



Discovery

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Discover New Trails at Your Library



You may already be dreaming of the things you plan to do this summer. Why not include the North Dakota State Library's Governor's Summer Reading Program in your summer plans? If you are between the ages of 5 & 18, and a patron of the North Dakota Talking Book Service, you can become a summer reader!

This year's theme is *Discover New Trails @ Your Library*. Just think of all the interesting people and great places you can read about by becoming a summer reader. Best of all, summer readers are eligible for great prizes just for participating. All you have to do is complete a summer reading registration form, and mail it to the North Dakota State Library by June 1, 2004. Order and read one or more Braille or talking books between June 1, and July 23, 2004, then fill in your reading log and mail it to the State Library by July 31, 2004.



We are planning something a little different for our summer reading party this year. Instead of holding the party at the end of the summer as usual, we will be holding it halfway through the program. For your enjoyment, we have scheduled a *special* performance by "Tales and Trails" storyteller Bob Kanegis from Santa Fe, New Mexico. The party is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on June 22, 2004 on the south lawn of the North Dakota State Library. All participants of the Governor's Summer Reading Program and their families are invited to attend. More information will be mailed to participants of the Governor's Summer Reading Program in the near future.

If you did not receive summer reading information in the mail, and are interested in signing up for the Governor's Summer Reading Program, please contact Disability Services at 1-800-843-9948 to request a copy. You can also access this information on the State Library home page at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us/DisabilityServices.html>.

Read Travels to Arkansas

College graduation ceremonies were just held in December, and Alexis Read has already moved on to the next chapter in her life. She recently moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, and is attending a program at Arkansas Lion's World Services for the Blind to find out what kind of training will help better prepare her for the job market.

Read was born with Optic Atrophy and Congenital Nystagmus and is unable to read standard printed material, but that has never slowed her down. In fact, while attending Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, Read earned B.A. degrees in Psychology and English Literature, as well as a minor in German.

She says she remembers the exact moment she realized what her mission in life was going to be. "I will never forget it because it was as if a lightning bolt struck me during that lesson. The revelation came while trying to teach a visually impaired, ten year old girl how to tell time with an analog clock and things clicked." It was

then she realized that her calling in life was to become a vision teacher, and help other people in her situation. "It was so gratifying for me as the teacher to sit back and watch her spit out those times with a high percentage of accuracy." She says she is sure she will be able to give the people she works with the understanding of being visually impaired because she can relate to them. Once Alexis finishes in Arkansas, she is hoping to find a job in a rehabilitation center working with the visually impaired.



Alexis Read at her graduation from Concordia College in December of 2003

New Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors Hired

Jamestown and Dickinson have hired new Vocational Rehabilitation counselors, their contact information is listed below.

Jerry Kleinknecht
South Central Human Service Center
520 3rd St NW
P O Box 2055
Jamestown ND 58402-2055
(800) 639-6292
(701) 253-6388
(701) 253-6414

Mary June Gaffrey
Badlands Human Service Center
117 1st St East
Dickinson ND 58601
(888) 227-7525
(701) 227-7415 (Voice/TTY)



Vital Speeches of the Day Now Available

The National Library Service (NLS) is pleased to announce the addition of *Vital Speeches of the Day* magazine. This magazine is a bi-weekly periodical. It features 8-10 speeches by individuals who have attained leadership in the fields of economics, politics, education, sociology, government, criminology, finance, business, taxation, health, law, and labor.

To order this magazine contact Disability Services at the North Dakota State Library at 1-800-843-9948.

Requests For New Book Titles



We often receive calls from our patrons requesting newly released books. Luckily the National Library Service (NLS) records many new releases each year, but it does take time to get these titles recorded and mailed out to the Talking Book libraries across the country.

Unfortunately, NLS is not able to record every book that is available in print. But it does record about 2,000 titles each year. The titles are chosen by a committee made up of NLS staff and talking book patrons.

So if you call our library and place a request for a book that is not currently available, we will do our best to keep this request on file and fill your order when the book becomes available.

Would you Like Books for the Weekend?



