



Flickertale

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Public Library State Aid Application April 1-30

[Click here for more information](#)

State Aid to Public Libraries

State Aid applications will open April 1, 2024, and need to be completed by April 30, 2024. Library directors can access and submit the application via the [Counting Opinions](#) website.

If you have any questions regarding State Aid to Public Libraries, please contact NDSL Administration, Allie Suko, at ndsladmn@nd.gov or (701)328-2492.

[More Information](#)

Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services *Free Virtual Conference*

April 18 & 19 (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)



Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services Conference

Thursday, April 18, 2024 – Friday, April 19, 2024

The world is changing before our very eyes. Artificial intelligence, a reevaluation of traditional services we offer in our libraries, and changing demographics in our communities are just a few examples of the changes taking place. To meet these changes, librarians must develop the knowledge and skills today to meet those changes we face tomorrow. Please join us for this virtual conference where we will learn today's skills for tomorrow's services.

[Find Out More and Register](#)



NDSL Surveys

The ND State Library wants to hear from you! Let us know your thoughts by taking a survey about the services provided. Each survey is different, so please fill out the one that best describes you/your role

ND Library Staff: <https://forms.office.com/g/rd5DQggXvX>

ND Residents: <https://forms.office.com/g/AdudZRp2YQ>

ND State Agency Staff: <https://forms.office.com/g/1L00W1KrAU>

[Learn More](#)

Public Libraries Survey

[Click here to learn more!](#)



Digital Dimension

By Trevor Martinson

Call of NPL Items

The [Digital Initiatives Department](#) at the North Dakota State Library needs your help. We are looking for items relating to the Nonpartisan League (NPL) or the Independent Voters Association (IVA), circa 1910s to the 1930s, to add to the [Political Prairie Fire](#) digital collection. "Items" can include photos, cartoons, documents, books, memorabilia, etc.

"Political Prairie Fire" is the newest digital collection from the State Library. It's available online via Digital Horizons. The collection is dedicated to the NPL/ IVA era of North Dakota history, and includes many images, documents, videos, books, and cartoons relating to this time of political strife in the state.

We have a good start on the collection, but more content is needed to tell the full story.

For libraries, do you have any items in your local history collection or special collection relating to the NPL or IVA? Depending on what you have and how much you have, Digital Initiatives could handle the digitization. We can also talk shop (digitization, digital projects, preservation, etc.) and set up a site visit.

Residents can also contribute NPL or IVA content from their private collections.

[Learn More](#)

Libraries in the News

[Celebrate the solar eclipse at the Bismarck library \(KX News\)](#)

The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library is hosting a partial solar eclipse event. While the solar eclipse is happening on April 8, the library is celebrating the event on April 1 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Library.

[Few North Dakota libraries report relocating books from children's sections as result of law \(Yahoo! News from the Grand Forks Herald\)](#)

Eleven months after legislators passed a controversial bill barring "explicit sexual material" from public libraries' children's sections, only five North Dakota libraries report having moved books as a result of the law.

[Someone You Should Know: Traci Juhala, sharing her pastimes with all \(KX News\)](#)

"Jeg liker å jobbe på biblioteket," Traci Juhala recited. (Translated into English means: I like to work at the library.) Traci Juhala not only likes to work at the library, but she also enjoys exploring her Norwegian heritage, language, music, puppets, a love of dogs and so much more.

[The Chester Fritz Library Hosts a Dino Hunt \(Dakota Student\)](#)

As of March 20, the Chester Fritz Library became a proverbial dinosaur dig site thanks to the efforts of the library's outreach team, Rebecca Brown and Zeineb Yousif. The complete skeletal "fossils" in question are approximately two inches tall and made of plastic. With multiple species of dinosaurs being represented, they are enough to elicit anyone's inner child. Brown and Yousif have hidden 30 of these little figures throughout every floor of the library, guaranteeing at least seven per floor. If the potential of finding a tiny dinosaur during a study session was not exciting enough, seven of them are tagged with a QR code indicating that the finder is entitled to a prize. Six of the prizes are 3D wooden dinosaur puzzles, and the grand prize is a Tyrannosaurus Rex skull Lego set.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

Qingming Festival

The Qingming Festival (sometimes called the Ching Ming Festival) honors ancestors, as well as celebrates the beginning of spring. It is primarily acknowledged in China, Taiwan, and to a lesser degree in Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand (Julia, n.d.). Qingming occurs during the first week of April. (For 2024, the celebration day is April 4th) (CBC, 2024). Qingming is derived mostly from Confucianism, which emphasizes respect to the deceased (Qing, n.d.).

