



Libby and AI Content

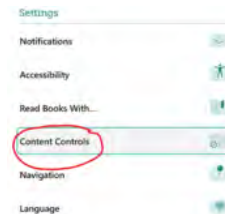
Submitted by Tammy Kruger

Libby is a vast ocean of content, both human-created and AI. Account controls are available to include or exclude AI in search results. These steps are the same on a computer as they are on a smartphone and tablet.

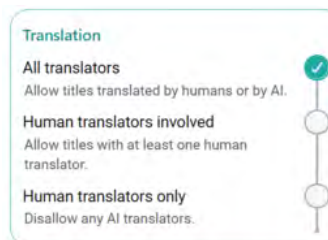
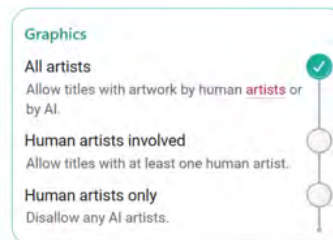
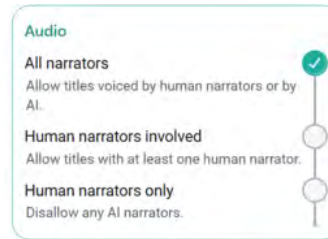
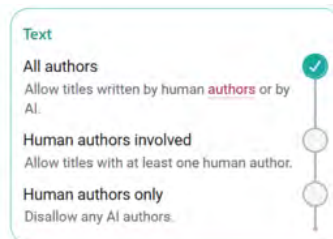
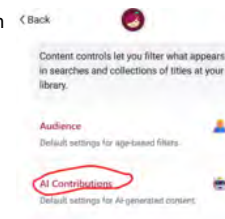
Step One: Select the reader with a book.



Step Two: Under *Settings*, choose *Content Controls*.



Step Three: *AI Contributions* opens filtering options for AI in text, audio, graphics, and translation. Once preferences have been set, they are saved.



IMLS Logo

Many of the online library resources are funded through the Institute of Museum and Library Services LSTA Grant. Due to this, any bookmarks, flyers, or other marketing materials used to promote these resources, including the Craft & Hobby bookmarks that were distributed at the NDLA conference a few weeks ago, require the [IMLS logo](#) on them.



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your [Library Development Specialist](#).



NaNoWriMo Revisited

November is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo), that glorious time of year when aspiring authors attempt to write 50,000 words in one month in return for glory... and maybe a publishing deal? This event started in July of 1999, but they quickly moved it to November when people are more willing to sit inside and write. Participation has continued to be robust with over 400,000 writers counting their words in 2022. However, not everything is made to last.

Much like your modern refrigerator that broke down just after the warranty expired, the NaNoWriMo organization had to disband in March of 2025 due to controversy and a lack of funds. Fortunately, there were enough people who felt strongly about this to continue the annual tradition of attempting to write approximately 1,667 words a day in November. Now participants can track their progress through [NaNo 2.0](#).

[Continue Reading](#)



U.S. Census

The U.S. Census records can be an invaluable resource for genealogy. Conducted every decade, the census lists individuals and families and where they lived. Other valuable information is also included, such as age, nationality, marital status, occupation, and so on.

Accessing and searching census records, however, can be tricky. Thankfully, North Dakota libraries, and their patrons, can utilize [Ancestry Library Edition](#). This online library resource provides access to census records, among many others. The resource is just like Ancestry, except that it is free (and must be accessed in a library). Ancestry Library Edition is user-friendly, its search is effective, and its indexing of the handwritten census documents is impressive.

If you cannot make it to a library (bummer!) and need to access census records immediately, another option is the Internet Archive. According to their website, the Internet Archive is "a non-profit library of millions of free texts, movies, software, music, websites, and more." One of their many collections is the ["United States Census"](#) collection. As you likely guessed, this collection includes census records (from 1790 to 1930). The collection contains raw census data from digitized microfilm. Because of the raw data and the challenges of working with handwritten documents, the Internet Archive has created a comprehensive [tools and tips guide](#) for the census collection.

Happy census searching.



U.S. History of Voting

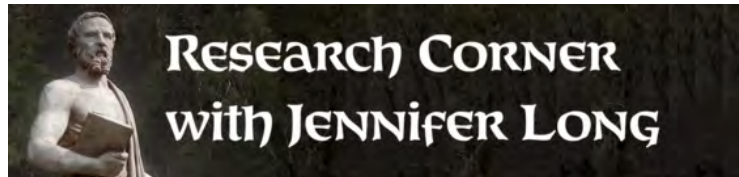
Numerous factors snowballed towards the American Revolution, including colonists' lack of a voice in their own governing. However, the original Constitution makes little mention of a right to vote. Instead, voter requirements were left up to the states (Brower, 2022, and Voting, 2025).

