



Flickertale

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New Online Library Resources

Submitted by State Librarian Mary Soucie

The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is pleased to announce that North Dakotans now have access to three new resources.

Ethnic NewsWatch is available to all North Dakota Libraries. Ethnic NewsWatch provides full-text access to journals, magazines, and newspapers from ethnic and minority press providing researchers with a different point-of-view. It also includes access to historical Native American, African American, and Hispanic American periodicals from 1959-1989. Ethnic categories include the following:

- African American/Caribbean/African
- Arab/Middle Eastern
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- European/Eastern European
- Hispanic
- Jewish
- Native People

Rocket Languages offers courses in fourteen different languages, including American Sign Language. Each language offers courses at different levels; all include beginning and intermediate, and several also include advanced. This resource will provide options for learners who want to move beyond the basics to true fluency in a language.

Kanopy videos are available to public libraries that are part of the OverDrive consortium. These videos are accessible within the Libby app. Kanopy is a streaming service for movies, documentaries, classic cinema, independent films, and educational videos.

We are providing access to these resources through June 2024. Continued access will be considered based on usage. We encourage you to share these new resources with patrons via social media, provide access on your website, and in-library promotional materials. If you would like promotional materials, please email ndsipa@nd.gov for information about what will be available.

[Access the Resources](#)

Talking Book Update

September Quarterly Patron Corner

On Monday, September 11, at 6:00 PM, the NLS Patron Engagement Section will host the quarterly Patron Corner. The topic for this program is Job Hunting: Dos, Don'ts, Whys and Why nots. The session will be a panel of speakers who will address experiences with employees and employers.

Speakers include Richard Rueda, Assistant Director of the APH Connect Center; Katie Frederick, Digital Content Manager for Vision Aware at the APH Connect Center; and Lex Huth, Communications Director for the Partnership on Employment and Accessible Technology (PEAT), a policy initiative funded by the US Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. The session will run for 90 minutes.

[Learn More](#)

Libby Update

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

September is just a day away and that means new updates from Libby! Libby is a reading app that connects library cards to an online collection housing thousands of e-books, audiobooks, and magazines all for free. Even better is most ND libraries have joined together to form the North Dakota Digital Consortium (Library2Go). Why does this matter? This means that if a patron's library is part of the consortium, they get access to not only the collection at their local library, but they also get access to every other library in the consortium's e-collection. That means hundreds of new books available at the click of a button. Libby is available for download on IOS, Android, and Fire OS (Kindle).

So, what is new for September?

September's updates are all about magazines. Libby not only carries audio and e-books, but also magazines. The consortium has access to over four thousand magazines. From the popular US Weekly and The New Yorker to the not so popular like Crochet World and T3, Libby magazines has something for everyone. Starting in September patrons will be able to:

- **Open magazines with one tap**
With the new "Open Magazine" button, magazines will open automatically, skipping the borrowing process. Patrons will not have to wait for their turn as magazine are never put on hold with no limit as to how many magazines patrons can check-out.
- **Subscribe to magazines**
Patrons can now subscribe to magazines they read often. When subscribing, patrons will still be prompted to create a notify me tag. This tag will then send a message every time a new issue is published, and the new issue will be automatically added to the patron's magazine rack.
- **See magazines in the magazine rack**
When viewing their shelf, patrons will now see a separate section for magazines they have checked out or subscribed to. This makes it easier to focus on the magazines without having to scroll through their e-book and audiobook loans.
- **Get easy access to the newsstand**
From their shelf, patrons can simply click on the empty cover next to their subscriptions to be taken directly to the newsstand. Within the newsstand patrons will be able to see the magazines they have recently viewed, popular magazines, or be able to filter to find specific ones.

For more information on Libby or how to get a library card, contact your local public library or the ND State Library at statelib@nd.gov.

[Learn More](#)

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

Labor Day

For many, Labor Day symbolizes the end of summer. However, it holds a far more important purpose. Labor Day is a time dedicated to celebrating women and men who campaigned for workers' rights, especially during the 19th century. Some of the labor movement goals included shortening work weeks (the current "full time" is usually considered 40 hours), safer work conditions, paid time off, and sick leave (McAfee, 2023). Labor Day is celebrated the first Monday of each September. Since it is a federal holiday, many businesses and organizations are closed, including most libraries. Typical ways to celebrate include parades, picnics, and spending time at the lake or simply spending time outside.

[Continue Reading](#)



Artificial Intelligence: From Dial-Up Internet to Infinity

With artificial intelligence recently playing a prominent role in society, I started thinking about the beginning stages of the internet, where access to this technology has taken society, and the potential advancements yet to come. I chuckle when I recall the unique sound of the 1990s dial-up internet. And don't let me forget, since the internet access came through the telephone line, phone calls could not be made nor received when the internet was being used. Who would have thought that one day, the internet and phone would be all in one device, or computers would be "taught" to generate content comparable or equal to human intelligence?

