



Flickertale

VOLUME 50 · NUMBER 9 · SEPTEMBER 2020

Changes to the Flickertale Newsletter

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

The columns and news you have come to expect will still be included each month, but the frequency and format will be different. Instead of being published once per month, new issues will be released every Thursday. This will cut down on the length of the Flickertale, and we hope it will provide relevant news in a more timely fashion.

The format will also be different. The newsletter will conveniently be right in the body of the e-mail so you will no longer have to click a link or open an attachment.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the State Library at 701-328-4622 or ndsipa@nd.gov.

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our newsletters!**

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Library Card!**

Library Vision Grant Round

The North Dakota State Library, in partnership with the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council, is pleased to announce a Library Vision Grant round. There will be two grant opportunities: COVID-19 Response and Professional Development. Guidelines and the scoring rubric will be available on the State Library's [website](#) next week. The application will be completed in Counting Opinions. The grant round opens on October 1, and applications are due October 31.

The intent of the COVID-19 Response grant is to enable libraries to modify services and programs to minimize the impact of COVID-19. This grant round is similar to the first one we offered earlier this year, but it also allows a library to purchase equipment to help with virtual programming.

The intent of the Professional Development grant is to assist libraries in providing professional development opportunities for their staff, either individually or collectively.

You are encouraged to reach out to Library Development for assistance when writing a grant. These are competitive grants, and we encourage you to review the scoring rubric prior to grant submission.

The most recent version of Library Vision is available for download on our website. If you would like a printed copy mailed to you, please contact BreAnne Meier at ndsipa@nd.gov by September 30. Copies will be printed at that time and mailed to the library when we receive them.

News and Thoughts...

from Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

One of the things I love most about the library community is how readily we share ideas, information, and resources. I recently attended a webinar presented by the Small and Rural Libraries Roundtable of the Illinois Library Association. The panel presentation included library directors from a variety of libraries sharing about what went well and what was a challenge with responding to COVID19 and re-opening their libraries. Several of the librarians shared some very personal struggles that they've had during the pandemic, including panic attacks, anxiety, tension, and depression. They also shared what went well for their libraries in their response to the pandemic. These included connecting with the community in new ways, switching to virtual programs, and taking advantage of the opportunity to do inventory, weeding, and cleaning the library.

The libraries shared a variety of their most successful virtual programs. One of the most popular programs that several libraries discussed was a local history program. There were several different takes on this idea, but one that I really liked was called "Tales from the Archives." The library used it as an opportunity to highlight items in their local history collection as well as to partner with the local museum.

Another popular topic was crafting. Programs included a virtual quilting show and online scrapbooking as well as "take and make" craft kits similar to what many North Dakota libraries are offering. Storywalks and a virtual garden tour rounded out the programs.

The Peru Public Library talked about resources that they've added. They call their collection for homeschoolers the home learning collection. I really loved this title, especially now, with so many kids learning remotely.

One of the libraries used the term "valet service" for their curbside pickup. Many of the people attending the webinar, including me, commented on how much they liked this title, and I would be surprised if we don't see this term cropping up at other libraries.

These programs and resources that were shared aren't brand new and similar programs are being offered around North Dakota, too. I thought it might be helpful to share ideas from other libraries to help spark an idea of ways to modify your own programs. As I said, one of the best things I appreciate about libraries is their willingness to share with each other. There are lots of opportunities to participate in sharing and learning. The State Library hosts a library community meeting every week; one week it's on Tuesday, and the next week is Thursday. We would love to have more members join us each week to share thoughts, ask questions, and learn from each other. If you can't make these meetings, I encourage you to seek out other opportunities to connect with colleagues. If you decide to host an online craft meeting, be sure to send me the details so I can join in if I'm able.

State Library Announces New Hours

The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) will have new hours beginning **Thursday, October 1, 2020. The library will be open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and by appointment from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM.** Only five patrons may be in the building at one time for a maximum of one hour each.

"The State Library is shifting its hours to be able to meet the needs of our patrons, the library community, and staff during the pandemic," says State Librarian Mary Soucie. "We will keep track of all feedback and will evaluate the trial in six months to ensure that we are continuing to provide the high-quality customer service that the State Library is known for."