This *American 250* is a brief history of voting in the United States. Our country has held a long, sometimes turbulent, history of voting. If you have the time and desire, I recommend digging deeper into this topic. Be warned: It can turn into a rabbit hole!

[Continue Reading](#)

Library Tidbits

Sandi Bates, the Bismarck-based Southwest Campus Librarian with SMHS Library Resources, recently won a [UND Staff Senate UShine Award](#) for her dedication to her colleagues and exceptional work ethic.



Best Shakespeare Plays For College Students To Watch In The Fall

See if these are in your academic film collection rated by most popular IMDB ranking.

'The teeming autumn, big with rich increase, Bearing the wanton burthen of the prime..'
[Sonnet 97](#): William Shakespeare

Hamlet:

The vibe: Philosophical, chilly, and introspective.

Why it fits for college students: Features a ghost story kicking off the plot, paired with modern-feeling existential dread, questioning of authority, mental health struggles, and identity crises. **Key themes:** Grief, overthinking, mortality, and revenge.

Top filmed choices: ([IMDB ranked by popularity](#)).

[Continue Reading](#)



Chair Program - Chair Circuits

The Chair Total Body Circuit Workout is meant to challenge you from head to toe, while staying seated and low impact in a chair. This workout routine is great for any fitness level or age, whether you are just getting back into a workout routine or you're trying to stay active with an injury. It is easy on the joints, but still effective in muscle strengthening and cardio training.

What to expect in this workout:

Strength Block 1: Back Focus

Cardio Block 1

Repeat x 2

Strength Block 2: Shoulder Focus

Cardio Block 2

Repeat x 2

Strength Block 3: Bicep/Tricep Focus

Cardio Block 3

Repeat x 2



The 40-minute workout video will walk you through each of the blocks and stretches. This workout can be done at your own pace and you can make it your own by taking modifications and slowing down when needed. Add heavier dumbbells or don't include weights at all.

[Craft & Hobby](#)

2027 Great Reads
From Great Places

Count Me In!

*The Girl in the
Green Jeans*

OLIVER THE OWL

Cast Your Vote!

WebJunction Highlight

By Al Peterson

Build Community Engagement Skills for Everyday Library Work

Community engagement is more than a single program, or department or interaction with the public. It's listening, learning, building relationships, and working alongside community members to help the library better serve everyone.

New to WebJunction, the LiFT Courses now offer two self-paced courses designed to help public library staff and leaders build the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make community engagement part of their everyday work:

[LiFT: Introduction to Community Engagement](#)

[LiFT: Community Engagement for Leaders](#)

Library Foundational Training or LiFT courses were created to address the training needs of predominantly non-degreed library staff who are either new to their current position, or new to working in libraries. These courses were designed to introduce learners to various aspects of being a librarian with a special focus on small and medium sized public libraries.

When you listen and build relationships, you learn what people value and want to achieve, the programs you run and the services you offer are more likely to make a real difference. Whether you work at a service desk, drive the bookmobile, plan and deliver programs, supervise staff, serve on a board, or lead a library system, your interactions and decisions can strengthen the library's relationships with its community. These two courses will build the foundation of a healthy engagement with our communities. You can find these two courses as well as dozens of other trainings including other LiFT offerings in WebJunction's [Course Catalog](#).

WebJunction

In Other News

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is offering 13 competitive funding opportunities designed to support a wide range of projects led by museum, libraries, archives, and related organizations. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, strengthening the workforce, preserving collections, and expanding educational opportunities for people of all ages. [Apply before November 13.](#)

Grant Applications are open for Engineers Week and Girl Day 2027 through DiscoverE. These grant opportunities are designed to support volunteer and educator efforts to inspire the next generation of innovators through hands-on exploration of engineering. Grants range from \$250 to \$1,000. [Apply before Monday, October 26.](#)

The North Dakota Department of Commerce announced that the [Automation Tax Credit \(ATC\) Program Portal](#) is now open for applications. This credit allows eligible taxpayers to receive an income tax credit for the purchase or capital lease of machinery and equipment used to automate manufacturing or animal agricultural processes in North Dakota. Applications must be fully completed and submitted with all required supplemental documentation by 5:00 PM on February 2, 2027.

[The I Love My Librarian Award](#) invites library users to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians. Each year, up to 10 librarians are honored at a ceremony held in their honor and receive a \$5,000 cash award.

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library

Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis.

www.library.nd.gov

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

Times referenced are Central Time.

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