



New Episode of Pathways Through the Prairie Available Now

A new episode of the North Dakota State Library's podcast is out now!

The Pathways Through the Prairie podcast features North Dakota librarians and library staff, state government leaders and employees, and interesting North Dakotans to gain insights into their work and roles in their communities.

This episode, which premiered on Wednesday, August 21, features Michele Seil, Director of the Carrington City Library. Learn about Michele's pathway to the library, what her favorite thing about being the public library director is, and the most important way to support your local library.

Episodes are released every two weeks on the State Library's YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/NDSLPodcast>.

[Listen Now!](#)



Services at NDSL

Welcome back to a new school year! This will be my last *Teaching Tidbit* due to taking a new position at the North Dakota State Library (NDSL). However, I did want to introduce or remind you of resources available to school librarians through the North Dakota State Library.

Services

Talking Book

The [Talking Book](#) program, administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled at the Library of Congress, offers braille and audio books to [qualifying](#) patrons free of charge. Users can either receive physical materials or use the [BARD](#) app.

Online Library Resources

The [Online Library Resources](#), formerly called databases, lists resources related to continuing education, newspapers, research, and streaming. The resources most often used by K-12 include Britannica, ESCBO Host, Explora, Gale, National Geographic Kids, PebbleGo/PebbleGo Next, and U.S. Newsstream.

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Focusing on Native Americans

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Next month, the [Mellon Foundation](#) brings attention to "...a painful piece of our national history" in [The Road to Healing](#). To learn more about the history, join US Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland and Mellon Foundation President Elizabeth Alexander on September 5 as they discuss "...the reparative work Haaland leads on our public lands, the charge of stewardship for racial and environmental justice, and the role of Interior in telling the American Story." Register [here](#) to attend Telling the American Story on Our Public Lands virtually on Thursday, September 5, at 3:00 PM.

Children's author [Ginger Reno's](#) middle-grade novel [Find Her](#) will be released on September 17. "Debut author Reno (Cherokee) offers readers a powerful story that explores heart-wrenching themes, including Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, animal torture, child abuse, and bullying. Informative backmatter expands on the epidemic of MMIWG and the meaning of the red handprint symbol, as well as Cherokee history in the book's setting of Fort Gibson" (Kirkus Reviews, 2024).



Diné author and librarian Danielle Burbank's *Navajo Code Talkers* for elementary-age children was released in July. While Burbank's grandfather served as a Navajo Code Talker, he never freely shared stories of his experiences with her. Learn more about Danielle in Shaun Griswold's August 13 article; [Diné author writes Navajo Code Talkers book for elementary school readers](#).



Dr. Debbie Reese analyzed *Navajo Code Talkers* in an August 18 blog post. Click on the link to read why Dr. Reese has "HIGHLY RECOMMENDED" this book. [Navajo Code Talkers Review](#)



Teaching Information Literacy: Credit-bearing Model

Last week's *Flickertale* article focused on the one-shot information literacy (IL) teaching model. While the one-shot is the model most academic librarians use when presenting IL lessons, some feel it results in lower student retention and might do more harm than good. This week's article discusses a less popular style of teaching IL skills, but one that may offer more favorable results, the credit-bearing model.

Even though the credit-bearing model of teaching IL is less prevalent, librarians provide several reasons why it's the best option. In 2008, William Badke listed ten reasons academic librarians should teach IL courses for credit. Badke provided detailed explanations for each of the reasons listed below, which you may access in the article link in the reference list.

1. Information literacy is crucial for a well-rounded education.
2. Students need the skills to enable lifelong learning.
3. Skilled research is a crucial part of many careers.
4. Students are not learning good research skills with existing methods.
5. The complexity of the new information environment provides significant material for credit instruction.
6. We are paying a fortune for resources not used to advantage.
7. The tools of research are complex.
8. Simplifying our tools for a lower skill level is not working.
9. To learn research, you must do research in a training mode.
10. Info lit is a credible academic subject.

Badke didn't cite research to support his reasoning. Still, other studies and anecdotal evidence from librarians who taught credit-bearing courses show that student learning and success are positively impacted by IL courses counting as academic credit. For example, in one institution, graduation rates were higher for students who took a course for library credit than other students who had not. Another study found library skills improved more for students who took an online credit-bearing library course versus those who learned IL in an English composition course taught by an instructor (as cited in Hammons et al., 2024).

