insight into how all employees need to understand that what they do on behalf of the organization matters. We will discuss the ways individuals best receive the message of appreciation that differs from person to person. The overarching goal of the Appreciation at Work workshop is to assist individuals in the workplace (both employees and volunteers) in understanding how to communicate appreciation and encouragement effectively to their colleagues and to provide the resources and support to apply this knowledge proactively in their current work environment.

Note: If webinar registration is full or you cannot attend, please e-mail nds1train@nd.gov to get the recording.

Free Training Webinars

5 Tips for School Librarians Post COVID: The Power of Your Story (Emporia State University)

Register: <https://bit.ly/2YEXvHV>

Monday, June 29 (7:00 PM–8:00 PM CDT)

Has COVID-19 and remote schooling turned your world upside down? Shake off the dust and join Nikki D Robertson as she shares 5 Tips for School Librarians that stand the test of time, whether working remotely or face to face.

Take Your Patrons to Mars (StarNet)

Register: <https://bit.ly/2YGPqST>

Tuesday, July 7 (2:00 PM–3:00 PM CDT)

NASA is about to launch the Mars 2020 mission – and now is the time to get your patrons excited! The Perseverance rover will launch between July 17-August 11, 2020, and will land on Mars in February 2021. Invite your patrons to participate in its journey! Hear from NASA Mars scientists, learn some activities you can conduct online or in-person, and make plans to hold your own virtual (or in-person) launch or landing parties!

School Librarians Can Save Democracy (EdWeb)

Register: <https://bit.ly/2Axr71W>

Wednesday, July 22 (4:00 PM–5:00 PM CDT)

Regardless of ones' political views, there seems to be consensus on one political reality: America is dangerously polarized. Is democracy in jeopardy? If so, what role does social media play in our divisive public conversations? Are our emotional responses to informational content distorting our perceptions of reality? Are we getting smarter? Dumber? Or do these questions radically oversimplify more complex problems? In this edWebinar, Michelle Luhtala will present a case for the critical need for school librarians in every school, and the importance of equity in access to quality inquiry instructional experiences for all learners – not just for the future of education but for the future of democracy.

Whose Turn Is It, Anyway? Online Board Gaming & Libraries (WebJunction)

Register: <https://bit.ly/30KgZ0p>

Tuesday, July 28 (2:00 PM–3:00 PM CDT)

Closed buildings and social distancing doesn't need to mean the end of engaging and fun board game groups hosted by libraries. Many libraries have worked hard to organize board game groups, while others are still considering how to get started. Using popular and free online board gaming platforms (Board Game Arena, Yucata, Tabletopia, Tabletop Simulator, and Boitejeux), communities of gamers can continue meeting safely online. This webinar will explore how to make the transition to online board gaming, moderate meetups, and facilitate discussions among participants. The session will be applicable to those looking to move online and anyone interested in starting their first gaming group.

North Dakota Library Tidbits

- Libraries across the state are gradually re-opening after closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many libraries are taking a phased approach by first offering curbside service and then moving towards reopening the building by appointment and with social distancing practices in place.
- The Lidgerwood Library is creating a quilt to document this time in history. Forty-eight quilt squares were handed out for different members of the community to decorate with markers, paint, and needlework as a part of this memory quilt; it will also feature the names of the high school seniors that had their final year of high school impacted by the pandemic. The quilt will hang on the wall of the library once completed.
- Summer Reading Programs are starting up for many public libraries. This year, most include a virtual element either using Facebook Live or another video-conferencing platform to introduce families to library services and programs. BeanStack is also being used across the state as a virtual reading log tracker.
- Staff of the Williston Community Library came together to decorate the sidewalk surrounding their building with chalk. This allowed for all staff members to practice social distancing guidelines while still being able to talk and socialize and spread goodwill throughout the community.
- Fargo Public Library has partnered the NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program to help encourage gardening and donating to local food pantries. The library had initially planned on starting a seed library in 2020 and acquired the seeds over the winter; to prevent the seeds from going to waste during the library's closure, they were donated to the NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program to help food pantries across the state.
- Several libraries have measures on their local June Primary ballots related to their funding.
- Morton Mandan Public Library is holding weekly Fairy Tale Science programs on YouTube, which challenges patrons to solve a problem for a famous fairy tale character.
- Fargo Public Library is hosting a Fargo History Hunt program.
- McKenzie County Public Library has partnered with Watford City Recreation to hold Tot Time in different parks around Watford City.
- Walhalla Public Library is displaying Story Walks next to the library.
- Jana Maher (Miss Sparkles) from Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library was one of seven Hidden Hometown Hero winners for her virtual Storytimes.

