



American Archives Month 2023

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

October has more to offer than just pumpkin spice lattes. It is also American Archives Month!

During this event, archives across the country celebrate and promote the items in their collections. It is an opportunity to focus on the immense value archives (and archivists) provide, as well as an opportunity for the public to learn more about archives. Archives are wonderful cultural heritage institutions that tirelessly work to preserve the past for future generations.

North Dakota has several archives, particularly associated with college and university libraries. There is also the State Library's friendly neighbor, [State Archives](#) (a division of the State Historical Society of North Dakota).

Although the State Library is not an archive, the State Document Depository comes close. The [State Document Depository](#) collects, preserves, and disseminates all North Dakota state government documents produced for public use. This includes annual reports, strategic plans, audits, meeting minutes, newsletters and magazines, brochures, handbooks, maps, statistics, public university catalogs, Cooperative Extension publications, and research results.

On the other hand, the [State Library does have a digital archive](#). It is publicly available online via the Digital Horizons website. There, you will find several collections containing county and town history books, atlases and plat books, diaries, state documents, political cartoons, cookbooks, and thousands of images that celebrate North Dakota and its people. You can learn more about these collections by visiting [LibGuides](#) or browse the collection directly on [Digital Horizons](#).

Learn more about American Archives Month by visiting the websites of the [Society of American Archivists](#) (SAA) and the [National Archives and Records Administration](#) (NARA).

Beanstack

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

September is always a crazy month. Kids and parents adjusting back to school routines, sports, last minute vacations – tons of activities and happenings that can prevent us from sitting down and reading a good book. But even with the change of the seasons, readers across North Dakota managed to read, a total of 12,561 minutes for the Hispanic Heritage month challenge!



How spooky can you get this month? October's challenge, **Hallow-READ 2023**, requires patrons to read 360 minutes. Even with a busy schedule, there are ways to sneak in some reading time.

- Read on lunch breaks.
- Listen to an audiobook in the car. Libby is great for listening on trips. With thousands of titles, patrons are sure to find something they like!
- Bring a book to sports events – read during half-time or before the game.
- Get up from the desk and take a 15 min walk. Listen to an audiobook while soaking in the last of the nice weather.

New Website Survey

The North Dakota State Library published our new website in June, and we are seeking feedback! Whether you visit the website daily, weekly, or yearly, we would like to hear how we can improve functionality, what's going well, what you like, and what you dislike about the website.

The survey will take about 10-15 minutes to complete. Thank you so much for taking the time to share your feedback.

[Take The Survey](#)

Beanstack Reading Challenge

Hallow-Read



Spooky season is here! Log your reading throughout the challenge to earn badges.

For all ages!

October 1-31



German

The annual festival of Oktoberfest, which originated on October 12, 1810, in Munich, Germany, is the catalyst for why we are featuring the German language courses found in both the Mango and Rocket Languages resources. This festival takes place over a two-week period, ending on the first Sunday in October. Numerous cities in the United States still hold Oktoberfest each year.

[Mango](#) has 5 units of study that will focus on the four skills necessary to connect in another language: grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and culture. It also includes 16 lessons dedicated to Oktoberfest.

[Rocket Languages](#) gives you access to beginner, intermediate, and advanced German lessons.

If you would like assistance with these resources, please call 701-328-4622 or send an e-mail to statelib@nd.gov.

Reference:

Britannica Library, s.v. "Oktoberfest," accessed September 29, 2023, <https://library.eb.com/levels/referencecenter/article/Oktoberfest/56933>.

Talking Book Update

Topic for October's Many Faces of BARD program

National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) BARD Support

The topic for the October 12, 2023, Many Faces of BARD program will be the BARD 2.0 website, An Introduction and Demonstration. The program will begin at 7:00 PM Eastern Time and last for one hour. This program will be recorded.

After the demonstration, NLS staff will take questions about the demonstration or anything else relating to BARD.

