



WE ARE HIRING



**Information Services
Assistant**

Closing Date: May 8, 2023

Changes to the Flickertale Newsletter

The Flickertale newsletter will have a new look after this issue!

The Flickertale will still be sent out weekly each Thursday, but instead of clicking on a link, the newsletter will conveniently be in the body of the e-mail. It will also be coming from ndstatelibrary@info.nd.gov instead of ndslpa@nd.gov.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact BreAnne at ndslpa@nd.gov or 701-328-4656.

ND Battle of the Books

Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 ND Battle of the Books! Sign your school up at [https://forms.gle/4EpBqpDZAAXFCrFP8!](https://forms.gle/4EpBqpDZAAXFCrFP8)

**This is for school libraries only.



Libraries in the News

[Bismarck library wants you to visit during National Library Week \(KX News\)](#)

“Join the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library for a book read by Laurel Goodluck. According to a news release, the book read is happening on April 27 from 10:45-11:15 a.m. in the Children’s Library Story Room...”

[Friends of the Fargo Public Library to Host Read-In on April 30 \(Valley News Live\)](#)

“The Friends of the Fargo Public Library will host a Read-In and Information Day on Sunday, April 30 at the Main Fargo Library Breezeway. The 30-minute event will raise awareness about the impact of library issues discussed at the North Dakota Legislature, and show support for the Fargo Public Library and its employees...”

[Little Red Reading Bus makes first stop of the season \(Valley News Live\)](#)

“After a long winter, the West Fargo Public Library’s Little Red Reading Bus is coming out of the garage. The bus, which the library uses to bring books, games, activities, and other library services to local parks and community events in the summer, will make four stops in April in celebration of National Library Week April 24–April 28...”

[Morton Mandan Public Library hosts book sale & donation drive \(KX News\)](#)

“The Friends of the Morton Mandan Public Library is going to have a Book Sale and Pet Supply Donation Drive...”

[New to chess? Visit the Bismarck library to learn how! \(KX News\)](#)

“Have you ever wanted to learn how to play chess? Well, now you can at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library...”

[‘There’s More to the Story’ for National Library Week \(Wahpeton Daily News\)](#)

“Put this one in the datebook: The Leach Public Library, 417 Second Ave. N. in Wahpeton, turns 100 on Monday, April 8, 2024...”

Upcoming May Events and Deadlines

Month:

[National Preservation Month](#)

Weeks:

May 1-7 = [Children’s Book Week](#)

May 1-7 = [Screen Free Week](#)

May 7-13 = [Public Service Recognition Week](#)

May 8-12 = [Teacher Appreciation Week](#)

Days:

May 4 = [National Star Wars Day](#)

May 5 = [Deadline to Register for BND Summer Reading Program](#)

May 6 = [Free Comic Book Day](#)

May 18 = [International Museum Day](#)

May 29 = [State Library Closed](#)

WebJunction Highlight: A School Librarian's Information Shelf Submitted by AI Peterson

School librarians are vital to the work of preparing all children for academic and economic success in a rapidly changing, technologically driven, and globally connected world. Every day, they are transforming their practice by reimagining and redesigning school libraries to support new models of learning, engagement, and partnerships in support of this goal of success. This information shelf offers a curated body of resources, such as recorded presentations by school librarians, topical articles, and practical toolkits. These resources can be applied to any school library looking to become a dynamic learning center for their students. Visit their website at <https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/transforming-school-library-practice.html>.

Since our launch in 2003, WebJunction has helped more than 140,000 learners build the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to deliver transformational services to their communities. WebJunction builds the knowledge, skills, and confidence of library staff to power strong libraries that are the heart of vibrant communities.



No Place for Hate Day

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has designated May 11, 2023, as No Place for Hate Day. This year's theme is "Proud to be an Ally."

About ADL

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) began in 1910 as a reaction to the mistreatment of the Jewish. It arose from the (perhaps radical, at the time) thought that in order to fight one type of prejudice, one must fight all types of prejudice (ADL's, n.d.). Since then, and through various ways of fighting prejudice, it has grown as a leading anti-bias education provider. (For a far more detailed history of ADL, visit [here](#).) This organization uses student and educator programs and curricula to explore identity, interpret differences, challenge biases, and champion justice. Resources include lesson plans, anti-bias tools and strategies, family conversations, and suggested books (About, n.d.).

[Read More](#)

Digital Dimension

By Trevor Martinson

Political Prairie Fire

The newest endeavor from the [Digital Initiatives Department](#) is the “Political Prairie Fire” collection. This is also the newest digital collection from the North Dakota State Library (NDSL) and the newest collection on Digital Horizons. Consult the [finding aid](#) to learn more about this collection, or visit [Digital Horizons](#) to start exploring.

If you’ve been paying attention to NDSL’s newsletters recently, you will notice that this collection was also featured in the “Digital Collection Spotlight” and “Digital Delight.” Now it’s time for a more in-depth look at the collection.