Throughout the years, the internet has changed the way society communicates, shops, works, learns, reads, and performs many other tasks. I never anticipated where the internet and its capabilities would go, but as each advancement came, I noticed users found ways to use it in a positive manner that proved to make things easier or more productive, or in a negative, sometimes even harmful manner. I believe such is the same with AI. Artificial intelligence has the potential to make medical advancements, but it also can aid terrorists in creating bioweapons. It all depends upon the user's goal and the end product.

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Upcoming ND State Library Webinars

Submitted by AI Peterson

[Discover EBSCOHost: Research at your Fingertips](#)

Wednesday, September 6 (2:00 PM -2:45 PM)

EBSCO provides many different types of Online Library Resources. The EBSCOhost research platform provides access to full text articles and citations and abstracts. While the content of the different EBSCOHost databases contain different information, the interface is the same and once you learn to use one, you can use others. This webinar will explore the features of EBSCOHost and briefly explore the content of these different databases.

[North Dakota State Library Services Review for School Librarians](#)

Tuesday, September 19 (3:30 PM – 4:15 PM)

Are you a new school librarian or need a refresher on State Library Services? This webinar is designed to be provide an overview of what services and resources the North Dakota State Library offers to school librarians. Our role is support you as you help your students.

Other great webinar opportunities can be found on our website at

<https://www.library.nd.gov/traininglibraries>.

If you missed the webinar, *Check Out the New North Dakota State Library Website*,

presented on August 15th, a recording was uploaded to our YouTube Channel,

<https://youtu.be/Qqa2fnHJfqw>.

[Additional Webinar Opportunities](#)



SEAL Virtual Training: Preparing for Eclipse Day

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

You've got your SEAL eclipse viewing glasses, you have your programming ideas...but what happens the day of the eclipse? Join STAR Net for this webinar to help you get ready for the day of the eclipse. We'll be sharing insights from a survey of librarians who hosted programming for the last big American eclipse in 2017 and discussing how to prepare for the things you can (and can't) control on the day of the eclipse. See you there!

[Register Today](#)



Atomic Bombs

There was an August [article](#) in *School Library Journal* about book recommendations featuring atomic bombs. The inspiration for this article came from the movie *Oppenheimer*. Even if your students are too young to view this film, the history and science of the atomic bomb is fascinating and worth addressing.

Science

Atomic bombs use nuclear fission. To explain it simply, nuclear fission occurs when the nucleus of one atom is split into two smaller nuclei. This process, first discovered by two German scientists, releases a large amount of energy. As more atoms experience this splitting, a chain reaction sets off. This reaction is what creates the blast of the bomb. Since so much power is released in a quick manner, shock waves can expand miles beyond the original target. The two isotopes that experience nuclear fission best are Uranium-235 and Plutonium-239. (Acres, 2023; Atomic, n.d.).

[Read More](#)



Social Media Highlight: Threads

You may be hearing a lot about a new social media platform – Threads. This new platform allows users to share updates and participate in public conversations, similar to Twitter. While most posts are in text format, users also have the option to include photos and videos.

Pros:

- At the time of this writing, over 100 million people have signed up for Threads. Check with your local patrons to see if they are already on the app.
- Creating an account at the beginning allows you time to test things out just like everyone else is.
- It's easy to sign up with your Instagram account (keeping your same username, password, and account name).
- You can bring over the list of accounts you follow on Instagram to continue following those who are on Threads.
- Your posts can have up to 500 characters.

[Continue Reading](#)

Retired Librarians Catalog Local History

Submitted by Melissa Lloyd, Assistant Director of the
Valley City Barnes County Public Library

Librarians like to organize, they look at a mess of chaotic papers, books, and information, and a gleam enters their eye. It's part treasure hunter, and part OCD. Librarians especially love to organize information. This is the story of how two library volunteers who love to organize have made such a powerful impact for the Valley City Community.

When I started at the Valley City Barnes County Public Library 10 years ago, former Library Director Steve Hammel and I noticed we had a few local history books, centennial books, and yearbooks. Some were catalogued, or were barcoded, but marked deleted. Meanwhile, The Barnes County Museum also had a large collection of local history. People would come in seeking information about Barnes County and Valley City, and staff struggled to find the information our patrons were seeking. We would send them to the Barnes County Museum, or the museum would send them to us. It was a frustrating mess and made for some very unhappy patrons and staff. It took some time, but it was generally decided the library couldn't function as both a warehouse for local history and serve the needs of the patrons. A partnership was formed, some might even say it's one of a kind. The small collection of local history from the library was transported to the museum, where it can all be found in one location. Now that it was in one location, the question became how do we make these historical documents more accessible for the community? Solution, the library would set up a branch in the Museum. This meant the Museum could utilize the library's system for book cataloging, making searching for local history information easier, and more convenient for our community. This shift created a huge mess at the museum and the issue of organizing and cataloging all the local history was mind-boggling for both the library and the museum. But all that information *needed* to be catalogued, and it was all original cataloging! "Oh, the Insanity!" (Sidenote: I know not everyone speaks library speak, so you might not know what it means to catalog, or the difference between original cataloging and copy cataloging. If you'll bear with me, I will enlighten you. This does have a point if you are rolling your eyes right now in boredom.)



