

Connections



VOLUME 1 · NUMBER 5 · NOVEMBER 2018

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FINDING YOUR NEXT GREAT READ

Have you ever finished a great book and wanted to find more just like it? Or wanted to help your child find just the right book to read? [NovelList](#) is a resource that will help readers match up with the books that are right for them.

The NovelList database connects readers to their next book by making recommendations for what to read next. This resource can be your one-stop guide to great reading. It contains lists of recommended reads and award-winning book; read-alikes for titles, series, and authors; professional and reader book reviews; book discussion guides; and other book-oriented articles.

By identifying the right books for every reader, this resource helps younger readers achieve reading success. Search by age, reading level, grade, and more to find the perfect book for everyone in your family.

TEAMWORK TRAINING AND CLASSES

Submitted by Abby Ebach

Working with a team can sometimes be difficult. However, working well with coworkers, the public, and other government agencies can be an integral part of success for your organization. Below are trainings and webinars to help you and your staff to train to work better as a team.

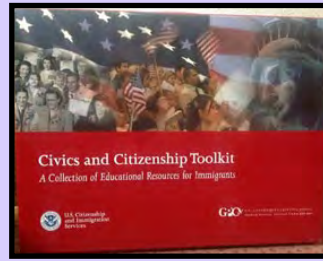
[Universal Class](#) is an online database provided through the state library. Any North Dakota resident can create an account using a library card from their local public library to take the training classes for free. They can be taken for PD credit with tests and a completion certificate or informally without the tests and certificate. Once you make an account, you'll be able to see the length of each course in hours and sessions as well as a syllabus. Here are a few courses that are relevant to training and working well as a team that can help boost a staff member's willingness to work with others on their team:

- [Sensitivity Training in the Workplace](#)
- [Collaboration Skills](#)
- [Resolving Workplace Conflict](#)
- [Listening Skills 101](#)
- [Effective Communication 101](#)
- [Conflict Resolution 101](#)
- [Communication and Diplomacy and Tact](#)
- [Interpersonal Communication](#)
- [Mindfulness in the Workplace](#)
- [Problem Solving Strategies](#)
- [Team Management](#)
- [Constructive Feedback and Criticism](#)
- [Stress Management](#)

If you have any questions about Universal Class, you can contact the State Library at 701-328-4622.

NEW LEARNING KIT AVAILABLE

The State Library has received a new learning kit called "The Civics and Citizenship Toolkit." This kit is designed to help those who are preparing to take the citizenship test. The toolkit comes with study booklets in English and Spanish, a mini constitution, a quick start guide, and flashcards to review. It has everything needed to pass the citizenship test with flying colors.



This kit is available through KitKeeper and can be checked out by anyone with a state library card for 8 weeks at a time. If paired with the citizenship class available on our database Universal Class and tutoring from TutorND, this test will be a breeze.

If you have any questions on this kit or others on KitKeeper, please email us at ndsctrain@nd.gov.

BEST OF THE INTERNET ARCADE

Submitted by Abby Ebach

Missing the video games of yore? Check out the [Internet Archive's](#) trove of arcade games on their [Internet Arcade](#). Almost any game you can think of can be found here, but we've selected a few of our favorites for your quick enjoyment:

- [Pacman](#)
- [Tetris](#)
- [Oregon Trail](#)
- [Galaga](#)
- [Pong](#)
- [Pinball](#)
- [Sonic](#)
- [Donkey Kong](#)

Please note that computer controls will differ depending on the game. Look to the description and reviews or within the game itself to find the controls.

AGENCY TRAININGS

Have you ever wanted to use the State Library's materials and just didn't know how?

Using an unfamiliar library and its resources can be daunting which causes many to not give it a shot. This is why the State Library offers training to state agencies on specific databases the library subscribes to or a simple how-to when using the library.

The Continuing Education Coordinator will come to your agency to do a training on the library topic of your choice. It is completely free, and the only thing you need to provide is a space to present.

If you have any questions about scheduling a training or about our online offerings, please contact Angie at ndsctrain@nd.gov or 701-328-3495.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Libraries cannot own everything and so [Interlibrary Loan](#) (ILL) exists. ILL asks other libraries to share their items with our patrons when our library doesn't own it. Books, CDs, DVDs, and articles can be shared between libraries, which saves resources at each library.

Generally there is no cost to obtain an ILL except the postage to get it back to the State Library. However, if a fee is required to borrow an item, the State Library will secure permission from the patron before obtaining the item.

STATE DOCUMENTS

The [State Document Depository](#) collects, preserves, and disseminates all North Dakota state government documents produced for public use.

When requesting printing from Central Duplicating, please remember to check the box so the required 8 copies are sent to the State Library.

ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

To those of you who have wanted to give Ancestry.com a try but don't want to get roped into a contract, we have a solution for you! The ND State Library subscribes to Ancestry Library Edition, and it is totally free for you to use at your public library. You don't have to pay a subscription, and you have access to Ancestry's vast database of information from around the world.

Ancestry Library Edition is simple to use and has helpful hints to help you through your genealogical stumbles. These tips and tricks are only available in the library edition of this database. This database works exactly like the subscription you would get from Ancestry.com with a few minor differences. You cannot create an Ancestry account through Library Edition or link an existing Ancestry account. Therefore, you will not be able to build your family tree on this side of the site like you would be able to with a subscription. However, if you have an Ancestry account, you can add to your family tree without having an active subscription. So, when you find that great piece of the puzzle, you can either print off the page or email it to yourself and add it to your family tree later. The database provides forms that you can print off and fill in to keep your information organized and forums to help you when you really get stuck. Check it out, today!




If you have any questions about this database or any others that we subscribe to, please feel free to contact us at ndsitrain@nd.gov.

Research Aids

Tips and tricks from our experts

Research Aids Maps

Looking to jumpstart your research? The experts at Ancestry have assembled a variety of tips and tricks to get your research moving again. Select one of the topics below to help you with your road blocks.

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|  <div style="background-color: #209f8d; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <h4 style="margin: 0;">GETTING STARTED</h4> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Whether you are just starting your family history or you are looking for a new perspective on your research these guides will put you in the right frame of mind.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Ancestry Anne's Top 10 Search Tips <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Creating Timelines that Produce Answers <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Ancestry DNA 101: The Insider's Guide to DNA </div> |  <div style="background-color: #5e4e9a; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <h4 style="margin: 0;">CENSUS</h4> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Census records establish a framework for your ancestor's life. We offer some tips on how to get the most out of them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin: 5px 0;">10 Census Tips <li style="margin: 5px 0;">10 Census Questions That Lead to More Answers <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Follow Your Family Using Census Records <li style="margin: 5px 0;">5 Steps Beyond: The 1910 Census </div> |  <div style="background-color: #e84c3d; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <h4 style="margin: 0;">BEYOND THE BASICS</h4> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">Ready to move beyond the census records? Here are a few ideas to get you moving.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Using Religious Records <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Guide to Searching for Death Records <li style="margin: 5px 0;">5 Military Favorites <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Cemetery Research Primer <li style="margin: 5px 0;">Black Sheep: 10 Things to Know </div> |
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“STYGIAN” BY SHERRILYN KENYON

Reviewed by Angie Houser

As the latest novel in Sherrilyn Kenyon’s Dark Hunter series, Stygian is the one that fans everywhere have been waiting for. Topping out at 600+ pages, this behemoth of a book is everything that I was hoping for.



This novel is the story of Urian, who has been a constant character throughout the series. The book is so large because it begins before Urian’s birth, roughly 11,000 years ago, and goes up to the present storyline. This was really the only way to tell his story fully. Urian was one of the first children born under the Apollite curse. Therefore, he had never seen the sun, had real food, or known any other world than the Atlantean hell realm, Kalosis.

Urian has been an anomaly in the Dark Hunter series since he was introduced in the fourth book. Through this novel, we learn what made Urian who he is and how he handled the betrayals and surprises that his life threw at him time and time again. Somehow, he came out stronger on the other side every time, but even heroes have their breaking point. What will Urian’s be?

“AN ABSOLUTELY REMARKABLE THING” BY HANK GREEN

Reviewed by Abby Ebach



Hank Green’s debut novel is being lauded all over the internet and literary world as, well, absolutely remarkable. It received starred reviews from Kirkus, Library Journal, and Booklist, and graced the #1 spot on the New York Times Bestseller list immediately upon publication. Needless to say, this video-blogger-turned-author wrote a hit, and it all started with a giant robot.

Early one morning in New York City, April May discovers and names a giant robot, Carl. Not 8 hours after filming and uploading a video with Carl, April finds herself in the middle of viral internet chaos. Carls have shown up around the world, and April was the first one to establish contact with these creatures of unknown origin. What follows is a tale of internet stardom, news pundit mayhem, and a crystal-clear picture of what social media can do to the best and worst of us.

While April tries to juggle her identity and new-found fame, the world is trying to figure out exactly why the Carls have arrived and what they want. Everyone is now having the same exact dream, and in order to solve the puzzles that the Carls have placed in their heads, the entire world needs to work together.

While the premise of this novel is not unique, Green has brought his unique perspective to the table to offer us a story about the tragedies of fear controlling our motivations and how identifying what divides us can ultimately bring us together as well.

Connections is a monthly publication of the North Dakota State Library, a Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.

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