NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY

# FLICKERTALE

VOLUME 45 · NUMBER 5 · MAY 2015

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION REVIEW

This year's legislative session was 78 days long, leaving 2 days for the legislators to use. The State Library monitored a number of bills this year and provided testimony for three bills.

SB2013 was the Department of Public Instruction's budget bill, which included the State Library's budget. We are excited that when adopted, the bill contained the additional monies for Public Library State Aid, bringing it to full funding per statute for the first time since implementation. Also included in the bill is one-time funding of $250,000 for renovation and repair grants for public libraries. These will require a 1-1 match. We are developing the grant applications and will keep you apprised of the process for applying for the funds in the new biennium. We had also requested authority to expand Library Vision grants, which are administered by the NDLCC, to more than technology. This appears to have been approved as well. The next round of NDLCC grants will be announced in September and due in October.

SB2091 was a bill that the State Library requested to allow the NDLA President to appoint a designee to serve on the Library Coordinating Council if the NDLA President is already on the board when s/he takes office. This passed both chambers and the Governor signed it into law fairly early on in the session. This was the first testimony I gave and I was glad to start with such an easy bill.

HCR3045 is a resolution, sponsored by Representative Hanson from Fargo, that will look at automation in libraries in ND. It will attempt to identify the barriers to automating and/or to joining a consortium such as ODIN. Our partners for the study include DPI, Higher Ed, ODIN, CDLN and NDLA. We requested that the study also explore development of a delivery system for library materials.

We watched several bills that were focused on tax reform. SB2056, SB2144 and HB1055 all focused on clarifying language. HB1055 would have changed the references of mills to cents but it failed. SB2056 clarifies that the elected board issues the levy; an appointed board requests the levy while SB2144 clarified levy language and unified the language in varying sections of the Century Code(NDCC). There was no change to the language regarding libraries. SB2217 requires an appointed board to submit an annual financial report to the auditor of the funding body/bodies. HB1474 started out as a law but finished as a study. Legislative Management will look at current election laws with an intended goal of consolidating elections. The sponsor of the bill indicated a desire to have set election days in the spring and fall and all special elections would take place on one of those two days. We will monitor the study.

The legislature adjourned without adopting SB2022, the budget bill for the ND Public Employees Retirement System. The disputed language has to do with the change of insurance from BlueCross to Sanford Health Systems. The legislators may have to return at some point to deal with SB2022, unless the authority lays in another bill or resolution that was adopted.

We appreciate all the responses we received when we requested letters of support. We hope to see those numbers increase next biennium. We extend a special thank you to Kelly Steckler, NDLA Legislative Chair, and the NDLA Executive Board for their close communication and cooperation this year during the Legislative Session. We look forward to continuing to work closely with NDLA.

# News and Thoughts...

from State Librarian Mary J. Soucie

As I'm writing this, I am just back from Washington D.C., where I participated in the 41st ALA National Library Legislative Day and a COSLA (Chief Officers of State Library Agencies) meeting. Hundreds of librarians from all 50 states descended upon the Capitol on May 4-5. We listened to a variety of speakers, including our former Senator, the Honorable Byron Dorgan, talk about library issues and advocacy. On Tuesday, I was able to meet with aides for both of our Senators and Representative Cramer. I also had an opportunity to very briefly meet with Senator Hoeven. It was a great opportunity to share with our legislators all that our libraries in ND are doing and the different ways that they are serving the citizens of our great state. I asked for support for LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) and ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act). While ESEA does require a school librarian, it doesn't currently require a school library program. I asked our legislators to support an amendment from Senator Reed to strengthen school library programs as part of ESEA. Fortunately, all three seemed open to the discussion and to understand the value of all types of libraries.

