



Connections

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Changes Coming to Digital Offerings

Submitted by **Bethany Rants**

As the end of the fiscal year approaches, some changes are coming to the digital resources offered through the North Dakota State Library. While we're sorry to see some resources go, we're excited to introduce new database offerings in the coming year.

The following resources will be discontinued:

- Gale In Context: College
- Gale OneFile: Educator's Reference
- Gale OneFile: High School Edition
- Gale OneFile: Informe Académico
- Gale OneFile: News
- Gale OneFile: Science
- Kanopy
- Mango Languages
- NoveList

In addition, Applied Science & Technology will transition from full-text access to index-only access.

We will share more information once new offerings have been finalized. We're excited about several of the new resources being considered and believe they will provide valuable opportunities for libraries and their communities.

[Online Library Resources](#)

Talking Books Summer Reading 2026

Submitted by **Steve Hammel**

From June 15 to August 15, 2026, the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS), in partnership with Braille Institute Library, will host its annual Summer Reading Program for patrons nationwide. This year's theme is "Unearth a Story" that will explore the histories, landscapes, and voices hidden just beneath the surface of the world around us.

Activities will include author talks, book discussions, a panel about the historical fiction genre, narrated soundscapes, and more. Visit the Braille Institute Library's Summer Reading Program webpage to find all the details and register at brailleinstitute.org/summer-reading-program.

Registration is now open. Participation is open to all; you don't have to have a visual or print disability to join in the fun.

Additional registration information. All activities will be through Zoom which does require an email address when you register. If you do not have an email address, there is the option to register by phone. Call 888-245-2471 and leave a voicemail with your information. Braille Institute Library staff will register for you.



[Braille Institute Library's Summer Reading Program](#)



Library Lending Machines

The North Dakota State Library has nine library lending machines located throughout the state. Check out items with your State Library card!

Locations:

A & S Country Market (Casson)	Fert Ransom State Park (Fert Ransom)	ND State Capitol (Bismarck)
Agassi Valley Human Service Zone (Hillsboro)	McCluskey City Hall (McCluskey)	Oliver County Courthouse (Center)
Burke County Courthouse (Beaubeau)	McHenry County Courthouse (Towner)	Slope County Courthouse (Amdur)



Join the Celebration of Audiobooks

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Every June, Audiobook Appreciation Month is celebrated to increase awareness and engagement with this reading format. While audiobooks were originally created to assist visually impaired individuals and injured veterans, the format has risen in popularity over the last decade.



In 1878, Thomas Edison, who invented the phonograph, became the first person to introduce the concept of an audiobook. To make reading more accessible for visually impaired individuals, Edison recorded a verse of Alfred Tennyson's poetry and played it on the phonograph while advocating for his idea at the Royal Institution in **Britain**. Unfortunately, early phonographic recordings had a limited capacity of about four minutes, making it impossible to record chapter books.

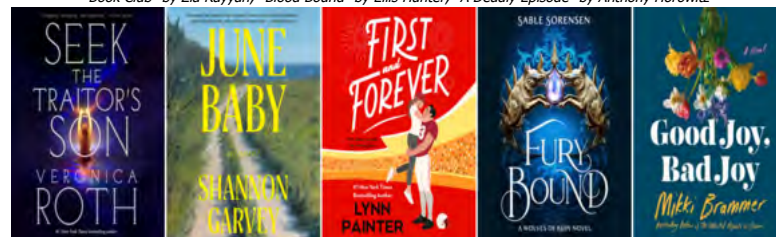
[Continue Reading](#)

New Items At The ND State Library

Fiction E-Audiobooks



"The Caretaker" by Marcus Kliever; "This Weekend Doesn't End Well For Anyone" by Catherine Mack; "The Dead Girls Book Club" by Zia Rayyan; "Blood Bound" by Ellis Hunter; "A Deadly Episode" by Anthony Horowitz



"Seek the Traitor's Son" by Veronica Roth; "June Baby" by Shannon Garvey; "First and Forever" by Lynn Painter; "Fury Bound" by Sable Sorensen; "Good Joy, Bad Joy" by Mikki Brammer



