



Volume 8 · Number 10 · October 2025



New Podcast Episodes

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 29: Sara Westall, NE/SE Clinical Campus Librarian, UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences. 29 minutes.

Episode 30: Zeineb Yousif, Digital Initiatives Librarian, Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota. 28 minutes.

Listen Today

Beanstack Reading Challenge

Hallow-Read 2025 October 1 - 31, 2025 All Ages



Spooky season is upon us! Halloween is a time brimming with joy, enchantment, and a bit of mischief. Get set to dance like a monster, indulge in some ghoulish fun, or cozy up with a spine-tingling book. Log your reading and earn creepy badges all month long.

Sign Up Today

Submit a Design for North Dakota's Next "I Voted" Sticker

Submitted by the North Dakota Office of the Secretary of State

Do you have an idea for what North Dakota's official "I Voted" sticker should look like?

The North Dakota Secretary of State has an exciting opportunity for you to show your creativity and potentially become part of our state's election history! The "I Voted - More Than Just a Sticker" contest invites North Dakotans of all ages and artistic skill levels to design the next official "I Voted" sticker, which will debut at polling locations statewide during the June 9, 2026, Primary Election.

Entries will be accepted until November 15, 2025. A panel will select the top designs, and the public will vote for the winner, which will be announced in March 2026. If your design is selected as the next "I Voted" sticker, you will receive a professionally framed copy of your design, recognition from Secretary Howe during an official ceremony in Bismarck, and the thrill of seeing your design being worn by voters all across North Dakota!

Visit www.sos.nd.gov/civicengagement for complete contest rules, submission guidelines, and the official entry form.

Learn More

Digital Delight

Halloween Costume Contest Winners, N.D. School for the Deaf, 1922

Winners of the Halloween costume contest winners at the North Dakota School for the Deaf in Devils Lake.

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (North Dakota School for the Deaf Collection, ND State Library)



Learn More

New Items At The ND State Library

Fiction Books









"The Blanket Cats" by Kiyoshi Shigematsu; "The Winds from Further West" by Alexander McCall Smith; "The Break-In" by Katherine Faulkner; "Eat the Ones You Love" by Sarah Maria Griffin; "The Impossible Fortune" by Richard Osman



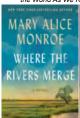








"She Didn't See It Coming" by Shari Lapena; "Flashlight" by Susan Choi; "Kiss Her Goodbye" by Lisa Gardner; "The End of the World As We Know It" edited by Christopher Golden and Brian Keene; "Smuggler's Cove" by Fern Michaels











"Where the Rivers Merge" by Mary Alice Monroe; "Bad Indians Book Club" by Patty Krawec; "We Are All Guilty Here" by Karin Slaughter; "A Mother's Love" by Danielle Steel; "33 Place Brugmann" by Alice Austen



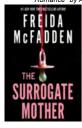








"The Mysterious Amish Bachelor" by Vannetta Chapman; "Spectacular Things" by Beck Dorey-Stein; "Problematic Summe Romance" by Ali Hazelwood; "Parents Weekend" by Alex Finlay; "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans









"The Surrogate" by Freida McFadden; "Loved One" by Aisha Muharrar; "Everyone is Lying to You" by Jo Piazza; "Dawn of Grace" by Jill Eileen Smith; "Forget Me Not" by Stacy Willingham

Nonfiction Books



"Confronting Evil" by Bill O'Reilly & Josh Hammer; "On Air" by Steve Oney; "Reimagining the Public Library" by John Pateman; "Who is Government?" by Michael Lewis; "All the Way to the River" by Elizabeth Gilbert

Fiction E-Audiobooks



"The Lost Baker of Vienna" by Sharon Kurtzman; "The Secret Book Society" by Madeline Martin; "Sweet Heat" by Bolu Babalola; "The Girl with Ice in Her Veins" by Karin Smirnoff; "The Ginger Bread Bakery" by Laurie Gilmore



"Dragon Fires Everywhere" by Hazel Beck; "Thief of Night" by Holly Black; "The Heartbreak Hotel" by Ellen O'Clover; "The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny" by Kiran Desai; "What Stalks the Deep" by T. Kingfisher



"Ride or Die" by Delilah S. Dawson; "The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli" by Karina Yan Glaser; "The Teacher of Nomad Land" by Daniel Nayeri; "Isle of Ever" by Jen Calonita; "Oro" by Alex Aster



"Little Blue Truck Makes a Friend" by Alice Schertle ; "Holly" by Adalyn Grace; "Legendary Frybread Drive-In" edited by Cynthia Leitich Smith; "Fake Skating" by Lynn Painter; "Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice" by Katie Cicatelli-Kuc

Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



"Ancient Home Apothecary for Beginners" by Nicole Mark; "The Opposite of Settling" by Case Kenny; "Friends that Invest" by Simran Kaur; "They All Came to Barneys" by Gene Pressman; "Chasing Evil" by Robert Hilland & John Edward

E-Magazines





















Good Housekeeping; National Geographic Traveller (UK); Gardeners' World; Family Handyman; Holiday Cookies

