Libby's Help and Home Library Location

Submitted by Steve Hammel

If your library is part of the North Dakota public library Libby consortia, this may address some issues you have been encountering. Over the past several months, the State Library (NDSL) has been receiving Libby help requests sent by patrons from other libraries and other member libraries have received help requests from NDSL patrons.

Here's what we have figured out. A few months ago, Libby changed how they are determining a patron's home branch. Patrons who already had a Libby account prior to the update may or may not have been correctly assigned to their home library. Consequently, help requests from your patrons may not be going to your library.

Here's the solution: patrons with an incorrect home branch will need to use the "find a branch" tool in the Contact Library help page and choose the library associated with their card. Once that is done (provided the patron chose the correct library), the Contact Your Library in Help and Support are now linked and will provide the correct contact information for your library.

For Further Assistance

Upcoming Continuing Education

Submitted by Al Peterson

July is shaping up to offer sun, fun, and some excellent continuing education opportunities.

Join us at the State Capitol for our Summer conference, July 28–30, Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Libraries. ***Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Libraries*** brings together library professionals for a three-day conference to explore how today's innovative services and emerging technologies are shaping the future of libraries and the services we provide to our patrons. This forward-looking conference will showcase cutting-edge programs, emerging technologies, and innovative programming that redefine the library's role in a rapidly evolving world.

Conference registration: Please sign up for each day you want to attend.

Register for the Conference

Lodging: Wingate by Wyndham, Bismarck

We have a block of rooms set aside at the Wingate for conference attendees at state rate. When making a reservation, tell the front desk that you are reserving the room under the State Library Conference block.

Reserve a Room

Webinars:

Check out all the great webinar opportunities available this month from WebJunction, Niche Academy, and other vendors at **https://www.library.nd.gov/traininglibraries**. You can also find out about webinars and events from the Events Calendar at **https://www.library.nd.gov/events-calendar**.

Shared e-Resources Volunteers Sought

Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

The North Dakota State Library, in partnership with Minitex, Minnesota State Library Services, and the South Dakota State Library, is seeking volunteers to serve on the Shared e-Resources Task Force (SER). The SER Task Force represents libraries of all types from across the region. The Task force will assist in assessment of the current collection, in drafting requirements, and in evaluating e-resources to meet those requirements. The vendor trials will have a remote option even if held in person in Minnesota.

North Dakota will have 4 representatives on the task force. During the last round, in addition to an NDSL staff member, we had one academic, one school, and one public librarian. We are hoping to have a similar makeup of representatives this round. Volunteers do not need to be the director.

Here is a rough timeline for the work that the task force will complete:

- August 2025 - Convene/background and evaluation/needs assessment
- September-October - RFP requirements drafted
- October 2025 - RFP issued
- By mid-November - Responses due
- November - December - Trial access for selected vendors
- January 2026 - RFP responses reviewed, and shortlist selected for final presentations
- January - February - Vendor finalist presentations

Please complete this **form** by **July 18** to be considered for the task force. Applications will be reviewed by NDSL and ODIN staff.

Reach out to me via email or phone if you have questions about the task force.

Complete The Form

New NEH Grant Program:
Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition

A new grant program from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), **Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition**, honors the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the nation's principles of equality, liberty, and government by consent. The program supports activities to preserve and improve access to primary source materials that document:

1. **The history of American independence and the establishment and/or expansion of the nation**. Projects will include the experiences of states, territories, and communities—in the original colonies and beyond—in joining the nation. **Or:**
2. **The history of U.S. government**—from federal to local, from federal and state constitutions to governors' papers and court records.

Projects may work with collections that include archival records; documents and rare publications; art and material culture; and photographs and sound recordings. **Supported activities** include conservation treatment and rehousing, digitization and description, transcription and translation, and updating existing digital resources to ensure long-term public availability.

Application deadlines: September 4, 2025, and January 15, 2026

Maximum funding: $350,000 (individual institutions); $750,000 (consortia)

Questions? Please email **preservation@neh.gov** or call 202-606-8570.

More Information

Dewey Classification Assignments in the CIP Program

Library of Congress

Efffective July 1, Dewey Decimal classification (DDC) numbers will be included only in Cataloging in Publication (CIP) records for selected titles – in particular non-fiction titles that are likely to be acquired by public and K-12 school libraries, where DDC assignment is critical to access and discovery. This adjustment will allow us to focus classification resources where they are most needed, while still supporting the core mission of the CIP Program, to provide prepublication metadata to U.S. libraries.

We understand that many libraries rely on CIP records for acquisitions and cataloging workflows. The CIP Program will continue to provide CIP records; however, there will be CIP records that will not include a DDC number. This change reflects the Library's need to reallocate resources within the program.

A.I. Recap
By Trevor Martinson

The field of artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly evolving, and it can be challenging to stay on top of the recent developments. To help with this, here is a highlight of some of the more interesting updates from the last several days.

- **Anthropic Scores a Landmark AI Copyright Win—but Will Face Trial Over Piracy Claims** – Wired
- **ChatGPT May Be Eroding Critical Thinking Skills, According to a New MIT Study** – Time Magazine
- **How ChatGPT and other AI tools are changing the teaching profession** – AP
- **Inside Microsoft's complicated relationship with OpenAI** – The Verge
- **Meta's AI copyright win comes with a warning about fair use** – The Verge
- **Web giant Cloudflare to block AI bots from scraping content by default** – CNBC

ThriftBooks BuyBack Program

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Have you consistently been weeding your library or recently completed a large weeding project? If so, you might find yourself with stacks of books in need of new homes. As budget cuts become a reality, these discarded books may serve as a valuable source of income for future purchases through the ThriftBooks BuyBack program.