We know many of you like to make sure you have enough talking books on hand to get you through the weekend. To be sure your books arrive in time, you must put your book requests in no later than Wednesday, otherwise we cannot guarantee you will get them in time for your weekend reading enjoyment.

There is a one day lag from the time a request is entered in your record until the book is actually mailed. If you place a book order on Wednesday, your books are not actually mailed out until Thursday.

Dakota Radio Information Service Marks 20th Anniversary

By Sue Bicknell

It was high noon, March 8, 1984. In a small, dark, soundproof booth on the second floor of the North Dakota State Library, a volunteer read the Bismarck Tribune into a microphone. Thirty-nine people in the Bismarck area listened in, some at home, some at work. After three years of planning and fundraising, Dakota Radio Information Service was on the air.

Dakota Radio Information Service (DRIS) is an odd critter. It's a radio station tucked into a corner of a government library, run by state employees, yet dependent upon volunteer talent and the generosity of strangers. In addition, it can only be heard by a select few: those who have print disabilities. Dedicated to providing access to local news to those who cannot read a regular newspaper, DRIS today provides readings of six daily North Dakota papers (Bismarck, Minot, Dickinson, Jamestown, Valley City, and Williston). Our original 39 listeners have grown to 470, and DRIS is on the air around the clock.



Maggie Anderson has been volunteering for DRIS since 1998

Volunteers provide 20 hours per week of local readings, and the InTouch Network of New York fills in the rest of the day with many newspapers and magazines, including the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Biography, Good Housekeeping, Prevention, Scientific American, and Sports Illustrated.

In February of 2004 an agreement was forged between the North Dakota State Library, DRIS, and Minnesota Radio Talking Book Network to provide service to eligible listeners in eastern North Dakota as well. Minnesota's radio reading service, created in 1969, was the first in the world and served as a model for those that followed. Their signal can be received along the Red River Valley from approximately Hankinson to Grafton. DRIS is currently seeking funding to provide radios to listeners in those areas.

The impact of the service was summed up by one listener, aged 70, who said, "I've been voting for fifty years and never really knew what I was voting for until now." The service is available to North Dakotans who cannot use regular print due to visual, physical, or reading impairments. Applications can be obtained by calling 1-800-843-9948, or accessing the Website at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us/DisabilityServices.html>.

On the Shelf

Descriptive Videos Available for Loan

Please Call 1-800-843-9948 to order



Finding Nemo

A hilarious adventure where you'll meet colorful characters that take you into the breathtaking underwater world of Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Nemo is an adventurous young clownfish. Finding Nemo takes you into a whole new world with this undersea adventure about family, courage, and challenges.

Rated G

Tarzan

The legend of Tarzan is told in breathtaking fashion, from the loss of his parents in Africa to his adoption by a gorilla mother, Kala. Tarzan must decide where he belongs in life, while falling in love and saving his gorilla family from outsiders.

Rated G

Two Weeks Notice

The story revolves around Lucy Kelson, a brilliant but neurotic attorney, and her client George Wade, who is "charming, irresponsible and fabulously wealthy." Now, after one year of calling the shots-on everything, Lucy Kelson is calling it quits.

Rated PG 13

Matrix Reloaded

Second in mind-bending action/sci-fi series sees Neo and his crew scouring the Matrix for a mysterious figure, known as "the Keymaker," who can open various portals inside the computer-generated realm.

Rated R

The Full Monty

Warmhearted comedy about unemployed steelworkers becoming male strippers. The thick British accents and cultural differences might baffle mainstream Hollywood audiences, but the affable characters' sharp humor will charm other genre fans.

Rated R

Pirates of the Caribbean: the Curse of the Black Pearl

Swashbuckler set in the Caribbean during the 17th century, a gentleman pirate teams up with a young blacksmith and a governor's daughter to stop a band of dastardly zombie pirates.

Rated PG 13

Seabiscuit

Based on a true story about a mistreated and mishandled horse that became a symbol of hope for America during the Great Depression. Together an unlikely trio lead the knobby-kneed Seabiscuit to his 1938 win of the Horse of the Year honors and turn him into an inspiration for millions of people.