Curbside pickup will be available from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The State Library will also send out materials through the mail for those who can't make it to the library. To make an appointment or to schedule a pickup, please call 701-328-4622.

Two computers will be available for patrons – one is reserved for people who are applying for unemployment, employment, or immigration. The other computer will have a 30-minute time limit and should be used for Capitol-related reasons.

Everyone is screened when entering the building, including a questionnaire and a temperature check. If you are not feeling well and have a cough or fever, please do not enter the building. When you are in the building, please practice social distancing by staying at least 6 feet apart. The State Library recommends that masks be worn when inside the building. If you do not have a mask with you, one will be available.

If you have any questions or concerns about the new hours or the services provided by the State Library, please contact us at 701-328-4622 or 1-800-472-2104. You can also send us an e-mail to statelib@nd.gov.

Conversations with School Librarians

Beginning September 16, school librarians will have an opportunity to share ideas and discuss some of the obstacles they are facing. How do librarians collaborate with classroom teachers, present their own lessons, offer storytime, promote digital literacy, provide students with access to books, and much more?

[Register today for these bi-weekly meetings](#). The meetings will begin at 4:00 PM Central Time.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

While there won't be a formal agenda, if you have any topic suggestions or questions that you would like discussed during the meeting, please send an e-mail to Carmen Redding at credding@nd.gov.

Summer Summit Resources Now Available

Thank you to those who were able to join us for NDSL's first virtual Summer Summit. If you would like to view the recordings of the sessions, you can find them on our [YouTube Channel](#). The PowerPoint presentations and resource links are now available on our [website](#).

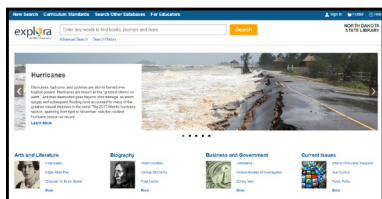
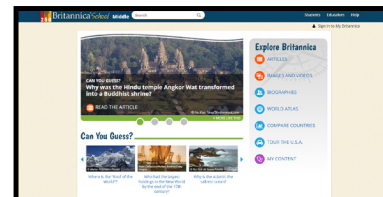
If you attended live or viewed the recordings, please fill out this [survey](#) to help us see what we're doing right and where we can improve.

Homework Help for Students Grades 6-8

Are you looking for online resources that can help middle-school-aged children with their homework, projects, or research papers? There are many resources that your school or public libraries may have access to that will give students quick access to credible sources covering common topics.

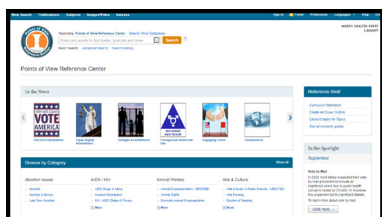
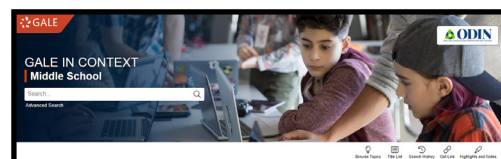
This month, we'll go through some of the resources that are geared toward students in grades 6-8:

Britannica School Edition includes articles, images, videos, biographies, and other trusted sources to help your student find the information they need.



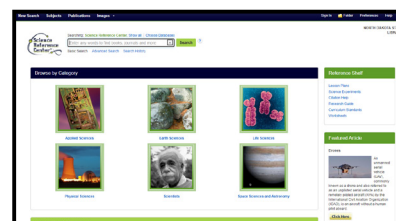
Explora Secondary Schools provides a safe, trustworthy environment where students can look up articles and facts for research papers, class projects, or homework.

Gale In Context: Middle School includes age-appropriate videos, newspapers, magazines, primary sources, and much more to provide support for students to complete assignments in core subjects.



Points of View Reference Center provides students with a series of essays that present multiple sides of a current issue.

Science Reference Center provides easy access to a multitude of full-text science-oriented content. This resource contains full text for hundreds of science encyclopedias, reference books, periodicals, and other sources.



These are just some of the many online resources available for your students. Check out our [marketing website](#) for the promotional materials request form and downloadable items. If you can't find what you are looking for, please send an e-mail to ndslpa@nd.gov.

If you have any questions or would like more information about these or any other online resources, please contact the State Library at 701-328-4622 or 1-800-472-2104 or e-mail us at statelib@nd.gov.

