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DISCOVERY

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Patron Handbook

The North Dakota State Library Services for the Disabled has produced a patron handbook. The handbook is full of information about the talking book program including: machine instructions, mailing addresses, program guidelines and other resources that are available to visually or physically impaired citizens of North Dakota.

If you would like a copy of the handbook, please request one by contacting us by mail or phone at the ND State Library.

For Better Service

Sometimes patrons call and order talking books and would like them sent out immediately. Unfortunately if you call too late in the day, we are unable to fill these requests that day. If you happen to call on a Friday afternoon, we will not be able to process your requests until Monday. Call us before you finish your last book, to make sure you don't run out.

Here are some other suggestions that will help us serve you better. When requesting books please try to specify a subject area such as western, romance or biography rather than "send me a good story." A good story varies immensely from person to person.

If we are choosing your books and you do not like what we are sending, please contact us so we can change the subject area we are selecting books from.

North Dakota State Library Services for the Disabled 1-800-843-9948

Machine Lending Agency 1-800-421-1181

Magazine Changes

Beginning in January of 1999, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) will offer readers twelve magazines on cassette instead of flexible disc.

These magazines continue a transition to the new cassette format for all audio magazines. NLS plans to continue the change in 2000 with an additional ten or eleven titles moving onto cassette and conclude in 2001 when all NLS recorded magazines will be available on cassette.

The magazines included in the January 1999 change are: *Civilization* (bimonthly), *Computer Life* (monthly), *Consumer Reports* (monthly), *Eating Well* (bimonthly), *Ebony* (monthly), *Good Housekeeping* (monthly), *Money* (monthly), *The New York Times Book Review* (weekly), *People* (weekly), *Stereo Review* (monthly), *Travel Holiday* (monthly), *Working Woman* (monthly).

The improvement to the magazines is based on the recommendation of an advisory committee composed of program users and librarians.

Subscribers to these magazines will automatically receive the magazine in cassette format. If you would like to subscribe to any of these magazines, please contact us at the ND State Library at 1-800-843-9948.

Descriptive Videos

Descriptive videos are available to patrons of the ND State Library at no charge. The DVS videos offer visually impaired persons a chance to enjoy a movie by listening to a narrator describe characters, settings and facial expressions during the natural breaks in the actors dialogues.

These videos are available for check out by calling the State Library and requesting them. There are adult and children's movies available. Some of the titles include: *Cocoon*, *Hunt for Red October*, *Mary Poppins*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, *Blue Hawaii* and a few television episodes of the *Andy Griffith Show* and *Matlock*.

Many other descriptive videos are available, please call us to see if your favorite movie has been produced as a descriptive video.

Our Picks

In this edition of the newsletter, the Services for Disabled staff will share some of their favorite books and authors.

Terri's Picks

#1 Misery
Author: Stephen King
RC 26000

#2 The Client
Author: John Grisham
RC 35890

#3 The Horse Whisperer
Author: Nicholas Evans
RC 41402

Favorite Author: John Grisham

Favorite Children's Book: Black Beauty
Author: Anna Sewel
RC 41291

Shirley's Picks

#1 Alaska
Author: James Michener
RC 26997

#2 Beautiful Joe
Author: Marshall Saunders
ND 03728

#3 Hunt for Red October
Author: Tom Clancy
RC 21513



Favorite Author: Marcia Muller

Favorite Children's Book: Caddie Woodlawn
Author: Carol Ryrie Brink
RC 22917

Sandy's Picks

#1 You Belong to Me
Author: Mary Higgins Clark
RC 46009

#2 I'll Be Seeing You
Author: Mary Higgins Clark
RC 35909

#3 Loves Music, Loves to Dance
Author: Mary Higgins Clark
RC 35864

Favorite Author: Mary Higgins Clark

Favorite Children's Book: Baby Sister Says No
Author: Mercer Mayer
RC 30124

Chris' Picks

#1 And Ladies of the Club
Author: Helen Hooven
Santmyer
RC 20902

#2 The Kitchen God's Wife
Author: Amy Tan
RC 33906

#3 Trinity
Author: Leon Uris
RC 09046

Favorite Author: Helen
Hooven Santmyer

Favorite Children's Book:
Charlotte's Web
Elwyn Brooks White
RC 08723

Sheryl's Picks

#1 Utimate Evil
Author: Maury Terry
RC 26439

#2 Cruel Doubt
Author: Joe McGinniss
RC 33950

#3 Burning Bed
Author: Faith McNulty
RC 16443

Favorite Author: Mary
Higgins Clark

Favorite Children's Book:
The Little's Take a Trip
Author: John Lawrence
Peterson
ND 04136

Stella's Picks

#1 Ponder Heart
Author: Eudora Welty
RC 09758

#2 Walking Across Egypt
Author: Clyde Edgerton
RC 26187

#3 The Cat Who Played Post
Office
Author: Lillian Jackson
Braun
RC 35536

Favorite Author: Eudora
Welty

Favorite Children's Book:
Chronicles of Narnia
Author: C.S. Lewis
(Note: The Chronicles of Narnia
is a 7 part series).

#1 RC 16982

#2 RC 16984

#3 RC 16985

#4 RC 16986

#5 RC 17438

#6 RC 16987

#7 RC 16988

A Trip of a Lifetime Part #2

(Editor's Note: This is the second article of a two part series written by Alexis Read. She is a senior at Williston High School and took a trip to Germany this past summer and agreed to tell us about some of her experiences while in another country.)

My host family in Germany was the greatest family anyone could stay with. The student, Carina, and I have been pen-pals for about 2 years, so the coordinator placed me with her family.

Birgit, the mother, worked in the home and took care of Angelina, Carina's sister. She was so kind to Mom and me. Really the whole family was. Birgit was the greatest cooks I have ever met. The food we had was out of this world.

Wilfried, the father, was very generous. He and I would have long conversations in German, so I could practice my

German. It was easier to talk with him than talk in a classroom because in a classroom you are constantly being corrected, but with native speakers they only correct you on big mistakes.

Carina, my host student, is fifteen years old and in the ninth class at Gymnasium Herkenrath. She was very fun. She was the one who told me about every step and curb in my path. Her friends were also nice. On the last day, Sebastian, her boyfriend,



Alexis with her host family. Pictured from left to right: Diana Read, Alexis Read, Carina Anders, Angelina Anders, Birgit Anders, Wilfried Anders

gave me a CD as a good-bye present. They all were so accepting of me and talked freely with me in German.

Angelina, the little girl, is two years old and a stinker. She got into everything. A couple of times, she wanted me to read to her, but wouldn't even sit still to listen to the whole book.

While we were there, we met Carina's extended family. We met her grandparents, Ruth and Heinz, her aunts and uncles, Sabina, Uwe, Marita and Karl-Heinsz. When we went to Opa and Oma's (The German words for Grandpa and Grandma) we all sat down together and had cake and coffee.

I think that when you travel abroad it's better to stay with a family and experience the culture from living in it.

Braille Tax Forms

The ND State Library has 1998 braille tax forms and instructions available. If you are in need of these forms, please contact the State Library.

**NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY
SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED
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