[Read More](#)



North Dakota Author Spotlight

Dr. Denise Lajimodiere

April is National Poetry Month, an occasion to celebrate the importance of poets and poetry. During the 2023 Legislative Session, Dr. Denise Lajimodiere was named the North Dakota Poet Laureate. Lajimodiere is an Ojibwe poet and author who is a citizen of the Turtle Mountain band of Chippewa Indians.

The State Library has the following books written by Lajimodiere:

- Dragonfly Dance: Poems (2010)
- His Feathers Were Chains (2020)
- Stringing Rosaries: The History, The Unforgivable, And The Healing of Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors (2019)
- Thunderbird: Poems (2017)

Find out more about Dr. Denise Lajimodiere at <https://www.deniselajimodiere.com/>.

Affordable Connectivity Program Event Administration for Children and Families and the Federal Communications Commission

Join the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on Friday, April 28, 2023, from 1-2:30 p.m. (EST) for a web-based conversation on the [Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#).

The purpose of this webinar is to introduce the ACP to Spanish speakers who might benefit from enrolling in the Affordable Connectivity Program. In an effort to ensure the information provided is well received by all attendees, the language in which the webinar will be held is Spanish.

Please join a dynamic and Spanish speaking presentation in a conversation that is meant to share FCC resources.

- Deputy Assistant Secretary Debra Jonson
- Keyla Hernandez-Ulloa

Please join the conversation on Friday, April 28, 2023, from 1-2:30 p.m. (EST) by clicking on this [link](#).



Parks and Recreation & Game and Fish

Let's get ready for fishing!

Spring fishing is here! Whether you boat or shore fish, you can get recommendations from two great state government resources for recommendations to find that perfect fishing hole. From beginners to advanced anglers, North Dakota's state parks offer a variety of great fishing opportunities at some of the most scenic places in our state. The North Dakota Parks and Recreation's Fishing webpage (<https://www.parkrec.nd.gov/fishing>) includes a list of all the state parks that have rivers or lakes and will tell you what facilities are available and what fish species you can try your luck at catching. The ND Parks and Recreation website (<https://www.parkrec.nd.gov>) is loaded with information to make your fishing trip fun. Find camping sites, cabin rentals, and even yurt rentals!

For fishing rules and regulations, check out ND Game and Fish's website at <https://gf.nd.gov/fishing>. You can also apply for a fishing license, find out where to fish, learn how to identify different species of fish, and discover a ton of information about fishing in North Dakota on their website.



Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month is celebrated every May in the United States to recognize the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in American history, culture, and society. This month-long celebration provides an opportunity to educate and raise awareness about the rich and diverse heritage of these communities.

The history of Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month dates back to 1977 when Representatives Frank Horton and Norman Y. Mineta introduced a House resolution calling for the creation of a week-long celebration to honor the contributions of Asian and Pacific Islanders to American society. The resolution was passed by both the House and Senate and signed into law by President Jimmy Carter.

The first AAPI Heritage Week was celebrated in May 1979, which coincided with two important milestones in Asian American history: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in the United States on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, which was built primarily by Chinese immigrants. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed a bill that expanded Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Week to a month-long celebration, which is now observed annually in May.

[Read More](#)





YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO THE DEDICATION OF THE

**Iris Swedlund
School & Public Library**

May 4, 2023 | 101 4th St. West, Velva, ND

12:00 pm Lunch at Velva Senior Center, 122 Main St. N.
2:30 pm Program in the School Main Gym
4:00 pm Sign Dedication outside of the Library
3:30-6:00 pm Open House Reception in the Library

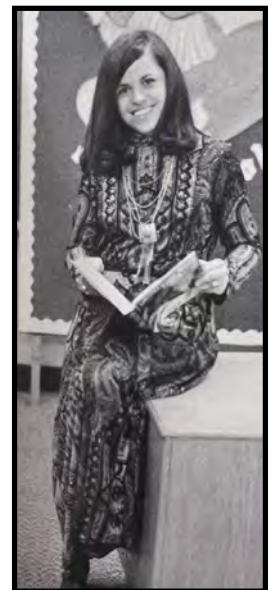
Wear Red!

Please join as we celebrate the impact of Iris's dedication to the students of Velva, by renaming the library in her honor.

Velva School and Public Library to be renamed to honor longtime teacher and librarian Iris (Dockter) Swedlund by Searle Swedlund

Iris Swedlund began her career with Velva Public Schools in the fall of 1969. For forty four years she served the school and community as a teacher, advisor, librarian, and friend. She retired in 2013, but continues to be a common figure and substitute teacher some ten years later. On May 4, 2023, the Velva School and Public Library will be renamed in her honor.

Iris Dockter was born in Woodworth, ND. Her first years were spent on a farm in Kidder County. She attended Robinson Public School until the 3rd grade when her family moved to Mandan, ND. She graduated from Mandan High School in 1964 and announced to her family her intentions to attend UND. Her father felt college was unnecessary for a woman, and shared that she didn't need to go away to meet a man, which was an opinion of higher education for women during this time. She delayed college for one year while she worked various jobs before enrolling at Dickinson State College. Upon her graduation in 1969 she was offered an interview in Velva. She turned it down because she had never heard of the community. The superintendent persuaded her by flying her from Mandan to Velva for a tour. She accepted the position. Little did she imagine that this would be the beginning of an illustrious career in education that shaped thousands of young men and women.