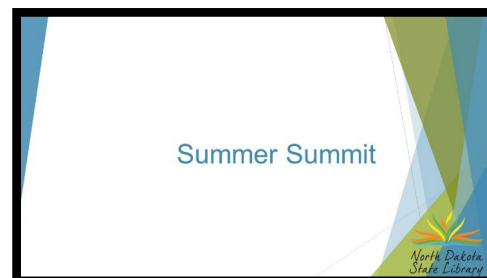
Youth Services Share Out



The Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) is looking for programming ideas for the 2022 Oceanography theme. What can you share about the mysteries of the seafloor, plate tectonics, ocean currents, water, seashore, the atmosphere, etc.! [Click here to submit your best 2022 Oceanography programming idea today!](#)

YouTube Video Of The Month: Summer Summit Playlist

In August, the State Library held the annual Summer Summit workshop. Since it was virtual this year, we were able to record each of the presentations and save them to a playlist on YouTube. You can watch all of them in order or just pick the ones you are most interested in. Each presentation includes their question and answer section and has the presenter's information in case you have any follow-up questions. These presentations range from 30 minutes to 40 minutes and cover topics of interest to any librarian in the state.



Subscribe to our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/NDStateLibrary>

Public Library Infographics

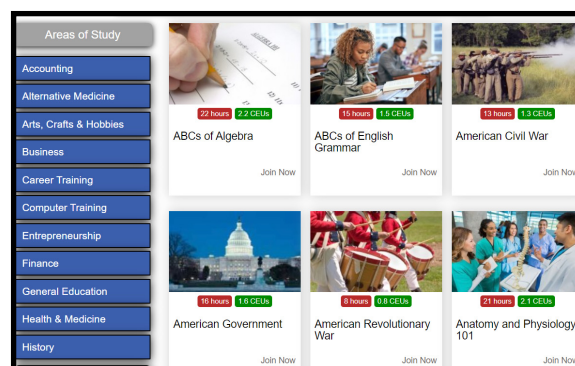
The North Dakota State Library is happy to provide a basic infographic based on the numbers you submitted for the Public Library Survey Annual Report. These infographics will include the number of visits to your library, registered users, items, wireless sessions, programs, program attendees, circulations, etc.

If you are interested in receiving a custom infographic, please send an e-mail to ndslpa@nd.gov.

Course of the Month: Homeschooling Category

It is times like these that there will be a larger need from libraries around the state to utilize their online resources. Therefore, we decided to not give you a specific course this month, but rather to direct you to the use of the predesigned categories that Universal Class offers.

There are many different categories, but one that would be of use to many parents in your community right now is the Homeschool Category. This category offers courses on different subjects, including Algebra 101 and American Government, which can be used to supplement a student's education. Each course comes with a preset amount of lessons and assignments that will need to be completed before the user can get a certificate of completion. They also tell the user right up front how long each course should take and what each lesson involves.



The Homeschooling Category will work well for the local homeschool association, members of the community who decided to try homeschooling, or for students who need some extra classes in a subject area.

If you have any questions, please e-mail us at ndsltrain@nd.gov.

SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[MDU Environmental Community Opportunity Fund Grant](#)

Deadline: October 1

MDU's Environmental Community Opportunity (ECO) fund helps drive their environmental stewardship with their slogan "In the Community to Serve." The ECO fund supports projects that enhance environmental education and stewardship such as training, books or equipment for individual use, development of a nature trail, or even recycling and community cleanup promotion. Libraries must be working with a 501(c)(3) organization. Grants are awarded up to \$2,500.

[Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program \(IMLS\)](#)

Deadline: October 2

This grant "supports developing a diverse workforce of librarians to better meet the changing learning and information needs of the American public by enhancing the training and professional development of library and archives professionals; developing faculty and library leaders; and recruiting, educating, and retaining the next generation of library and archives professionals." Proposals must fall into the category of lifelong learning, community catalysis, or national digital infrastructures and initiatives. Award amount varies depending on the funding category with funding grants being eligible for up to \$1,000,000.