"Bad Boy Era" by Amy Daws; "Phoebe Berman's Gonna Lose It" by Brooke Averick; "An Ordinary Sort of Evil" by Kelley Armstrong; "Dissection of a Murder" by Jo Murray; "The Last Mandarin" by Louise Penny & Melissa Fung



"The Forty-Year Grudge" by Liza Tully; "A Shop Girl's Guide to Wooing a Lord" by Shana Galen; "The Break-Up Retreat" by Camilla Sten; "What She Left" by H.K. Christie; "The Divorce" by Freida McFadden

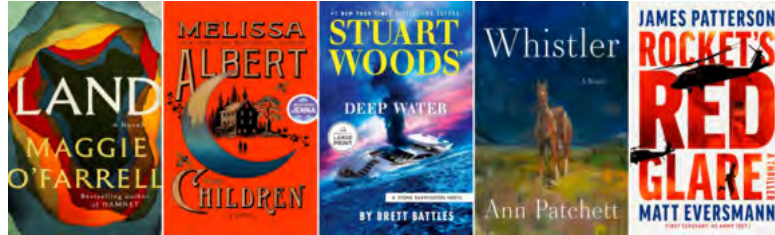


"Villa Coco" by Andrew Sean Greer; "A Botanist's Guide to Tradition and Treachery" by Kate Khavari; "The Missed Connection" by Tia Williams; "Lost in the Summer of '69" by Eliza Knight; "You First" by Caroline Kepnes

Fiction E-Books



"Dolly All the Time" by Annabel Monaghan; "Harvest Season" by Brynne Weaver; "Light Wielder" by Rachel Schneider; "The Last Lady B" by Eloisa James; "This Immortal Heart" by Jennifer Saint



"Land" by Maggie O'Farrell; "The Children" by Melissa Albert; "Stuart Woods' Deep Water" by Brett Battles; "Whistler" by Ann Patchett; "Rocket's Red Glare" by James Patterson & Matt Eversmann



"Sublimation" by Isabel J. Kim; "Sisters of a Halved Heart" by Nayantara Roy; "The Final Target" by Nora Roberts; "The Unicorn Hunters" by Katherine Arden; "Shattered Gods" by Katee Robert



"The One Day You Were My Husband" by Rosie Walsh; "Birds of a Feather" by Kate Stewart; "The Midnight Train" by Matt Haig; "The Calamity Club" by Kathryn Stockett; "The Shippers" by Katherine Center



"Our Perfect Storm" by Carley Fortune; "The Things We Never Say" by Elizabeth Strout; "Caller Unknown" by Gillian McAllister; "Platform Decay" by Martha Wells; "Molka" by Monika Kim



"The Heirs" by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé; "The Burning Side" by Sarah Damoff; "The Secret World of Briar Rose" by Cindy Pham; "Five" by Ilona Bannister; "Into a Golden Era" by Gabrielle Meyer



"Change of Plans" by Sarah Dessen; "My Wonderful Disgrace" by Angourie Rice & Kate Rice; "Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights" by Celeste Dador; "Every Exquisite Thing" by Laura Steven; "Behind Five Willows" by June Hur

Fiction Books



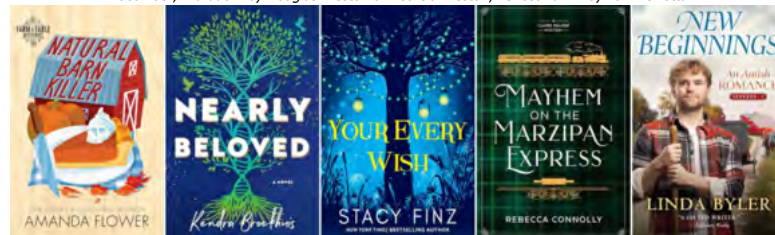
"Hot Chocolate on Thursday" by Michiko Aoyama; "Days at the Torunka Café" by Satoshi Yagisawa; "No One Would Do What The Lamberts Have Done" by Sophie Hannah; "Death Times Seven" by Anne Perry; "Kill for a Million" by Janet Dailey