I was also honored to serve on the NDLA Advocacy and Funding Taskforce. Funds for the taskforce to meet were provided by a Bremer Bank Foundation grant. The Taskforce was the sponsor of the ND Snapshot Day, held during National Library Week (NLW). I was excited that we had 21 libraries submit photos and/or videos to the NDLA Facebook page and 14 submitted their statistics.

| | |
|---|---|
| How many patron visits? | 4,348*/334.5 per |
| How many people used your public computers? | 1,123*/86.38 per |
| How many reference questions did your staff answer? | 517*/40 per |
| How many children participated in library programs? | 518/37 per |
| How many adults participated in library programs? | 204/15.7 per |
| What was the total circulation for the day? | 6,151/439 per |
| How many registered library card holders as of that day? | 150,838/10,774 per |

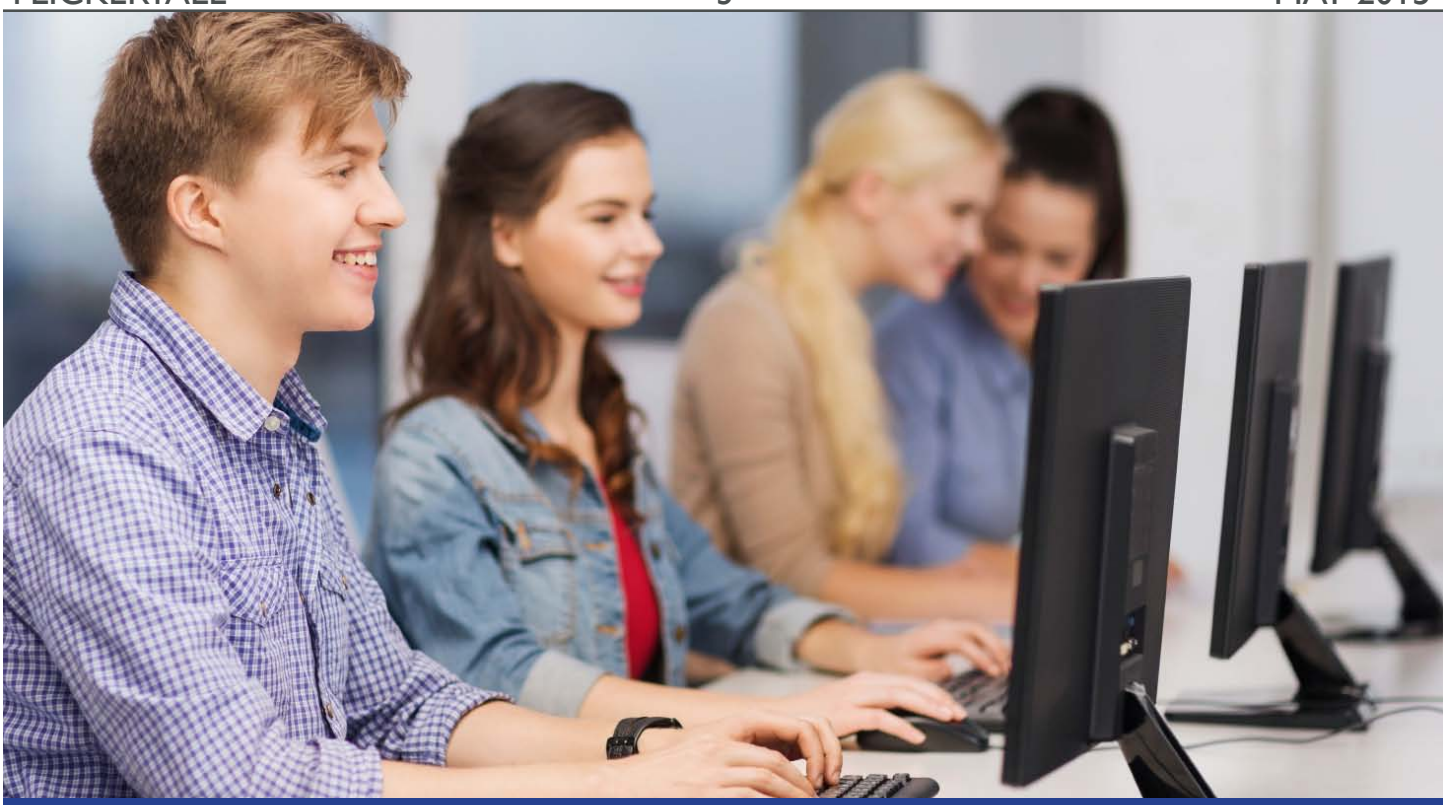
The last time ND Snapshot Day was celebrated was 2010. Several of the statistical categories saw an increase between the two events. As you can see from the number below, ND libraries are continuing to meet the needs of their patrons in new and expanded ways.