Google Ad Grants

Deadline: Ongoing

This non-competitive grant opportunity through Google allows libraries and nonprofits to boost their viewership on Google searches through ads. The Google Ad Grants program gives \$10,000 a month to eligible entities to advertise their services. Libraries need a free account with both [TechSoup](#) and [Google for Nonprofits](#) to be eligible. They also need 501(c)(3) status through either a Friends or Foundation group or through the North Dakota Community Grant Foundation. To learn more about this grant, watch [this video](#) or view [their website](#). Some more library-specific advice can be found on this [blog post](#).

[One Book One North Dakota \(Humanities ND\)](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

Humanities ND is offering \$1,000 grants to libraries in North Dakota that will assist in purchasing books featured in the One Book One North Dakota program. These can be in either digital or paper copies. The list of books can be found on their [website](#).

[USDA: Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

This USDA program helps provide funding to develop community facilities in rural areas. A rural area, as defined by the USDA, has a population of fewer than 20,000 residents. The funds can be used to purchase, construct, or improve facilities. Priority is given to communities with a population of less than 5,500 and communities with a median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income. To get started, contact your local Rural Development office.

THE READING NOOK

By Jessica Robinson

There are some great books to talk about this month so let's skip the preamble and go right into some of 2020's best and upcoming middle-grade titles.

We'll kick off the recs with a debut title from Jennifer Orr, a former elementary school librarian. Orr takes us to summer camp with *Rating Your Bunkmates and Other Camp Crimes*, a story about a budding anthropologist named Abigail who tries to use her favorite research methods at a sleepaway camp in order to make new friends.

The Lonely Heart of Maybelle Lane by Kate O'Shaughnessy is about complicated families, the ones you're born into and the ones you make. Maybelle Lane loves collecting unusual sounds, but the sound of her absentee father's voice on his radio show is her favorite. When her dad announces a singing contest in Nashville, Maybelle goes on a road trip with her stern neighbor and a neighborhood bully to see him.

Anne Blankman's *The Blackbird Girls* is set in 1980s Russia and in Ukraine during WWII. In the 1980s segments, two girls are sent away from home when the nuclear power plant in their town—called Chernobyl—explodes. They stay with one of the girl's grandmothers and learn the story of when she also had to flee from her home during the 1940s as her Jewish family debated if they would be in more danger moving to Russia or staying in Ukraine when the Germans arrived.

The Only Black Girls in Town by Brand Colbert explores issues of isolation and friendship in a small California town. Easy-going surfer girl Alberta is excited when another black family moves into her tiny beach town. She assumes she'll be best friends with Brooklyn-born Edie right away, but Edie misses her big city life. Alberta and Edie aren't sure if they're ever going to connect until they find a box of mysterious journals in Edie's attic, leading them on a sometimes painful journey of discovery.

Summer camp is also the theme of Jody L. Little's *Worse Than Weird*. All Mac wants to do is win her town's scavenger hunt and use the money to go to summer coding camp. Anything to get away from her parents' strict anti-screen rules and eco-friendly lifestyles for a little bit. However, the scavenger hunt gives Mac a new perspective on her town and on her "weird" parents.

I've always been a quiet fan of comedy specials, especially featuring female comedians. Therefore, I was instantly on board with Jessica Kim's *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!*, centering around a shy Korean girl who dreams of comedy stardom and the case of mistaken identity that has her attending a comedy camp as a much bolder girl named Kay Nakamura.

Rebecca Stead is a familiar name in the world of middle-grade fiction, and she brings the heat yet again with *The List of Things That Will Not Change*, another book about complicated families. Bea is pleased when her divorced dad tells her that he's going to marry his boyfriend Jesse, especially since it will give her a new sister. However, things don't go as smoothly as she anticipated as the families prepare to merge together.

There is so much to love about the premise of Joy McCullough's *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*. Sutton is a young girl whose current biggest frustration in life is that her mini-robot won't get through a maze in under a minute. Luis is an aspiring fantasy writer with an overprotective mother and deadly allergies. When their parents start dating, Sutton and Luis find common ground in the great outdoors.

The fact that it's almost October is a little frightening so let's lean into it next month and talk about some of 2020's best and upcoming horror titles.

Free Training Webinars

One Step at a Time: How Libraries Can Promote Healthy, Thriving, and Livable Communities (WebJunction)

Thursday, October 22 (2:00 PM–3:00 PM CDT)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3kmSMUx>

During COVID-19 stay at home orders, improvements to air and water quality around the globe showed how changing our transportation practices could benefit the environment. We also know that physical activities, like walking, can help prevent chronic diseases and promote health.