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WebJunction Highlight: Library Guide to Civic Engagement

Submitted by AI Peterson

This election cycle is turning out to be a wild one. From local elections to state races to the 2024 presidential contest, getting reliable, trusted sources of information is critical for our patrons to make the best choice for the candidates they want to win.

WebJunction has curated a selection of resources, tools, and ideas to help libraries inform their patrons. In this guide, you will find ideas you can borrow to host voter and election education programs for the public at your library. In addition to program ideas, you'll find resources on voter engagement guides, tools that can be used for educating kids on the election process, and information on how to get your library involved in voter education and engagement.

[Library Guide to Civic Engagement](#)



Link Rot

Have you ever heard of "link rot"? The term may not be familiar, but you have undoubtedly encountered it. On a website, have you ever clicked on a broken link (a link that didn't work or didn't go anywhere)? Did you get a "404 error" message or something similar ("oops, the webpage you're looking for is no longer available...")?

This is link rot. According to [Wikipedia](#), it is the "phenomenon of hyperlinks tending over time to cease to point to their originally targeted file, web page, or server due to that resource being relocated to a new address or becoming permanently unavailable."

What is the average lifespan of a webpage (a specific page within a website)? Estimates vary, but they are all short. In 1997, a [report](#) claimed 44 days. In 2001, a [study](#) claimed 75 days. In 2003, a *Washington Post* [article](#) claimed 100 days. Ironically, two of these studies have succumbed to link rot and are no longer available at their original location.

[More recent research](#) suggests the average lifespan of a website (a spot online under a single domain name that consists of multiple webpages) is 2 years and 7 months.

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Bismarck - Capital City Memories

The "Bismarck - Capital City Memories" collection consists of nearly 2,000 images depicting the history of Bismarck, North Dakota, from its early pioneer days through the 1990s.

The collection is a project of the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library and is available on [Digital Horizons](#).

[View the Collection](#)



Upcoming ND State Library Webinars

[North Dakota State Library Services Review for School Media Specialists](#)

Tuesday, August 27 (3:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

Are you a new school librarian or need a refresher on State Library Services? This webinar is designed to provide an overview of what services and resources the North Dakota State Library offers to school librarians. Our role is to support you as you help your students.

[How to Order Materials Through Interlibrary Loan Using Our New ILL Form](#)

Thursday, August 29 (3:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

No library has everything that every one of their patrons needs. Libraries need to share materials between each other to serve the needs of their patrons. The North Dakota State Library provides academic, schools, and public libraries as with interlibrary loan services. This webinar will present information on our new interlibrary loan procedures and demonstrate how to send interlibrary loan requests to the North Dakota State Library.

[Battle of the Books](#)

Thursday, September 12 (3:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

The 2nd ND Battle of the Books competition is ready to begin! Join Tammy and other ND Battle of the Book Committee members as they talk about the competition, go over the titles for this year's battle and answer any questions you might have about implementing this into your school library programming! *Please note that while this year's competition is still just for middle school (6-8), this webinar is open to any grade level as we will add levels next year!

[K-5 Online Library Resources](#)

Tuesday, September 24 (3:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

Finding safe, reliable resources for younger students can be challenging. This introductory webinar will explore the Online Library Resources that are specifically geared towards students in grades Kindergarten to fifth grade. During this webinar, we will look at each of the k-5 resources, explore the basic operation of each database and show how to add links to specific k-12 Online Library Resources to your school's library website.

[6-12 Grade Research Resources](#)

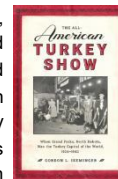
Thursday, September 26 (3:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

Finding safe, reliable resources for younger students can be challenging. This introductory webinar will explore the Online Library Resources that are specifically geared towards students in grades sixth to twelve grade and beyond. During this webinar, we will look at each of the 6-12 resources, explore the basic operation of each database and show how to add links to specific k-12 Online Library Resources to your school's library website.



