

Retirement Best Wishes

Submitted by State Librarian Mary Soucie

The North Dakota State Library wishes Carmen Redding a long and happy retirement. Carmen has worked for NDSL for 7 years. She joined NDSL as the first school library specialist after 35 years as a teacher and school librarian. In 2020, Carmen became the Director of the Library Services Division. Carmen's positivity, willingness to learn, and servant leadership will be greatly missed not only by her NDSL colleagues but also colleagues across the state. Carmen's retirement date was August 9.



Libraries in the News

[West Fargo Public Library hosts "Chopped Challenge for Teens" \(KVRR News\)](#). "Around ten kids served up their most creative dishes in the "Chopped Challenge for Teens" at West Fargo Public Library. They had between ten to twelve minutes to create a dessert from a combination of three unique ingredients and one was pickles..."



Women's Biographies for Elementary

Ryan Reynolds starred in a movie called School of Life in 2005. If you have not seen it, you're certainly not the only one! (Thank you, suggested movies on YouTube!) In this film, Reynolds portrayed a high school history teacher. He often used unconventional methods in his lessons, which the students adored. One of his popular sayings involved the importance of "herstory" since an awful lot of history does center around (primarily white) men. Women's history is a large part of world and United States' history and should be addressed as such. Keeping that in mind, this Top Picks focuses on biographies of women who left their mark on society.

1) *Just Being Audrey* by Margaret Cardillo

Publish Date: 2011

Publisher: Balzer + Bray

Summary: While Audrey Hepburn is often best known for her roles in movies such as "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "Roman Holiday," and "My Fair Lady," this performer started out with far humbler roots. As she grew up and gained fame, she still led with her heart, even going on to becoming an ambassador for UNICEF, the very organization that helped her when she was young!

Best For: Kindergarten through Fifth Grade



Continue Reading

Contemplations

By Kathy Jo Cline

Indigenous Images in Literature: Part 2

In the previous article, I touched on why Native Americans are coming forward to tell stories. Not just tell stories but tell stories from their perspective. I am happy to see this movement because I believe Native Americans are the experts in telling their own stories. In this final writing, I explain why Dr. Lee Francis IV and Michael Sheyashe, chose to use graphic novels to tell Native American stories.

According to Dr. Lee, we live in a digital, visual world where young people are looking for quick stories like those presented on Tick Tock or YouTube. Graphic novels, or comics, are a way to connect young readers to complex topics such as sovereignty, genocide, or historical relevance. Drawn and animated images, which appeal to all ages, break down such complex topics into stories accessible and understandable by young minds. Through panels, gutters, and pages, graphic novels convey more concise information in less time and space than words. More visual representation and fewer words allow for reading to be a tangible and engaging experience for the reader which makes learning powerful and compelling. Dr. Lee further explains that graphic novels allow literacy to be scaffolded, shade and frame ideas in a different format, and can be used to realign visual interpretation and historical context.

[Continue Reading](#)

Digital Delight

Tangsruds Swathing Rye, Divide County, N.D., 1955



Norbert Tangsrud and Ray Tangsrud swathing rye on a field in Divide County, North Dakota. One of the men sits on a McCormick-Deering tractor pulling the swather. The other man stands behind the tractor.

<https://bit.ly/47ufjYD>

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (North Dakota Memories Collection, ND State Library)



Introduction to Marketing Minute

Marketing is a word that gets thrown around a lot. But what is it?

Marketing involves the actions that a library undertakes to draw people in and keep them. It includes the relationships that you build and maintain with the people in your community. You are the link between your patron's needs and the resources and services your library provides. According to "Library Marketing Basics" by Mark Aaron Polger, library marketing is the mix of promotions, events, user research, and activities that help meet the needs and desires of your target audiences.¹

[Continue Reading](#)

Dial-A-Story Grant Opportunity

Submitted by Monica Struck

Stories in the Cloud is offering a grant for one free year of Dial-a-Story. Dial-a-Story allows libraries to provide recorded books through a dedicated phone line. Patrons can dial a number and listen to a pre-recorded story. It is a way to bring the library to people who might not be able to make it into the building and don't have the smartphone/computer for Libby access. In addition to the free year of Dial-a-Story, the grant will provide a studio-quality microphone for recording. Libraries with no more than five locations serving populations of less than 250,000 are eligible to apply. The application deadline is August 15.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Talking Book Update

2024 Summer Internships

Applications for the 2024 Erica C. Vaughns Aspiring Leaders Internship Program are due November 1. The program offers legally blind college students and recent graduates an opportunity to work at NLS for 12 to 15 weeks over the summer in areas of study or interest.

The program was renamed this year in memory of Erica Vaughns, who created and managed it and was a dedicated NLS employee for nearly 20 years until her death in February.

[Learn More](#)

Solar Science Activities

Submitted by BreAnne Meier

North America will have two solar eclipses in the coming months – An annular eclipse occurs on Saturday, October 14, 2023, and a total eclipse occurs on Monday, April 8, 2024.

Although North Dakota will not be in the path of a total eclipse, we will be able to experience partial eclipses on those days. These are great times to think about hosting programs for your community!

If you haven't already registered to receive FREE Eclipse Glasses for your public library, you can request them at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BT58RYV>.

If you are looking for programming that is fun for all ages, definitely check out the [STEM Activity Clearinghouse](#) from StarNet: Science-Technology Activities and Resources for Libraries. Activity ideas include eclipse chalk art, shadow tracing, pinhole viewer, a guide to building solar eclipse viewers, and more! Each activity includes the age group(s) it's appropriate for, the time it takes to complete the activity, the difficulty level, and an approximate cost.

The North Dakota State Library has a kit called Sun, Earth, Moon Connections, which focuses on activities and experiences that better help patrons understand their place in space and how the Sun and Moon impact our planet. It includes an activity that models both lunar and solar eclipses, sorting cards to explore concepts relating to size, distance, and temperature, detecting ultraviolet light, and an activity that allows for a greater understanding of the vast scale of our Solar System. It also includes two pairs of sunoculars to safely view the sun. Reserve it at <https://bit.ly/3YsNCvg>.

New solar science kits will be added to the catalog in the coming weeks that include a solar telescope, a SunSpotter, and sunoculars. More information will be included in a future issue of the Flickertale.

For more information about eclipses, visit <https://bit.ly/440U0uR>.

If you have any questions, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

Summer Reading

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn



WOW! What a great turn out for summer reading! Throughout ND, readers of all ages read over 155,000 minutes! That is the equivalent of 107 days! Congratulations to all those who participated in your local library summer reading program.

But just because summer reading is over, doesn't mean YOUR summer reading is over! After all, it may be August but it's still summer! The August Back 2 School Reading challenge is up and ready for you. This month's goal is to read 300 minutes.

Don't forget about our ongoing challenges: 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, 500 Books Before Middle School, and 100 Books Before Graduation. Finishers of these challenges will get a certificate of completion signed by the State Superintendent and State Librarian.



[Learn More](#)



Outdoor Game: Giant Dice



These dice are great for honing the entire family's math skills. Instructions on how to play Farkle and Rollzee (similar to Yahtzee) are included. Practice keeping score and measuring probability.

This kit includes six giant dice, one scoreboard and marker, one bag and one folder with instructions (for Farkle and Rollzee) and questions to think deeper about STEM topics.

[Reserve A Kit](#)

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To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov. Times referenced are Central Time.