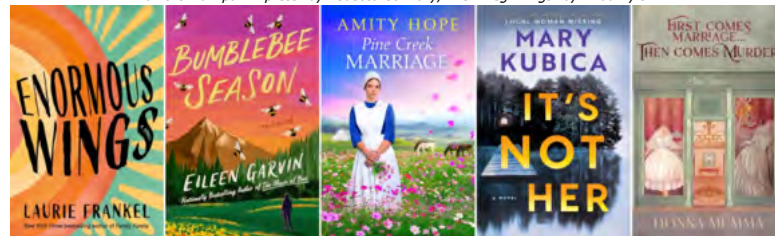
"Prowl" by Colleen Coble; "Thursday's Bride" by Patricia Johns; "Clawed and Dangerous" by Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown; "The Patchwork Players" by Jennifer Chiaverini; "Agnes Aubert's Mystical Cat Shelter" by Heather Fawcett



"Python's Kiss" by Louise Erdrich; "The Right to Remain" by James Grippando; "Chasing the Clouds Away" by Debbie Macomber; "Paradox" by Douglas Preston & Alethea Preston; "Ghost Town" by Tom Perrotta



"Natural Barn Killer" by Amanda Flower; "Nearly Beloved" by Kendra Broekhuis; "Your Every Wish" by Stacy Finz; "Mayhem on the Marzipan Express" by Rebecca Connolly; "New Beginnings" by Linda Byler



"Enormous Wings" by Laurie Frankel; "Bumblebee Season" by Eileen Garvin; "Pine Creek Marriage" by Amity Hope; "It's Not Her" by Mary Kubica; "First Comes Marriage... Then Comes Murder" by Donna Mumma



"American Fantasy" by Emma Straub; "West of Wicked" by Nikki St. Crowe; "The Mountains We Call Home" by Kim Michele Richardson; "Where We Belong" by Kim Vogel Sawyer; "The Insomniacs" by Allison Winn Scotch

Nonfiction E-Books



"Dogs, Boys, and Other Things I've Cried About" by Isabel Klee; "Lost Worlds" by Patrick Wyman; "On Witness and Repair" by Jesmyn Ward; "The Wreck of the Mentor" by Eric Jay Dolin; "Birth Vibes" by Jen Hamilton

Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



"Take Me To Your Leader" by Neil DeGrasse Tyson; "This Is Me" by Hayden Panettiere; "The Lost Empire of Emanuel Nobel" by Douglas Brunt; "American Rambler" by Isaac Fitzgerald; "Happiness Included" by Eve Plumb with Marcia Wilke



"The Land and Its People" by David Sedaris; "Something We Said" by Elizabeth Stordeur Pryor; "No Dumb Questions" by Jason & Travis Kelce; "The Yahoo Boys" by Carlos Barragán; "Future Millionaire" by Rachel Rodgers

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 Histories](#)

- Golden Jubilee, Max, North Dakota, 1906-1956

[North Dakota Memories](#)

- 1937-1938 youth boys, basketball team, Davenport, N.D.
- 1940 boys' basketball team, Davenport, N.D.
- Beatrice Swenson, Nursing School Graduation Portrait, 1947
- Coleharbor, N.D., High School, Class of 1932
- Emmett Solberg's Boy Scouts certificate for civics, 1938
- Foss and Nelson shop, Davenport, N.D., circa 1910s
- Knights of Pythias certificate, Davenport, N.D., 1900
- Letter from Sen. Milton R. Young to Anton Swenson, 1980
- Mr. and Mrs. Minard Halverson interview, 1974
- Portrait of the Salberg family, Fargo, N.D., circa 1940s
- Tax document of Ole Lee, Davenport, Dakota Territory, 1885
- Teaching permit for Lillian B. Schmidt, 1915



[Political Prairie Fire](#)

- Bishop, Brissman & Co. advertisement, 1921
- Good and True Indorsed by the Nonpartisan League [candidates endorsed by the NPL for the state legislature, April 1916]
- Governor Frazier visits North Dakota farmers, circa 1919
- Portrait of Francis Murphy, circa 1915



Digital Delight

Wedding Portrait of John and Barbara Mitzel, 1926

This studio portrait of John Mitzel and Barbara (Marquart) Mitzel is from November 17, 1926. The photo was scanned at the ND State Library's ScanDay event in Napoleon.