[Learn More](#)

New Items At The ND State Library

Fiction Books



Fiction E-Books



Nonfiction E-Books



Fiction E-Audiobooks



Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



New E-Magazines



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](#)

- Dickinson and Fertile Stark County, 1908
- Fort Abercrombie Centennial, 1957: 1857-1877
- Wells County, North Dakota's Agricultural Eldorado

[North Dakota Memories](#)

- Military portrait of Michael Sperle, 1917-1918
- North Dakota Boys' and Girls' Clubs Song Book
- Schmidt family, near Streeter, N.D., late 1930s
- School diploma of Evangeline Hoffer, 1957



[North Dakota School for the Deaf](#)

- NDSU Supt. Smith Christmas card, 1964
- Portrait of Arthur P. Buchanan, circa 1937-1945
- Portrait of Carl F. Smith, circa 1967
- Snapshot of NDSU Supt. Driggs, circa 1921-1937

[Political Prairie Fire](#)

- Attorney General Langer's Opinion on Courses of Study, 1919
- Brinton and Waters rock the boat [political cartoon]



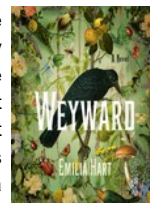
- Langer, Kositzky and Hall [political cartoon]
- Macdonald again loses out in attempt to oust Miss Nielson, 1919 [newspaper article]
- Portrait of Frank S. Talcott, circa 1913
- Recall Election Called by Hall in Proclamation, 1921 [newspaper article]
- Report of the N.D. Industrial Commission, 1922
- Report of the N.D. Industrial Commission, 1924

[Digital Horizons](#)

Book Club Kit

"Weyward" by Emilia Hart

"2019: Under cover of darkness, Kate flees London for ramshackle Weyward Cottage, inherited from a great aunt she barely remembers. With its tumbling ivy and overgrown garden, the cottage is worlds away from the abusive partner who tormented Kate. But she begins to suspect that her great aunt had a secret. One that lurks in the bones of the cottage, hidden ever since the witch-hunts of the 17th century. 1619: Altha is awaiting trial for the murder of a local farmer who was stampeded to death by his herd. As a girl, Altha's mother taught her their magic, a kind not rooted in spell casting but in a deep knowledge of the natural world. But unusual women have always been deemed dangerous, and as the evidence for witchcraft is set out against Altha, she knows it will take all of her powers to maintain her freedom. 1942: As World War II rages, Violet is trapped in her family's grand, crumbling estate. Straitjacketed by societal convention, she longs for the robust education her brother receives—and for her mother, long deceased, who was rumored to have gone mad before her death. The only traces Violet has of her are a locket bearing the initial W and the word weyward scratched into the baseboard of her bedroom. Weaving together the stories of three extraordinary women across five centuries, Emilia Hart's Weyward is an enthralling novel of female resilience and the transformative power of the natural world."



This kit includes ten books, one discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet.

[Request This Kit](#)

Digital Delight

Bangs Family in an Automobile, ND School for the Deaf, early 1900s



The Bangs family sits in an automobile outside of a building on the North Dakota School for the Deaf campus in Devils Lake. D. F. Bangs, the school's superintendent, sits in the driver's seat. His wife, Cora Bangs, and a girl sit in the back.

Dwight Freeman Bangs was born on July 3, 1863, in New York City, where his father, Egbert L. Bangs, was a teacher at the New York School for the Deaf. In 1865, the Bangs family moved to Michigan, where Egbert Bangs became the superintendent of the Michigan School for the Deaf. While living in Michigan, Dwight Bangs became proficient in sign language. After schooling, Dwight Bangs became a teacher at the Minnesota School for the Deaf. In 1888, Dwight Bangs married Cora Van Dorin. In 1895, Dwight and Cora Bangs moved to Devils Lake, North Dakota, to become the superintendent and matron of the North Dakota School for the Deaf, roles they served in until 1912. After 1912, they moved to Nebraska and later to Minnesota. Dwight Bangs died in 1934 and is buried in Flint, Michigan.

Digital Horizons

Book Review



"The Heart Goes Last" by Margaret Atwood

Reviewed by Monica Struck

The United States is in trouble. The economy in the Northeast has crashed. Everyone is out of work. People are living out of their vehicles, trying to accumulate enough money to get away. In the midst of this, a group comes up with a solution: Consilience. Consilience is a closed system town where everyone has a home, and everyone has a job. The catch is that you will spend every other month in jail. Even with that taken into consideration, it is a better situation than many people are living in, so they jump at the chance. But something is rotten in the state of Consilience. Will Stan and Charmaine live long enough to bring the seedy underbelly of the organization to light? Will their marriage survive the secrets they are keeping?



I went into this book expecting to love it. I enjoy reading dystopias. I really like Margaret Atwood. However, the overall experience fell a little flat. The premise ended up being too weird for me. Despite this, I could not put the book down. Margaret Atwood is such a skilled author that she continued to draw me in despite my mixed feelings about the story. If you are a fan of Margaret Atwood, you should give this book a try. I think this book would be best enjoyed with a friend so that you have someone to process the story with. It is available in [e-book and e-audiobook formats](#).

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