



Connections

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New Online Library Resources

Several new online library resources will be available soon to North Dakota residents who have library cards through the North Dakota State Library:

There will be new modules added to Capstone's PebbleGo and PebbleGo Next to enhance the current experience. These modules include Science, Social Studies, and Biographies.

Craft and Hobby offers patrons on-demand learning in more than 20 creative and lifestyle categories through over 2,000 premium classes, videos, and other materials. The platform features step-by-step instructions led by industry professionals, along with downloadable patterns and recipes, including tutorials and live chats.

Social Explorer is a community analysis and social science data platform that gives users access to large built-in visualized datasets, including millions of variables from 100+ sources. Users can build maps, charts, tables, and reports, analyze public datasets with citations, and compare places, trends, and variables over time.

[Online Library Resources](#)

Beanstack Reading Challenges



America 250

Celebrate America's 250th birthday, one minute at a time! Join our U.S. 250th Reading Challenge and honor 250 years of stories, innovation, and history. Log your reading, earn fun badges, and help us celebrate the nation's past, present, and future.



Unearth A Story

This summer, unearth a story at your library! Log the books you read to earn badges and rewards.

[Beanstack](#)



EPISODE 42: LEVI BACHMEIER
ND SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

HOSTED BY ND STATE
LIBRARIAN MARY SOUCIE

New Items At The ND State Library

Fiction Books



"The Bookstore Diaries" by Susan Mallery; "The Wish" by Heather Morris; "26 Beauties" by James Patterson; "The Foursome" by Christina Baker Kline; "Shoot or Cut Bait" by William W. Johnstone

Fiction E-Books



"The Someday Garden" by Ashley Poston; "The Fatal Unpleasantness at Netherfield" by Claudia Gray; "Brighter Than Before" by Courtney Walsh; "Scandal of the Summer" by Alexandra Vasti; "Road Trip" by Mary Kay Andrews



"The Final Score" by Lana Ferguson; "Weather or Not" by John Patrick Green; "Wombat Waiting" by Katherine Applegate; "First Place" by Francine Pascal, Nicole Andelfinger & Knack Whittle; "All We Hunger For" by Anna Mercier

Fiction E-Audiobooks



"Rumors & Whiskey" by Victoria Wilder; "Tropesick" by Lauren Okie; "Abby Offsides" by Anna McCallie; "The Dinner Party" by Freida McFadden; "The Second Life of Snap" by Erin Entrada Kelly



"It Could Have Been Her" by Lisa Jewell; "Rain of Shadows and Endings" by Melissa K. Roehrich; "The House Wife" by Natalie Barelli; "Daggermouth" by H.M. Wolfe; "Dead But Dreaming of Electric Sheep" by Paul Tremblay



"Crown Me Dead" by Liv Zander; "The Shampoo Effect" by Jenny Jackson; "Break Out" by Dhonielle Clayton, et.al.; "Shadow Reaper" by Lynette Noni; "Storm Tide" by Paul Doiron



"The Ocean Would Paint Me Blue" by Zoufka Katouh; "Really Rubie" by Maddie Frost; "The Lost Legend" by S.D. Smith; "The Magic Awakens" by Erin Hunter; "America, I'm So Glad You Were Born" by Ainsley Earhardt

Nonfiction Books



"Theodore Roosevelt in California" by Chris Epting; "The Knowing" by Tanya Talaga; "Thank You, Teacher" by James Patterson & Matt Eversmann; "Theodore Roosevelt and the Tennis Cabinet" by Michael Patrick Cullinane; "Thinking Critically About What Matters" by Kevin Michael Klipfel

Nonfiction E-Books



"The Wilder Way" by Eva Zu Beck; "Advice No One Asked For" by Jenny Hagel; "Mastering Your Mental Game" by Julie Elion; "Walking Red Flag" by Jared Freid; "The Plunge" by Chris Ballard



"Primetime" by Margie Lachman, PhD; "Cleanup on Aisle Five" by Ann Larson; "An Inconvenient Widow" by Lois Romano; "The Liar's Playbook" by Leslie Bradford Scott; "City on the Edge" by Jonathan Weber



"Marilyn and Her Books" by Gail Crowther; "The Fallen" by Louise Brangan; "Until We Meet Again" by Lily Kim Qian; "If You Went to the Bottom of the Ocean" by Brooke McIntyre; "Sing the 50 United States" by Dr. Seuss