A highlight happened in 1983 when she was nominated, and received, the recognition of ND Teacher of the Year awarded by the ND Department of Public Instruction. The recognition included a trip to the White House to meet then President Ronald Reagan. Times were tough for all North Dakotans and with two kids she was uncertain if her family could justify the expense. After some convincing from her husband, she packed her best red dress and set out for Washington, DC. Her leadership and commitment to young people extended beyond the boundaries of Velva. Over her career she was named to advisory councils by 5 different governors and most recently she serves as the spokesperson for Humanities ND sharing the message to all North Dakotans the importance of lifelong learning.

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It is unclear the lives touched by any teacher, but by some counts Iris (Dockter) Swedlund was fortunate to prepare over 400 students in the subject of business procedures. The Velva Library was one of the first in the state to use a personal computer to catalog and circulate books. In her career over 2400 students participated in Future Business Leaders of America that included 31 state officers and over 200 students who advanced to national competition. Young men and women for who a traditional classroom education was not a fit often found their way to the library, and Mrs. Swedlund found jobs for them that lifted their gifts and empowered their contributions to the school. And for thousands of young readers, Mrs. Swedlund was known for her puppets and signature book "The Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly."

Her children remember the hours of sidewalk or grocery store conversations with past students and the agony of feeling like we were never going to leave. The hundreds of hours shelving books and waiting for the last patron to leave the library so we could go home. Having to set our VCR to record a program for her classroom and missing our favorite show. We remember the boxes of left-over concession hot dogs she would purchase and we would eat over and over and over in order that the school organization she was supporting could advance a little further with their fundraising. And in most recent years we remember the countless tales of former students who have shared their personal stories triumph over adversity that came from the impact of one caring teacher, advisor, librarian, and friend.

The library dedication is set for Thursday, May 4, 2023. A program will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the Velva High School gymnasium with a sign dedication to follow. A reception for Iris (Dockter) Swedlund will be held from 3:30 to 6 p.m. at the newly named Iris Swedlund School and Public Library.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

Libraries Supporting Foster Care Children and Families

May 2nd is National Foster Care Day. Approximately 1500 North Dakota minors are in the foster care system (North, n.d.). In North Dakota, the [Children and Family Services Division](#) of Health and Human Services handles foster care. Foster kids can be placed in group homes, individual homes with licensed caregivers (foster parents), or state-approved relatives. Foster care is intended to be a temporary solution. In ideal situations, all parents would indeed get their lives on track to be willing and able to support their children physically, emotionally, and financially. (Some examples of steps to take might include attending rehab for substance abuse, taking job-skill training and job-seeking opportunities, and going through financial literacy classes.) However, some circumstances do not warrant children returning to their biological parents; in these cases, other family members or non-related adoptive families can raise the children. (Foster parents have the option of being willing to adopt or strictly stick to fostering.) Foster children often deal with trauma; as a result, both the minors in foster care and their foster families can experience great deals of stress (Annie, 2022).

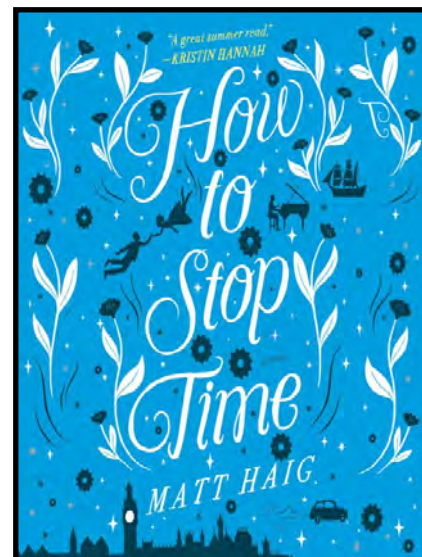
[Read More](#)

Kit of the Week

“How To Stop Time” by Matt Haig

Tom Hazard has just moved back to London, his old home, to settle down and become a high school history teacher. And on his first day at school, he meets a captivating French teacher at his school who seems fascinated by him. But Tom has a dangerous secret. He may look like an ordinary 41-year-old, but owing to a rare condition, he’s been alive for centuries. Tom has lived history--performing with Shakespeare, exploring the high seas with Captain Cook, and sharing cocktails with Fitzgerald. Now, he just wants an ordinary life.

Unfortunately for Tom, the Albatross Society, the secretive group which protects people like Tom, has one rule: Never fall in love. As painful memories of his past and the erratic behavior of the Society’s watchful leader threaten to derail his new life and romance, the one thing he can’t have just happens to be the one thing that might save him. Tom will have to decide once and for all whether to remain stuck in the past, or finally begin living in the present.



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

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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 in the Flickertale are Central Time.