<u>Areas where the average INCREASED:</u>

- Reference Questions (40 per library in 2015, 29.2 per library in 2010)
- Children Participating in Programs (37 per library in 2015, 33 per library in 2010)
- Adults Participating in Programs (15.7 per library in 2015, 12.4 per library in 2010)

The State Library participated in National Library Week in a big way this year, with a table at the State Capitol each day, highlighting a different service offered by our libraries. We received very positive feedback on this. The number one question we were asked was when we are going to do blind date with a book again. We also received a lot of feedback on how great the libraries in the state are!

Another opportunity to celebrate libraries is "Outside the Lines", sponsored by Colorado State Library. Outside the Lines, or OTL, will be celebrated September 13-19 and is an opportunity for libraries to show their relevance. Please visit http://getoutsidethelines.org/ for more information and to sign up to participate. We had at least one ND library participate last year. If you do sign up, be sure to let me know and to share your activities with us so we can share them far and wide.



## 2015 Summer Class for 1 graduate credit:

**Do you need graduate credits for your library or teaching credentials?**

The North Dakota State Library is offering a summer class for one graduate credit on June 8 & 9, 2015. The class is 15 hours long and lasts two days. It will be held at the North Dakota State Library in Bismarck. Although it is not required, please feel free to bring a laptop or tablet as the the meeting room has access to a wireless (Wi-Fi) local network.

### Description:

*K-12 Research*

Students can be savvy Web users, but still have problems finding, evaluating, and using information for research. In this age of spin, it is especially crucial that teachers reinforce student critical thinking and research skills. This course explores and compares tools used for educational research; Internet search engines; the subscription databases; and the ODIN and WorldCat catalogs used for requesting items. The course will focus on research as a process of inquiry and not just fact-finding.

**Note: The content for the 2015 class has been revised, so feel free to register, even if you have previously taken the North Dakota State Library summer course.**

- Credit is available for Library Media Specialists from VCSU
- Credit for the summer class is available for teachers from MSU, NDSU, and UND
- The cost for the credit is $50.00 (payable to the university granting the credit)
- The class can also be taken for no credit, free of charge

For more information, please visit http://library.nd.gov/traininglibraries.html or contact Steve at 1-800-472-2104 or saxtman@nd.gov.

# ONLINE LIBRARY RESOURCE

## LearningExpress Library

Learning Express Library (LEL) is a database of tests, tutorials, and ebooks.

- Prepare for occupation exams: Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Real Estate, Culinary Arts, Firefighting, Teaching, Nursing, Allied health programs, and more
- Prepare for military exams: ASVAB, CFAT, Officer Candidate
- Prepare for Graduate School Admissions exams: GRE, LSAT, GMAT
- Prepare for the CLEP exams
- Prepare for college admission: ACT, SAT, TOEFL, AP
- Prepare for the GED test
- Learn computer basics, Internet basics, operating systems, and popular software tools like Word, Excel, or Adobe Photoshop
- Explore occupations or search for jobs and internships.
- LEL is linked to Simply Hired, a database/website of currently available jobs.
- You can even apply for jobs directly from LEL
- Create resumes and cover letters
- Prep for interviews
- Adult learning: Build math skills, Become a better reader, Improve writing & grammar, Become a U.S. citizen

If you would like more information, contact Steve at 1-800-472-2104 or saxtman@nd.gov

Summer SUMMIT

# Save the Date

August 5: Grand Forks
August 6: West Fargo
August 10: Jamestown
August 11: Bismarck
August 13: Minot

