FINGER LAKES LIBRARY SYSTEM

MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 19.7   Friday, April 5, 2019

Table of Contents

You can click on each link below to quickly navigate to your favorite bulletin sections!

FOR PETE'S SAKE, SHIRLEY, STOP ACTING SO SMUG ABOUT "GETTING CARDED."

WE WERE IN A LIBRARY.

Reminders

New Polaris Item Maintenance regional training sessions have been scheduled in April & May. Those in need of a refresher and newbies are both welcome! Please note that unless a staff member has received proper training, they should not be entering items into Polaris. Contact jshonk@flls.org with questions.

Sexual Harassment trainings for supervisors will be held on May 28 and training for employees will be held on May 30. Contact kdownham@flls.org with questions.

To register for any of these trainings, visit www.flls.org/calendar-2/.

Links to Make You Think

Artist Creates Replica of Parthenon from 100,000 Banned Books

The Porto Book Shop That Inspired Harry Potter's Hogwarts

How Drinking Tea Makes Me a Better Librarian

Mastering Marketing

Nine stunning contemporary libraries

Two Antique Portuguese Libraries Use Live Bats as Insect Repellant

From The Director

This week saw disappointing news for libraries in the NY State 2019 – 2020 Budget. When Governor Cuomo first released his proposed budget in January, it marked his ninth consecutive budget in which he proposed to defund the State Library Aid program. While his proposed $5 million cut in library aid was restored, we did not gain the additional $1 million the Senate had suggested adding. Library aid remains the same as last year. This is in essence a cut to the Finger Lakes Library System, as contractual prices for databases, e-content services, and health insurance continue to increase every year.

The most devastating cut in this year's budget is the library construction aid. After gaining $20 million last year and helping us with vital library expansions and renovations, this money was lost and library construction aid reverted to $14 million. After the budget was released this week, we polled our libraries quickly and already have been alerted to library expansion projects, bathroom upgrades, and a possible new building for one of our libraries.

One hopeful aspect of the budget for libraries is $15 million in targeted aid. While we don't know what exactly this will look like, it appears to be similar to Bullet Aid. However, this targeted aid to school districts, public libraries, and not-for-profit institutions will be divided equally between the Senate, Assembly, and the Governor. As soon as FLLS receives more information, we will be sending out information on how to apply for this aid.

It is not just NY State libraries we have to worry about. On a national level, advocacy efforts are also needed. The American Library Association is asking Senators to preserve more than $210 million in federal funding for libraries. The Senate deadline is April 5, so now is the time to let your Senators know how important libraries are to their constituents and the entire State. Our State Library in Albany receives federal money, and a cut in their funding will impact state library services. Kristi sent out an advocacy alert email on Thursday email with more information if you are interested.

Jenny sent out Census information last week to provide our libraries with historic Census data information and a timeline for the 2020 Census. Please expect more Census information from us shortly. The State Budget does include $20 million for the 2020 Census, with libraries expected to receive a portion of that money.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sarah

Member Library News

Newfield library welcomes new director

(Photo: Jaime Cone)

In her first month in her new position as director of the Newfield Public Library, Danielle Perkins is already settling right into the role. On a recent sunny day, mid-morning, she had just concluded story time at the Newfield Elementary School. Usually the students come to her, she said, but on this particular day she went to them; it was too icy for them to make their usual trek down Main Street.

She explained that in between her usual duties as library director she has been spending her free moments compulsively buying bags of sand. "I've been putting sand out all the time," she said, gesturing toward the front sidewalk. "I don't want anyone to slip."

Her clear investment in the well being of the Newfield community and its residents is what grabbed the attention of the members of the Newfield Public Library Board of Directors when they were looking for a suitable candidate to replace Tammy Kubinec, who departed for another job in February.

"Tammy had some plans already in place, and it was a nice transition," said Glenn Caslick, vice president of the library board. **Click here to keep reading!**

Have something to share? Please send submissions to Jenny by 9am on April 19 to be featured in the Bulletin!

Scam Alert!