"Just a Busy Season" by Taylor Wolfe; "Follow the Water" by Ellen Cochrane; "Bad Kid" by Sofia Szamosi; "My Hero Academia Character Encyclopedia" by DK; "The Hero Next Door" by Martha Raddatz

Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



"The Anthony Bourdain Reader" edited by Kimberly Witherspoon; "The Make-Believe" by Hannah Murray; "We Are Mighty" by Sharon McMahon; "George Washington" by Tim Grove; "Diamond Fever!" by Steve Sheinkin

E-Magazines



Us Weekly; Newsweek; Top Sante; Bike; HGTV Magazine



Retro Gamer; Crime Monthly; Wildlife; Horse & Hound; Racecar Engineering

BITS OF TRIVIA

By Stacey Goldade

Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

The new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library opened in Medora on July 4 after construction started in the summer of 2023. Most people know that Teddy spent time in North Dakota and because of that, we have a lot of books about him in our collection. Some recently acquired titles are:

- *In the Arena: Theodore Roosevelt in War, Peace, and Revolution* by David S. Brown
- *The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt: the Women Who Created a President* by Edward F. O'Keefe – (we have the book **and** a book club kit with 10 copies of this title)
- *Theodore Roosevelt and the Tennis Cabinet* by Michael Patrick Cullinane
- *To Rescue the American Spirit: Teddy Roosevelt and the Birth of a Superpower* by Bret Baier

Other titles include:

- *Becoming Teddy Roosevelt: How a Maine Guide Inspired America's 26th President* by Andrew Vietze
- *The Bully Pulpit: a Teddy Roosevelt Book of Quotations* edited by H. Paul Jeffers
- *Historic Photos of Theodore Roosevelt* by Stacy A. Cordery
- *Theodore Roosevelt for the Defense: the Courtroom Battle to Save His Legacy* by Dan Abrams and David Fisher
- *The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey* by Candice Millard – (we have this book **and** a book club kit with 10 copies of this title)

There is also a special chapter in the 2025-2027 *North Dakota Blue Book* about Teddy and the presidential library. We also have other resources, like folders of newspaper clippings about the Presidential Library and the early planning phases of it. We also have folders for Teddy himself, the Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Theodore Roosevelt Elkhorn Ranch, Medora, the Medora Musical and so many more. If you'd like to look through these files, you can come to the State Library to view them. We have many files on famous North Dakotans, libraries and towns in the state, as well as general topics like wheat. They are one-of-a-kind collections of clippings and therefore do not leave our building, but they can be viewed and patrons can make photocopies of articles.

The State Library has many resources about Teddy, the national park named after him, the town of Medora, and more, so be sure to check them out!



American Revolutionary War

Submitted by Al Peterson

The American Revolutionary War stands as a pivotal chapter in global history, profoundly shaping not only the United States but also influencing global politics, diplomacy, and ideology. The subsequent events that unfolded before and after this war are foundational to grasp, weaving into the fabric of world history. The American Revolution's monumental significance lies in its ushering in of the United States of America, which would, over time, mature into an unrivaled global superpower. To celebrate America 250 and better understand the foundation of today's United States, this self-paced class from Universal Class is for you. This seven-lesson course provides an exhaustive exploration into the nuanced intricacies of the Revolutionary War. Each lesson is complemented by a diverse range of resources and activities. This structured approach ensures a holistic understanding, catering to academic students seeking review or test preparation, as well as passionate hobbyists and perpetual learners desiring a profound appreciation of this historic era. The transformative events of the American Revolutionary War reverberate to this day. Through this course, you'll not only gain a detailed understanding of the war itself but also acquire a discerning perspective on its enduring impact on global history.

All Universal Class courses are self-paced and can be taken at your convenience on your own time.

Universal Class

Contemplations

By Kathy Cline

Graphic Novels are "Real" Reading



According to Whitney Pipkin in her article, The Case for (Good) Graphic Novels, graphic novels sales have doubled over the past five years in the United States and Canada. This rise may indicate that adults increasingly recognize the benefits graphic novels offer young readers, whether they are avid or struggling readers. In this article, I provide examples of the benefits graphic novels bring readers.

United Through Reading's article titled The Benefits of Graphic Novels: Why They Count as Reading states this about graphic novels:

Graphic novels are underappreciated in literary circles, often dismissed as "comic books" for kids or light reading unworthy of literary consideration. However, this perception rapidly changes as educators, scholars, and readers recognize their unique and profound benefits. Far from being mere picture books, graphic novels offer a rich reading experience that engages a wide range of readers.