REGISTER http://bit.ly/1NyXEU4

## New Librarian Resources at the State Library

- Creative management of small public libraries in the 21st century
- Film programming for public libraries
- Makerspaces : top trailblazing projects
- No T. rex in the library (library etiquette picture book)
- Copyright unbalanced : from incentive to excess
- The public domain : how to find & use copyright-free writings, music, art & more (7th ed.)
- Book by book : the complete guide to creating mother-daughter book clubs
- The Pope's bookbinder : a memoir
- The dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown : civil rights, censorship, and the American library
- Storm center (DVD; 1956 Bette Davis film based on the above Ruth Brown case)
- Robot & Frank (DVD; 2013 feature film; plot includes attempt to close public library)
- Out of print (DVD; 2013 documentary on the rise of e-books)

# FREE TRAINING WEBINARS

These webinars are free, live, and interactive. You will connect to audio using a headset or speakers. If you do not have a microphone, you can use chat to ask questions. You can find more webinars and training opportunities on our Facebook page under the events tab! http://on.fb.me/1xOGaLB

## Zinio (NDSL)

REGISTER: http://bit.ly/1F5XjEx

*Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 10:30-11:30 AM Central Time*

Access over 100 popular full color e-magazines via any smart device. There are no holds, no checkout periods, and no limit to the number of magazines you can download. Learn how to connect, browse, create an account, and add magazines to your personal collection.

## NoveList (NDSL)

REGISTER: http://bit.ly/1IgzBEr

*Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 3:30-4:30 PM Central Time*

NoveList K-8 Plus and NoveList Plus are readers' advisory tools for fiction and nonfiction that connect readers to books. Content is created by librarians and educational specialists. View recommended readings lists by age, genre, fiction, or nonfiction. Find titles, authors, series or read-alikes. You can also search by Lexile reading level and Dewey range. This webinar is an overview of both resources.

## Beyond Book Groups: Fun Library Programs for Adult Readers (Web Junction)

REGISTER: http://bit.ly/1JQpxUS

*Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 1:00-2:00 PM Central Time*

Think outside the book group! Libraries are re-engaging with adult readers and sharing books with them in innovative new ways and in unconventional places. From pop-up programming on planes, trains and ferries, to Books on Tap, a literary sport over local brews, jump into the programming sandbox to explore creative ideas for reaching new adult audiences and delighting the bibliophiles in your own community.

## Beyond Book Sales: Practical Ideas for Raising Funds for Your Library (Web Junction)

REGISTER: http://bit.ly/1PoYzlC

*Tuesday, June 23, 2015, 1:00-2:00 PM Central Time*

Although book sales have been a standard library fundraiser, they take a lot of time and effort, with dwindling returns on investment in recent years. Whether considering new types of events or tried-and-true activities, you'll learn the "12 Must-Know Facts about Fundraising." Find out how to assess your library's capacity for fundraising, enlist the right volunteers, engage the community, and create a sustainable plan to boost your library's bottom line and raise visibility. With this strong foundation, libraries of any size can move into new directions to grow support for their libraries.

## IT Security for Libraries (NCompass Live)

REGISTER: http://1.usa.gov/1F5Xhwn

*Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 10:00-11:00 AM Central Time*

Most any library can be a target, so join Blake Carver and get some ideas on how to make your library and your home more secure. Carver covers privacy and shares ways to stay safe online. He also talks about secure passwords and network security, as well as hardware and PC security. Carver discusses tricks system administrators can do with servers to make things safer for you and your patrons.

*DISCLAIMER: The ND State Library highlights third-party webinars as a way to alert the library community to training opportunities. By doing so, we are not endorsing the content, nor promoting any specific product.*

# BASICS OF THE FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND PROGRAM
by Al Peterson

On March 2, 1899, "an act regulating the postage on letters written by the blind" was passed by Congress. This piece of legislation was the first such postal law benefiting blind persons in the United States. Five years later, Congress established the first Free Matter for the Blind mailing program. Since 1904, the United States Congress has established a funding subsidy to the US Postal Office that allows persons with a visual impairment, blindness, or other physical limitation to mail and receive Braille materials, Large Print (14 point or higher), Talking Books and players without needing postage. Institutions serving qualified persons can also take advantage of the Free Matter for the Blind and Handicapped designation to mail and receive materials.