This and other great photos can be found in the North Dakota Memories digital collection on Digital Horizons

[View The Image](#)

Book Review



"*Legendary Mysteries of North Dakota: Beyond the Badlands: Unexplained Encounters on the Plains*" by Donna R. Wood

Reviewed by Tammy Kruger

Are you a fan of the little creepy, the slightly unsettling, the stepping towards the supernatural? (None of these traits are super heavy; horrible nightmares are not likely to result from this book.) If so, join North Dakota author, Donna R. Wood, as she explores peculiar (and sometimes deadly) happenings across the state! Highlights include the sense of unseen children at the James Memorial Art Center in Williston, the Gray Lady of Sims, the Devils Lake Monster, and the Lakota legend of the Deer Woman.



This title is available in print at the North Dakota State Library.

[Reserve This Title](#)



Crafting

Summer weather beckons to the creative side of me; as such, crafting seems an appropriate topic for the month of June! While this list offers a variety of crafting types, it certainly does not encompass every option out there. Do you have a favorite craft that is not mentioned here? If you have a topic request for *Top Picks*, please email me at tkruger@nd.gov.

1. *Hello Hexie!: 20 Easy to Crochet Patterns from Simple Granny Hexagons* by Sarah Shrimpton

Publish Date: 2021

Publisher: David & Charles

Summary: In *Hello Hexie!* Sarah Shrimpton uses ten types of crocheted hexagons to create clothing, accessories, and home décor.

The instructions are easy to follow and detailed. *Hello Hexie!* is available on Libby.

Type of Craft: Crocheting

Best For: Beginning to intermediate crocheters; Ages 10+



[Continue Reading](#)

Digital Dimension

By Trevor Martinson

Bishop-Brissman

One of the newest additions to the digital collections of the North Dakota State Library is one of the smallest. It is a [small advertisement](#) that appeared at the bottom right on page 13 of the January 14, 1921, issue of the "American Jewish World" newspaper, which was published in the Twin Cities.

The ad is for the Bishop, Brissman & Company accounting and auditing firm. The Bishop-Brissman firm had offices in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Fargo. The ad was uploaded to the [Political Prairie Fire collection](#) on Digital Horizons. Why is this ad so significant? Because there is an incredible story behind it.

[Continue Reading](#)



Couponing 101

Self-Paced, Online Class

+ Join this Course

North Dakota State Library

8 Lessons

15 Exams & Assignments

3 Hours average time

0.3 CEUs

Couponing 101

Submitted by Al Peterson

Being smart and savvy about one's finances and recognizing what increasing costs we are facing isn't an option anymore, these days it's a necessity. While prices seem to climb ever higher from the grocery aisles and the gas pumps, there's an underutilized weapon in the savvy consumer's arsenal: couponing. It's not just about clipping a few pieces of paper, it has evolved into a dynamic domain, embracing digital spaces and reshaping how we approach purchasing. By demystifying the world of couponing, this course doesn't just offer your community members a temporary respite from rising costs, but an enduring strategy for smarter spending.

This eight-lesson course explores all aspects of couponing, from the traditional print coupons to their digital counterparts. You'll learn how couponing can compound your savings over time, how to decode various retailer's terms and conditions for using coupons, and how to stay on the forefront of sales cycles to maximize your savings. Prepare to unlock unparalleled savings and transform your financial future, one coupon at a time. Couponing 101 can be promoted along with any other money saving books or programs you may have at your library.

Universal Class courses are self-paced and taken at your convenience on your own time. This course can be found by entering Couponing 101 in the search box or by browsing the *Crafts & Hobbies* category.

[Universal Class](#)

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Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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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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