



## Let The Quilting Adventures Begin!

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Last year, I put out a call for libraries to participate in an "All Together Now" quilt. Nine libraries, including the ND State Library, created square quilt blocks to represent their library and mailed them in. These individual blocks came together in a beautiful quilt.



We once again will be collaborating across the state in an "Adventure Begins at Your Library" quilt. There are no restrictions to the quilt besides the size. Any library wishing to participate should send a 9x9 quilt block to:

**Lexi Whitehorn, NDSL**  
**604 E. Boulevard Ave.**  
**Bismarck, ND 58505**

Submissions should be received by **August 31st**. If things go correctly, we'll have the Adventure quilt available for show at NDLA in October.

## Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

### Service Animals in the Library

#### What Constitutes a Service Animal?

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) a service animal is "a dog (or miniature horse) that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability" (RUSA, 2021). Service animals help their handlers with health concerns such as blindness or low vision, deafness or lack of hearing, autism, mobility or dexterity disabilities, psychiatric disabilities, diabetes, heart frailties, and epilepsy (RUSA, 2021).

Service animals, on average, cost \$15,000 to \$30,000 to train. Most can learn about 30 simple and complex commands. These creatures are trained to ignore distractions but also notice changes in their humans' bodies as well as obstacles or modifications in the environment that might negatively affect their handlers. Since service animals are so specifically trained, it is possible for one owner to have more than one service animal (Chessher, 2024).

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# Digital Dimension

By Trevor Martinson

## Software Overview: FastStone Image Viewer

Software for digitization projects or digital collection management can get expensive, particularly when you need multiple programs for different purposes (editing, converting, renaming, etc.) and formats (images, documents, video, audio, OCR, etc.). The [Digital Initiatives department](#) is all for low-cost options when it comes to software.

About two years ago, an [overview was provided on XnConvert](#), a batch image editor and converter. For this month's column, we'll examine a similar image software: [FastStone Image Viewer](#) (FSIV). According to its website, FSIV is an "image browser, converter and editor that supports all major graphic formats" (which includes all of the usual formats: JPEG, JPEG 2000, GIF, PNG, and TIFF).

The "viewer" part of the software's name is a little deceiving because it can do so much more. Its website boasts that it "has a nice array of features such as image viewing, management, comparison, red-eye removal, emailing, resizing, cropping, color adjustments, musical slideshow and much more."

How is FSIV different than the wonderful XnConvert? XnConvert is a wonderful tool, but it does have a weakness with its grayscale to black & white conversion (8-bit to 1-bit). The output on XnConvert comes out grainy. However, FSIV's conversion from grayscale to black & white does not have any issues.

FSIV is reliable and user-friendly. It is free for private and educational use, and about \$35 per license for commercial use.

Digital Initiatives

## Library Tidbits

**Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library** and **Heart of America Library** will be hosting Author Amma Mamma for a Ukulele Sing-Along and book reading and signing.

**Kidder County Public Library** hosted Brent from the Dakota Zoo, who brought Cheeto the hedgehog, Holly the ferret, Cierra and Ozark the box turtles, and Monty the boa constrictor to meet 91 community members.

[Lake Region Public Library](#) hosted Author Greg Otis to share his book "Grandpa's White Cane". Each child received a free copy of the book.

[Morton Mandan Public Library](#) held a Chalk Fest where people in the community created an outdoor gallery of art on the sidewalks at Dykshoorn Park.

[West Fargo Public Library](#) had record high numbers for circulation, visits, program attendance, and library card sign-ups in June.

## ACTION FILMS IN AUGUST





## International Peace Garden 2024 Theme: Children's Books and Reading!

Submitted by Debra McCallum, Education and Volunteer Coordinator

The International Peace Garden's 2024 theme is Children's Books and Reading! We invite you to participate in a wonderful literacy experience as you journey through the garden, with Classic Characters from toddler books to pre-teen featured in the floral designs, including Alice in Wonderland, the Wizard of Oz, the Very Hungry Caterpillar, Clifford the Big Red Dog, and others. Watch for the Cheshire Cat grinning at you as you enter the IPG! Can you find Toto from the Wizard of Oz?

We are excited to invite you to a special experience! Ten Story Boxes containing a curated selection of books connected to the floral designs and theme of their location can be enjoyed by children visiting throughout the summer. This unique initiative aims to spark a love for reading and imagination in our young visitors while fostering a sense of community and peace. Imagine spending a sunny afternoon in the beautiful surroundings of the Peace Garden, reading together, and discussing the books you read!

Embark on an enchanting journey through nature as you immerse yourself in the pages of "Walking Together" along our captivating Story Stroll in the Nature Play Park area. Flow through the sixteen stations as you read the pages of this beautiful book. Co-authored by Elder Dr. Albert D. Marshall and Louise Zimanyi and illustrated by Emily Kewageshig, this innovative picture book introduces readers to the concept of Etuaptmumk- or Two-Eyed Seeing, the gift of multiple perspectives in the Mi'kmaw language, as we follow a group of young children connecting to nature as their teacher.

Storytime in the Garden takes place Wednesdays from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM, featuring a different library from North Dakota or Manitoba each week. Please join us in the Atrium of the Conservatory for the book reading and follow-up activity. Please visit <https://www.peacegarden.com/event-calendar/> to see the featured library for each week. If you have additional questions, please contact Debra McCallum at 701-263-4390 (ext. 138) or [coordinator@peacegarden.com](mailto:coordinator@peacegarden.com).

We look forward to seeing you and your family at the International Peace Garden. Let's create magical literacy memories and inspire a love of books while reading in the garden!

International Peace Garden



### First Year Academic Students and Information Literacy Lessons

I recently viewed a webinar on developing information literacy (IL) lessons for first-year academic students. This article is a summary of the webinar in which Lauren Hays, PhD was the presenter.

Ms. Hays opened the presentation by commenting that academic librarians are now working with Generation Z students. This generation has many different characteristics than previous generations, but it's important to focus on what the generations have in common rather than their differences. For example, no matter what generation one comes from, attending college for the first time may cause anxiety. Many individuals are leaving home for the first time and might experience emotions associated with separation. And everyone, no matter what generation, wants to have relationships and feel included and supported while going through new experiences.

Continue Reading

# Kit of the Week

## "Deliverance Mary Fields: First African American Woman Star Route Mail Carrier in the United States: A Montana History" by Miantae Metcalf McConnell

1885-1914. Mary Fields, a fifty-three-year-old second-generation slave, emancipated and residing in Toledo, receives news of her friend's impending death. Remedies packed in her satchel, Mary rushes to board the Northern Pacific. Days later, she arrives in the Montana wilderness to find Mother Mary Amadeus lying on frozen earth in a broken-down cabin. Certain that the cloister of frostbit Ursuline nuns and their students, Indian girls rescued from nearby reservations, will not survive without assistance, Mary decides to stay. She builds a hennery, makes repairs to living quarters, cares for stock, and treks into the mountains to provide food. Brushes with death do not deter her. Mary drives a horse and wagon through perilous terrain and subzero blizzards to improve the lives of missionaries, homesteaders and Indians and, in the process, her own. After weathering wolf attacks, wagon crashes and treacherous conspiracies by scoundrels, local politicians and the state's first Catholic bishop, Mary Fields creates another daring plan. An avid patriot, she is determined to register for the vote. The price is high. Will she manifest her personal vision of independence?



Included in this kit: 10 books, a discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet.

[Reserve This Kit](#)

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