

Library Coordinating Council Nominations Sought

The [North Dakota Library Coordinating Council \(NDLCC\)](#) is seeking nominations, including self-nominations, for members. This is an interesting and exciting opportunity to help shape library services in our state.

The NDLCC serves as the State Library's advisory board and assists with the creation and implementation of the Library Vision strategic plan, including the awarding of Library Vision grants. The Governor appoints NDLCC members according to Century Code §54-24.4. Typically, the Council meets quarterly with two meetings held in-person and two via videoconference. The in-person meetings also include tours of libraries.

Several of the current members have terms that are ending on June 30, 2025, and they have reached their term limits. The NDLCC includes librarians and two citizens at large. One of the citizens at large positions is open.

If you are interested in serving on the Council, please send an e-mail to ndsladm@nd.gov by May 15, 2025. Individuals interested in being considered for the NDLCC will need to complete the Governor's board application, which can be found at <https://apps.nd.gov/gov/boards/Application/PersonalInfo>.

[Learn More About NDLC](#)

Scandinavian American Bank Exhibit

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

The Digital Initiatives Department of the North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is excited to announce the opening of another online exhibit called the "Scandinavian American Bank."

The exhibit uses information and content from NDSL's Political Prairie Fire digital collection, which focuses on the political battle between the Nonpartisan League (NPL) and the Independent Voters Association (IVA).

This exhibit tells the story of the scandals surrounding the Scandinavian American Bank of Fargo from the late 1910s to well into the 1920s. This seemingly normal bank in downtown Fargo was at the epicenter of the political battle between the NPL and IVA. The scandals would impact more than just this bank. The State Banking Board, the State Examiner's office, the Attorney General's office, NPL enterprises, the Bank of North Dakota, a bank in Valley City, the State Auditor, the courts (including the North Dakota Supreme Court), and several prominent individuals would also be pulled in (many of which, at different times, would be labeled "bank wreckers" for their varied involvement). The arrests, trials, and fanfare lasted for years.

Today, the Scandinavian American Bank has become a mere footnote in the history of the NPL, overshadowed by some of the enduring legacies of that time (like the Bank of North Dakota and the Industrial Commission). However, the bank played a pivotal role in the NPL-IVA era of North Dakota history.

The primary way to navigate the exhibit is to start on the homepage and then progress through each sub-page under "The Story" in sequential order (using the "Next" and "Previous" buttons at the bottom of each page). The "Timeline" page/ tab is a supplement to the main story, and it provides another way to experience the story (in a chronological and slightly condensed way).

[View the Exhibit](#)

**GENRE
CHALLENGE**



Challenge yourself to read beyond what you can imagine! Stretch your reading skills and explore new genres, or specific types of books. Expanding what you read can strengthen your reading comprehension and spark your imagination! Read new books and complete activities to earn badges.



Pathways Through the Prairie Podcast

The Pathways Through the Prairie podcast features North Dakota librarians and library staff, state government leaders and employees, and interesting North Dakotans to gain insights into their work and roles in their communities.

Episode 16: Jim Nyland, Elementary Librarian & Cyber Security Instructor at Jamestown Public Schools. Learn about his pathway to the library and how he teaches young kids about cyber security. 30 minutes.

Episode 17: Mattie Richardson, Director of the Enderlin Municipal Library. Learn about her pathway to the library and the programs the library provides for the community, especially the 8–12-year-olds. 29 minutes.

[Start Listening Today](#)

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](#)

- A Brief History of Velva, North Dakota
- Land Agents in North Dakota Located Along the Great Northern Railway
- New Town, North Dakota: The First 25 Years
- Pekin Golden Jubilee, 1906-1956
- Rhame, North Dakota, 1908-1958
- Starkweather Diamond Jubilee, 1902-1977
- Tolna and Tolna Community, 1976-1981: Volume II
- Viking Early Settlement Days, 1886-1936
- Wahpeton: The Gateway to North Dakota and the Great Northwest