This webinar will highlight the multiple benefits of walking and walkable communities, and provide the information and inspiration you need to join the hundreds of public libraries around the country that are contributing to the development of healthy and resilient communities. Learn how to advocate for safe walking routes to your libraries, how to partner with parks and recreation, local transportation departments, and others committed to building safe, accessible, equitable places to walk and move.

Middle Grade Fantasy Explore Our Worlds (BookList)

Monday, October 5 (1:00 PM–2:00 PM CDT)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3mkKjCO>

Dragons! Magic! Giants! With its transformational word-building, beloved protagonists, and incredible journeys, middle-grade fantasy is a very popular and special genre with the most dedicated and devoted readers. And in this free, one-hour webinar, those readers will discover even more about the genre.

Join authors Brandon Mull (Fablehaven and Dragonwatch series) and J. Scott Savage (The Lost Wonderland Diaries and Mysteries of Cove series) for a fascinating presentation of their unique interpretation of middle-grade fantasy and what they've learned from young readers about it. Ilise Levine, Director of Sales and Marketing at Shadow Mountain Publishing will be presenting new fall empathy-building titles for middle grade.

Rethinking Libraries in the Wake of Protests and the Pandemic (Publishers Weekly)

Tuesday, September 22 (10:00 AM–11:00 AM CDT)

Register: <https://bit.ly/2ZBCb78>

"The crises we face today—in public health, in our economy, and in confronting the structural racism in our society—demand that we rethink everything," wrote R. David Lankes in a recent Publishers Weekly column. "Including what we've always considered virtuous institutions, like libraries, schools, and publishers."

We've all seen the statements of solidarity from various institutions following the death of George Floyd at the hands of police in May. But what do these statements mean in practice? How do libraries back up their words with actions? And how do libraries pursue change in the midst of a public health crisis and the economic and social disruption wrought by the pandemic?

In this webinar, Lankes and Nicole A. Cooke, authors, educators and colleagues at the University of South Carolina, will take stock of this unprecedented cultural moment and kick off a discussion on how libraries can proceed on the path to becoming the anti-racist, truly equitable institutions our society needs.

North Dakota Library Tidbits

- McKenzie County Public library is providing craft bags for adults; they also hosted Tot Time in the parks in partnership with the local parks and recreation department to bring crafts and coloring to the youngest members of their community.
- The brand new Burleigh County Bookmobile was revealed at an open house. It includes electronic updates and features, child-friendly shelves, a printer, and a drop-down TV.
- Dickinson Public Library hosted a watch party where participants can log in together and watch a show from their respective locations together.
- New Town City Library has continued hosting online painting classes where participants can follow along and complete a painting along with the instructions. Students learn to prepare a canvas, mix paints in the palette, and different painting techniques.
- Divide County Library posted a music video of their library services, welcoming students back, and highlighting some new COVID-19 restrictions.
- Heart of America Library purchased many new children's books with memorials and donations made to the library.
- Friends of the Morton Mandan Public Library took their book sale on the road to several towns around the county.
- McLean Mercer Regional Library has an obstacle course around their building encouraging users to run, spin, hop, and more.
- Hazen Public Library hosted an end of summer pool party for their summer reading program participants.
- In partnership with Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue, Morton Mandan Public Library hosted a "Leash N Learn" event to allow patrons to get their pet licensed, talk to a dog trainer, get their pets microchipped, and have their faces painted.
- Reading "Rockstars" at Stanley Public Library were entered into a drawing for checking out, reading, and reviewing books to the library throughout August.
- Carnegie Regional Library held a "Thank Law Enforcement Campaign" by providing cupcakes and thank you notes to Grafton police officers, the Walsh County Sheriff and deputies, dispatch, and jailers.
- Stanton, Beulah, and Hazen Public Libraries hosted two free training opportunities to their communities about conscious Discipline, the practice of engaging parents and caregivers in building healthy, brain-smart environments that help children learn and grow.
- New Town City Library held a bake sale fundraiser for the purchase of e-audiobooks and e-books.
- Cavalier Public Library has a new logo.
- Carrington City Library received a Grow with Google grant to provide entrepreneurship events at the library. This month, they hosted the local owners of Duchessa Gelato for a presentation and a gelato tasting.
- Minot Public Library received Google Chrome books from a local teacher for circulation.
- Casselton Public Library had 25 stuffed animals attend their Teddy Bear Sleepover. They spent the night having fun and were sent home with photos and treats from the party.