What began in a storage unit and a pick-up truck filled with used books has become the world's largest new and used independent online seller. Since the first sale of *Charlotte's Web*, in 2003, ThriftBooks has saved more than 300 million books from ending up in landfills. By working with public and school libraries, Friends of the Library groups, bulk booksellers, nonprofits, and consumers, the company successfully meets its mission of promoting sustainability and a circular economy.

$ ThriftBooks has recently expanded its BuyBack program by streamlining and simplifying the process of selling large volumes of books, and in some cases, it offers better pricing.

Source:
PW close-up on ThriftBooks BuyBack. Publisher Weekly. (n.d.). **https://shorturl.at/MfjJ8**

[Learn More]

Upcoming Free Webinars

Fortifying Your Library: Protecting Your Library and Staff Through Policy (Niche Academy)
Wednesday, July 9 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)
This webinar will offer practical advice including essential policies every library should have, tools to evaluate the strength of your policies, guidelines for revising your policies, suggestions for training staff on your updates, and how to communicate policies to patrons.

How Libraries Can Help Address Complex Health and Research Challenges (NNLM)
Monday, July 14 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)
Discover how libraries are engaging communities in citizen science initiatives and addressing data management challenges.

Meetings That Matter: Seven Steps to Running an Effective Meeting (Niche Academy)
Wednesday, July 23 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)
Join best-selling Author, CEO, and Stanford faculty member David Dodson as he describes seven steps you can implement to create meetings that matter.

Elevating Core Skills with New Library Foundational Training (LiFT) Courses (WebJunction)
Wednesday, July 30 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)
Explore how the Collection Management LiFT courses can be used to empower staff and enhance library services.
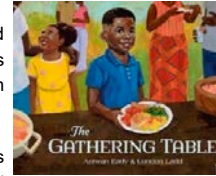
Summary Reading Lists

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Publisher Weekly's editors have chosen the following picture, middle grade, and young adult books as great summer reads.

Picture Books

Published on May 6, 2025, *Cranky, Crabby Crow (Saves the World)* by Corey R. Tabor is a humorous animal story. Kirkus Reviews described this title as "storytelling at its most brilliant—and whimsical."

The Gathering Table by Antwan Eady received a starred review from Kirkus Reviews. This picture book encourages children to celebrate family connections and was released on May 6, 2025.

Released on May 13, 2025, Daniel Salmieri and Sophia Haas's book *Next to Me* inspires young readers to notice and appreciate their surroundings, no matter where they are in the world.

Continue Reading

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 School for the Deaf

- North Dakota School for the Deaf Biennial Report, 2021-2023

Political Prairie Fire

- Portrait of G. I. Solum, circa 1920
- Portrait of J. T. Nelson, circa 1920
- Portrait of John F. McGrann, circa 1920
- Portrait of John Steen, circa 1920
- Portrait of N. A. Mason, circa 1920
- Portrait of O. T. Haakenson, circa 1920
- Portrait of Simon S. McDonald, circa 1920
- Portrait of W. H. Stutsman, circa 1920

Prairie Recipes

- Centennial Community Cookbook: Leeds, North Dakota, 1886-1986

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library is collaborating with the North Dakota Asian-American Arts and Cultural Initiative (NDAACI) to present a new "Know My Culture" youth series.

Melissa Carmack, Jamestown Public School District Library Assistant, received the 2025 SHERO Award, which recognizes women in the community who exemplify courage, outstanding accomplishments, and noble qualities that inspire others.

Max Community Library received funds from the Max Community Club to purchase a new public access computer.

Minot Public Library received a donation of binoculars from Scheels for their Bird Watching for the Flock program.

New Town City Library hosted Author Maria "White Cedar Woman" DesJarlait at their Summer Reading Program Picnic on July 1.

New Town City Library is getting a new roof.

Featured Mango Language
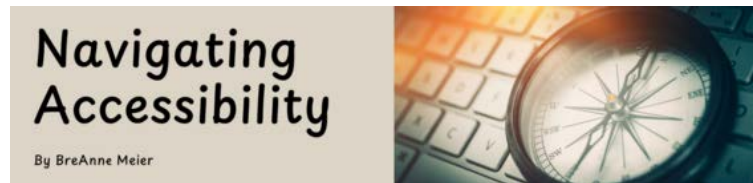
By BreAnne Meier

Potawatomi

With only around ten native speakers, the Potawatomi, or Bodwéwadmimwen, language is critically endangered. Created in collaboration with the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi in southwestern Michigan and northeastern Indiana, this course delivers a blend of learning features, exercises, and personalized review with an award-winning conversational learning process that focuses on the four skills necessary to connect in another language: grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and culture.

This course instructs learners on the language's unique grammatical structures, vocabulary, and cultural traditions, all recorded by language specialists from the community.

Learn a New Language

Navigating Accessibility

By BreAnne Meier

Success Criterion 1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded)

Captions are a way of life for many, whether it's to follow along easier or because you need to have it on silent in a public area. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, captions are a necessity.

Success criterion 1.2.2 states that captions must be "provided for all prerecorded audio content in synchronized media." This means that if you are producing videos for your library, whether it's instructional, entertainment, or promotional, you need to add captions to ensure accessibility.

Continue Reading

NEW LIBRARY SCIENCE BOOK

"The Playful Library" by Megan Lotts

This book looks at what play is and how to incorporate play in libraries and organizations through topics like makerspaces, games, health and wellness, library workplace culture, connecting communities, and celebrating diversity.

Contents: What is play? -- Where is play -- Play, teaching, and assessment-- Health and wellness -- Playful employees -- Games and play -- Play and making culture -- Connecting communities with play.

Reserve This Book

PICTURE BOOK PALOOZA!

FREE VIRTUAL EVENT
THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

INSTITUTE of **Museum** and **Library** SERVICES

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