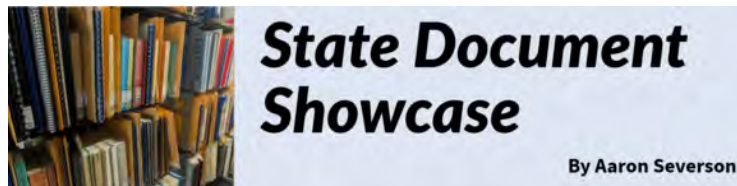


[Political Prairie Fire](#)

- A jolt for Big Biz [political cartoon, 1918]
- Bank of North Dakota building, Bismarck, N.D., 1920
- Frazier controls the State Sheriff [political cartoon, 1920]
- Hail insurance law, 1919
- He Seems to be Getting Smaller Year by Year [political cartoon, 1917]
- How times have changed - in North Dakota! [political cartoon, 1919]
- I.V.A. attacks three special session laws [newspaper article, 1920]
- Infant Industries [political cartoon, 1919]
- Investigation Committee law, 1919
- IVA ticket, N.D., June 1920
- Members of the North Dakota Investigation Committee
- Message of Governor Frazier for the special session of the legislature, 1919
- Nailing up a few rat holes [political cartoon, 1920]
- North Dakota's State Sheriff [political cartoon, 1920]
- Organized farmers and workers stand tall against Big Business [political cartoon, 1919]
- Referred laws given burials in deep waters [newspaper article, 1920]
- State Sheriff law, 1919
- State Sheriff Talk Arouses Opposition; Seamen Smith Slated [newspaper article, 1919]
- The Farmer Looks Ahead [political cartoon, 1917]
- The Five League "Planks" [political cartoon, 1921]
- The Gladiator (IVA) [political cartoon, 1920]
- The New Governor of North Dakota [political cartoon, 1920]
- The Smelling Committee at work [political cartoon, 1919]
- Townley Visits a New Oculist [political cartoon, 1920]
- U.S. Supreme Court ruling on NPL industrial programs [1920]
- When the new driver takes hold of the reins [political cartoon, 1918]
- Workmen's Compensation Fund law, 1919



Digital Horizons



As Spring struggles to make itself known (the capitol grounds are blanketed in white as I write this), one can't help but think about getting back outdoors again. I stumbled across a state document that can inspire road trip adventures across the state and another couple documents that aid in creating a welcoming garden environment for our pollinating insect friends.

First up, *A traveler's companion to North Dakota state historic sites*. This is the third edition of a truly excellent resource for exploring North Dakota. I honestly can't believe I've never picked it up before. This edition won the Notable Documents Award from the North Dakota Library Association in 2015. I highly recommend this super-informative document for anyone looking for a history-focused trip to notable sites across North Dakota!

[A traveler's companion to North Dakota state historic sites](#)

If puttering around the garden is more your speed, I offer a combo of documents that deliver helpful insight into a subject we may not think about often: pollinating insects.

Meet the rare, threatened and endangered insect pollinators of North Dakota is a single page document from the NDSU Extension Service that provides detailed information on endangered bee and butterfly species in the Upper Midwest region.

Additionally, *Bee-utiful landscapes: building a pollinator garden* is a very informative and attractive publication, also from NDSU Extension Service. This multi-page document is chock-full of useful information regarding bees and how to get started designing a pollinator-friendly garden. I found it fun to flip through even though I would struggle to keep a cactus alive, let alone a haven for honeybees!

Both documents can be accessed online below:

[Meet the rare, threatened and endangered insect pollinators of ND](#)

[Bee-utiful landscapes: building a pollinator garden](#)