## WHO MAY QUALIFY TO MAIL ITEMS FREE OF POSTAGE?

Persons who are blind or who cannot use or read conventionally printed material due to a physical handicap. Other handicaps that can prevent normal reading include disabling paralysis, and muscle or nerve deterioration affecting coordination and control.

## WHAT MUST A PERSON DO TO BE ELIGIBLE TO MAIL ITEMS FREE OF POSTAGE?

The person must have a competent authority certify in writing that he or she is unable to read conventional reading material. A competent authority includes a licensed medical doctor, ophthalmologist, optometrist, registered nurse, or professional staff member of a hospital or other institution or agency.

## WHICH MATERIAL MAY BE MAILED FREE OF POSTAGE?

Under the conditions specified below, the following material is eligible:

1. Books, magazines, musical scores, and other reading matter, or pages or parts thereof, in raised characters (Braille), large print, or recorded form.
2. Paper, records, tapes, and other matter for the production of reading matter, musical scores, or sound reproductions for eligible persons.
3. Equipment and parts for equipment used for writing by eligible persons or for educational purposes.
4. Sound playback equipment specially designed or adapted for the use of visually handicapped persons.
5. Equipment or parts for equipment specifically designed or adapted for use by visually handicapped persons, such as Braille watches, white canes, and similar equipment.

## WHO CAN MAIL ELIGIBLE MATERIAL FREE AND TO WHOM CAN IT BE MAILED?

Individuals, libraries, and other noncommercial organizations serving eligible persons may mail the above material free of postage to eligible persons and to organizations serving eligible persons. Eligible persons may return materials to the lenders free of postage.

## CAN LETTERS BE MAILED FREE OF POSTAGE?

Letters in raised characters (Braille), in 14- point or larger sight-saving type, or in the form of sound recordings may be mailed free of postage from an eligible person.

Handwritten or typewritten letters, however, are subject to the applicable rate of postage when mailed to or from an eligible person. Envelopes marked as Free Matter must be unsealed.

*Continues on page 8*

## FREE BOOKMARKS

First Lady Betsy Dalrymple has an offer she would like to extend to any library or librarian interested:

She has bookmarks printed that she passes out to students whenever she visits a school. The bookmarks encourage children to read every day.

She would like to make these bookmarks available to libraries across the state for use during their summer reading programs.

If you would like to request these bookmarks at no cost to you, please contact:

Sarah Johnson at 701-328-1010 or firstlady@nd.gov

## FREE MATTER BASICS CONTINUED...

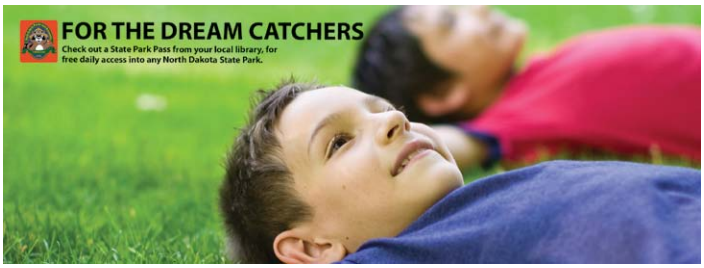
**WHAT MUST BE MARKED ON MAIL TO SHOW THAT IT IS QUALIFIED FOR MAILING FREE OF POSTAGE?**

In the upper right corner of the address side of the envelope or parcel where the postage would normally be placed, the words "FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR HANDICAPPED" must be placed. The words may be printed, rubber stamped, or handwritten.

If you have any questions concerning Free Matter for the Blind and Handicapped, please see the following publication for the USPS, http://about.usps.com/publications/pub347.pdf or contact your local Post Master. You can also contact the North Dakota State Library Talking Books program at 1-800-843-9948.