- Cavalier County Library received a free Rightfully Hers pop up display from the National Archives to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. It will be on display through the end of October.
- Maddock Community Library also received a free Rightfully Hers pop up display from the National Archives to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. Their display includes books on the suffrage movement and an article from the local paper.
- Lisbon Public Library had a successful Scholastic Book Fair coming in just under \$3K sold.
- James River Valley Library System received an unrestricted donation of \$5,000 from a strong library supporter.
- West Fargo Public Library has gone fine free. They waived about \$17,000 worth of late fines.
- Carnegie Regional Library is hosting Spoiler Blend Coffee Company every Monday for an hour. They serve hot coffee, iced coffee, and hot chocolate for \$1.00. All proceeds go to support students' needs at Grafton Public Schools.



Cavalier Public Library was able to pay off their building this year through 5 years of generous donations from their community.

Photo: [Left] Scott and Lynda Humble (former owners of the building) and [Right] Becky Ratchenski (Library Director) and Lacey Hinkle (Mayor of Cavalier).

The sign in the middle was created by Jessie Thebeau to show the library's fundraising progress using literary themes.

NEW LIBRARIAN RESOURCES AT THE STATE LIBRARY

- Teaching in the digital age for preschool and kindergarten : enhancing curriculum with technology
- Teaching with primary sources
- Culturally responsive teaching and the brain : promoting authentic engagement and rigor among culturally and linguistically diverse students
- Content-area collaborations for secondary grades
- Leadership : strategic thinking, decision making, communication, and relationship building / by the American Association for School Librarians (AASL)
- Maximizing school librarian leadership : building connections for learning and advocacy
- Guided inquiry : learning in the 21st century (2nd edition)
- Public school emergency preparedness (2nd edition)
- Deliberate optimism : reclaiming the joy in education
- Don't gossip in the teachers' lounge : over 200 tips for new teachers (2nd edition)
- The oldest student : how Mary Walker learned to read (nonfiction picture book)

Legal Research Resources for Name Changes

Submitted by Catie Palsgraaf, Acting North Dakota Supreme Court Law Librarian

Changing a name is a frequently requested legal research topic by self-represented patrons of the North Dakota Supreme Court Law Library and North Dakota Legal Self Help Center.

The following are legal research and other resources for changing a name in North Dakota.

WHAT ARE THE WAYS TO CHANGE A NAME IN NORTH DAKOTA?

There are four ways for an individual to change their name in North Dakota. Three of the four ways require a civil court process.

Marriage License/Certificate: An individual's last name doesn't automatically change when they get married in North Dakota. One or both individuals can choose a new last name as part of the marriage license process. They're not required to have the same last name.

When applying for a marriage license in North Dakota, each individual who wishes to change their last name writes the new last name in the space provided on the marriage license application. After the marriage is solemnized and the two witnesses to the marriage ceremony sign the marriage certificate, the marriage certificate is proof of the name change.

Divorce: Either or both spouses may change their name as part of their divorce case in the North Dakota state district court. As long as the final divorce judgment/decreed in the case includes the name change, the judgment/decreed is proof of the name change.

Annulment: Either or both spouses may change their name as part of their annulment case in the North Dakota state district court. As long as the final annulment order/judgment in the case includes the name change, the order/judgment is proof of the name change.

Name Change Case: North Dakota law allows individuals to bring a stand-alone case in North Dakota to change their name, or their minor

child's name. An individual can ask to change any combination of their first, middle, and last names.

If the name change is granted, the final order or judgment is proof of the name change.

NAME CHANGE PROCESS

The rest of this article focuses on bringing a stand-alone name change case in the North Dakota state district court. This is the most requested name change information at the ND Legal Self Help Center.

Petitioner in a Stand-Alone Name Change Case: The Petitioner is the adult (18 years or older) asking a North Dakota state district court to change their name or the name of their minor child (under 18 years old). The Petitioner must be a resident of North Dakota for at least 6 months and either a U.S. citizen or a U.S. permanent resident alien. The minor child must also meet these residency requirements.