"The All-American Turkey Show" by Gordon L. Iseminger

"The All-American Turkey show, which met in Grand Forks, North Dakota, from 1924 to 1942, brought people from all over the contiguous United States to the northern plains to exhibit their prize turkeys. The show served multiple purposes, including encouraging farmers to diversify production and increase their incomes by raising turkeys. The All-American Turkey Show was done in by its success. By the eve of World War II, the show's purposes had been fulfilled and the shows were being held for little reason other than that there seemed to be no graceful way to discontinue them. It was the war, with its shortages of labor, gasoline, and rubber, that brought the All-American Turkey Shows to a merciful end. Shows were suspended for the duration of the war, on the assumption that they would begin again at war's end. They were not, and the All-American Turkey Shows passed into history."



[Request This Title](#)





Library Tidbits

Carrington City Library recently made a major capital improvement, replacing the old parking lot with a new concrete one.

Heart of America Library has a Roosevelt Park Zoo family pass available for check out, thanks to the Rugby Jaycees.

Upcoming Free Webinars

[Demystifying AI \(and What It Means for Libraries\) \(ProQuest\)](#)

Wednesday, August 28 (10:00 AM - 11:00 AM)

"Join us as we break down the complexities of AI and its significance for libraries."

[Civic Literacy in Public Libraries: What, Why, and How \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, August 28 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

"In this webinar, Laura Saunders will define civic literacy and explore some of the research on the topic before diving into specific ideas and examples for public library programming."

[Library Customer Service and Adult Programs for People Living with Dementia \(WebJunction\)](#)

Wednesday, August 28 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

"This webinar will offer a comprehensive overview of Alzheimer's dementia and practical advice on meeting the needs of both those with dementia and their caregivers."

[Designing Virtual Learning for Application and Impact \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, September 4 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

"Dr. Jack Phillips, co-founder of ROI Institute, Inc., will explain how designers, developers, providers, and program owners can ensure that technology-based learning can deliver desired results by applying design thinking principles that focus on delivering application and impact with virtual learning."

[Talk to the Elephant - Designing Learning for Behavior Change \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, September 11 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

"Join Julie Dirksen to explore how to design with principles and models from behavioral science. We will examine behavior change from a number of different angles, using techniques from the fields of neuroscience, behavioral economics, behavioral psychology, persuasive technology, and user experience design."

[Experience Solar Maximum with the Astronomical League's Observing Challenge \(STAR Net\)](#)

Wednesday, September 11 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Join STAR Net and the Astronomical League as we explore the solar cycle, what happens during periods of high activity from the Sun, and how to participate in the Solar Maximum Observing Challenge!

[LinkedIn for Librarians \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, September 18 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

"Join Melody Karle for this session on using LinkedIn for libraries. Whether you want to maintain a professional presence for yourself or your library online, this session will cover the basics of using LinkedIn as well as library-specific tips for using and managing this tool."

[Crafting and Maintaining Effective Patron Policies for Community Success \(WebJunction\)](#)

Wednesday, September 18 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

"Learn to create policies that will enable safe and effective library operations in your community."

[Institutional Repository Basics for Academic Libraries \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, September 25 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

"Join Wendy Walker for this webinar on building and sustaining an effective institutional repository (IR). Regardless of the IR platform, and whether you are spearheading a newly launched IR or have been tasked with taking over the management of an established one, this webinar will provide you with practical ideas and resources."

[On the Edge of Space with Adam Higginbotham \(ProQuest\)](#)

Thursday, September 26 (10:00 AM - 11:00 AM)

"Join us for an engaging and thought-provoking webinar for librarians, researchers, historians and space enthusiasts. In this session, we will dive into the extensive archival research and meticulous reporting of history by examining the non-fiction book, "Challenger: A True Story of Heroism and Disaster on the Edge of Space" by New York Times bestselling author Adam Higginbotham."



Climate Literacy Kit: Exploring Our Changing Climate: Grades 3-5



This program in a box includes six lesson plans about climate, weather, climate change, and ecology for grades 3-5. The North Dakota science and library media standards that these lessons pertain to are included, as well as lists of additional resources to expand the lessons even more.

This kit includes a binder with lesson plans, reproducibles and resources, six sets of laminated cards, 21 laminated sheets, and ten children's books.

[Reserve This Kit](#)

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www.library.nd.gov

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

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