## STATE PARK PASS PROGRAM

The State Library has come up with some new marketing materials for the State Park Program. There are Park Pass flyers (PDF's) and Facebook banner images (previewed below) available for download at www.library.nd.gov/marketing. We also have mass quantities of Park Pass guides available upon request. If you want additional or replacement park passes to check out to your patrons or additional window clings, contact kbyram@nd.gov. If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact your Library Development Specialist.



# SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

## RGK FOUNDATION — DEADLINE: ONGOING

The Foundation's primary interests within education include programs that focus on formal K-12 education, teacher development, literacy, and higher education, along with a broad range of human services, community improvement, and youth development programs. Before you can apply for the grant, an electronic Letter of Inquiry must be sent and approved. Grants are made only to nonprofit organizations with tax exempt certification under Sections 501(c)(3) or 170(c) and are classified as not a private foundation.

To find out more information: http://bit.ly/1FbfF51

## FIRST BOOK — DEADLINE: ONGOING

First Book is a nonprofit that provides new books and educational resources to schools and programs serving children from low-income families for free and at low cost. Registration is required to ensure that the books go to organizations that serve children from low-income families.

To find out more or apply, visit their site at: http://bit.ly/1HbDwkG

## MAZDA FOUNDATION — DEADLINE: JULY 1

Mazda Foundation is dedicated to building a better tomorrow through support of meaningful programs that make a difference and promote education and literacy. Organizations must have a 501(c)(3) designation.

To find out more or apply, visit their site at: http://bit.ly/1bMm4HT

## BEST BUY FOUNDATION — DEADLINE: JUNE 29

The Best Buy Foundation is donating up to $2 million in Community Grants to support local efforts in helping teens build 21st century skills by utilizing cutting-edge technology in a wide range of areas, including (but not limited to) audio production, 3D printing, computer maintenance, filmmaking, maker faires, programming, coding, robotics, and web site design. The average grant amount is $5,000 and will not exceed $10,000. The program must be within 50 miles of a Best Buy store or other Best Buy center of operations.

To find out more or apply, visit their site at: http://bit.ly/1dZ64UT

## LOWE'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS GRANTS — DEADLINE: AUGUST 28

Lowe's Community Partners grant program provides monetary assistance to nonprofit organizations and municipalities looking for support of high-need projects, including building renovations and upgrades, grounds improvements, technology upgrades, and safety improvements. Grants range from $2,000 to $100,000 and are available to 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and public agencies in communities where Lowe's operates stores and distribution centers.

To find out more or apply, visit their site at: http://bit.ly/1pcm3ln

# North Dakota Library Tidbits

- Ward County Public Library received $20,400 from the Otto Bremer Foundation for shelving and furnishings
- Leach Public Library started a Pinterest Inspired Crafts program
- Carrington City Library held a pancake breakfast hosted by the Carrington High School National Honor Society
- Carrington City Library held a book bag sale ($5.00 per bag of books) during National Library Week
- McVille Community Library held a Spring Vendor Fair/Bake Sale
- Minot Public Library hosted a free grant seeking workshop for nonprofit organizations led by Kief Schladweiler
- Stanley Public Library hosted a LEGO Building Contest for grades K-6. Kids built a character or a scene from a book they read using LEGOs
- Underwood Public Library held a "Blind Date with a Book" event
- Cavalier Public Library received $1500 from the Presbyterian Thrift Store for a new building
- Minnewaukan Library received a $500 grant from the Northern Plains Electric Operation Round Up Board for books
- Bowman Regional Public Library held its first annual Edible Book Contest
- Bowman Regional Public Library had a penny drive to help fund new technology for the children's department
- Forman Public Library celebrated their 75th anniversary
- Fargo Public Library celebrated National Everyone Matters Day; celebrating the diversity and dignity of people
- Walhalla Public Library received a donation of new book shelves from UPS Supply Chain Solutions in Pembina
- Minot Public Library received a grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation to establish North Dakota's first Library Makerspace, which has equipment that can be used to "make video games, write and film commercials, add special effects to photos and videos, and animate drawings"
- Garrison Public Library hosted a shelfie event (patrons took a selfie with books)
- Ellen McKinnon shared information about homeless veterans as a guest speaker for McVille Community Library's ElderSpeak program.
- The Friends of the James River Library System hosted a Read Local event (a local author reads and signs book)
- The James River Valley Library System offered "Introduction to Modern Computing 101," taught by Justin Batz
- Minot Public Library held its annual Grandparents Tea
- Ellendale Public Library is conducting a "Love Your Library" fundraising campaign during April and May by placing donation jars in local businesses
- Sarah Jensen retired as Mohall Public Librarian
- Forman Public Library held their annual Children's Easter Party that included egg dying, games, crafts, and special treats
- Leach Public Library has a brand new roof, new front steps, a new front door, and repaired and freshly painted walls
- Valley City-Barnes County Public Library received a $7,500 Image Enhancement Grant from Valley City to help fund work on the building's exterior