Submitted by Al Peterson

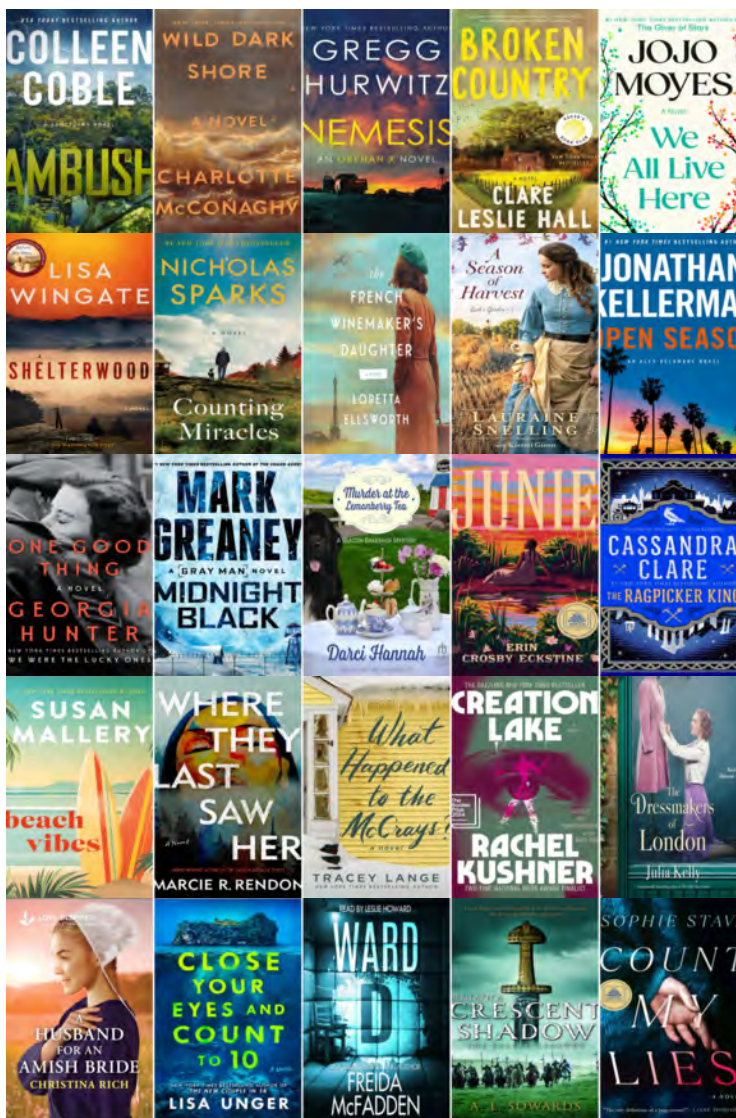
Economics is not just the study of wealth or financial dynamics; it's an examination of how societies manage resources, make choices, and address scarcity. Every day, consciously or not, individuals make economic decisions that ripple out into wider societal and global systems. How does someone gain an understanding of economics without having to take an Econ course in college? Universal Class offers an Economics 101 class that unlocks the mysteries of economics.

This comprehensive course is designed to bridge the knowledge gap, providing a clear and engaging roadmap to the world of economics. These eleven lessons in the course offer learners a foundational grasp of economic concepts and their relevance, breaking down complex ideas into digestible modules. This course covers a wide spectrum of topics, from the historical roots of economics to its various schools of thought, and from the micro-level decisions of households to the macro-level dynamics that shape national economies. If you are interested in unraveling the complexities of economics and empowering yourself in a world where these principles play an ever-growing role, sign up for Economics 101 through Universal Class.

[Start Learning Today](#)

New Items At The ND State Library

Fiction Books



Nonfiction Books



New Book Club Kits



Fiction E-Audiobooks



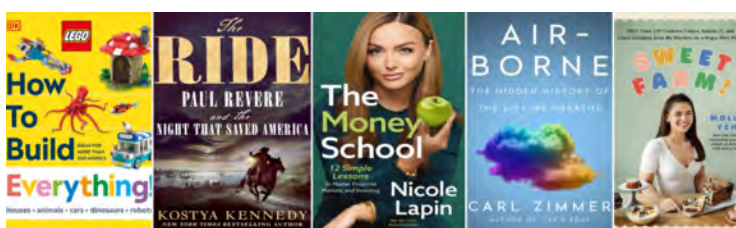
Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



Fiction E-Books



Nonfiction E-Books



E-Magazines



Connections is a monthly publication of the North Dakota State Library

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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