Legal Research Resources for Affidavit to Transfer Personal Property of Deceased Person

Submitted by Catie Palsgraaf, Acting North Dakota Supreme Court Law Librarian

Self-represented patrons of the North Dakota Supreme Court Law Library and North Dakota Legal Self Help Center frequently ask how to handle a deceased person's estate without bringing a probate case in a North Dakota state district court.

Following are legal research and other resources in North Dakota for transferring personal property of a deceased person by affidavit.

DEFINITIONS

Affidavit for Collection of Personal Property of Decedent – A legal document that transfers the personal property of a deceased person to the heir or successor entitled to receive the property. The entire net value of the probate property of the deceased person's estate must be \$50,000 or less and can't include any real property.

Estate – All of the personal and real property a deceased person owned or had an interest in on the date of their death.

Personal Property – All property that isn't real property, such as money, stocks, vehicles, and furniture.

Real Property – Land and things attached to the land, such as buildings.

Non-Probate Property – The property in a deceased person's estate that transfers automatically upon their death. For example, a life insurance policy that transfers to a named individual after providing a death certificate.

Probate Property – The property in a deceased person's estate that doesn't automatically transfer upon their death. The transfer of property is determined by the deceased person's will, or by intestate succession.

Will – A legal document detailing a person's wishes for transferring ownership of the property of their estate after death.

Intestate Succession – When a person dies without a will, North Dakota's intestate succession laws determine who receives the deceased person's property. These laws also apply if the deceased person's will doesn't include all of the property.

Heir – The person entitled to the deceased person's property according to the deceased person's will, or, if there is no will, by North Dakota's intestate succession laws.

Successor – See Heir.

WHAT IS COLLECTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OF A DECEASED PERSON BY AFFIDAVIT?

When a person dies, most of the work to be done with the estate is the legal and orderly transfer of the deceased person's property to the persons entitled to receive it (the creditors and heirs).

When a deceased person has probate property that needs to be transferred, the property may be transferred by an affidavit signed by the heir(s) entitled to the property, if the probate property meets certain requirements. This probate process is also called collection of personal property of a deceased person by affidavit.

When the estate meets the requirements to transfer personal property by affidavit, and the holder of the personal property accepts the affidavit, the North Dakota state court system isn't involved in the process.

Continued from pg. 13

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

An heir, either by will or intestate succession, may use an affidavit to transfer probate property if the heir and the deceased person's estate meet the following requirements:

1. At least 30 days have passed since the person died;
2. The total net value of the probate property is \$50,000 or less (total value minus any debts or other encumbrances);
3. No real property is part of the probate property;
4. No probate case is started or completed in a North Dakota state district court, a court of any other state, or a tribal court; and
5. The heir claiming the personal property by affidavit is entitled to the property by will or intestate succession.

If the estate meets the requirements, the completed affidavit is presented to whoever holds the personal property for transfer to the heir entitled to receive it.

WHAT IF THE ESTATE DOESN'T MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AFFIDAVIT?

If the deceased person's estate doesn't meet the requirements to transfer personal property by affidavit, two North Dakota state district court probate processes are available for appointment of a personal representative to handle the transfer of probate property.

Informal probate cases are designed to allow for limited supervision of the personal representative by the North Dakota state district court. The district court may appoint the personal representative without holding an in-person hearing.

Formal probate cases are designed for increased supervision of the personal representative by the North Dakota state district court. In-person hearings are a required part of the formal probate process.

See the [May 2020 Flickertale](#) article for legal research resources for informal probate cases. Legal research resources for formal probate cases is the subject of next month's Flickertale article.

GUIDEBOOK AND FORMS FOR INFORMAL PROBATE CASES

North Dakota's informal probate laws require that the Office of the State Court Administrator provide explanations and forms for the informal probate process.

[A Guidebook and Forms for Informal Administration of an Estate](#) is available on the North Dakota Court System website.

The Guidebook includes information and an affidavit form for transferring personal property of a deceased person by affidavit.

Pages 1 through 3 in the Guidebook provide an overview of handling an estate. The top of Page 4 gives the basic requirements for using an affidavit to transfer property. Form 1 in the Guidebook is the Affidavit for Collection of Personal Property of the Decedent.

If the estate doesn't meet the requirements to transfer personal property by affidavit, the Guidebook includes information and forms for the informal probate process in North Dakota state district court.

ND LEGAL RESEARCH RESOURCES

The [Probate](#) section of the ND Legal Self Help Center webpage includes forms, guides, and other resources related to probating an estate in North Dakota.

[Title 30.1 of the North Dakota Century Code](#) contains laws governing the estates of deceased persons in North Dakota.

[Chapter 30.1-23 of the North Dakota Century Code](#) contains the laws governing collection of personal property of deceased person by affidavit in North Dakota.

Digital Delights



A picnic at Lake Wilde in Emmons County, ND, in 1915. Men and women sit on either side of a picnic table that is covered in plates of food.

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