[Continue Reading](#)

Digital Delight

Diedrich-Johnson Motors advertising poster, Dickinson, N.D., 1938

This advertising poster for vehicles at Diedrich-Johnson Motor Company in Dickinson, North Dakota, is particularly directed at farmers. Sale prices for cars and trucks are listed. The exact date of this poster is unknown, but it may date to 1938.

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (North Dakota Memories Collection, ND State Library)



[Digital Horizons](#)

Book Club Kit

"The Knowledge Seeker" by Rae Knightly

"I never asked to be the sole bearer of the entire Knowledge of your civilization. Yet, here I am, barely sixteen-years-old, and it has fallen upon my shoulders to save what remains of humanity from a second Dark Ages. Your civilization is gone now, lost six hundred years ago in cataclysmic wars brought on by climate change. Your virtual information vanished along with electricity. Only your ancient printed books remain, and they have been scanned into a memory device hanging around my neck, to which only I have access. For Knowledge is power, and the dreaded Wraith Lord knows this. He would keep the Knowledge for himself. He would hunt me down and force me to give it up, submitting humanity to infinite darkness and servitude. Knowledge must belong to all, or to none. I must find a way to spread Knowledge back to the world, or die trying."



Book club kits includes 10 copies of the book, discussion questions, and a sign in sheet.

Learn more about this kit in the most recent [Library Kits Unboxed episode](#).

[Reserve This Kit](#)

Will Smith Spaghetti Test

Have you ever heard of the "Will Smith Eating Spaghetti Test"? Yes, you read that correctly. The test is an informal benchmark for assessing the capabilities of generative AI video models (and the quality of their output).

The test/ benchmark references an AI-generated video from 2023 of, you guessed it, actor Will Smith eating spaghetti. This video is hilariously and horrifically bad. It is almost difficult to watch. The AI version of Smith ingests an absurd amount of spaghetti in different ways and in different scenes. Mercifully, there is no audio. A copy of the original video is available on Wikimedia Commons.

[Continue Reading](#)

New Items Added to Digital Horizons

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.

[North Dakota Memories](#)

- Burleigh County Candidates, 1908
- Kositzky-Poole-McMaster newspaper feud, 1912
- Kositzky-Ecklund newspaper feud, June 1910 [newspaper articles, 1910]
- Political Announcements for Burleigh County, N.D., 1908
- Portrait of Edward G. Patterson, circa 1910



[Political Prairie Fire](#)

- Anton T. Kraabel, N.D. Lieutenant Governor, circa 1913
- Carl O. Jorgenson, N.D. State Auditor, circa 1913
- Fistfight in Capitol Corridor Follows Arrest of John Sullivan for Contempt of State Senate; Seventeenth Session Has Feverish Finish [newspaper article, 1921]
- Getting Ready to Carry the State [political cartoon, 1915]
- Greatest Political Overturn in History of North Dakota--Every Nonpartisan Candidate on State Ticket Nominated [newspaper article, 1916]
- Kositzky Stands Firm: Will Run Office from Jail Before Paying Judges [newspaper article, 1917]
- Kositzky will ask audit of Jorgenson's regime [newspaper article, 1917]
- Senate Session Closes in Brawls and Fights; Attys. Murphy-Sullivan Arrested [newspaper article, 1921]
- Senate Session Comes to End Amid Brawls, Fist Fights and Scenes of Wildest Disorder [newspaper article, 1921]
- Stepping Stones to Success [political cartoon, 1916]
- Townley Feared to Give People Truth About His Tax Schemes, Asserts Senator F. W. Mees [newspaper article, 1919]



[Prairie Recipes](#)

- Favorite Recipes: Lattice and Lace

[Digital Horizons](#)

North Dakota Book and Arts Festival

**University of Jamestown Campus
September 26 (10:00 AM - 5:00 PM)**

The North Dakota Book and Arts Festival is returning on September 26 for its second annual celebration of authors, artists, creativity, and readers. The event will take place from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the University of Jamestown campus.

This year's festival will feature North Dakota Poet Laureate, Dr. Denise Lajimodiere; Chuck Suchy, North Dakota State Troubadour; and Dr. Ramona Klein, Vice President of The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

The event will include over 70 authors and artists and the launch of this year's issue of Plainsong, the creative magazine of the University of Jamestown. The event is free and open to everyone. There will also be craft activities for kids and food trucks on site.

For more information, please contact Jill Pfaff at 701-252-2990. Authors and artists interested in having a table can apply at the website below.

[ND Book and Arts Festival](#)

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www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of Connections, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

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