*Continues on page 11*

# North Dakota Library Tidbits Continued..

- Edna Ralston Library received a $23,629 grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation for an expansion that includes a children's library
- Valley City-Barnes County Public Library held a concert by twin brothers and musicians John and Joe DeMasi
- New England Public Library is selling petunias, pansies, marigolds, geraniums, tomatoes, and pepper plants from the Taylor Nursery for their annual fundraiser
- Casselton Public Library received a grant from the Libri Foundation for 86 new books
- Lakota City Library received a $2,500 donation from Nelson County farmer Rick Marquart and America's Farmers Grow Community, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, to help the library expand and update their children's and audio book collections
- Lakota City Library held a blind date plus a wine tasting event, this included at least eight different varieties of wine and some appetizers

## LOVE FOR THE GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

National Library Week was a heart filled event at the Grand Forks Public Library. Patrons were encouraged to leave a heart stating a reason why they loved their library. Each heart was tacked to the front of the circulation desk and the library became filled with love! Each heart was then put into a basket, three names were drawn and each person received a $25 gift card to Olive Garden! The Grand Forks Public Library really felt the love!

## NLW at Garrison

Garrison Public Library had a busy National Library Week. Staff received gifts from the Friends of the Library Group. They hosted daily open houses with refreshments served and celebrated their bookmobile driver!

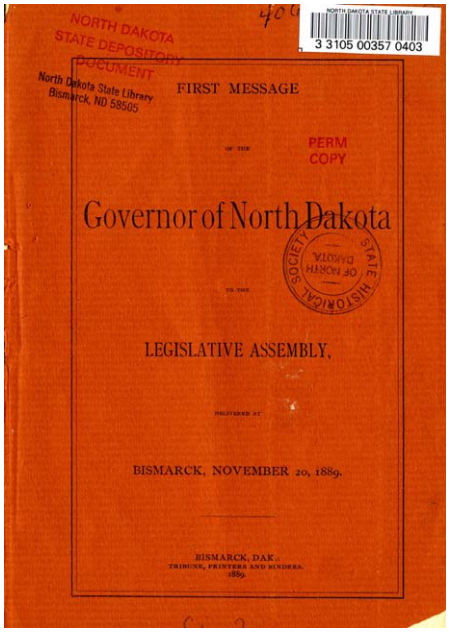
*Our Director Janelle, staff person Judy & patron Dennis.*

## Hazen Turns 50

Hazen Public Library just turned 50. They had a large celebration at the library. The library had games, treats, and a library scrapbook out to help celebrate the big event. Congratulations Hazen!

*Hazen Public Library Director, Val Albrecht*

# DiGiTAL DELiGHTS




Check out the new State Documents Collection. Ever wonder what the first governor said to the first legislature? A large majority of the Governors' addresses to the Legislature are available for full text searching. Some of the 1890's addresses have the governor's pardons listed—was there a black sheep in your family?

Credit Line: North Dakota State Library State Documents Collection

Check out the website at http://digitalhorizonsonline.org/ —see how many digital North Dakota gems you can find! Check out our new landing page.

Link to image: http://bit.ly/1HjanCZ

Please submit library news and Flickertale "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" requests to ndslpa@nd.gov.

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