Flickertale

Talking Books Services

One of the services that is provided by the North Dakota State Library in partnership with the National Library Service, which is a division of the Library of Congress, is the Talking Books program. All North Dakota residents that are unable to read standard print materials because of a visual, physical, or reading disability are eligible for the program, which provides audiobooks and players as well as audio magazines and large print books to patrons free of charge. Eligible patrons can also access a large array of digital books that can be downloaded to a computer, tablet or phone.

The Talking Books service is available via telephone at (701)328-1408 or (800)843-9948, email at **tbooks@nd.gov** or for walk-in service during the regular library hours of 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

The application for the program is available on our website at **http://www.library.nd.gov/publications/tbapp.pdf** and more information about the program can be found at **http://www.library.nd.gov/talkingbooks.html**.

Digital Dimension

Local History Grant

This month's column will focus on the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC) Library Vision grants. For this round, there are three categories of grants: **collection development, marketing, and local history**. All three grants provide wonderful opportunities for recipients, but I'm going to focus on one grant in particular. The Local History Grant is near and dear to my heart for a few reasons, but mainly because it directly applies to my duties in Digital Initiatives (DI) and because I helped develop the grant proposal.

Initially, the idea started out small and was only going to be a grant for digitization hardware. However, every library's situation is different and so is the way they approach local history. So the grant was expanded to include many more possibilities.

This grant can still be used to obtain digitization, or scanning, equipment and supplies. If you're interested in obtaining hardware to **start a digitization project** to scan your own collections or have a community-based scanning project (like **ScanDay**), you can consult the **hardware page** on the DI LibGuide for examples of scanners. You can also use this grant to obtain a computer or laptop to support your digitization activities.

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NASA@ My Library Kit
Expedition: Earth

The State Library has acquired additional NASA@ My Library kits through a grant from the Space Science Institute. One of the new kits is called Expedition: Earth.

Expedition: Earth has the components for up to 15 participants to take part in activities and crafts that teach patrons about weather and magnification.

Each kit includes two microscopes, prepared slides with specimens, fifteen small magnifying glasses, six books, and the components for the other activities. Activities include A Matter of Perspective, A Wonderful Weather Story, Around the School, Clouds Above, Estimating Cloud Cover, Tech on the Go: Magnification, and Wind Streamer, which can also be found in the STEM Activity Clearinghouse online at **http://clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org/**.

The craft components that are included in the kit (construction paper, paper plates, and crepe paper) do not need to be returned to the State Library.

There are four copies of the Expedition: Earth kit. They can be reserved through **KitKeeper** up to one year in advance.

NASA@ My Library is a project of The National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute, in partnership with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, American Library Association Public Programs Office, the Pacific Science Center, Cornerstones of Science, and Education Development Center.

North Dakota Libraries in the News

Fargo Library's Jazz Concert Series Kicks Off Sunday, Oct. 3rd

(Fargo, ND) - Celebrate Fargo's history of jazz and outstanding musical talent with the annual "Jazz Into Fall" music series at the Main Library downtown. Featuring local musicians playing a wide range of jazz styles, the series starts Sunday, Oct. 3, at 2 p.m. with a performance by The Skipjacks.

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Williston Community Library celebrates the freedom to read during Banned Books Week

Since the 1980s, the National Library Association has been celebrating the freedom to read with Banned Books Week, highlighting current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools. Over the years, many books have been challenged or banned from libraries and schools for a variety of reasons, some as seemingly innocent as featuring talking animals, like Charlotte's Web.

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Mandan park, library improvements progressing; Bismarck plans for next quarter century

Improvements to Mandan's Dykshoorn Park are nearing completion, and a project to upgrade the adjoining Morton Mandan Public Library is moving into its second phase. In neighboring Bismarck, city officials are seeking the public's help in shaping a comprehensive plan for the next 25 years.

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JRVLS Focused on Keeping & Expanding Service

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (NewsDakota.com) - After announced budget cuts, James River Valley Library System Director Joe Rector says they'll continue to offer what they can to the city and county. Recently, the library board decided to close the Stutsman County Library in the morning, but will open at noon on weekdays beginning October 1st.

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STEM Activity Clearinghouse

Are you looking for some fun STEM activities for your patrons? The STEM Activity Clearinghouse has high quality, vetted STEM activities that are appropriate for library and classroom use. You can use this website to search by audience, content level, and difficulty to make sure that the activity fits your audience. Check out **http://clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org/** for your next STEM program.

Other News and Free Webinars

Free Webinar: North Dakota Local Foods

This Local Foods Presentation will provide you a clear idea of what

Free Webinar: Public Libraries and Public Health: Partners for Community Health

Libraries are community hubs, including for health information and programming. As community health

local food is, how the North Dakota Department of Agriculture supports the state's local foods community, why its important to buy this type of food and where you can purchase it.

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needs shift and grow, libraries are looking to support topics like consumer health literacy, healthy aging, mental health, food and nutrition, access to healthcare via telehealth, physical activity, and overcoming technological barriers to accessing health information.

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Emergency Connectivity Fund - USAC.ORG

The Emergency Connectivity Fund Program will reimburse schools and libraries for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and broadband connections used to help students, staff, and patrons who otherwise lack access to be able to engage in remote learning.

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Future Summer Reading Theme and Slogan

The theme for 2025 and the slogan for 2024 have been chosen by the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP).

2025: TBD - Art
2024: Adventure Begins at Your Library - Adventure (Juana Martinez-Neal)

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Free Webinar: How to Train Your Community on Libby

Training your users on how to use Libby is an easy and effective way to increase awareness and usage of your digital collection. Join OverDrive experts to get the tools and guidance to confidently lead your own Getting Started with Libby session.

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EDI Library Leaders Survey

Denver Public Library (DPL) was recently awarded an IMLS LB21 grant to actualize its aspirational values of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) into concrete actions that demonstrate that commitment. A foundational component of this grant project is that it must have broad impact and facilitate cross-

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Free Webinar: Relighting Your Programming Fire: Combatting Job-Related Burnout and Guilt to Make Programming Fun Again

Planning programs is a lot of fun, but it is also a lot of work. When working with a small budget, struggling with other responsibilities, and trying to please your community, you can very quickly find yourself on the path to burnout. It's not easy to feel passionate and excited about planning programs when you're running on empty.

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U.S. Congress Investigates Publisher Restrictions on Library E-Books - Internet Archive Blogs

Yesterday, Senator Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) and Representative Anna Eshoo (D-California) sent an inquiry to each of the "Big Five" book publishers to investigate their activities in the library e-book market. As the Senator and Congresswoman noted, rather than simply selling books to libraries, publishers insist on using "restrictive and expensive licensing agreements," leaving libraries to face with "skyrocket[ing]" prices and temporary "leases," "often at a much higher markup than what the average consumer pays for the same title."

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collaboration so that libraries throughout the nation can increase their EDI capacity. As DPL will be convening a national cohort of libraries to co-create and/or vet all tools that can build libraries' capacity to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are looking to recruit and convene a **national cohort of 10-15 people serving in EDI roles** in their libraries to guide this project. This cohort will be the first of its kind in the United States and will provide support and resources to staff who are working to expand the scholarship around EDI in libraries in the United States.

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World Space Week

World Space Week 2021 celebrates "Women in Space"! Join thousands of participants in over 90 countries celebrating accomplishments and contributions of women to the space sector and sciences. In 2020, more than 6,500 events were organized in over 60 countries under the theme "Satellites Improve Life".

During the week, teachers are encouraged to use space-themed activities to excite students about science and technology.

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