Emerging Threats: 6 Spam, Phishing and Malicious Email Trends to Watch For

Cybercriminals aren't going to exert more effort than they have to. For all the talk of the sophisticated investment required to discover and exploit vulnerabilities to obtain a foothold into a targeted environment, email remains a perfectly welcoming – and far more time- and cost-effective – medium. The payoff is simply too good for cybercriminals. Of course, that doesn't mean attackers aren't shifting tactics or developing innovative ways to take advantage of this low-hanging fruit and stay one step ahead of the defenders. As always, knowledge is power when it comes to combatting the latest cyberthreats. Here is what Trustwave SpiderLabs incident investigators are seeing in the world of email.

Sextortion Messages: There is a rise in email-based blackmail, in which malicious senders attempt to trick users into believing that an attacker has obtained embarrassing information about them visiting pornographic websites and has collected pictures and audio from a hacked webcam. The sender threatens to release the allegedly compromising content to everyone in the victim's contact/friend list or upload to their social media profile unless a payment is made (usually in cryptocurrency). For additional reading on this particularly terrifying threat, our Fahim Abbasi covered produced two blog posts.

IoT Botnets Delivering Spam: A collection of compromised IoT devices can form a formidable botnet (as was evident when Mirai arrived on the scene in late 2016) and the susceptibility and sheer growth of connected smart devices is providing a conducive pathway for more to emerge. Most of the action we have observed has been because of home routers, which failed to undergo proper patching as these devices rarely receive any kind of support after their release. Many of 2018's biggest botnets used 5- or even 8-year-old vulnerabilities in router/modem firmware. These include Pitou, Type52 and Xinbot

A New Host Nation: Brazil has risen as a new source of phishing and banking attacks. Campaigns from this country were mainly targeting Latin American financial institutions, but customers from other regions, predominantly North America and EMEA, were affected as well.

File Extensions: As more users are trained to recognize tell-tale signs of phishing and spam, such as misspellings, grammatical errors and language issues, well-crafted messages greatly increase attack success rates, as do the usage of popular file types, a common way for malicious actors to mimic third-party communication and avoid detection by traditional email security. Most attachments used in malicious email files continue to be file formats related to message visual aspects (.gif .js) and MS Office documents (.xls and .doc) with malicious macros.

Emotet: This banking Trojan obtains financial information by injecting computer code into the networking stack of an infected computer, allowing sensitive data to be stolen via transmission. Emotet is often concealed in documents delivered through emails that pretend to be from financial institutions. The emails came with a Word document embedded with malicious macro code. Once executed, the code downloads and runs Emotet. The malware is not the final payload, though, as it acts as a downloader for additional malicious code.

Supply Chains: Attackers are increasingly use the supply chain in their email evil-doing, utilizing legitimate business partners – which are the victim of an initial attack – to distribute phishing/spam emails by using compromised legitimate addresses. Most of these third-party companies are unaware that they were spreading malware to all their business contacts. This approach increases ingress success rates for attackers by adding a "trusted" source of communication.

Webinars, Workshops, & Events

FLLS Events

Sign up here for all FLLS Workshops unless otherwise noted: www.flls.org/calendar-2/

Polaris Item Maintenance Refresher
4/15 @ SENF   4/24 @ WEED
5/7 @ MCGR   5/20 @ WAV
All Polaris sessions will run from 9am-12pm

Inspiring Sensory Play
Thursday, May 2
10:00am-12:00pm

Falcons Meeting
Thursday, May 16
9:30am-11:30am

Sexual Harassment Training
Tuesday, May 28 for Supervisors
Thursday, May 30 for Employees
Both sessions will be held @ FLLS

Conferences & Outside Trainings

Association for Rural and Small Libraries: ARSL Conference
September 4-7, 2019
Burlington, VT

ALA Annual
June 21-25, 2019
Washington, DC
Check out: Making Your Case to Attend.

Materials and Programs for All! Workshops on Enhancing Inclusion
Friday, April 26, All Day
Ithaca College Campus
Ithaca College is proud to host a series of workshops designed to help librarians and educators better serve patrons of different identities and needs. Our hour-long workshops provide a local alternative to expensive Continuing Education training, and seek to foster community among regional teachers and library staff. Select workshops will be led by librarians from the Tompkins County Public Library!