Every item in a library is catalogued. Catalogued means all the information about the material is broken down into separate data fields, author, title, subject, etc. This data is entered into the library's Integrated Library System (ILS) or online card catalog. This makes it easier to find the item by searching the library's catalog. Some people call cataloging determining the "aboutness" of the material. Remember when I mentioned Librarians like to organize information? Cataloging is organizing information about every library item.

So, what's the difference between original cataloging and copy cataloging?

Most items published nowadays have an ISBN barcode. Bigger libraries pay trained catalogers to do all the data entry for those items. The VCBC Public Library's ILS can import those records from those bigger libraries, so we don't have to do much original cataloging. Importing these records from the bigger libraries is known as copy cataloging. Original Cataloging can be time-consuming data entry, and either requires a Master's in Library Science with a Cataloging Specialty, or years of cataloging experience. But local history items don't have any records to import from larger libraries, because they won't have that item in their collection. To do an original catalog record, a Cataloging Librarian or Cataloguer must collect the data about the item. Author, title, publisher, copyright, subject, and organize it. Many books have that information on the publication page, but not everything does, in fact some of that stuff might not have any information, so a cataloguer does some in-depth research to determine information about the items to create a record. Everybody got that? Yes? No? Good, moving on.

It was the end of August, school had started, Summer Learning was over, and the library was gearing up for fall programming, when an older couple came through the library doors. They'd just come from the museum, eager to visit with the director. I can't help but smile. I think I'll let them use their own words to describe what they saw at the museum. Taken from their final report...

"August 30, 2021, we decided to go to Valley City and visit the genealogy section of the Barnes County Historical Society to see what materials they might have. Found all in disarray after they had to change shelving arrangements because of weight load. Saw books had just been put on shelves as they were picked up, boxes of materials spread on the floor, etc. We also saw this was something we might be able to help organize." (They had that gleam in their eye.)

Dennis and Lorna Olson wanted to volunteer to catalog the local history collection at the Museum. Now previously I had said cataloging is not something anyone off the street can do. So let me give you some background information about our lovely volunteers.



Dennis and Lorna Olson are retired librarians with years of cataloging experience. Dennis was born in Marion, ND in 1940. He graduated from Litchville High School in 1958, and from VC State Teacher's College in 1965. He graduated from UND with Master's in Library Science in 1968. Over the years he's catalogued collections at Milnor, Dickinson State College, and Bismarck Public Schools, including the opening of Century High School. He retired in 2002, but continued to volunteer in Bismarck School libraries, and catalogued the special reading collections for two elementary schools.

Lorna was born in McHenry, ND in 1941. She went to elementary school in Courteney, ND. Graduated from Northfield (MN) High School in 1959. Took classes in Library Science from Valley City State Teachers College and Dickinson State Teachers college. She worked 19 years as Assistant Librarian at Bismarck High School. Retiring in 2002, also volunteering with Dennis at the Bismarck School Libraries.

As you can see their volunteer request was a generous one, and their knowledge of Original Cataloging best practices made them valuable volunteers. They visited Steve, and he set them up with a login to the ILS and they began the arduous process of cataloging books, music, and local history. They packed up legal boxes full of documents, carted them home, where they catalogued them and then returned them to the museum. They created vertical files, local biographies, township boxes, all with records so people could walk into the library and search for things like Kathryn or Normal School and do local history research. Dennis built bookcases for magazines, and sheet music.

The Olsons made a total of 32 trips, from their home in Bismarck to Valley City. From September 1st, 2021, to July 24th, 2023. Dennis and Lorna catalogued 6,656 items. The total cost of these items was \$152,373.35 (This cost is an estimate, some of these materials are one of a kind. Many items are no longer available in print so their worth in some ways is priceless). When July 2023 rolled around, the Olsons decided they needed to be done. After all they were retired and wanted to do some traveling.

Both the Valley City Barnes County Public Library and the Barnes County Museum are grateful to the Olsons for all their hard work. The cataloging project at the museum is far from over, but with Olsons' diligence and attention to detail, they have started a truly wonderful, usable, and accessible collection for the residents of Valley City Barnes County, and the whole world. If you would like to know more about the local history, visit the Barnes County Museum at 315 Central Ave N in Valley City. Or if you would like to access the catalog for the Museum, please visit www.vcbclibrary.org and click on Library Catalog.

Photos were taken by Clutch Media LLC, Valley City.

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Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian
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