

The Legislative Process

Submitted by Mary Soucie, State Librarian

Crossover day for the 68th General Assembly was Wednesday, February 22. Crossover day is the deadline for all bills to be heard and acted on in the chamber that they originated in.

In North Dakota, all bills are heard by a committee with public hearings and committee work. The committee gives either a “Do Pass” or “Do Not Pass” recommendation. The bill is assigned to a bill carrier, who presents the bill on the floor with a summary of the bill and the recommendation of the committee and a brief explanation for why. The bill is then debated on the floor, with legislators advocating for passage or defeat of a bill. If a bill is defeated, it does not proceed any further in the process. If it is passed, the bill is then moved to the other chamber and the process begins all over again. The Legislative Council has a very helpful [brochure](#) on how a bill becomes law in North Dakota.

If the bill is passed in both the House and Senate in the same form, it is sent to the Governor who will either sign or veto the bill. If the two bodies pass a different version, the bill is assigned to a conference committee made up of three legislators from each side to reconcile the differences. Once the bill has been approved by the House and Senate, it goes to the Governor to sign. If the Governor vetoes a bill, it can be overridden by a 2/3 majority vote in both chambers.

When a bill is being heard in committee, citizens have the opportunity to submit testimony. Testimony can be in favor, in opposition or neutral. Testimony can be submitted online. The submitter can choose to submit written testimony only or can choose to give oral testimony either in person or remotely. An individual can also choose to just testify in person during the hearing. All people that testify sign in, indicate the bill number, their position and if they represent anyone. All committee hearings and work as well as the floor session of each chamber can be viewed live by visiting the [Legislative Branch](#) website and clicking on video in the upper righthand corner.

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Upcoming National Days/Weeks/Months

March

[National Reading Month](#)

5-11 = [National Consumer Protection Week](#)

16 = [Freedom of Information Day](#)

31 = [Public Libraries Survey Due](#)

April

[School Library Month](#)

[National Poetry Month](#)

22 = [Earth Day](#)

23-29 = [National Library Week](#)

25 = [National Library Workers Day](#)

26 = [National Library Outreach Day](#)

27 = [Take Action for Libraries Day](#)

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Bills that begin with a 1 or a 3 originated in the House; bills that begin with a 2 or a 4 originated in the Senate. When bills switch chambers, they keep the same number so post crossover, bills that begin with a 1 or 3 are in the Senate and bills with a 2 or 4 are in the House.

There are several bills that have crossed over that may impact the library community.

Bill Number	Title
1054	Relating to notary commissions
1155	Relating to sanctuary status
1205	Relating to prohibiting public libraries from maintaining explicit sexual material
1284	Relating to liability limitations of charitable organizations
2013	Department of Public Instruction budget which includes the State Library
2043	Relating to warrant for electronic communication information
2050	Relating to the ability of the state librarian to recalculate grant payments to public libraries; relating to the public annual report, distribution of state publications to libraries, the computation of mill levies, and the duties of the library coordinating council
2132	Relating to maximum hours of labor for minors performing sports-attendant services
2180	Relating to the annual comprehensive financial report, audits of state agencies, reports, financial audits, and petitions; and to provide for retroactive application
2231	Relating to preferred pronoun discrimination and school policies on expressed gender
2247	Relating to specified concepts at institutions of higher education
2260	Relating to fundamental parental rights, parental involvement in education, and parental right to consent to medical treatment of the parent's child
2274	Relating to vaccination and infection information
2338	Relating to the state poet laureate
2360	Relating to the definition of a public library and required safety policies and technology protection measures; relating to obscenity control
4002	A concurrent resolution designating Dr. Denise K. Lajimodiere as Poet Laureate of North Dakota

I hope this overview of the Legislative process in North Dakota has been helpful. Visit the Legislative Branch's website for information about legislative sessions, to track and testify on bills, to access Century Code (state laws) and the State's Constitution, and general information on the Legislative Assembly.