Step One: the Petitioner publishes notice in their North Dakota county newspaper of their intent to change their name. If the Petitioner is intending to change their minor child's name, the Petitioner must also publish notice in the county newspaper where the minor child's non-custodial parent lives. (A non-custodial parent is a parent with less than 50% of residential responsibility.)

Any person who disagrees, or opposes, the name change has 30 days from the first date the notice is published to serve a written document on the Petitioner explaining why they object.

North Dakota law allows for only two reasons to skip, or waive, the publication step: 1) The Petitioner is only changing their, or their minor child's, first or middle name; or 2) The Petitioner, or their minor child, is a victim of domestic violence.

If the Petitioner wants to ask the court to skip the publication step, they start the process with Step Two.

Continued from pg. 11

Step Two (Publication Complete): 30 days after the first publication in the newspaper, the Petitioner files their name change paperwork with the court. The Petitioner must file a petition, which explains how they meet the legal requirements for a name change and the name they want the North Dakota state district court to grant. The Petitioner must also file a copy of the notice they published in the newspaper(s), the affidavit of publication they received from the newspaper(s), and copies of all objections they received.

Step Two (No Publication): If the Petitioner wants to ask the court to skip, or waive, the publication step, the Petitioner must file a petition that includes a request to skip publication and why. The petition must also explain how they meet the legal requirements for a name change and the name they want the court to grant.

If the Petitioner wants to skip publication because of domestic violence, the Petitioner may also file copies of documentation that the Petitioner believes will show the court they, or the minor child, are a victim of domestic violence.

If the judge assigned to the name change case decides the Petitioner can't skip the publication step, the Petitioner must complete Step One before their name change case can move forward.

Step Three: the judge may require the Petitioner, or the minor child, to get a criminal history record check. North Dakota name change law allows the judge assigned to the name change case to require the Petitioner, or the minor child, to obtain a criminal history record check. If the judge requires a criminal history record check, the name change case won't move forward until the results are filed with the court.

A criminal history doesn't automatically disqualify the Petitioner, or the minor child, from getting their name changed. However, North Dakota law presumes that a Petitioner, or minor child, with a felony conviction is making their name change request in bad faith, to defraud or mislead, to cause injury to an individual, or to compromise public safety. The Petitioner must prove to the judge

by clear and convincing evidence that this is not the case.

Step Four: the judge decides whether to grant the name change. An in-person hearing isn't required for the judge to make a decision on whether to grant the name change. If the judge makes the decision based on the documents filed in the case, the Petitioner and any people who objected in writing will receive the judge's order by mail.

If the judge decides a hearing is necessary, the Petitioner and any people who objected in writing will receive notice of the hearing date and time by mail. The Petitioner must be prepared to prove that everything they included in their petition, and filed in the case, is true and accurate. Following the in-person hearing, the judge's order is mailed to the Petitioner and any people who objected in writing.

ND LEGAL RESEARCH RESOURCES FOR NAME CHANGES

The ND Legal Self Help Center's [Name Changes for Adults](#) and [Name Changes for Minor Children](#) webpages contain forms and other resources for stand-alone name change cases.

ND LEGAL RESEARCH RESOURCES

[The ND Legal Self Help Center's Family Law section](#) includes webpages for Divorce and Annulment. The webpages include a variety of resources for divorce and annulment.

[Chapter 14-03 of the North Dakota Century Code](#) governs marriage in North Dakota. See Sections 14-03-20 and 14-03-20.1 for laws related to a name change as part of the marriage license/certificate process.

[Chapter 14-04 of the North Dakota Century Code](#) governs annulment in North Dakota.

[Chapter 14-05 of the North Dakota Century Code](#) governs divorce in North Dakota.

[Chapter 32-28 of the North Dakota Century Code](#) governs stand-alone name change cases in North Dakota.

Digital Delights



Alma Sand is standing next to Frank Sand's threshing machine in a dress and bow. This photo was taken in Towner County in the 1920s and was donated to us at the Cando ScanDay.

Credit:

North Dakota Memories Collection,
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Check out Digital Horizons at:

<https://bit.ly/3mjbGNH>

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HORIZONS**

Please submit library news to ndslpa@nd.gov.

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