Webinars

The Power of Small: How Rural Libraries Help Their Communities Thrive
Thursday, April 18, 3:00pm
 All libraries provide vital services to their communities, but libraries that serve small, rural populations have the potential to go beyond providing information and access—they can inject the vitality that will help their communities thrive. Addressing the challenges faced by rural areas may seem daunting to a library with few staff and limited resources, but any tiny library can find more ways to support the needs of their community by thinking strategically and creating new connections with their stakeholders, patrons, and other library staff. Learn how small library director, Allie Stevens, applied the concept of growth mindsets to set her priorities, use resources and volunteers smartly, and avoid burnout as a solo librarian.

The Library as Social Connector: Forging Community Connection
Thursday, April 25, 3:00pm
Strong social cohesion is a crucial factor in a community's resilience in times of stress and disruption. Unfortunately, studies show that our communities are experiencing a steady erosion of social cohesion, pointing to an increase in loneliness, depression, and separation because of too much time spent online and too little time spent in community. Libraries have the position and the power to rebuild social bonds, offering that sense of community and shared place that humans crave. Join us as we explore library programs through the lens of social possibilities and devise strategies to be more intentional about forging stronger community bonds.

Ending the Mental Illness Stigma
Tuesday, April 30, 1:00pm
May is National Mental Health Awareness Month. In preparation for this important time, Jean Poland from the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Finger Lakes (NAMI-FL) will present information for library staff and others in regard to this important and timely issue. Beginning with an overview of the prevalence of mental health issues among the general population, this webinar will cover is the stigma and discrimination people with such illnesses face. We will discuss how illnesses are defined, medications, and the effect of stress and trauma. We will cover safety issues and provide resources to support individuals affected by mental illness and their communities.

Highlights from the Collection

Reserve These Special Items Today!

This year Nora and Jenny will be manually scheduling some items
to make it easier for you (like Jenny did with the karaoke machine in 2018).

Contact Nora to reserve the telescope or Coding Kit (iPads).

Contact Jenny to reserve any of the giant board games.
*Includes: EasyGo Giant Checkers, Giant 4 in a Row, Giant Dominos, Giant Uno,
Giant Tumbling Timbers, Jumbo Bananagrams, & Jumbo Playing Cards.*

Give us a specific day and time you need the item.
Please make requests via email for tracking purposes.

Thank you! ☺

Polaris FAQ

Deleting Items Properly

Batch Deletion of Items Records: The most efficient method of deleting multiple Item Records in Polaris is by using Record Sets.

1. First, create a new Record Set: File ➔ New ➔ Record Set ➔ Item. Name your Record Set (please follow the established naming convention). Select the Scan by Barcode icon and scan the barcode of the periodical you wish to delete into the Record Set. Save the Record Set.

2. Once the items are in a record set, it's simple and painless to delete the records using the Deleted Selected Records button located in the middle toolbar. Note: Items that have a status of "Checked Out" cannot be deleted.

3. Selecting all the records first allows you to delete them all at once. Press CTRL+Shift+A on your keyboard to retrieve all the records then press CTRL+A to highlight all records.


Continued on Next Page...

Polaris FAQ Cont...