Fiction E-Books











"The Librarians" by Sherry Thomas; "A Land So Wide" by Erin A. Craig; "A Sea View Christmas" by Julie Klassen; "Seven Reasons to Murder Your Dinner Guests" by KJ Whittle; "Die Me A River" by Denise Swanson









"Heir of Illusion" by Madeline Taylor; "Clown Town" by Mick Herron; "Play Nice" by Rachel Harrison; "The Secret of Secrets" by Dan Brown; "Pitcher Perfect" by Tessa Bailey



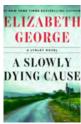




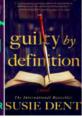




"Unchamed" by Lucy Jane Wood; "Don't Say A Word" by Allison Brennan; "The Academy" by Elin Hilderbrand; "Nosy Parker" by Lesley Crewe; "What We Can Know" by Ian McEwan











"A Slowly Dying Cause" by Elizabeth George; "Tourist Season" by Brynne Weaver; "Guilty by Definition" by Susie Dent,
"Alchemised" by SenLinYu; "The Girl From Devil's Lake" by J.A. Jance











"The Bookshop at the Back of Beyond" by Amy Sparkes; "The Ruling Class" by Jennifer Lynn Barnes; "The Forbidden Room" by Nicki Pau Preto; "Cinnamon & Clove" by Hannah Jodene Breault; "Every Spiral of Fate" by Tahereh Mafi

Nonfiction E-Books



"The Regency Book of Drinks" by Amy Finley; "Awake" by Jen Hatmaker; "Life Sentence" by Amy Bell; "Memories on the Bounty" by Janet Coulter Sanford; "Millennial Money Makeover" by Conor Richardson



"Girl in a Band" by Kim Gordon; "Thanksgiving Crafts for Kids" by Kim Mitzo Thompson, Karen Mitzo Hilderbrand, and Haley Garinger; "Let's Draw Dinosaurs" by Manny and Rochelle Valdivia; I Just Wish I Had a Bigger Kitchen" by Kate Strickler; "Power On" by Ash Brandin

New Items Added to Digital Horizons

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.

Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection

- Bear award in Cub Scouts for Keith Anderson, 1966
- Boy Scouts in Crosby, N.D., circa 1951
- Boy Scouts saluting, Crosby, N.D., circa 1956
- Crosby Boy Scout canoe trip on the Little Missouri River, 1972

North Dakota Memories

- 10 yen note, WWII era
- 50 sen note, WWII era
- First Communion group, Ukrainian church in Wilton,

N.D., circa 1935

- Michael Haverluck in a coal mine, Wilton, N.D., 1914
- Military portrait of Alfred Burton Welch
- Military portrait of Hugo O. Renden
- Military portrait of Walter G. Renden
- Rainbow Arch Bridge keychain, Mott, N.D., 1982

North Dakota School for the Blind

- Entrance to School for the Blind in Bathgate, N.D., circa 1914
- Front of School for the Blind in Bathgate, N.D., circa 1910
- Front of School for the Blind in Bathgate, N.D., circa 1928
- N.D. School for the Blind menu, February 1914
- North Dakota School for the Blind Report [1906-2023]
- Portrait of B. P. Chapple, circa 1908-1929
- School for the Blind law, 1905

Political Prairie Fire

- Minnie J. Nielson: The People's Candidate for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction [political advertisement, June 1918]
- N.C. MacDonald for State Superintendent of Public Instruction [political advertisement, June 1918]
- Sample ballot, N.D. Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1918







Digital Horizons

2026 'Teen Takeover' Contest Seeking Submissions

Submitted by the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum

"What will North Dakota look like 250 years in the future?"

North Dakota teens ages 13 to 18 are invited to submit an original work interpreting the theme "What will North Dakota look like 250 years in the future?"

Entries will be judged on the 2D creative expression and the short essay. Both will be evaluated for creativity, clarity, and insight into the theme.



Contest entries are due by **December 5, 2025.** Finalists' work will be displayed in spring 2026 at the State Museum, and a grand champion will be awarded \$150 provided by the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation.

Learn More



Haunted Places

Submitted by Al Peterson

For the month of October, let's take a journey into the world of hauntings with Universal Class. Have you ever asked yourself, do unseen forces govern our reality? Is the space beyond what we perceive teeming with spirits, waiting for a moment of interaction? Such questions have long captivated the human imagination, spurring timeless tales, cinematic masterpieces, and evocative folklore. While science has yet to verify the existence of the spirit realm, the allure of the paranormal remains undiminished. Could it be possible, then, that our intuitive feelings of otherworldly presences have a foundation in truth?

Haunted Places is an eleven-course study that serves as both a thrilling journey and a rigorous investigation about 15 locations globally, each shrouded in tales of hauntings. Whether you're a skeptic or a believer, this curriculum is designed to offer an in-depth understanding of diverse supernatural occurrences, serving as an intriguing foundation for further exploration. If you are interested in supernatural and hauntings, I'm sure you'll find this course spooktacular.

Courses through Universal Class are self-paced and taken at your convenience on your own time. To sign up for this and other great Universal Class courses, click on https://northdakotastatend.universalclass.com/ to get started. The Haunted Places course can be found in the Spiritual Studies 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 ndslpa@nd.gov.

Times referenced are Central Time.

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