Details of the Festival

The Qingming Festival originates from the legend of [Duke Wen and Jie Zitui](#) (CBC, 2024). During Qingming, translated to "Grave Sweeping Day," participants tidy up graves and bring offerings to their ancestors. Some offerings include food, willow branches (to keep evil spirits away), and burning joss paper (paper that looks like money) (Qing, n.d., and What, n.d.). After visiting the deceased, partakers rejoice in the beauty and renewal of spring through picnics, kite flying, and shooting off fireworks (Qing, n.d., and What, n.d.).

[Continue Reading](#)

April is Financial Literacy Month!

Submitted by **Lance Hill, CEPF®**
Leader of Education Outreach & Financial Literacy
Bank of North Dakota

Governor Doug Burgum will announce the statewide initiative for North Dakota to become the most financially literate state in the nation on April 2, just in time for national Financial Literacy Month.

Because we all view money differently based on our experiences and unique money personalities, financial literacy needs to be more than budget and credit card information. It should drill down to the behavioral level. How does a person's personality and experiences impact their approach to money and other areas of their life? How could balancing those traits help to create a financially stable future for them? The state of North Dakota is releasing [SmartWithMyMoney.nd.gov](#), a free site to help residents learn and understand these important financial literacy pieces.

When you visit [SmartWithMyMoney.nd.gov](#), you can create your free online account and take an assessment to learn about your unique money personality. Shaped by your emotions, outlook, focus, experiences and other traits, your money personality comes with strengths and weaknesses. *Smart with My Money* may help you recognize and understand them, which could help you make more confident financial decisions.

After you take your assessment and discover your money personality, you'll receive recommendations to learn how to manage your money in a way that makes sense for you. In addition, you'll have access to 34 standard courses with pre-post assessments, a library of over 120 financial topics, and more than 2,800 pieces of content including articles, videos, tools and courses. You'll find that your money personality changes as you learn on the site and have new experiences.

Regular interaction with the site has encouraging results. During the heights of the COVID-19 Pandemic, 32% of users experienced a decrease in financial stress, 59% built up a three-plus month emergency fund, and 28% were able to pay their credit card balance in full monthly.

This is an exciting and free opportunity. Visit [SmartWithMyMoney.nd.gov](#) to get started today!

Librarians, if your library is interested in promoting the site and would like printed promotional materials, please [place an online order](#) or contact [Lance Hill](#) for more information.

[SmartWithMyMoney.nd.gov](#)



April: A Month for Libraries and Librarians

April is a very library-focused month! Along with National Poetry Month, as outlined in last week's *Teaching Tidbits*, April is National School Library Month. It also contains School Librarian Day (on April 4th) and National Library Week (April 7th-13th). What a time to focus on reading, as well as school libraries and their workers!

A Little About National School Library Month

School libraries started out as classroom libraries in one-room schools. However, when Penn School was created in 1744 it possessed a room specifically for books – the first United States school library (National School, n.d.)! Over a century later, in 1985, AASL's Lucille Thomas spearheaded National School Media Month. This first annual celebration took place at the capitol in Washington, D.C. In 2010, the name was changed from "National School Media Month" to "National School Library Month" (School, n.d.).

[Continue Reading](#)

Is Your Library's Communication Designed for Diversity?

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Communication takes place through various means. It can be verbal, nonverbal (body language), written, or visual. In her presentation, "Designing for Diversity in Your Library's Communications," Mollie Peuler, an eLearning Librarian from Appalachian State University, invites librarians to evaluate how they communicate with their community.