Rated PG 13

Mrs. Doubtfire

Robin Williams stars as a divorced father who poses as an elderly housekeeper in order to see his kids, residing with his wife who's won custody.

Rated PG 13



On the Shelf

*Descriptive Videos
Available for Loan*

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

The second installment in the Harry Potter saga finds the young wizard and his friends (Ron and Hermione) facing new challenges during their second year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Rated PG

Bruce Almighty

Bruce Nolan is a television reporter who feels like he has reached as high as he can in his professional life, and blames God for all of the bitterness he feels about his life. His complaints are taken seriously by God, who appears in human form and endows Bruce with divine powers, challenging him to see if he can do a better job.

Rated PG 13

Chicago

Film version of the Broadway musical, set in the roaring 20's, about an aspiring Chicago chorus girl who shoots her deceitful lover. She ends up in jail, where she meets another chorus girl and fellow murderer and her media savvy attorney who's willing to take on her case too. Soon the two chorus girls are competing to see who will be the most famous murderer in town.

Rated PG 13

Titanic

Two people from different worlds meet and fall in love on the brief, tragic maiden voyage of the grand ocean liner Titanic.

Rated PG 13

Shrek

An irreverent, animated twist on fairy tales: An ogre named Shrek and his companion, a wisecracking donkey, rescue a princess from a fire-breathing dragon and have to fight an evil lord who hates fairy tale characters.

Rated PG

A Beautiful Mind

Fall and rise of John Forbes Nash Jr., a math prodigy able to solve problems that baffled brilliant mathematicians. Having made an astonishing discovery early in his career, the arrogant Nash was soon diagnosed with schizophrenia and late in life received the Nobel Prize.

Rated PG 13

Erin Brockovich

Erin Brockovich is a brash research assistant who works for an attorney in a small law office and, without any formal education or legal experience, builds a lawsuit against a utility company responsible for contaminating a town's water supply.

Rated R

Ski for Light

On a typical weekday you can find Sandy Atkinson busily working on talking book machines at North Dakota Vision Services in Grand Forks. But during the last week of January, she and nine other volunteers headed for the slopes of Deadwood, South Dakota to become guides for the 25th annual Ski for Light.

Ski for Light is a week-long event that enables blind, visually, or mobility impaired individuals the opportunity to cross country ski, and enjoy a variety of outdoor activities. Volunteers are paired with visually and physically impaired skiers, and act as their personal guides. Atkinson was matched with first time participant Denise Kirsch from Bismarck and says this experience was absolutely exhilarating. “I now have a better appreciation for the courage it takes for a person with a visual impairment to attempt something like this. I am just excited that I was allowed to help someone else do something like this.”



Denise Kirsch (left) and Sandy Atkinson (right) on race day

She didn't know what to expect when she signed up for the trip, but says it definitely changed her perspective on life. “I think it helped me appreciate what I do on the job everyday, because it helps me connect how important what I do is to so many people.”

Kirsch is glad she took advantage of this wonderful opportunity and says she would do it again tomorrow if she had the chance. “There is so much support that you don't have to be afraid; you can do it slowly at your own speed and learn some of the skills.” Even though it was a struggle at first and she had to deal with a few sore muscles, it was completely worth it. “The biggest thrill for me was the cross country skiing race. I took my time, did the best I could, and did not fall once, that was a great accomplishment for me!”

Other activities included sharking (riding in a snowmobile-like-sled equipped with a steering wheel), snow tubing, and a lot of socializing. Both women say it was more than just a ski trip. It was about meeting new friends, sharing experiences, and best of all, a lifetime of memories.



Ski for Light participants and their guides hit the trail

Help us Serve You Better



Are you moving, getting married, or have your reading interests changed since you first signed up for the Talking Book Service? If so, don't forget to call the library and let us know.

When You Should Call

- If your name changes
- If your permanent or temporary address changes
- If your telephone number changes
- If you get a new e-mail address, or make changes to your current address
- If your reading interests change
- If you do not like the books you are receiving
- If you are not getting enough talking books or are getting too many

Parents: If your child has been receiving books at their school address, please call the library at **1-800-843-9948** to change their address for the summer.