3. The Multiple Object Deletion Dialog Box will pop up. Uncheck the 2 checkboxes which will prevent any dialog boxes from popping up during the deletion process.
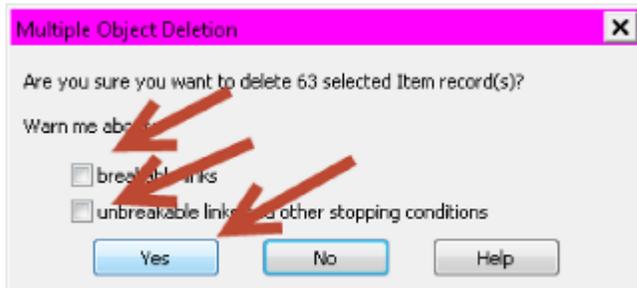
4. Once the Items are deleted, you will see another Dialog Box prompting you to delete the Bibliographic Records that no longer have any Items attached. Note: This must be done because we don't want Bibliographic Records without items to display in the catalog.
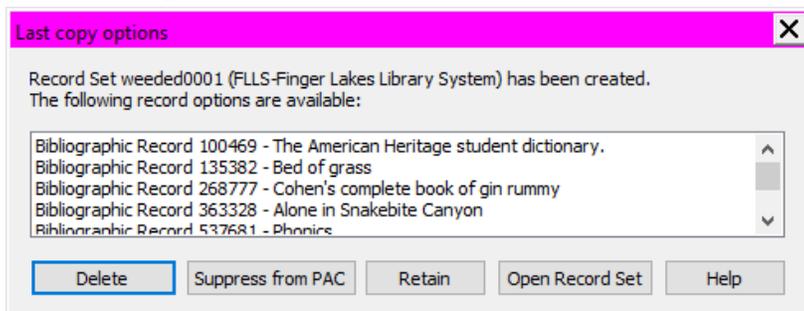
5. Once the empty bibs are deleted, you will see another Dialog Box prompting you to delete the unlinked Authority Records. Note: This must be done because we don't want Unlinked Authority Records in the catalog.
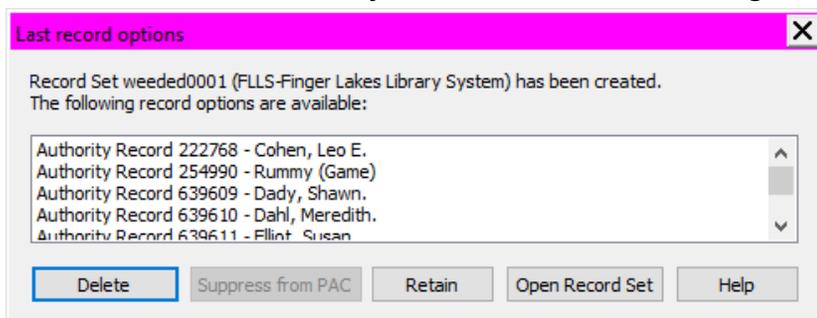
6. Any records left in the Record Set could not be deleted. It could be that the Item Circulation Status is Out or there is a Hold Request linked to the Item. Try deleting each item individually without unchecking the 2 checkboxes to find out why. If there is a Hold Request associated then you will need to cancel the Request before the Item can be deleted. Questions? Contact Rex via email rhelwig@flls.org.

WARNING: When you are finished, do not delete the items for a second time!!! This is permanent and can have serious repercussions!

Awards, Contests, & Grants

Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library Education Grants
Deadline: April 17
The Friends is offering local librarians, library assistants, and future librarians grants to continue their professional education. These grants are available to staff members of libraries (including school libraries) within Tompkins County to partially cover costs of attending professional meetings, workshops, training sessions, and conferences, and to defray the cost of course work. You and your staff members are eligible to apply for such funding.

Awards amounts are typically in the several hundreds of dollars. The applicant must provide information about the content of the proposed program, associated costs, and any other available financial support, as well as two letters of recommendation, one from a supervisor.

Completed applications should be submitted electronically to edgrants@booksale.org by April 17, 2019. Grant recipients will be informed by April 30, 2019.

ARSL Scholarships
Deadline: May 24
Criteria for these scholarships has changed slightly so be sure to read and apply for the one(s) that fit you!

These scholarships are for first time attendees so anyone who has **NOT** previously attended an ARSL conference is invited to apply.

This year, four scholarships will be awarded by ARSL. The Dr. Bernard Vavrek scholarship is for current library school students. The Founders scholarship is for current ARSL members who have been working in in the library profession for 5 years or less. The Ken Davenport Scholarship is for current ARSL members who have been working in the library profession for 6 to 10 years, and the Angel scholarship is open to current ARSL members who have been working in the library profession for any length of time.

Applications must be submitted by 5pm Central Time (6pm EST) on May 24, 2019 to be considered.

If you have any questions about the process or have any trouble with the application form, please do not hesitate to contact scholarship@arsl.info.