Ms. Peuler began her presentation by discussing communication and the neurodivergent population. She explained that neurodiversity is the variation in how brains process information. Brains that process information as society has deemed "normal" are considered typical, while brains that function outside this norm are labeled atypical or neurodivergent. Examples of neurodivergence include AD(H)D, dyslexia, autism, bipolar, schizophrenia, or epilepsy. Ms. Peuler commented that needs of the neurodivergent population can be met by considering the following techniques.

[Continue Reading](#)



GamblerND

Gov. Doug Burgum has proclaimed March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month, and as a time to raise awareness about the impact of gambling-related issues and the availability of support services. North Dakota Health and Human Services (HHS) Behavioral Health Division offers free services to those experiencing gambling challenges and their families. Problem gambling is defined as all gambling behavior patterns that compromise, disrupt or damage personal, family, or vocational pursuits. HHS provides services for problem gambling through online recovery courses; counseling for individuals and groups; and online responsible gambling resources and educational groups that empower informed choices. Gambler ND is an informational website dedicated to raising awareness and stopping gambling addictions in North Dakota.

If you or someone you know is struggling with problem gambling, reach out to Behavioral Health at 1-877-702-7848 or visit www.gamblernd.com.

Upcoming Webinars

[Implementation of Telehealth Services in Rural Public Libraries \(NNLM\)](#)

Wednesday, April 3 (2:00 PM)

[Providing Mental Health Resources at Your Library \(NNLM\)](#)

Tuesday, April 9 (2:00 PM)

[Forget Hogwarts: Bringing Coding to your Library Doesn't Have to Be Wizardry \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, April 10 (1:00 PM)

[Overview of the Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\) Grants, Research, and Policy Work \(FDLP Academy\)](#)

Thursday, April 11 (1:00 PM)

[Navigating the Library Director Hiring Process: A Guide for Trustees and Boards \(WebJunction\)](#)

Tuesday, April 16 (2:00 PM)

[Engaging Talent from Day One: How to Welcome New Staff, Foster Relationships and Build Culture in an Organization \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, April 17 (1:00 PM)

[Generation Z and Academic Libraries \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, April 24 (1:00 PM)

[Leadership Strategies for Building Connection and Defusing Difficult Situations \(WebJunction\)](#)

Tuesday, April 30 (2:00 PM)

Celebrate Diversity Month LibGuide

Initiated in 2004 by ProGroup, Inc., and Diversity Best Practices, Celebrate Diversity Month recognizes and honors the diversity of the world around us.

Goals of Celebrate Diversity Month:

- Understand our differences, including gender, race, ethnicity, faith, etc.
- Encourage a deeper understanding of others
- Increase diversity in the workplace
- Promote inclusivity and understanding
- Honor unique cultures, backgrounds, and rich traditions
- Boost cultural awareness
- Celebrate individual uniqueness
- Recognize the value of different perspectives

Resources:

- "April Is Diversity Month! Celebrate a World of Differences." Stomp Out Bullying. Accessed March 27, 2024. <https://www.stompoutbullying.org/blog/diversity-month>.
- "Celebrate Diversity Month." Holiday Calendar. Accessed March 27, 2024. <https://www.holidaycalendar.io/holiday/celebrate-diversity-month>.
- "Celebrate Diversity Month." National Today, October 21, 2022. <https://nationaltoday.com/celebrate-diversity-month/>.

LibGuide

Kit of the Week

"The Search for Delicious" by Natalie Babbitt



Gaylen, the King's messenger, a skinny boy of twelve, is off to poll the kingdom, traveling from town to farmstead to town on his horse, Marrow. At first it is merely a question of disagreement at the royal castle over which food should stand for Delicious in the new dictionary. But soon it seems that the search for Delicious had better succeed if civil war is to be avoided.

This kit includes 10 books, a discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet.

Reserve This Kit

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please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.
Times referenced are Central Time.

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