CSLP 2023 Social Media Toolkit Now Available

CSLP wants to help you schedule posts on your library's social networks by offering you pre-written posts and the artwork found in our 2023 Social Media Toolkit. This is a living document, so updates will come throughout the year.

Contact Lexi at awhitehorn@nd.gov for more information.

Digital Dimension

By Trevor Martinson

File Naming

In a [previous column](#), I talked about the software Advanced Renamer, which is a batch file renaming program. It allows you to rename multiple files or folders instantly. No more manually renaming each individual file or folder. It's a highly useful software. However, if you have an appropriate file naming system, it's a software you will hopefully not have to use often.

The importance of filenames cannot be understated. It's the primary identifier for digital files. It's the first thing you see when glancing at the digital file in its folder. William Shakespeare may find names irrelevant (a not-so-subtle reference to the "What's in a name?" quote from Romeo and Juliet), but in the digital world, they are everything (sorry, Bill).

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Promote Community Health with the Relationship-Driven Library (WebJunction)

Multiple Dates

Register at <https://bit.ly/41gHk2N>

[Let's Move in Libraries](#) is an international initiative to get people of all ages and abilities on the path to health. During the month of April, Let's Move in Libraries will host a series of online conversations on community collaboration and community health. Each conversation features 2-4 librarians sharing their experiences working collaboratively with others to promote community health. After the discussion, you're invited to stay in the room for a half hour open conversation about that week's topic. Each conversation takes place on a Thursday in April, 2023. Recordings will be shared on the [Let's Move in Libraries YouTube channel](#).

Speaking Volumes: Podcasts for Patrons and Professionals (Niche Academy)

Wednesday, March 8 (1:00 PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3JbaJoB>

Interested in connecting to your community through storytelling? How about developing an oral history project? Perhaps you'd like a low-barrier way to inform and reach out to patrons? If you'd like to know more, then this webinar is for you!

Junior Tidal will guide librarians through the lifecycle process of creating a podcast. This includes writing the podcast, recording, and publishing. Participants will learn the basics: how to plan out a podcast, make a recording, and share episodes with listeners.



Interdisciplinary Instruction: School Librarians and Social Studies/History Classes

It is not uncommon for social studies/history educators and librarians to unite at least once (and preferably several times) during the school year. After all, the topic of history contains strong research roots, an area in which librarians are well-versed!

Tips for Working Most Effectively with History Classes

While history teachers and librarians teaming up might seem quite natural, there are some ways to make these partnerships more meaningful, such as

1. Ask the history teacher what exact skills they want students to exercise. Using primary sources? Contextualizing (thinking about or providing information about the situation in which an event occurred)? Sourcing (using the author or creator's background to help determine the purpose of a material)? Corroboration (finding evidence to support a claim or theory)? (Hull, & La Marca)
2. Offer supporting materials (both digital and printed) for topics taught in history classes. This might be a combination of nonfictional and fictional materials.

[Read More](#)

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

Libraries and Patrons With Memory Loss

Simply put, memories are formed when neurons create connections within the brain (Science, n.d.). Over one's lifetime, countless memories will be fashioned. However, no one remembers all their memories. Memory loss, to some degree, is a completely healthy and expected part of life. However, some people experience substantial memory loss. This is typically either through head traumas or accidents, medical or recreational drug use, traumatic emotional disorders or experiences, as well as Alzheimer's, dementia, strokes, and severe seizures. In some cases, memories can be restored to healthy levels; in others, the majority of the loss is permanent. Libraries should be prepared to accommodate patrons who are experiencing memory loss, whether those conditions be short- or long-term.

[Read More](#)



ND Tax Department

It's that time again - Tax Season. ND Tax has all the resources you will need for your patrons to file their North Dakota taxes. On the Tax Department website, you can find just about all state tax forms, guidelines needed for filing taxes, withholding taxes, and defining taxes, and tips and information for individuals, businesses, local government, software developers, and tax professionals. If one of your patrons is thinking about starting a business, refer them to the ND Tax website for all their business tax responsibilities.

Your patrons can set up a North Dakota Taxpayer Access Point (ND TAP) that will provide them with a means of paying online, updating addresses and corporate officers, looking up refunds, and applying for fuel and alcohol licenses. I encourage you to check out the ND Tax website at <https://www.tax.nd.gov/> and see how this website can help your patrons who are looking for tax forms or state tax information.

Bite-Sized Digital Citizenship: Scaffolding Big Ideas for Early Elementary Students Submitted by Tammy Kruger

On February 13th, Common Sense Education presented a webinar with edWeb. The hosts were two former elementary educators, Jennifer Ehehalt and Erikk Henderson-Hood. The topic at hand involved quick and easy digital citizenship lessons for kindergarten through second graders. Each lesson takes approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. While the presenters did discuss some strategies that would likely work better in a regular classroom setting, many of the ideas could easily be employed by librarians.

All resources come from www.commonsense.org/education (this website offers lesson plans for 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12, as well). Since this webinar focused on early elementary students, emphasis was placed on introducing kids to simple concepts about responsible media and technology use. To begin, students are introduced to the Digital Citizens: Arms, Guts, Heart, Feet, Legs, and Head. Each character focuses on a specific aspect of online behavior, such as practicing digital kindness or asking questions to determine if something is the truth or a lie. The Digital Citizens also introduce young pupils to vocabulary words, as well as encourage discussion and connection within the classroom.

[Read More](#)

Grant Opportunity

Rural Library Grant (American Heart Association)

Deadline: March 2

The American Heart Association's mission is to be a relentless force for a world of longer healthier lives. That mission is underscored by our Guiding Values which include "meeting people where they are" and "building powerful partnerships." Libraries – especially in rural communities – offer a tremendous opportunity to do both of those things and we want to collaborate with you to tackle health disparities in a comprehensive, sustainable way.

While much of this work does not require expansive funding (project budgets are often well under \$1500), we do know that tangible resources are limited, and we want to help meet that need. Therefore, we are offering up to \$10k in grants to rural libraries to help build capacity for sustainable opportunities to address health concerns.

Send In Your Summer Reading Program Ideas Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Do you have an idea for the Summer Reading Program that you want to share with others? Send in ideas, pictures, explanations, etc., to Lexi Whitehorn at awhitehorn@nd.gov to see them listed on the new Summer Reading LibGuide.



**LJ DAY OF
DIALOG**
FREE VIRTUAL EVENT
MAY 4, 2023



Public Libraries Survey

The Public Libraries Survey (PLS) opened on February 1 and will run until March 31. This survey is conducted annually and is the primary information resource for data on public libraries nationwide. In North Dakota, it is also a requirement for public libraries to qualify for State Aid and to meet the minimum requirements to be eligible for Library Vision Grants. More information can be found at <https://library-nd.libguides.com/PLS>.

If you have any questions while completing the Public Libraries Survey, please contact James at nds-lid@nd.gov.

Kit of the Week

Book Club Kit: “The Alice Network” by Kate Quinn

1947. In the chaotic aftermath of World War II, American college girl Charlie St. Clair is pregnant, unmarried, and on the verge of being thrown out of her very proper family. She’s also nursing a desperate hope that her beloved cousin Rose, who disappeared in Nazi-occupied France during the war, might still be alive. So when Charlie’s parents banish her to Europe to have her “little problem” taken care of, Charlie breaks free and heads to London, determined to find out what happened to the cousin she loves like a sister.

1915. A year into the Great War, Eve Gardiner burns to join the fight against the Germans and unexpectedly gets her chance when she’s recruited to work as a spy. Sent into enemy-occupied France, she’s trained by the mesmerizing Lili, code name Alice, the “queen of spies”, who manages a vast network of secret agents right under the enemy’s nose. Thirty years later, haunted by the betrayal that ultimately tore apart the Alice Network, Eve spends her days drunk and secluded in her crumbling London house. Until a young American barges in uttering a name Eve hasn’t heard in decades, and launches them both on a mission to find the truth... no matter where it leads.



Reserve it today at <https://polaris.odinlibrary.org>.

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Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent

Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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